

ELECTION PHOTO ID

On Thursday 4 May 2023, residents in West Suffolk will go to the polls to have their say on who will represent them at West Suffolk Council and their respective Parish or Town Council.

The UK Government has introduced a requirement for voters to show photo ID when voting at a polling station and the new requirement will apply for the first time in England at the local elections on Thursday 4 May.

Which forms of ID can I use to vote?

You may already have a form of photo ID that is acceptable. You can use any of the following:

- Passport
- Driving licence (including provisional license)
- Blue badge
- Older person's bus pass
- Disabled person's bus pass
- Oyster 60+ card
- Identity card with PASS mark (Proof of Age Standards Scheme)
- Biometric Immigration document
- Defence identity card
- National identity card issued by an EEA state

You can still use your photo ID if it's out of date, as long as it looks like you. The name on your ID should be the same name you used to register to vote, which we have used to address you in this message.

For more information on which forms of photo ID will be accepted, visit <https://electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID>

What if I don't have an accepted form of photo ID?

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 online for a free voter ID document, known as a Voter Authority Certificate. For more information and to apply online, go to <https://voter-authority-certificate.service.gov.uk>.

Alternatively, you can complete a paper application form and send this to the Electoral Services Team at West Suffolk Council. The paper form can be downloaded at <https://voter-authority-certificate.service.gov.uk>.

The deadline for completed Voter Authority Certificate application forms for the elections on 4 May 2023 is 5pm on Tuesday 25 April 2023. If you need any help with applying for a Voter Authority Certificate, please contact us on 01284 757131 or email elections@westsuffolk.gov.uk

What if I want to vote by post?

Postal voters will not be affected by this change and will be issued with their postal ballot papers as usual. Postal voters won't need to present photo ID as their identification is verified by their signature and date of birth. For more information about postal voting and to download an application form go to: <https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/Council/elections/howtovote.cfm>

The deadline for completed postal vote application forms for the elections on 4 May 2023 is 5pm on Monday 17 April 2023.

Electoral Services

West Suffolk Council

Email: elections@westsuffolk.gov.uk

<https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/elections>