



news release

08 April 2026

Candidates for county council election confirmed



[Nominations of candidates](#) for the West Sussex County Council election on Thursday 7 May have been published.

Further details of people standing for election can be found at westsussex.gov.uk/election

Meanwhile the county council is urging people, particularly young adults, students, and those who have changed address or recently moved, to ensure they are registered to vote.

The deadline to register to vote is midnight on Monday 20 April. Voters can apply online at [gov.uk/register-to-vote](https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote). It takes just five minutes.

Once registered, voters have a range of options – they can vote in person, by post, or by appointing someone they trust to vote on their behalf, known as a proxy vote.

Voters going to a polling station are reminded they will need to show photo ID.

You can use any of the following:

- Passport
- Driving licence (including provisional licence)
- Blue badge
- Certain concessionary travel cards
- Identity card with PASS mark (Proof of Age Standards Scheme)
- Biometric Immigration document including eVisas
- Defence identity card
- HM Armed Forces Veteran Card
- Certain national identity cards

You will only need to show one form of photo ID, but it needs to be the original version and not a photocopy. The name on your ID must be the same name you used to register to vote.

If you don't already have an accepted form of photo ID, or you're not sure whether your photo ID still looks like you, you can apply for a [free voter ID document, known as a Voter Authority Certificate](#). The deadline to apply for this is 5pm on Tuesday 28 April.

If you need any help applying for a Voter Authority Certificate or want to request a paper application form, contact your [local district or borough council](#). For further advice call the Electoral Commission helpline on 0800 328 0280.

Ends

Notes to editors:

Elections are taking place in West Sussex on 7 May 2026.

- The deadline to register to vote is midnight on 20 April.
- The deadline to apply for a postal vote is 5pm on 21 April.
- The deadline to apply for a proxy vote is 5pm on 28 April.
- The deadline to apply to use the Voter Authority Certificate is 5pm on 28 April.

For further information please contact the news desk on 0330 222 8090 or email pressoffice@westsussex.gov.uk.

For urgent out-of-hours enquiries please call 07767 098415.



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