

Tel: 0118 974 6522
Ref: Electoral Services



WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

Governance
P.O. Box 151
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Berkshire RG40 1WN
Tel: (0118) 974 6522

Dear Candidate

BOROUGH COUNCIL ELECTIONS – 7 MAY 2026

1. In connection with the above Elections, I enclose the following documents/forms:
 - Nomination Paper
 - Candidate's Home Address Form (part 1 and part 2)
 - Candidate's Consent to Nomination (including the pages of legislation)
 - Certificate of Authorisation
 - Request for a Party Emblem
 - Appointment of Election Agent
 - Request for Electoral Register and Absent Voters List
 - Candidate Contact Information
 - Timetable for the election(s) scheduled for the 7 May 2026

The above documents should be completed and returned when your nomination paper is submitted. Nomination Papers must be submitted **by 4pm on Thursday 9 April 2026.**

2. **Register of Electors**

If requested, I will supply free of charge one copy of the appropriate part of the Electoral Register to each Candidate or Election Agent. I enclose the necessary forms to request a copy of the Register and Absent Voters Lists. The Absent Voters List can be requested at any time, but waiting until after the deadline has passed will obviously mean that you will be supplied with a complete and accurate list.

Please note we cannot supply your copy of the register or absent voters list until you officially become a candidate, the earliest date this can be is on the last date for publishing the notice of election, which is **Monday 30 March 2026**. There are restrictions on the use of this information, which you should adhere to.

3. **Guidance and Advice**

Guidance is available from the Electoral Commission which you can download from their website at www.electoralcommission.org.uk. This guidance covers everything the Candidate and/or Election Agent needs to know about the law, procedures and processes which apply to the Borough Council Elections, and it should be carefully read.

4. **Nomination Papers**

The following forms must be properly completed and returned to me **by hand** at the Civic Offices, Shute End, Wokingham, RG40 1BN between **the day after publication of the Notice of Election and 4pm on Thursday 9 April 2026** at the latest.

Please make an appointment by emailing vote@wokingham.gov.uk to arrange to deliver your papers.

- **Please do not leave any forms with anyone other than a member of Electoral Services staff.**
- **Please note that the Nomination, Home Address and Consent forms cannot be submitted by post, fax, email or other electronic means.**
- You will be issued with a receipt for your Nomination Paper and associated documents.
- **Where signatures are required on documents you must submit the original signed version of each completed paper. Documents without original signatures cannot be accepted.**
- **You are strongly urged to submit your Nomination Papers well before the deadline and in person.**
- To ensure you have access to an informal check of your nomination papers, please email vote@wokingham.gov.uk to book an appointment. Appointments will be available Monday 30 March until Tuesday 7 April.
- I will make the final decision on acceptance of all nomination papers.

Information regarding candidates is not released until after the close of nominations. Nomination Papers are only open to inspection between the close of nominations (after 4pm on 9 April 2026) and the day before polling day (6 May 2026). There is no right of objection to a nomination at a local government election.

Once a Nomination Paper has been formally submitted, a notice of the validity (or otherwise) of the nomination will be sent to each candidate at their home address. Once the Notice of Validity has been issued no other communication whatsoever will be made by me in respect of the validity or otherwise of a candidate's nomination.

5. Appointment of Election Agent

If you wish to appoint an Election Agent the appointment form must be delivered by **4pm** on **9 April 2026**, although it is helpful to deliver this at the same time as the Nomination Paper and other forms mentioned above. If no appointment is received by the appointed time, the candidate is deemed to be their own agent.

6. Candidate Spending Limits

The maximum level of Candidate's expenditure for these elections must not exceed £960 plus 8p per local government elector registered to vote on the last day for publication of the notice of election in the ward which you are standing for. I will circulate a breakdown of the actual numbers with the spending forms sent to each independent Candidate or Election Agent. Candidates are not entitled to a refund of election expenses from the Council. The object of the return is to ensure that the authorised limit of election expenses has not been exceeded. **All candidates are required to submit a return – even unsuccessful ones, even if no expenditure has been incurred.**

7. Queries and Contacts

If you have any queries at this stage, please contact the Electoral Services team on 0118 974 6522.

Andrew Moulton

Returning Officer

You must print off the forms in this pack before submitting them

The following papers must be delivered by hand:

1a: Nomination paper

1b: Home address form (part 1 and part 2)

1c: Candidate's consent to nomination (including the pages of legislation)

The following papers can be delivered by hand or by post:

2: Certificate of authorisation

3: Request for a party emblem

4: Notification of election agent

The notice of election published by the Returning Officer (RO) will specify the times and exact location to which nomination papers must be delivered.

Ensure that where signatures are required, you submit the original signed version of each completed paper. If you have completed these forms electronically, you must print them to be signed. Documents without original signatures cannot be accepted.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

Data protection legislation applies to the processing of all personal data. Please contact the [Information Commissioner's Office](#) for further information about how the legislation affects you.

