

Elections Act 2022 Summary

Item	Expected Date of Implementation	First Election Likely to be Affected	Consequences	Potential Costs	Total	Initial Yr 1 Set up costs 22/23	Ongoing Costs from 22/23	Initial Yr 1 Set up costs 23/24	Ongoing costs from 23/24	Ongoing costs from 24/25
Electors ID	December 2022	May 2023	<p>Electors will have to show an approved form of photo identification before voting. If they cannot provide one of the required forms of identification as set out in legislation, they will be able to apply for a free Voter Card from their ERO.</p> <p>Current research is suggesting that around 2% of people may require identification issued by the ERO – for Exeter this translates to approximately 2,000 people. However, the figure could be much higher than this and there is nothing preventing a person who already has an acceptable form of photo ID applying for a voter card. The deadline to apply for a voter card is expected to be 5pm on the day prior to polling day – this will present challenges in getting late applicants ID to them prior to voting the next day.</p> <p>Electors will be able to choose to apply online, by post or in person.</p> <p>There will be a facility to provide a temporary card.</p> <p>The deadline will be 5pm on the day before polling day.</p> <p>Polling Station staff will need to record the ID provided and keep</p>	<p>2,000 cards @2.00</p> <p>2,000 Applications @30 mins = 1,000 hrs @£13.00/hr.</p> <p>Additional Polling Station Staff 55@£160.00 plus 55@£50 training</p>	<p>£4,000.00</p> <p>£13,000.00</p> <p>£11,550.00</p>	<p>£4,000</p> <p>£13,000</p>		<p>£0</p>	<p>£2,000.00</p> <p>£5,000.00</p> <p>£11,550.00</p>	

Item	Expected Date of Implementation	First Election Likely to be Affected	Consequences	Potential Costs	Total	Initial Yr 1 Set up costs 22/23	Ongoing Costs from 22/23	Initial Yr 1 Set up costs 23/24	Ongoing costs from 23/24	Ongoing costs from 24/25
			<p>records of who was refused a vote because of a lack of ID.</p> <p>Poll cards will be A4 size</p> <p>Although requirements for the gender will not be specified in regulations, electors may wish to request a specific gender poll clerk to view their photographic identification; this request should be met if there is a female poll clerk available and ROs may wish to consider their staffing arrangements for polling stations, however it will not be a mandatory requirement.</p> <p>Facilities will be necessary to carry out some ID checks in private, wither by the use of another room, or behind a privacy screen.</p> <p>Proxy voters will need to provide their own ID or apply for a Voter ID Card.</p>	<p>A4 poll cards est. additional £5,000.00</p> <p>Additional Equipment £150x55</p>	<p>£5,000.00</p> <p>£8,250.00</p> <p>Total £41,800.00</p>	<p>£6,000.00</p> <p>£23,000.00</p>		<p>£0</p> <p>£25,800.00</p>	<p>£5,000.00</p> <p>£2,250.00</p>	
Accessibility		May 2023	<p>ROs will have a general responsibility to take all reasonable steps to support voters with disabilities. The Electoral Commission will be providing guidance on what measures ROs can look to put in place for their area.</p> <p>The provisions for voters to be assisted by a companion will be extended to allow anyone over the age of 18 to assist.</p> <p>In order to take all reasonable steps to support voters with disabilities through supplying</p>	<p>Equipment £300.00 per polling station (55)</p> <p>Additional storage may be required.</p>	£16,500.00	£16,500.00			£6,500.00	

Item	Expected Date of Implementation	First Election Likely to be Affected	Consequences	Potential Costs	Total	Initial Yr 1 Set up costs 22/23	Ongoing Costs from 22/23	Initial Yr 1 Set up costs 23/24	Ongoing costs from 23/24	Ongoing costs from 24/25
			<p>appropriate equipment and adaptations – the RO needs to consult and engage with other council departments and key stakeholders who are best placed to inform on what practical steps can be taken.</p> <p>Assistance from departments such as equalities and access officers, who have expertise in what measures would be helpful to put in place will be required at the earliest opportunity.</p> <p>In addition, it would be sensible to consult and engage with local disability groups to form constructive working relationships and feed their expert opinions into what support is required within our area.</p>		Total £16,500.00	£16,500.00			£6,500.00	
Absent Voting Postal Vote Handling		May 2023	<p>Political parties and campaigners will be banned from handling postal votes. There will also be a limit on the number of postal votes a person can hand in at polling stations (limit will be set out in secondary legislation).</p> <p>When a person hands in postal votes at the polling station, they will be required to fill in a form with their details and the details of the elector on whose behalf they are handing in the postal vote. If they do not fill in the form, the votes will be rejected. If a person attempts to hand in more than the limit, they will be advised of the new rules and only allowed to hand in the limited number. If a person seeks to hand in more than the permitted number in one attempt they will all be rejected.</p>							

