

Electoral Service Privacy Notice

This privacy notice tells you how the Council's Electoral Service uses your personal information for the purposes of maintaining the electoral register, administering elections, and fulfilling our statutory duties under electoral law.

The type of personal information we collect

We will collect and process the following information:

- Name, address, nationality, date of birth
- National Insurance number (for identity verification)
- Contact details (email address, telephone number)
- Signatures (for postal vote applications)
- Electoral registration status and voting method
- Information relating to accessibility needs (if provided)
- Information required from candidates, agents, and campaigners under electoral law
- For overseas electors:
 - Last UK address where you were registered or resident
 - Evidence supporting your previous connection to the UK
 - Renewal information to maintain your overseas registration

How we get the personal information and why we have it

Personal information we process is obtained directly from you when you:

- Register to vote
- Apply for a postal or proxy vote
- Request a Voter Authority Certificate

- Stand as a candidate or act as an agent
- Apply to register as an overseas elector

We also receive information from:

- The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) for identity verification
- Other local authorities (for confirmation of previous registration or residence)
- Government departments where required by law

We process this information so that we can:

- Maintain the electoral register
- Administer elections and referendums
- Issue poll cards, postal votes, and voter identification
- Verify eligibility for overseas electors and maintain their registration
- Meet our legal obligations under the Representation of the People Act 1983, the Elections Act 2022, and associated legislation

We may share this information with:

- The Electoral Commission
- Candidates, agents, and registered political parties (as permitted by law)
- Government departments such as DWP
- Other local authorities and relevant statutory bodies
- Our contracted printers for registration and election materials
- The police and other departments for the prevention or detection of crime and/or fraud
- Credit reference agencies

Lawful bases for processing

Under the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR), the lawful bases we rely on for processing this information are:

- (c) We have a legal obligation.
- (e) We need it to perform a public task.

For certain activities (e.g., accessibility information), we may also rely on:

- (g) Substantial public interest.

International data transfers

The council does not share your information with countries outside of the UK without ensuring that sufficient safeguards are in place that are equivalent to the UK Data Protection legislation or the UK GDPR. For this purpose, we do not share your data internationally.

Automated decision making

There are restrictions on automated decisions based solely on automated means without any human involvement, including restrictions on profiling. It is not anticipated that your data will be subject to automated decision making or profiling for this purpose, however, if you have any queries about this, please contact the council's Data Protection Officer using 'Our contact details' below.

How we store your personal information

Please see the [Corporate Privacy Notice](#)

How long we keep your information

Please see the [Retention Schedule](#)

Your data protection rights

Please see the [Corporate Privacy Notice](#)

Our contact details

Please see the [Corporate Privacy Notice](#)

How to complain

Please see the [Corporate Privacy Notice](#)