When collecting subscriber information, you should point out what the information will be used for, and how personal data will be processed and kept secure. The lawful basis to collect the information in these forms is that it is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest and exercise of official authority as set out in the Representation of the People Act 1983 and related regulations.

You should also explain that the information will be shared with the RO. For further information on data protection and data processing, you should refer to the RO's privacy notice on their website.

Local government election in England

Guide to filling in the nomination forms

This step by step guide is designed to assist candidates standing in a principal area local government election¹ in England in preparing to submit their nomination, and should be read alongside the Electoral Commission's [Guidance for candidates and agents](#).

Task	Tick
1a - Nomination form (all candidates)	
Add your full name – surname in the first box and all other names in the second.	
Add any commonly used names – if you are commonly known by a name other than your full name. This will be used instead of your full name on the ballot paper and official notices.	
Description – Party candidates can use a party name or description registered with the Electoral Commission and this must match the details shown on the required certificate of authorisation from that party; others can use Independent or leave this blank. Whatever you enter in this box will appear as your description on the ballot paper.	
Subscribers – the proposer and seconder must sign and have their name printed. Use your copy of the electoral register to make sure their elector numbers are accurate. When collecting subscriber information ensure that you explain what the information will be used for and that the information will be shared with the RO.	
Method of submitting the form to the RO: It must be delivered by hand with the home address form. It can be delivered by anyone you trust. It cannot be submitted by post, fax, e-mail or other electronic means.	

Task	Tick
1b - Candidate's home address form (all candidates)	
Add your full name.	
Add your home address in full.	
Add your qualifying address, or qualifying addresses, to each of the relevant qualifications and tick those which apply.	
Add the full name and home address in full of the person who will witness your consent to nomination form. The home address form will not be accepted without this information.	
You must submit both part 1 and 2 of the home address form with your nomination papers. Part 1 must be completed by all candidates. Part 2 must be completed if you do not want to have your home address printed on the ballot paper. To withhold your home address, you must give the name of the relevant area instead – this is the county/district/London borough which your home address is in – or, where outside the UK, the country which your home address is in. You must also sign the form.	
Method of submitting the form to the RO: It must be delivered by hand with the nomination form. It can be delivered by anyone you trust. It cannot be submitted by post, fax, e-mail or other electronic means.	

¹ This is not to be used for parish, community or mayoral elections. Separate [forms and guidance are available](#).

Task	Tick
1c - Candidate's consent (all candidates)	
You must be a British citizen, a qualifying Commonwealth citizen, a qualifying EU citizen, or a qualifying EU citizen with retained rights, who does not require leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom or has indefinite leave to remain. You must also be 18 years old or older on the date you sign this form.	
You must declare that you meet at least one of the listed qualification(s) and should cross through any that do not apply. The qualification(s) declared should match those given on your home address form.	
You must not sign the form if you are disqualified to stand. Make sure that you read the Electoral Commission guidance on standing for election as well as the legislation included on the consent to nomination form. If you are not sure if you are able to stand you should contact your employer (where relevant), consult the legislation or, if necessary, take your own independent legal advice.	
Add your full date of birth.	
Sign and date the document in the presence of another person. You must not sign the consent form earlier than one calendar month before the deadline for submitting your nomination papers.	
The person whose details you provided as your witness on the home address form must also complete and sign the witness section of the consent form.	
When you submit the consent form, you must include all the numbered pages (1-6) of the consent form which contain the relevant legislative provisions.	
Method of submitting the form to the RO: It must be delivered by hand. It can be delivered by anyone you trust. It cannot be submitted by post, fax, e-mail or other electronic means.	

Task	Tick
2 - Certificate of authorisation (party candidates only)	
Ensure the certificate contains the candidate's full name.	
Check the certificate allows the registered party name or description given on the nomination paper to be used (or allows the candidate to choose to use the party name or any registered description).	
Ensure the certificate is issued by the party Nominating Officer (or someone that they have authorised to issue it on their behalf) and that it is the original copy signed by that person.	
Method of submitting the form to the RO: It can be delivered by anyone you trust. It can be delivered by hand or by post.	

Task	Tick
3- Request for party emblem (party candidates only)	
Write the name or description of an emblem registered by the party and published on the Electoral Commission's website.	
Ensure the request is made by the candidate.	
Method of submitting the form to the RO: It can be delivered by anyone you trust. It can be delivered by hand or by post.	

Task	Tick
4 - Appoint an election agent (all candidates)	
Give the name, address and office address of the appointed election agent. If you do not appoint an agent or choose to act as your own agent and do not provide an office address, your home address will be published on the notice of election agents if that address is within the required area (otherwise the office address will be that of your proposer). This will be the case even if you have requested to withhold this information on the home address form.	
Ensure the appointed agent signs the form showing their acceptance.	
Method of submitting the form to the RO: It can be delivered by anyone you trust. It can be delivered by hand or by post.	