Item	Expected Date of Implementation	First Election Likely to be Affected	Consequences	Potential Costs	Total	Initial Yr 1 Set up costs 22/23	Ongoing Costs from 22/23	Initial Yr 1 Set up costs 23/24	Ongoing costs from 23/24	Ongoing costs from 24/25
			The person handing in postal vote packs at a polling station will be required to fill in the same form whether handing in their own postal vote pack only, handing in the postal votes of other voters, or handing in both their own and others' postal vote packs. The person will indicate on the form whether they are handing in their own postal vote only or also on behalf of other voters.							
Absent Voting Applications	January 2024	May 2024	Postal voters will need to make a fresh application every three years. Currently, electors are required to refresh their signature every 5 years. The application process for absent voters will include a process for verifying identity, in a similar way to individual registration. Electors will be allowed to act as proxy for no more than four people, of which no more than two can be 'domestic' electors (i.e. not overseas or service electors).	Printing and postage 2250 @ £1.00 Additional processing 2,250@5 mins = 187.5 hrs @£13.00 ph.	£2,250.00 £2,437.50 Total £4,687.50	£0 £0 £0			£2,250.00 £2437.50 £4,687.50	
Online Absent Vote Applications and Verification	July 2023	May 2024	Electors will be able to apply for an absent vote online (as well as by paper). Both online and paper applications will include a process for verifying the applicant's identity, which will be similar to the current process for individual electoral registration applications. Absent vote applicants using the online service will continue to be required to supply their personal identifiers (date of birth and a handwritten signature) as part of a postal vote application, to be matched against the personal identifiers they	Online applications may encourage 20% more applications 3,000 @ £0.75 Additional Processing 3,000 x 5mins @£13.00 ph (250 hrs)	£2,250.00 £3,250.00	£0 £0			£2,250.00 £3,250.00	

Item	Expected Date of Implementation	First Election Likely to be Affected	Consequences	Potential Costs	Total	Initial Yr 1 Set up costs 22/23	Ongoing Costs from 22/23	Initial Yr 1 Set up costs 23/24	Ongoing costs from 23/24	Ongoing costs from 24/25
			<p>submit on their postal vote statement which accompanies the ballot paper when voting. Users will be asked to take a picture of their signature and upload it to the online service. EROs will retain the signature (and date of birth) so that it can be used to verify completed postal voting statements that are returned with postal vote ballots.</p> <p>The process of uploading an image of a handwritten signature has already been tested with a range of users and it has proven to be an accessible and efficient way to roll out the online service. However, should a user be unable to upload a picture of their signature or otherwise complete their application, they will have the option to download their application form as is, to print it, add their signature and return it to their local ERO.</p> <p>The new identity verification process for absent vote applications in Great Britain will apply to paper applications as well as applications made online.</p> <p>The information an elector will need to provide will likely be very similar to the requirements for registration applications, whereby an applicant provides their National Insurance number which is matched against Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) data. There will also be an 'exceptions' process for electors to follow if they are unable to provide a National Insurance number or cannot be verified through such data matching. EROs will have the power to request further information, including (if necessary) requesting an identity attestation from another registered elector.</p> <p>The exceptions process will likely be</p>	<p>Additional issue and opening costs</p> <p>PV issued 3,000 @£1.00</p> <p>PV returned 2,000 @£1.00</p> <p>Staff costs issue 3x£340</p> <p>Staff costs open 2x £340.00</p>	<p>£3,000.00</p> <p>£2,000.00</p> <p>£1,020.00</p> <p>£680.00</p>	<p>£0</p> <p>£0</p> <p>£0</p> <p>£0</p>			<p>£3,000.00</p> <p>£2,000.00</p> <p>£1,020.00</p> <p>£680.00</p>	

Item	Expected Date of Implementation	First Election Likely to be Affected	Consequences	Potential Costs	Total	Initial Yr 1 Set up costs 22/23	Ongoing Costs from 22/23	Initial Yr 1 Set up costs 23/24	Ongoing costs from 23/24	Ongoing costs from 24/25
			similar to the exceptions process for registration applications, which involves the ERO requesting documentary evidence from the applicant in order to verify their identity. The applicant may be required to submit copies of one or more documents, depending on availability, such as a passport, photocard driving licence, birth certificate, or marriage or civil partnership certificate.		Total £12,200.00	£0			£12,200.00	
EU Citizens Voting & Candidacy Rights	June 2023	May 2024	<p>EU citizens will no longer automatically be able to register to vote, vote, and stand for election. Two groups of EU citizens will retain their rights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘qualifying EU citizens’ from countries with reciprocal agreements, and who have leave, or do not require it, to remain in the UK. Currently Luxembourg, Poland, Portugal and Spain. • ‘EU citizens with retained rights’ who were resident in the UK before 1 January 2021 <p>Does not affect Irish, Maltese and Cypriot citizens</p> <p>EROs will need to review existing EU electors, and process applications in line with new eligibility criteria (from June 2023). As yet the process for the review is still in development and we are awaiting more details.</p>	4,500 x 20 mins x £13.00 ph (1500 hrs)	£19,500.00 Total £19,500.00			£19,500.00 £19,500.00		£7,500.00 £7,500.00

Item	Expected Date of Implementation	First Election Likely to be Affected	Consequences	Potential Costs	Total	Initial Yr 1 Set up costs 22/23	Ongoing Costs from 22/23	Initial Yr 1 Set up costs 23/24	Ongoing costs from 23/24	Ongoing costs from 24/25
Overseas Electors	July 2023	May 2024 (UKPGE)?	<p>The 15-year limit on voting rights for British citizens living overseas will be removed.</p> <p>Overseas electors will be able to register at an address where they were previously registered, or if they were never previously registered, where they were last resident. The registration period will be increased to three years (currently required to renew every year), and renewals will be linked to a fixed point of 1 November. This is intended to now tie in with the new three-yearly cycle for absent vote applications.</p> <p>The number of people who qualify as overseas electors could triple. This would mean up to 500 electors and possibly more in the approach to a UKGPE.</p>	400 x 30mins x £13.00 ph (200 hrs)	£2,600.00			£2,600.00		£1,500.00
				Postage 400 x £2.00	£800.00			£800.00		£300.00
				Total £3,400.00			£3,400.00		£1,800.00	
PCC Elections		May 2023	Introduction of First Past The Post system							
					£98,087.50	£39,500.00	£0	£22,900.00	£49,187.50	£9,300.00