

# ELECTIONS BULLETIN FOR PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES

## ISSUE No. 1

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The elections team will be issuing bulletins in the run up to the May elections via email, they will also be published on our website.

### **ELECTION PROCESS BRIEFING SESSIONS**

A briefing session for prospective candidates will be held on Thursday 7 March 2019, 6pm – 8pm in the Assembly Hall at the Town Hall, Hereford. Please advise us via email if you wish to attend this session.

### **NOMINATIONS**

Nomination packs are currently being printed and if required will be available for you to collect at the briefing session or you can request a nomination pack [here](#). If are standing as a party candidate, please be aware that local party agents may have already requested a pack for you.

There have been some changes in the nomination pack since the last election. Candidates are now required to complete a home address form in addition to the nomination form and the consent to nomination. This form also allows you to exclude your address from public notices and ballot papers. More information regarding the completion of these forms will be given at the briefing session.

All nomination papers, home address forms and the consent to nomination must be hand delivered by the candidate, agent or by someone that they trust by the close of nominations at 4pm on Wednesday 3 April 2019.

Further guidance is available on the Electoral Commission website for persons wishing to stand as an [independent candidate](#) and a [party candidate](#) for parish elections and as an [independent candidate](#) and a [party candidate](#) for ward elections.

### **NOTICE DISTRIBUTION**

We will be sending all election notices as they are published via email for your information. These will also be published on Herefordshire Councils website.

The key notices and circulation dates are as follows:

**Notice of Election**

Sent the week commencing 4 March and will be displayed locally **from Tuesday 12 March.**

**Statement of Persons Nominated**

**Thursday 4 April** (at the latest) for immediate display

**Notice of Uncontested Election**

**Friday 5 April** for display where no election will take place

**Notice of Poll**

**Friday 5 April** for all councils which will have a poll

**Notice of Election Results**

As soon as practicable after the counting of votes on **Friday 3 May.**

**CANDIDATES BRIEFING SESSIONS**

If you are aware of anyone else wishing to stand as a candidate, who perhaps has not stood before, please could you let them know that there will be a meeting at the Town Hall at 6pm on Thursday 7 March. The elections team will be on hand to talk about the elections process and assist with any queries that attendees may have.

We have published the election timetable and basic information about becoming a councillor on [www.herefordshire.gov.uk/upcomingelections](http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/upcomingelections) to serve as an introduction to the forthcoming elections. Further updates and statutory notices will be posted here throughout the election period.

**POLL CARDS**

The first run of poll cards are being issued around Wednesday 3 April to give electors an opportunity to register to vote and to apply for a postal vote. The deadline to register to vote is Friday 12 April 2019 and the deadline to apply for a postal vote is 5pm on Monday 15 April. There will be subsequent issues following the publication of each election notice of alteration.

**POSTAL VOTES**

The first issue of postal packs are being sent out 1<sup>st</sup> class via Royal Mail on Tuesday 16 April 2019. We will have a final mailing on Thursday 25 April 2019 following the publication of the final election notice of alteration.

## **REGISTERS AND ABSENT VOTERS LISTS**

You can request a full register of electors and/or absent voters list at the time your nomination paper is submitted. During the nominating period, you must ensure your subscribers are included on the 1 March 2019 register.

If you are standing as a party candidate, your local party agent may have an up to date register in which you can use to obtain elector numbers. If you are standing as an independent candidate, your local town/parish clerk may have an up to date register you can use. All candidates are welcome to view the up to date register at the Electoral Services Office.