Task	Tick
5 - Candidate contact information (all candidates)	
This form is optional – more details regarding the use of your data are on the form. Add your name, email address, telephone number, and sign the form.	
If you are not acting as your own agent, ask your election agent to add their name, email address, telephone number, and sign the form.	

1a – Nomination paper		Office use only	
Local government election in England		Date received	Time received
		Initials	No
*ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS / A COUNCILLOR for the			
		electoral division/ward of the	
county/district/London borough of *Delete whichever is inappropriate			
Date of election:			

Candidate's Details	
Candidate's surname	Mr/Mrs/Miss/ Ms/Dr/Other
Other forenames in full	
Commonly used surname (if any)	
Commonly used forenames (if any)	
Description (if any) Use no more than six words (see note 5)	

We, the undersigned, being local government electors for the said *electoral division/ ward, do hereby assent to the foregoing nomination *Delete whichever is inappropriate				
	Signature	Print name	Electoral number	
			Polling District	Elector Number
Proposer				
Seconder				

Notes

1. The attention of candidates and electors is drawn to the rules for completing nomination papers and other provisions relating to nomination papers contained in the election rules in the Local Elections (Principal Areas) (England and Wales) Rules 2006 (as amended).
2. Where a candidate is commonly known by some title they may be described by their title as if it were their surname.

3.Where a candidate commonly uses a name or names –

- (a) that are different from the candidate's full names as stated on the nomination paper, or
- (b) in a different way from the candidate's full names as stated on the nomination paper,

the commonly used name or names may also appear on the nomination paper, but if they do so, the commonly used name or names (instead of any other name) will appear on the ballot paper.

4.But the ballot paper will show the other name if the Returning Officer thinks that the use of the commonly used name may:

- (a) be likely to mislead or confuse electors, or
- (b) that the commonly used name is obscene or offensive.

5.The description, if any, can only be:

- (a) one certified as an authorised or registered description as mentioned in Rule 5 of the election rules, or
- (b) the word 'Independent'

6.An elector may not:

- (a) subscribe more nomination papers than there are vacancies to be filled in the electoral area in which the election is held, or
- (b) subscribe a nomination paper for more than one electoral area in the same *county/district/London borough.

7.In this form elector:

- (a) means a person whose name is registered in the register of local government electors for the electoral area in question on the last day for the publication of notice of election, and
- (b) includes a person then shown in the register as below voting age if (but only if) it appears from the register that he will be of voting age on the day fixed for the poll.

8.However, a person who has an anonymous entry in the register of local government electors cannot nominate a candidate for election.

1b – Home address form		Office use only			
Local government elections in England		Date received	Time received	Initials	No
*ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS / A COUNCILLOR for the					
		*electoral division/ward of the			
*county/district/London borough of *Delete whichever is inappropriate					
Date of election:					

You must complete Part 1

Only complete Part 2 if you do not wish your home address to be made public

Part 1: To be completed by all candidates in England	
Full name of candidate	
Home address (in full)	
Qualifying address: Add your qualifying address, or qualifying addresses (in full) to each of the relevant qualifications below (you can complete more than one qualification).	
Qualifications that apply (tick those which apply)	Address
(a) I am registered as a local government elector for the area of the *county/district/London borough named above	
(b) I have during the whole of the preceding 12 months occupied as owner or tenant land or other premises in the area named above	
(c) my principal or only place of work during the preceding 12 months has been in the *county/district/London borough named above	
(d) I have during the whole of the preceding 12 months resided in the *county/district or London borough named above	
Witness details	
Full name of the person who will witness the candidate's consent to nomination form	
Full home address of the person who will witness the candidate's consent to nomination form	

Part 2: To be completed only if you do not wish your home address to be made public.	
Note: Please submit this part (part 2) of the home address form with your nomination papers, even if your home address is to be made public.	
If you request that your home address is not made public then your address will not appear on the statement of persons nominated, notice of poll or the ballot paper. Instead the name of the relevant area in which your home address is situated (or country, if outside the UK), as explained below, will appear on the statement of persons nominated, notice of poll and the ballot papers.	
Statement: I require my home address not to be made public	
The relevant area my home address is situated in:	(insert name of relevant area) ²
OR	
My home address is situated outside the UK. My home address is situated in:	(insert name of country)
Signature of candidate (only required where Part 2 above has been completed)	
Candidate's signature:	
Date:	

Deliver both Parts 1 and 2 with the nomination paper to the Returning Officer by no later than 4pm on the last day to deliver nominations

² the name of the relevant area in which your home address is situated (if your home address is in the UK)

• **For home addresses in England:**

- if the address is within a district for which there is a district council, that district;
- if the address is within a county in which there are no districts with councils, that county;
- if the address is within a London borough, that London borough;
- if the address is within the City of London (including the Inner and Middle Temples), the City of London; and
- if the address is within the Isles of Scilly, the Isles of Scilly

• **For home addresses in Wales:**

- if the address is within a county, that county;
- if the address is within a county borough, that county borough

• **For home addresses in Scotland:**

- the local government area in which the address is situated

• **For home addresses in Northern Ireland:**

- the local government district in which the address is situated

Note: The relevant area should be given in the format described above and is not the ward or parish, nor should the local authority name be given in full

1c – Candidate’s consent to nomination	Office use only			
	Local government elections in England	Date received	Time received	Initials

*You must declare that you meet at least one of the listed qualification(s) below and may declare more than one qualification if applicable. To do this, strike through any that do not apply. Any qualification(s) that apply must match the information given on your home address form.

