Herefordshire Council

Key information for voters

Voter registration

- Deadline for voter registration 11:59pm on Monday 19 April.
- If you have registered to vote at your property and have not moved since, you do not need to re-register to vote.
- If you have moved home recently and have not registered to vote at your new address, you must do so by 11:59pm on Monday 19 April,
- You can check if you are registered to vote by phoning the Electoral Services helpline on 01432 260107
- Register by Monday 19 April or you won't be able to vote on Thursday 6 May.
- It takes 5 minutes to <u>register online</u> It helps to have your National Insurance number to hand, you can find it on your payslip, P60, or letters about tax, pensions and benefits.
- Voters can also register at <u>www.herefordshire.gov.uk/elections</u> or by phoning the electoral services helpline on 01432 260107
- Don't leave registration until the last minute, just in case you have any problems.

Postal votes

- Deadline to apply for a postal vote 5pm on Tuesday 20 April.
- Postal vote applicants must already be registered to vote. Forms can be downloaded from the <u>Gov.UK website</u> or <u>www.herefordshire.gov.uk/postalvote</u> Applications can be sent back in the post to Electoral Services, Town Hall, St Owen Street, Hereford, HR1 2PJ or a scanned copy or photograph can be sent to <u>elections@herefordshire.gov.uk</u>
- Only postal votes which arrive back by 10pm on polling day will be counted.

- Forgot to send your postal vote back in time? Completed and sealed postal vote packs can be dropped into any polling station in the same voting area on polling day, but ideally to your local polling station.
- Lost your postal vote or it didn't arrive? Replacement packs can be issued from Thursday 29 April until 5pm on polling day. From 5pm on the day before polling, replacement postal ballot packs will only be issued in person at Electoral Services, Town Hall, St Owen Street, Hereford, HR1 2PJ. You will need to bring proof of identification: one photographic ID such as a passport or driving licence, or two pieces of ID which confirm your name and address such as a bank statement, utility bill or official letter. If you are appointing someone to collect your replacement ballot pack for you, you need to provide us with their name and address beforehand and they will need to bring proof of identification as above.

Proxy voters

- Deadline to apply for a proxy vote 5pm on Tuesday 27 April.
- A proxy voter is someone you trust who you appoint to vote on your behalf.
- Proxy vote applicants must already be registered to vote. Forms can be downloaded from the <u>Gov.UK website</u> or <u>www.herefordshire.gov.uk/postalvote</u> Applications can be sent back in the post to Electoral Services, Town Hall, St Owen Street, Hereford, HR1 2PJ or a scanned copy or photograph can be sent to <u>elections@herefordshire.gov.uk</u>
- Your proxy must be eligible to vote in the election and will need to be able to vote in person at your polling station, or need to apply to cast their proxy vote by post. They will receive a letter or poll card at their address giving them the necessary details.
- Your proxy will need to be able to vote in person at your polling station. They will receive a letter or poll card at their address giving them the necessary details.

- Postal voters are not eligible to apply for a proxy vote.
- Emergency proxy votes may be available from after the proxy deadline until 5pm on polling day but only under specific extenuating circumstances, find details on the <u>Electoral Commission website</u> or by phoning the Electoral Services helpline on 01432 260107.

On polling day

- Polling stations are open from 7am to 10pm.
- You can only cast your vote at the polling station you are registered at. The details will be printed on your poll card.
- You don't need your poll card with you to be able to vote, but it does speed the process up. If you take your poll card to the polling station you must take it home with you.
- Make sure to check your poll card for any changes to your usual polling station location or use our <u>find your polling station</u>
- You may be given numerous ballot papers at your polling station, including:
- Police and Crime Commissioner Election (White ballot paper)
- Herefordshire Council by-election (Yellow ballot paper)
- Parish council by-election (Green ballot paper)
- Neighbourhood Planning Referendum (Grey ballot paper)

Covid-19 measures at polling stations may include:

- Separate entrances and exits where possible
- Altered layouts to allow for social distancing when waiting to vote and when completing a ballot paper, but still ensuring electors can cast their vote in secret
- Polling station staff wearing PPE
- Voters asked to wear face covering where possible and use hand sanitiser when they enter the polling station
- Voters encouraged to bring their own pen or pencil
- Polling booths and other touch points regularly sanitised.

These measures may mean you have to wait for longer than usual to be able to cast your vote. Try to avoid busy times if you can, like before and after work, after the school run and lunchtime. If you are in a queue to vote at a polling station by 10pm, you will still be able to vote past that time. The polling station team will close the queue at 10pm, but still allow everyone who arrived while the queue was open to cast their vote.

Results

Vote counting for the Police and Crime Commissioner will take place on Monday 10 May. Any local by-elections will be counted on Friday 7 May at Hereford leisure Centre, Holmer Road, Hereford, HR4 9UD.

Results will be announced on facebook, twitter and on <u>www.herefordshire.gov.uk/electionresults</u>.