

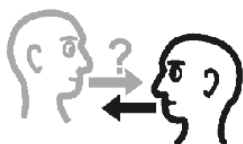
# County Council Elections



This easy read document tells you about a by-election for one county councillor for Newark West which will take place on Thursday 3 July 2025.

We will tell you about:

- [What county councillors are](#)
- [How councillors are chosen](#)
- [Who can vote](#)
- [What photo ID is accepted](#)
- [Key dates](#)
- [Where to get more information or help](#)



We have a [separate easy read document](#) about Nottinghamshire County Council and other types of local democracy.

# What are County Councillors?



County councillors are members of the council.



Nottinghamshire has 66 councillors, and each councillor represents 1 of 56 areas called electoral divisions.



The role of county councillors is to:

- use their knowledge and views to make council decisions



- represent the interests of local people



- make sure that services the council provide are working well

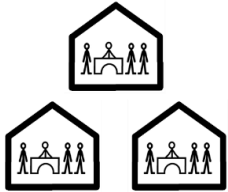


- help local people find services and information

They do this by:



- going to meetings and being on committees



- working closely with other organisations that are based in their area



- holding regular meetings (surgeries) so the public can tell them about problems, to ask or give advice.

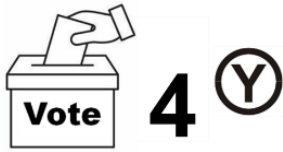


Nottinghamshire County Council has a person who leads the council and represents it to other organisations.



The councillors vote to pick a person to be the leader of the council.

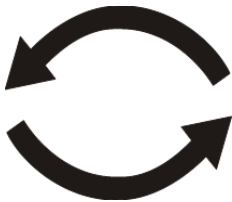
## How are councillors chosen?



People vote for councillors every 4 years.



The last election took place on Thursday 1 May 2025.



The elected councillor for **Newark West** resigned and so voters here will have a by-election to choose a new councillor.



The by-election for one councillor for Newark West will take place on Thursday 3 July 2025.

## Key Dates

**All elections have to comply with a strict timetable.**

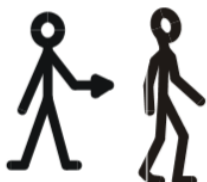


- **The last date for you register to vote:**  
Tuesday 17 June



- **The last date to apply for a postal vote:**

Wednesday 18 June, 5 pm



- **The last date to ask to have someone vote on your behalf**

Wednesday 25 June, 5 pm

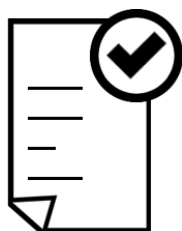


- **The last date to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate**

Wednesday 25 June, 5 pm



You need to show photo Identification (ID) if you vote in person at a polling station. If you do not have this you can ask for a **voter certificate** instead.



A list of some [common types of valid ID documents](#) is shown later in this easy read document.



A polling station is the place where you can vote in person. They are often in buildings close to where you live for example, a school or a community centre.



The Voter Authority Certificate is free and you should take it with you to vote.

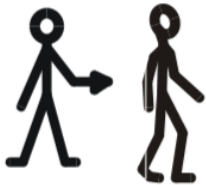


- **Polling Stations open for you to vote**  
**(from 7 am to 10 pm)**

Thursday 3 July

- **Deadline for an emergency proxy vote:**

Thursday 3 July, 5 pm

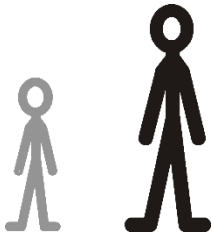


Proxy voting means that if you can't vote in person, you can have someone you trust vote for you.



You can apply for an emergency proxy vote if you have a medical emergency, or have lost your photo ID or voter authority certificate, or because you are working away from home.

## Who can vote?



You need to be over the age of 16 to register, but you won't be able to vote until your 18th birthday.



To vote in county council elections, you also need to be a British citizen or an Irish citizen.

A citizen is a person who belongs to a particular country by birth or naturalisation.