Date of election:			
I (name in full):			
hereby consent to my nomination as a candidate for election as councillor for the:		*electoral division/ ward	
of the *county/district/London borough of:			

I declare that on the day of my nomination, I am qualified and that, if there is a poll on the day of election, I will be qualified to be so elected by virtue of being on that day or those days a qualifying Commonwealth citizen, a citizen of the Republic of Ireland, a qualifying EU citizen, or an EU citizen with retained rights, who has attained the age of 18 years and that:

*a. I am registered as a local government elector for the area of the *county/district/London borough named above; or
*b. I have during the whole of the 12 months preceding that day, or those days, occupied as owner or tenant land or other premises in the area named above; or
*c. my principal or only place of work during those 12 months has been in the *county/district/London borough named above; or
*d I have during the whole of those 12 months resided in the *county/district or London borough named above.

I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief I am not disqualified for being elected by reason of any disqualification set out in, or decision made under, sections 80 or 81A of the Local Government Act 1972 or section 34 of the Localism Act 2011, or section 30 of the Elections Act 2022 (copies of which are printed overleaf), and I do not hold a politically restricted post, within the meaning of Part 1 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, under a local authority, within the meaning of that Part.

Note 1: A candidate who is qualified by more than one qualification may complete any of those which may apply.

Note 2: Disqualifications set out under s.81A of the Local Government Act 1972 only apply to a person who is subject to any relevant notification requirements, or a relevant order, made on or after 28 June 2022.

Date of birth:	
Signature:	
Date of consent:	

Witness: I confirm the above-mentioned candidate signed the declaration in my presence.

Witness (name in full):	
Witness’s signature:	

Local Government Act 1972**80. Disqualifications for election and holding office as member of local authority**

(1) Subject to the provisions of section 81 below, a person shall be disqualified for being elected or being a member of a local authority if he –

- (a) holds any paid office or employment (other than the office of chairman, vice-chairman, deputy chairman, presiding member or deputy presiding member or, in the case of a local authority which are operating executive arrangements which involve a leader and cabinet executive, the office of executive leader or member of the executive) appointments or elections to which are or may be made or confirmed by the local authority or any committee or sub-committee of the authority or by a joint committee or National Park authority on which the authority are represented or by any person holding any such office or employment; or
- (b) is the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or an interim bankruptcy restrictions order, or a debt relief restrictions order under Schedule 4ZB of the Insolvency Act 1986; or
- (c)[This has been removed and no longer applies]
- (d) has within five years before the day of election or since his election been convicted in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man of any offence and has had passed on him a sentence of imprisonment (whether suspended or not) for a period of not less than three months without the option of a fine; or
- (e) is disqualified for being elected or for being a member of that authority under Part III of the Representation of the People Act 1983.

(2) Subject to the provisions of section 81 below, a paid officer of a local authority who is employed under the direction of –

- (a) a committee or sub-committee of the authority any member of which is appointed on the nomination of some other local authority; or
- (b) a joint board, joint authority, economic prosperity board, combined authority, joint waste authority or joint committee on which the authority are represented and any member of which is so appointed;

shall be disqualified for being elected or being a member of that other local authority.

(2AA) A paid member of staff of the Greater London Authority who is employed under the direction of a joint committee the membership of which includes –

- (a) one or more persons appointed on the nomination of the Authority acting by the Mayor, and
- (b) one or more members of one or more London borough councils appointed to the committee on the nomination of those councils,

shall be disqualified for being elected or being a member of any of those London borough councils.

(2A) Subsection (2) above shall have effect as if the reference to a joint board included a reference to a National Park authority.

(2B) For the purposes of this section a local authority shall be treated as represented on a National Park authority if it is entitled to make any appointment of a local authority member of the National Park authority.

(3) Subsection (1)(a) shall have effect in relation to a teacher in a school maintained by the local authority who does not hold an employment falling within that provision as it has effect in relation to a teacher in such a school who holds such an employment.

(5) For the purposes of subsection (1)(d) above, the ordinary date on which the period allowed for making an appeal or application with respect to the conviction expires or, if such an appeal or application is made, the date on which the appeal or application is finally disposed of or abandoned or fails by reason of the non-prosecution thereof shall be deemed to be the date of the conviction.

