

For Office Use:	
Date Stamp	Elector Barcode



# Application to Vote by Post – 2008

Please refer to the notes overleaf before completing this application form.  
Please complete the form using CAPITAL letters and black ink.

1 About you	
<b>Your Address:</b> (where you are registered to vote)	<b>Surname:</b>  <b>First Name &amp; middle initial(s):</b>

2 How long do you want a postal vote?		
I want to vote by post at all* elections, to which I'm entitled to vote, for: (please tick one option only)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Five years	<input type="checkbox"/> The next election	<input type="checkbox"/> The period from: start date to

3 Address for ballot paper	
Please send my ballot paper to: (please tick one box only)	
<input type="checkbox"/> my address where I am registered to vote (as above)	You <b>MUST</b> give a full reason below why you want this sent to an address other than that where you are registered to vote:
<input type="checkbox"/> the following address:  Postcode:	

4 Your Declaration	
By signing in Box 5 (below) you confirm all the details on this form are correct. It is an offence to make a false statement on this form – maximum fine £5,000.	
Date of completion:	
Daytime telephone number (optional):	E-mail address (optional):

## 5 Personal Identifiers – COMPLETE USING BLACK INK

**DATE OF BIRTH**  
Enter your date of birth in the boxes below as DD MM YYYY.  
e.g. if you were born on 1 July 1948 you enter it as 01 07 1948.

D	D	M	M	Y	Y	Y	Y

**SIGNATURE**  
Your signature must be completely within the white area of the box. YOU MUST USE A BLACK PEN.

# Applying to Vote by Post

## Who can apply for a Postal Vote?

If you are unable or unwilling to vote in person at a Polling Station, you can still have your say in an election by casting your vote by post. Anybody can vote by post without having to give a reason. The only requirements are that you be registered to vote and that you complete an application form.

## How long can I have a Postal Vote for?

Postal Votes can be requested for the next election, a fixed period of time, say 6 months or 1 year, or for a maximum of 5 years, we will write to you at the end of the five year period to allow you to renew your application. If you move house your postal vote will come to an end. To end a postal voting arrangement, at any time, please write and tell us. \* European / Parliamentary / Local elections

## How does Postal Voting work & why do you need my personal identifiers?

A Postal Voter is an elector who receives a ballot paper pack through the post. The ballot paper is marked by you in the privacy of your own home, sealed in a ballot paper envelope and returned through the post. You do not need to use a stamp as the envelopes provided for you will have postage paid. The ballot paper pack also includes a voting statement, which requires your signature and date of birth. We will verify that your sealed ballot paper envelope came from you when we receive it, by checking the voting statement back to your original signature and date of birth on this application form. This ensures that no-one takes your vote. We check your signature before the sealed ballot paper envelope is opened so that no-one will know how you voted. Your vote remains secret. If you cannot provide a signature or consistent signature due to any disability or inability to read or write you or your carer should contact us for advice on how to proceed.

## When do you send out the Ballot Papers?

We will send out ballot papers to vote by post between 5 and 10 days before the election date, to the address where you are registered to vote. During an election period there are set dates, by which applications to vote by post, or to cancel existing postal vote arrangements, must be received. To submit, amend or cancel a postal voting application, the deadline for receipt of this is 11 working days before Polling Day.

Your application to vote by post may not be allowed if it is received too late - if this is the case you will still be able to vote in person at your polling station. If your request to cancel a postal vote arrangement is received too late you will not be able to vote in person at a polling station but you will be able to use the ballot paper we mailed to you.

## Can I change my mind about voting by post after the ballot papers have been issued?

No, once a ballot paper has been issued to you to vote by post you will not be able to vote in person at a polling station. However, you are allowed to deliver your completed Postal Vote in its return envelope to a polling station within your electoral area or to the Civic Offices before the close of the Poll.

## Who should NOT apply for a Postal Vote?

We try to send out all postal votes on first day that the law permits us, currently 10 working days before polling day. However, we cannot guarantee this. It is possible that your postal vote may be sent out as late as 5 working days before polling date. Postal votes are therefore generally not suitable for people who are on holiday just prior to the election as we cannot promise to get you the papers on time. Additionally, if you live overseas we do not recommend that you apply for a Postal Vote as the time allowed for the issue of the votes and their return is insufficient to overcome the likely delays in post. If you are on abroad on Holiday or living overseas we recommend that you apply for a Proxy vote.

## How to get in touch with us:

**Internet:** [www.hart.gov.uk/elections](http://www.hart.gov.uk/elections)  
**email:** [elections@hart.gov.uk](mailto:elections@hart.gov.uk)  
**Telephone:** 01252 774077  
**Fax:** 01252 774409

## Please return your form to:

**Address:** Electoral & Registration Services  
Hart District Council, Civic Offices  
Harlington Way, FLEET  
Hampshire. GU51 4AE