You can also vote if you have permission to enter or stay in the UK, Channel Islands or Isle of Man, or don't need permission, and you are:

- a Commonwealth citizen, or
- a citizen of Denmark, Luxembourg, Poland, Portugal or Spain.

Other EU citizens can vote if they have continued to have permission to enter or stay in the UK since 31 December 2020.



You cannot vote in county council elections if you live abroad, or if you are in prison after being convicted of an offence.



If you meet the conditions, you can register to vote using [the online form](#) on the GOV.UK website.

## What Photo ID is accepted?

You need to have photo ID to vote at a polling station. Not all types of photo ID can be used.

You can only use ID that is on the [list of acceptable ID managed by the Electoral Commission](#).

These include **driving licences** from:

- the United kingdom (UK)
- the Channel Islands
- the Isle of Man
- an EEA state





You can also use **passports** from:

- the United Kingdom (UK)
- the Channel Islands
- the Isle of Man
- a British Overseas Territory
- an EEA state (including Irish passport card)
- a Commonwealth country



Other valid forms of photo ID include:



- A Blue Badge.
- Older or disabled persons bus pass funded by the UK Government.
- Identity card with the Proof of Age Standards Scheme hologram (a PASS card). PASS is the UK's national proof of age accreditation scheme.
- Biometric Immigration Documents, including eVisas.



Biometric means the document includes electronic details about the holder's fingerprints, eye scans, facial features or other identifying characteristics.



- Ministry of Defence Form 90 (Defence Identity Card).



- National identity card issued by an EEA state.

If you do not have photo ID from this list, you can apply for a free **Voter Authority Certificate**.

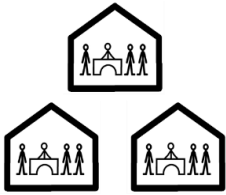


You can also apply for a Voter Authority Certificate if you no longer look like the photo on your ID, or if the name on your photo ID is different from your name on the electoral register.



You can apply for a Voter Authority Certificate using [the online form](#) at GOV.UK.

## Where can I find more information or help?



Elections are managed by friendly and helpful staff in district and borough councils. They are very keen to help people to vote. You can let them know before the election if you need help to vote, or if you have any questions.



Voters in **Newark West** can find more information from [Newark and Sherwood District Council's election webpages](#).



You can also contact them by email: [voting@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk](mailto:voting@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk)



The [list of candidates is published online](#).



My Vote My Voice is an advocacy group set up by United Response, Dimensions, Mencap and Ambitious About Autism.



They have [a set of easy read documents](#) to make sure that everyone, including people with learning difficulties and autistic people, has the information and support they need to understand their right to vote.

## Links in this document

### **Easy read guide to local democracy in Nottinghamshire**

[www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/global-content/easy-read-library/local-democracy](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/global-content/easy-read-library/local-democracy)

### **GOV.UK – Register to vote**

[gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://gov.uk/register-to-vote)

### **Electoral Commission – List of valid photo-id**

[electoralcommission.org.uk/voting-and-elections/voter-id/accepted-forms-photo-id](http://electoralcommission.org.uk/voting-and-elections/voter-id/accepted-forms-photo-id)

## **GOV.UK – Apply for voter recognition certificate**

[gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate](https://gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate)

## **Newark and Sherwood District Council – elections information**

[www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/your-council/your-council/elections/3-july-2025-county-council-by-election](https://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/your-council/your-council/elections/3-july-2025-county-council-by-election)

## **Newark West – list of candidates**

[nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/ms5lld4z/newarkstatementofpersonsnominated062025.pdf](https://nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/ms5lld4z/newarkstatementofpersonsnominated062025.pdf)

## **My Vote My Voice easy read election guidance**

[myvotemyvoice.org.uk/how-politics-works](https://myvotemyvoice.org.uk/how-politics-works)

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For plain English web page version of this information, go to:

[Nottinghamshire County Council elections | Nottinghamshire County Council](https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/elections/nottinghamshire-county-council-elections)

[www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/elections/nottinghamshire-county-council-elections](https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/elections/nottinghamshire-county-council-elections)

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