81. Exception to provisions of section 80

- (4) Section 80(2) and (3) above shall not operate so to disqualify –
- (a) any person by reason of his being a teacher, or otherwise employed, in a school or other educational institution maintained or assisted by a county council for being a member of a district council by reason that the district council nominates members of the education committee of the county council

81A. Disqualification relating to sexual offences etc

- (1) A person is disqualified for being elected or being a member of a local authority in England if the person is subject to—
- (a) any relevant notification requirements, or
- (b) a relevant order.
- (2) In this section "relevant notification requirements" means—
- (a) the notification requirements of Part 2 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003;
- (b) the notification requirements of Part 2 of the Sex Offenders (Jersey) Law 2010;
- (c) the notification requirements of Part 2 of the Criminal Justice (Sex Offenders and Miscellaneous Provisions) (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law 2013;
- (d) the notification requirements of Schedule 1 to the Criminal Justice Act 2001 (an Act of Tynwald: c. 4).
- (3) In this section "relevant order" means—
- (a) a sexual harm prevention order under section 345 of the Sentencing Code;
- (b) a sexual harm prevention order under section 103A of the Sexual Offences Act 2003;
- (c) a sexual offences prevention order under section 104 of that Act;
- (d) a sexual risk order under section 122A of that Act;
- (e) a risk of sexual harm order under section 123 of that Act;
- (f) a risk of sexual harm order under section 2 of the Protection of Children and Prevention of Sexual Offences (Scotland) Act 2005;
- (g) a sexual risk order under section 27 of the Abusive Behaviour and Sexual Harm (Scotland) Act 2016;
- (h) a restraining order under Article 10 of the Sex Offenders (Jersey) Law 2010;
- (i) a child protection order under Article 11 of that Law;
- (j) a sexual offences prevention order under section 18 of the Criminal Justice (Sex Offenders and Miscellaneous Provisions) (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law 2013;
- (k) a risk of sexual harm order under section 22 of that Law;
- (l) a sexual offences prevention order under section 1 of the Sex Offenders Act 2006 (an Act of Tynwald: c. 20);
- (m) a risk of sexual harm order under section 5 of that Act.
- (4) For the purposes of subsection (1)(a), a person who is subject to any relevant notification requirements is not to be regarded as disqualified until—

- (a) the expiry of the ordinary period allowed for making an appeal or application against the conviction, finding, caution, order or certification in respect of which the person is subject to the relevant notification requirements, or
 - (b) if such an appeal or application is made, the date on which it is finally disposed of or abandoned or fails because it is not prosecuted.
- (5) For the purposes of subsection (1)(b), a person who is subject to a relevant order is not to be regarded as disqualified until—
- (a) the expiry of the ordinary period allowed for making an appeal against the relevant order, or
 - (b) if such an appeal is made, the date on which it is finally disposed of or abandoned or fails because it is not prosecuted.

Localism Act 2011

Section 34(4) describes how a person may be disqualified from standing in local government elections under this section. The remaining provisions of section 34 do not directly affect a person's entitlement to stand for election.

34 Offences

- (1) A person commits an offence if, without reasonable excuse, the person—
- (a) fails to comply with an obligation imposed on the person by section 30(1) or 31(2), (3) or (7),
 - (b) participates in any discussion or vote in contravention of section 31(4), or
 - (c) takes any steps in contravention of section 31(8).
- (2) A person commits an offence if under section 30(1) or 31(2), (3) or (7) the person provides information that is false or misleading and the person—
- (a) knows that the information is false or misleading, or
 - (b) is reckless as to whether the information is true and not misleading.
- (3) A person who is guilty of an offence under this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.
- (4) A court dealing with a person for an offence under this section may (in addition to any other power exercisable in the person's case) by order disqualify the person, for a period not exceeding five years, for being or becoming (by election or otherwise) a member or co-opted member of the relevant authority in question or any other relevant authority.
- (5) A prosecution for an offence under this section is not to be instituted except by or on behalf of the Director of Public Prosecutions.
- (6) Proceedings for an offence under this section may be brought within a period of 12 months beginning with the date on which evidence sufficient in the opinion of the prosecutor to warrant the proceedings came to the prosecutor's knowledge.
- (7) But no such proceedings may be brought more than three years—
- (a) after the commission of the offence, or
 - (b) in the case of a continuous contravention, after the last date on which the offence was committed.

(8) A certificate signed by the prosecutor and stating the date on which such evidence came to the prosecutor's knowledge is conclusive evidence of that fact; and a certificate to that effect and purporting to be so signed is to be treated as being so signed unless the contrary is proved.

(9) The Local Government Act 1972 is amended as follows.

(10) In section 86(1)(b) (authority to declare vacancy where member becomes disqualified otherwise than in certain cases) after " 2000 " insert " or section 34 of the Localism Act 2011 ".

(11) In section 87(1)(ee) (date of casual vacancies)—

(a) after "2000" insert " or section 34 of the Localism Act 2011 or ", and

(b) after "decision" insert " or order ".

(12) The Greater London Authority Act 1999 is amended as follows.

