



MOMENTS OF  
FREEDOM

لحظات الحرية

MOMENTS OF FREEDOM

# Scottish Council Elections

[www.momentsoffreedom.org](http://www.momentsoffreedom.org)

outside the box



## Who can vote?

You can vote in the Council elections if you are registered to vote in Scotland and are aged 16 or over on the election day. You must also be either:

- A British or Irish citizen or
- A Commonwealth or EU citizen or any other foreign national who has permission to enter or stay in the UK or who does not need such permission.

British citizens living overseas cannot vote in Scottish Council elections.

You can register to vote from age 14 in Scotland here: <https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>. You will need to register again if you've changed your name, address or nationality.



## **What are the voting steps?**

At Council elections you will vote using numbers.

A ballot paper will be given to you and it will list all the candidates standing to be Councillors in your ward.

You will be asked to number the candidates in order of your choice using 1, 2, 3 and so on. In the election you can make as many choices as you like.

For your first choice of candidate put a number 1 and for your second choice put a number 2 and so on.

You do not have to number every candidate and if you make a mistake on your ballot paper then you can ask for a new one.



## **Different votes to vote**

You can vote in the election in three different ways:

### **In person**

You will receive a polling card in the post which will tell you your polling place. Polling places are open from 7am to 10pm.

### **By post**

To apply to vote by post you will need to complete a postal vote application form and send it to your local electoral registration office by a set deadline. