

Press Release

03 June 2024

Whittlesey By-Elections to be held on same day as General Election

A town and district councillor has stepped down from Fenland District Council and Whittlesey Town Council, triggering two by-elections on the same day as the UK Parliamentary General Election on Thursday 4 July.

Due to the resignation of Cllr Kay Mayor, there are vacancies on the Whittlesey South Ward of Fenland District Council and the St Andrews Ward of Whittlesey Town Council.

Standing as a candidate

Fenland District Council is responsible for administering the parliamentary constituency of North East Cambridgeshire in the UK General Election and the two Whittlesey by-elections.

Anyone wishing to stand as a candidate in any of these elections must submit nomination papers to the Council **before 4pm on Friday 7 June**.

Nomination papers must be hand-delivered to the Elections Team during office hours (10am to 4pm). To make an appointment, email <u>elections@fenland.gov.uk</u> or call 01354 654321.

- For more information on nominations for the UK General Election, visit: <u>UK</u>
 Parliamentary Election 4 July 2024 Fenland District Council
- For more information on nominations for the Whittlesey By-Elections, visit: <u>District</u> and <u>Town Council By-Election - 4 July 2024 - Fenland District Council</u>

Information for voters

Anyone wishing to vote in Fenland in next month's elections is encouraged to be aware of the key dates and information ahead of polling day.

Registration

The first step in the process is being registered to vote. The deadline to do so is 11.59pm on Tuesday 18 June. This includes anyone who has moved home and needs to register at their new address or has recently changed their name. Registration takes just five minutes and can be completed online at: www.gov.uk/register-to-vote (you'll need your National Insurance number).

If you are unsure if you are registered to vote you can contact Fenland District Council's Elections Team to check. Email elections@fenland.gov.uk or call 01354 654321.

Poll cards

Poll cards for everyone currently registered to vote in Fenland will be posted out w/c Monday 3 June. If you live in Whittlesey, you'll receive two poll cards – one for the General Election and one for the by-elections. The by-election poll card is due to arrive by the second week of June.

Voters are being asked to check the details on their poll cards when they arrive to ensure they are correct, and to note the location of their polling station which may have changed. You do not need to take your poll card to the polling station to vote.

Postal voting

If you wish to vote by post and don't already have a postal voting arrangement in place, the deadline to apply is 5pm on Wednesday 19 June. For more information, visit: www.fenland.gov.uk/postalvote. This is also the deadline for applying to change your existing postal voting arrangements, which you can do by emailing elections@fenland.gov.uk

Postal voters are advised to read the information sent through to them carefully when it arrives, especially in relation to new rules regarding handing in completed postal votes or votes on behalf of other people. Postal voters are requested wherever possible to send back their completed postal vote pack via Royal Mail as soon as possible to help manage demand. More information is available at: www.fenland.gov.uk/postalvote

Proxy voting

If you'd like someone to vote on your behalf (by proxy), you can apply for a proxy vote. The deadline to apply for a proxy vote is 5pm on Wednesday 26 June. For more information, visit: www.fenland.gov.uk/proxy

Voter ID

This be the first General Election held where Voter ID will be required to be shown by all those wishing to vote in person at a polling station on polling day. Guidance on what forms of photo identification will be accepted can be found at: www.fenland.gov.uk/VoterID.

If you do not have one of the required forms of ID, you can apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate by 5pm on Wednesday 26 June.

Timeline of key dates for Fenland ahead of 4 July elections:

- Poll cards posted to all registered electors in Fenland w/c Monday 3 June.
 Whittlesey residents (living in South Ward and St Andrews Ward) will also receive a poll card for the by-elections (due to arrive by the second week of June).
- List of candidates standing in General Election and by-elections published Friday 7
 June.
- Deadline to register to vote 11.59pm on Tuesday 18 June.

- Deadline to apply for or amend a postal vote application 5pm on Wednesday 19
 June.
- Deadline to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate (the photo ID to be able to vote in person at a polling station) 5pm on Wednesday 26 June.
- Deadline to apply for a proxy vote 5pm on Wednesday 26 June.
- Election day Thursday 4 July (7am to 10pm)
- Votes counted and results declared Thursday 4 July (from 10pm overnight into Friday 5 July).

Ends

Notes to Editors

For media enquiries, please contact the Fenland District Council press office on 01354 622226 or email: communications@fenland.gov.uk