(13) In each of sections 7(b) and 14(b) (Authority to declare vacancy where Assembly member or Mayor becomes disqualified otherwise than in certain cases) after sub-paragraph (i) insert—

"(ia) under section 34 of the Localism Act 2011,".

(14) In section 9(1)(f) (date of casual vacancies)—

(a) before "or by virtue of" insert " or section 34 of the Localism Act 2011 ", and

(b) after "that Act" insert "of 1998 or that section"

Elections Act 2022

30 Disqualification orders

(1) This section applies where—

(a) a person ("the offender") is convicted of a Schedule 9 offence,

(b) the offender was aged 18 or over when the offence was committed, and

(c) the court is satisfied beyond reasonable doubt that the offence is aggravated by hostility related to persons falling within any of sections 32 to 34.

(2) The court must, when dealing with the offender for the offence, also make an order (a "disqualification order") that the offender is disqualified, for the period of 5 years beginning with the date on which the order is made—

(a) for being nominated for election to a relevant elective office, and

(b) for being elected to or holding a relevant elective office.

(3) Subsection (2) does not apply where the court considers that there are particular circumstances relating to the offence or to the offender which would make it unjust in all the

circumstances to make the order; and in such a case the court must state in open court the reasons for not making the order.

(4) For the purposes of this section an offence is aggravated by hostility related to persons falling within any of sections 32 to 34 if—

- (a) at the time of committing the offence, or immediately before or after doing so, the offender demonstrated towards the victim of the offence hostility based on the victim being (or being presumed to be) a person falling within any of sections 32 to 34, or
- (b) the offence was motivated (wholly or partly) by hostility towards persons falling within any of those sections in their capacity as such.

(5) For the purposes of subsection (4) it is immaterial whether or not the offender's hostility is also based, to any extent, on any other factor not mentioned in that subsection.

(6) For the purpose of deciding whether to make a disqualification order the court may consider evidence led by the prosecution and the defence.

(7) It is immaterial whether evidence led in pursuance of subsection (6) would have been admissible in the proceedings in which the offender was convicted.

(8) Where a Schedule 9 offence is found to have been committed—

- (a) over a period of 2 or more days, or
- (b) at some time during a period of 2 or more days,

it is to be taken for the purposes of subsection (1)(b) to have been committed on the last of those days.

(9) In this section—

“presumed” means presumed by the offender;

“Schedule 9 offence” means an offence listed in Schedule 9 (and any reference in that Schedule to an offence includes a reference to that offence committed by aiding, abetting, counselling or procuring the commission of that offence).

2 – Certificate of authorisation	Office use only			
Local government elections in England	Date received	Time received	Initials	No

To accompany the nomination of a candidate standing on behalf of a registered political party. (Note: candidates standing on behalf of two or more parties require a certificate from each party and each must allow the same registered joint description to be used).

This certificate must be issued by the registered Nominating Officer of the party or by a person authorised to sign on their behalf.

This certificate authorises the candidate to use a specific registered description or the name of the party as registered with the Electoral Commission, or to use 'any registered description or the party name as registered with the Electoral Commission'.

This authorised party name or description can then be included by the candidate on the nomination form. It is this which will appear as their description on the ballot paper. Party names and registered descriptions are listed on the Electoral Commission's website (<http://search.electoralcommission.org.uk>).

Details of candidate to be authorised and the allowed description/party name			
Ward/division name:		Date of election:	
The candidate (name in full):			
Name of political party:	Political party registered with the Electoral Commission		
I hereby certify that the candidate may include the following registered description or party name in their nomination form:			
Note: it is an offence to sign this form if you are not the party's registered nominating officer or authorised to do so by the party's registered nominating officer			
Signature of party's registered Nominating Officer (or person authorised by the registered Nominating Officer):			
Name of person signing this form:			
Date:			

This form must be delivered to the Returning Officer by no later than 4pm on the last day to deliver nominations.

3 – Request for a party emblem	Office use only			
Local government elections in England	Date received	Time received	Initials	No

This form is for a candidate of a political party who is subject to a certificate of authorisation and who wishes to have a party emblem printed on the ballot paper next to their name.

Party emblems are listed on the Electoral Commission’s website (<http://search.electoralcommission.org.uk>).

This form must be signed by the candidate.

Candidate’s request for use of an emblem			
Ward/division name:		Date of election:	
Candidate name in full:			
I request that the ballot paper shall contain, against my name, the following registered emblem (please identify which emblem if the party has registered more than one):			
Emblem to be used (Please use name or description as on the Electoral Commission’s website):			
Candidate’s signature:			
Date:			

This form is only effective if delivered for a candidate standing on behalf of a political party to the Returning Officer by no later than 4pm on the last day to deliver nominations.

Candidates standing on behalf of more than one political party and using a joint description may choose one emblem from one of the parties that you are standing for. Please indicate the name of the party and the emblem name in the ‘Emblem to be used’ box above.

