

# Elections and Boundary Updates

Local Government Boundary Review  
Parliamentary Boundary Review  
Elections Act 2022

LRA Committee 26 June 2023

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# Local Government Boundary Review

Fareham's Electoral Review - what's happening?

[Details - SI 2023 - Statutory Instruments - UK Parliament](#)

# Register Preparatory Activities

- New wards now available on [GIS layer](#)
- Drawing up polling districts for each new ward
- Checking existing polling stations against new wards
- Annual Canvass commences July 23
- Report back to LRA Oct 2023
- Publish new Register 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023

# 2024 Elections Prep

- All Member workshop on Grass-Skirts Nov 2023
- Early Candidate briefings Jan / Feb 2024
- New registers available for candidates March 2024
- All out Fareham local elections + Hampshire PCC elections  
– May 2024

# Parliamentary Constituencies

- Final report to Parliament due by 1 July 2023
- Proposed new constituencies on [GIS layer](#)
- Fareham & Waterlooville, Hamble Valley, Gosport
- RO to be confirmed by DLUHC Nov 2023
- Cross boundary agreements to be confirmed between ERO teams
  
- Statutory Polling Place Review Oct 2023 – Jan 2025
  - Constituency review – cross boundary consultation

# New Constituencies

## Fareham and Waterlooville County Constituency - 77,036

Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate		
Fareham East	Fareham	5,930	42,498	
Fareham North	Fareham	5,621		
Fareham North-West	Fareham	5,548		
Fareham South	Fareham	5,505		
Fareham West	Fareham	5,403		
Portchester East	Fareham	8,883		
Portchester West	Fareham	5,608		
Cowplain	Havant	7,434		23,254
Hart Plain	Havant	7,657		
Waterloo	Havant	8,163		11,284
Denmead	Winchester	6,494		
Southwick & Wickham	Winchester	4,790		
		<b>77,036</b>		

## Hamble Valley County Constituency - 76,902

Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate	
Botley	Eastleigh	4,782	35,951
Bursledon & Hound North	Eastleigh	6,908	
Hamble & Netley	Eastleigh	7,970	
Hedge End North	Eastleigh	7,501	
Hedge End South	Eastleigh	8,790	
Locks Heath	Fareham	5,648	36,317
Park Gate	Fareham	7,137	
Sarisbury	Fareham	6,018	
Titchfield	Fareham	5,926	
Titchfield Common	Fareham	6,052	
Warsash	Fareham	5,536	
Whiteley & Shedfield	Winchester	4,634	
		<b>76,902</b>	

## Gosport Borough Constituency - 73,763

Ward	Local Authorities	Electorate	
Hill Head	Fareham	5,980	11,532
Stubbington	Fareham	5,552	
Alverstoke	Gosport	3,532	62,231
Anglesey	Gosport	2,998	
Bridgemary North	Gosport	3,453	
Bridgemary South	Gosport	3,556	
Brockhurst	Gosport	3,728	
Christchurch	Gosport	3,910	
Elson	Gosport	3,488	
Forton	Gosport	3,341	
Grange	Gosport	4,022	
Hardway	Gosport	4,211	
Lee East	Gosport	4,643	
Lee West	Gosport	4,123	
Leesland	Gosport	3,469	
Peel Common	Gosport	3,327	
Privett	Gosport	3,301	
Rowner & Holbrook	Gosport	3,256	
Town	Gosport	3,873	
		<b>73,763</b>	

# Elections Act 2022

Elections Act 2022 brings changes to electoral law surrounding:

- Voter ID
- Accessibility
- Voting system used at PCC elections
- Online service for applying for an absent vote
- Postal & Proxy voting
- Overseas Electors
- Postal vote handling and absent vote secrecy
- EU Citizens Voting & Candidacy Eligibility

# Voter Identification

From May 2023, voters are required to show an approved form of photo ID before being issued with a ballot paper in a polling station. Applies to:

- Local elections and by-elections
- Police & Crime Commissioner elections
- UK Parliamentary by-elections
- Recall petitions
- UK General Elections (from Oct 2023)



