WHY VOTE?
A guide for EU citizens

Some changes have been made to how you vote in elections.

These changes are part of a law called The Elections Act (2022).

In this guide you'll find useful information on:

- Key terms around voting
- Key figures around voting
- A map to voting

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WHY VOTE?

Key terms around voting

Here are some key terms when thinking about voting.

Politics

How decisions are made by groups of people.

Elections

When people vote for the person they would like to be in charge or make decisions for them.

Campaign

When information is shared to get people to know their rights and to do or talk about something.

Rights

Rights are laws that protect people and make sure they are treated fairly.

Voting

To make an official choice for someone or something by casting a ballot.

Ballot

A piece of paper on which you make your vote.

Representative

A person who has been chosen to act or make decisions on behalf of a group of people at a local, regional or national level.

Democracy

A system of government in which the power is held by elected representatives.

WHY VOTE?

Key figures around voting

Here are some key figures when thinking about voting.

5% of Londoners

do not have an accepted form of photo Voter ID and only 1 in 5 has heard of the free Voter Authority Certificate.

Source: GLA/ YouGov polling, Aug 2023

One in four Londoners

(24%) are unaware of the new requirement for photo ID to vote in elections.

Source: GLA/ YouGov polling, Aug 2023

Around half a million people

who live in London don't have a passport, which is an accepted form of photo Voter ID.

Source: GLA City Intelligence analysis of the Census 2021

More than 2.1 million Londoners

aged 17+ do not have a full driving licence, which is an accepted form of photo Voter ID.

Source: GLA Housing-led population projections, National Travel Survey, 2021

An estimated 76% of EU Londoners

are registered to vote.

Source: GLA City Intelligence analysis of various ONS datasets

70% of 16 to 24-year-old Londoners

are registered to vote, compared with 96 per cent of Londoners aged 65 and over.

Source: GLA, Survey of Londoners 2021-22, Sep 2022

WHY VOTE?
A map to voting

Lessons from history

Historically, some groups of people have had barriers to voting. Registering to vote enables you to exercise your fundamental democratic rights, which were hard won and are not available to all Londoners.

When you register

Registering to vote can improve your credit score. A credit score is a number that can help you borrow money because it shows if you can be trusted to pay. In addition, you can also be chosen to take part in jury service.

Register to vote: www.gov.uk/register-to-vote

Your voice is heard

Politicians make decisions that affect you. If you vote you have the chance to say what you think about issues that most affect you and your community.

You are better represented

Under-represented means from a group of people who don't often vote so what they think is not said or heard. You can change that!

So who should I vote for?

You should make your own informed decision about who to vote for.

Learn more about who you can vote for:
www.whocanivotefor.co.uk

Still have questions?

Scan this QR code with your phone camera and find more info on our Voter ID hub.

Any changes will be reflected on our website.

Information correct as of 22.11.2023

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