4 – Notification of an election agent		Office use only		<input type="checkbox"/>
Local government elections in England		Date received	Time received	Initials
Ward/division name				
Date of election:				

Candidate's notification of their election agent	
I, (Candidate name in full):	
Hereby declare that the name and address of my election agent is:	
Agent's name:	
Agent's address (in full):	
The office address of my election agent to which all claims, notices, legal process and the other documents may be sent is:	
Agent's office address (in full):	
Candidate's signature (or of person authorised to act on behalf of candidate):	
Date:	

Confirmation of acceptance by election agent	
I [agent named above] confirm my acceptance as the election agent for the above named candidate. I understand that I must carry out my duties according to law. I understand that there are penalties if I fail to fulfil my duties according to law.	
Agent's signature:	
Date:	

Agent's other details in case of query (optional – will not be published)	
Home telephone:	
Work telephone:	
Mobile telephone:	
Email address:	

Return to the Returning Officer by no later than 4pm on the last day to deliver nominations.

Local government elections in England: candidate contact information

For completion by an individual candidate and their election agent (if they are not acting as their own agent) at a local government election in England.

You are not required to complete and return this form but providing contact detail to the Returning Officer (RO) in this way will enable the RO to contact you quickly with relevant information regarding the election.

In addition, to help support the safety and security of everyone who wants to participate in elections, it is important that the police can proactively contact candidates and election agents to provide you with relevant, timely information and advice.

By providing your contact details on this form you are also agreeing that the RO may share them with the police to help them to support the safety of all candidates and election agents participating in the election. In particular, this will enable the police to contact you directly with relevant, timely security information about the election.

Candidate contact details	
Full name:	
Email address:	
Telephone number:	
Signature:	
Election agent contact details	
Full name:	
Email address:	
Telephone number:	
Signature:	

The data controller will only use the information you have provided on this form for electoral purposes and will look after your personal information securely, following data protection legislation.

The data controller will not give personal information about you and the personal information you may provide on other people to anyone else or another organisation unless permitted by law, including, as here, where you have consented to the data being shared or where it is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest and exercise of official authority vested in the Returning Officer.

The lawful basis to collect the information in this form is that it is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest and exercise of official authority as vested in the Returning Officer as set out in Representation of the People Act 1983 and related regulations.

The Returning Officer is the Data Controller.

For further information relating to the processing of personal data you should refer to their privacy notice on their website.

Wokingham Borough Council Request for electoral register

Name of electoral area: (e.g. Borough ward / Parish ward / Parish)	
Date of election	Thursday 7 May 2026

This form must be submitted to the Electoral Registration Officer. You can email a scan/photo of this form to vote@wokingham.gov.uk. It can also be posted or hand delivered to Electoral Services, Shute End, WOKINGHAM RG40 1BN.

This form must be completed by the candidate.

Name	
<p>My request is for the register as at the last date for notice of election and any revisions or notices of amendment up to the election.</p> <p>I declare that I am a person entitled to receive a copy of the electoral register at the above named election. I will use my copy of the electoral register for electoral purposes and checking the validity of donations only. I will only allow others who are assisting with the campaign to use this data for the same purposes. I understand that any other purpose is illegal and is punishable by a fine. In England and Wales, the fine is unlimited; in Scotland the fine can be up to £5,000.</p>	
Signed	

Delivery details		
My application is for the electoral register in (tick one box only):		
PDF format	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Data format	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Paper	<input type="checkbox"/>	This must be collected from the Electoral Services office.

Contact details (in case of query)	
Telephone	
Email	

We will only use the information you give us on this form for electoral purposes. We will look after your personal information securely and we will follow data protection legislation. We will not give personal information about you, or any personal information you may provide on other people, to anyone else or another organisation unless we have to by law.

The lawful basis to collect the information in this form is that it is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest and exercise of official authority as vested in the Electoral Registration Officer as set out in Representation of the People Act 1983 and related regulations.

The Electoral Registration Officer is the Data Controller. You can find their contact details at <https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter>

For further information relating to the processing of personal data you should refer to their privacy notice on their website. You can find their website address at <https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter>

Wokingham Borough Council
Request for a copy of the lists of postal and proxy voters

Name of electoral area: (e.g. Borough ward / Parish ward / Parish)	
Date of election	Thursday 7 May 2026

This form must be submitted to the Electoral Registration Officer. You can email a scan/photo of this form to vote@wokingham.gov.uk. It can also be posted or hand delivered to Electoral Services, Shute End, WOKINGHAM RG40 1BN.

This form must be completed by the candidate.

I declare that I am a person entitled to receive a copy of the absent vote list in respect of the above named election. I will use my copy of the absent vote list for electoral purposes only and will only allow others who are assisting with the campaign to use this data for the same purposes. I understand that any use other than electoral purposes is illegal and is punishable by a fine. In England and Wales, the fine is unlimited; in Scotland, the fine can be up to £5,000.

