



European Parliamentary Elections on Thursday 23 May 2019

Notes:

This document is designed to be used and read on-line, and will be updated at several points through to the date of the elections.

1. Click on the links in the following list to go straight to the subject shown. Alternatively, use the “Bookmarks” Tab to help you navigate the document; and
2. If you do print this, it is suggested that revisit www.westoxon.gov.uk/elections to check for updates.

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European Parliamentary Elections

Elections for the European Parliament are taking place on Thursday 23 May 2019. West Oxfordshire is within the South East Region, which covers Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, Kent, Oxfordshire, Surrey and Sussex.

The South East Region will elect a total of 10 Members of the European Parliament (MEPs).

Information about the European Parliament is available from the website of the [UK Office of the European Parliament](http://www.europarl.org.uk/) [http://www.europarl.org.uk/].

Local Returning Officer and Regional Returning Officer

The Local Returning Officer for the administration of the European election within West Oxfordshire is Keith Butler, who is based at the District Council offices at Woodgreen, Witney. See [below](#) for contact information.

For this election, there is a Regional Returning Officer for the South East Region, who gives directions and guidance to Local Returning Officers within the region, and who is responsible for calculating the result for the Region as a whole. The Regional Returning Officer is Mark Heath, who is based at the offices of Southampton City Council. He may be contacted via returning.officer@southampton.gov.uk or elections@southampton.gov.uk

Parties/Candidates

A total of 12 parties and individual candidates have been nominated, and they are listed in the download available from the [Elections](#) page of the West Oxfordshire website.

Guidance for Candidates and Agents

Guidance and information is available from the Regional Returning Officer, and is also available from the [Electoral Commission website](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/candidate-or-agent/european-parliamentary-elections) (www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/candidate-or-agent/european-parliamentary-elections).

Count and Results

The count for the West Oxfordshire area will take place during Sunday, 26 May. The results for all the counting areas across the South East Region will be passed to the Regional Returning Officer who will make the necessary calculations for the full result using the system of proportional representation used for European elections in the UK.

The result for the West Oxfordshire area will be available as soon as possible after 10pm on Sunday evening, 26 May, from the [Election Results](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk/about-the-council/elections-voting/election-results/) page (http://www.westoxon.gov.uk/about-the-council/elections-voting/election-results/).

The full South East Region result will also be made available as soon as it has been calculated and declared. A link to the relevant webpage will be included in a later version of this document.

Polling Hours and Polling Stations

Polling hours on Thursday 23 May will be from 7 am until 10 pm.

Information about the location of polling stations is available on the District Council website.

Official Poll Cards

Official Poll Cards, stating the hours of the poll and the details of the polling station, were sent to all eligible registered voters on Thursday 18 April, with further batches for subsequent additions to the register.

Poll Cards for Postal Voters

Persons registered to vote by post, will be sent a poll card for postal voters, to confirm that they are registered to receive a postal ballot pack and giving other information, including how to change or cancel the arrangement. These were also posted on Thursday 18 April.

Please note that if you already have a postal or proxy voting arrangement in place, it could be changed or cancelled on application received no later than 5 pm on Wednesday 8 May 2019. It is now therefore too late to do so.

Postal and Proxy Voting: Elections on Thursday 23 May 2019

Anyone who is registered to vote at the elections may apply to vote by **post**.

An application form is obtainable from the [electoral registration](#) page of this website (www.westoxon.gov.uk/register) or from the Elections Office at Woodgreen.

To be effective for 23 May, applications had to be received by the Electoral Registration Officer, via the Elections Office, Council Offices, Woodgreen, Witney, Oxon, OX28 1NB by **no later than 5 pm on Wednesday 8 May 2019** so it is now too late to apply.

However, you may apply for future elections if you wish. Signed applications may be sent as a scanned email attachment to elections@westoxon.gov.uk provided they are of good quality. Please note that a photograph is unlikely to be acceptable.

Voters may alternatively apply to appoint a proxy to vote on their behalf. Proxy applications must be received by **no later than 5 pm on Wednesday 15 May 2019**. Please note that applications to vote by proxy have to be supported by a reason for requiring a proxy (e.g. because of being away on holiday on polling day). This is detailed on the application form, obtainable on request. For information and/or an application form, please [contact electoral services](#).

After **5 pm on Wednesday 15 May 2019**, there is provision for the appointment of a proxy because of a medical emergency or for work reasons. Any such applications (i) can be allowed only if the circumstances which lead to the application occurred after that date and time; (ii) have to be attested (supported) by a specified person; and (iii) can be received from then, but no later than **5 pm** on polling day, Thursday 23 May. Further guidance is obtainable from the elections office.

Please note that if you already have a postal or proxy voting arrangement in place, it could be changed or cancelled on application received no later than 5 pm on Wednesday 8 May 2019. It is now therefore too late to do so.

Posting of Postal Votes to Voters

Postal ballot papers for Thursday 23 May were posted on Tuesday 7 May, except that those where the application was received more recently were posted on Wednesday and Thursday 8 and 9 May.

If you have not received your postal vote by Thursday 16 May, please contact us.

Registering to Vote

For persons not included in the register of electors, applications for registration needed to be received by no later than Tuesday 7 May 2019, so the deadline has now passed.

If you are not registered, the easiest and quickest way to apply is via www.gov.uk/registertovote - you will need your national insurance number as part of the application process.

People who do not have internet access may [contact electoral services](#) for an application form.

If you are uncertain whether you are registered, please [contact electoral services](#) (this opens a contact form on the Council's website) or telephone 01993 861410.

Registering to Vote: Non British or Irish Citizens of EU States

EU citizens are entitled to apply to be registered to vote at local government elections, and what is said above about registering to vote is applicable.

They may also apply to vote in the UK at a European election, but this requires an additional application. The relevant application was posted to all registered EU Citizens on 10 April, and was also sent to EU citizens who subsequently applied to be registered as voters.

The deadline for this was also Tuesday 7 May, and has now passed.

Further Information/Contact Us

For further information on the European Parliamentary elections, you may [contact electoral services](#) (this opens a contact form on the Council's website) or telephone during office hours via 01993 861410 or write to The Elections Office, Council Offices, Woodgreen, Witney, Oxon, OX28 1NB. The email address is elections@westoxon.gov.uk

For detailed general information on all aspects of electoral matters, visit the website of the [Electoral Commission](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk). (www.electoralcommission.org.uk). And for information about registering to vote and voting by post or proxy, please see www.yourvotematters.co.uk

WODC Electoral Services
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