# Voter Identification

Acceptable forms of ID include:

- Passport
- Photographic driving licence
- Blue Badge
- Older Person's or Disabled Person's Bus Pass
- Biometric immigration document
- PASS card
- Ministry of Defence form 90
- National identity card issued by an EEA state
- Voter Authority Certificate (or Anonymous Elector's Document)

# Voter Identification

## Resources required to support voter ID:

- Separate area for the checking of photo id in private (privacy screen/separate room?)
- `Meeters and greeters' at entrance to polling station to check whether voters have photo id with them

# Voter Authority Certificate

Electors without suitable photo id can apply online or in person for a free Voter Authority Certificate (VAC). This is an A4 sized paper document, showing the voter's full name and photograph.

Approx 100 VAC applications received by FBC between Jan – May 23

# EC Analysis 4 May 2024

- 99.75% attending polling stations were able to vote
  - 0.25% = approx. 14,000 unable to vote
  - 92% aware of need to bring ID
- 89,552 applications for VAC before deadline
  - 25,000 VACs used as form of ID
- 0.7% initially turned away from polling station with no ID
  - 63% of these returned and were able to vote
  - 30% had an unacceptable form of ID

# Accessibility

New accessibility measures came into force in May, meaning RO's have a responsibility to:

- Improve the support in polling stations for people with a range of disabilities – consider the needs of disabled people and provide suitable equipment and staff to support them to vote
  - Voting device for use by blind or partially sighted voters; magnifiers; pencil grips etc.
- Be aware that anyone over the age of 18 can now act as a companion to assist a disabled voter in a polling station

# Voting System used at PCC Elections

The voting system for all Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) elections has now changed from the Supplementary Vote System to the Simple Majority Voting System, also known as First Past the Post.

Came into force from 4 May 2023.

# Online Absent Vote Applications

An online absent vote application service will be introduced to allow electors to apply for a postal or proxy vote online. In addition, identity checking will be introduced for **all** absent vote applications (other than emergency proxies):

- Electors will still be able to apply via a paper application
- Electors will have to provide their NINO during the application process.

These measures are expected to come into force from Oct 2023.

# Postal & Proxy Voting

Postal vote arrangements will be limited to a maximum of three years, following which the elector will need to make a fresh application.

The total number of electors for whom a person may act as a proxy will be limited to four.

These measures are expected to come into force from Oct 2023.



# Postal Vote Handling and Absent Vote Secrecy

Changes to the handling of postal votes and secrecy requirements are expected to come into force from May 2024:

- Political campaigners will be banned from handling postal votes;
- A limit will be placed on the number of postal votes a person can hand in;
- Secrecy requirements will be extended to postal and proxy votes.

# Overseas Electors

The 15 year limit on expatriates' right to vote in UK Parliamentary elections will be removed:

- All British Citizens overseas who were previously **registered** or **resident** in the UK will be entitled to register to vote in respect of the last UK address at which they were registered or resident
- The registration period for overseas electors will be extended from one year to up to three years
- Electors will be able to reapply for their absent vote arrangements at the same time as renewing their overseas declaration

# Overseas Electors

- Renewals will be linked to a fixed point of 1 November.

These measures are expected to come into force from January 2024.

# EU Citizens Voting & Candidacy Eligibility

The automatic right of European citizens to register to vote, to vote, and to stand in local elections will be removed.

Two groups of EU citizens will retain their voting and candidacy rights, and therefore remain on the relevant register.

# EU Citizens Voting & Candidacy Eligibility

- **Qualifying EU citizens** – citizens of a country with which the UK has bilateral voting and candidacy rights treaties (currently Poland, Spain, Portugal and Luxembourg)
- **EU citizens with retained rights** – those who were already resident in the UK at the end of the Implementation Period following our exit from the EU (31/12/20)

Expected to come into force **after** May 2024 polls

# LRA Work Programme items

5 October - Update report on polling districts and polling stations

28 November – All Member briefing on Grass Skirts  
Kick off Polling Place Review