Name	
Signed	

My application is for the absent vote list in (you may tick as many boxes that you wish):	
The current list of postal voters	<input type="checkbox"/>
The current list of proxy voters	<input type="checkbox"/>
The final list of postal voters	<input type="checkbox"/>
The final list of proxy voters	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please supply the data in (please tick one box only):	
PDF format	<input type="checkbox"/>
Data format	<input type="checkbox"/>

Contact details (in case of query)	
Telephone	
Mobile	
Email	

The data controller will only use the information you provide on this form for electoral purposes and will look after your personal information securely, following data protection legislation. The data controller will not give personal information about you and the personal information you may provide on other people to anyone else or another organisation unless required to by law.

The lawful basis to collect the information in this form is that it is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest and exercise of official authority as vested in the Electoral Registration Officer as set out in Representation of the People Act 1983 and related regulations.

For further information relating to the processing of personal data you should refer to the privacy notice on the data controller's website. The Electoral Registration Officer is the data controller. You can find their contact details at www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter

Timetable for local elections in England: 7 May 2026

Event	Election	Working days before poll (deadline if not midnight)	Date
Wokingham Borough Council publishes notice of election	All		Friday 27 March
Final day for the publication of notice of election	All	Not later than 25 days	Not later than Monday 30 March
Delivery of nomination papers	All, excluding combined authority mayoral	From the date stated on the notice of election up to 4pm on the nineteenth working day before the election	From the date stated on the notice of election up to 4pm on Thursday 9 April
Delivery of nomination papers	Combined authority mayoral	From the day after the publication of notice of election until 4pm on the nineteenth working day before the election (10am to 4pm)	Between 10am and 4pm on any working day after publication of the notice of election until 4pm on Thursday 9 April
Deadline for withdrawals of nomination	All	19 days (4pm)	4pm on Thursday 9 April
Deadline for the notification of appointment of election agent	All, excluding parish council	19 days (4pm)	4pm on Thursday 9 April

Event	Election	Working days before poll (deadline if not midnight)	Date
Making objections to nomination papers	Combined authority mayoral	On 19 days (10am to 5pm), subject to the following: Between 10am and 12noon objections can be made to all delivered nominations Between 12 noon and 5pm objections can only be made to nominations delivered after 4pm, 20 days before the poll	Between 10am and 12 noon on Thursday 9 April objections can be made to all delivered nominations Between 12 noon and 5pm on Thursday 9 April objections can only be made to nominations delivered after 4pm on Wednesday 8 April
Publication of first interim election notice of alteration	All	19 days	Thursday 9 April
Publication of statement of persons nominated	All	Not later than 18 days (4pm)	Not later than 4pm on Friday 10 April
Deadline for receiving applications for registration	All	12 days	Monday 20 April
Deadline for receiving new postal vote and postal proxy applications, and for changes to existing postal or proxy votes	All	11 days (5pm)	5pm on Tuesday 21 April
Deadline for receiving new applications to vote by proxy (not postal proxy or emergency proxies)	All	6 days (5pm)	5pm on Tuesday 28 April

Event	Election	Working days before poll (deadline if not midnight)	Date
Deadline for receiving applications for Voter Authority Certificates	All	6 days (5pm)	5pm on Tuesday 28 April
Publication of second interim election notice of alteration	All	Between 18 days and 6 days	Between Friday 10 April and Tuesday 28 April (inclusive)
Publication of notice of poll	All	Not later than 6 days	Not later than Tuesday 28 April
Publication of final election notice of alteration	All	5 days	Wednesday 29 April
Deadline for notification of appointment of polling and counting agents	All	5 days	Wednesday 29 April
Deadline for notification of appointment of sub agents	Combined authority mayoral	5 days	Wednesday 29 April
First date that electors can apply for a replacement for lost postal votes	All	4 days	Thursday 30 April
Polling day	All	0 (7am to 10pm)	7am to 10pm on Thursday 7 May
Last time that electors can apply for a replacement for spoilt or lost postal votes	All	0 (5pm)	5pm on Thursday 7 May
Deadline for emergency proxy applications	All	0 (5pm)	5pm on Thursday 7 May

Event	Election	Working days before poll (deadline if not midnight)	Date
Last time to alter the register due to clerical error or court appeal	All	0 (9pm)	9pm on Thursday 7 May
Delivery of return as to election expenses (parish council elections only)	Parish council	Not later than 28 calendar days* after the date of the election	Thursday 4 June
Delivery of return as to election expenses	All, excluding parish council	Not later than 35 calendar days* after the date the election result is declared	Refer to the following table for further information on the date for return of election expenses.
Sending postal vote identifier rejection notices	All	Within 3 calendar months beginning with the date of the poll	By Friday 7 August

*If the last day of the period falls on a weekend, bank holiday or any day appointed for public thanksgiving or mourning, in which case the last day moves to the next working day.

Delivery of return as to election expenses (all, excluding parish council elections).

If the result is declared:	Deadline for return:
Thursday 7 May	Thursday 11 June
Friday 8 May	Friday 12 June
Any declaration made on 9 May or 10 May	Monday 15 June
Monday 11 May	Monday 15 June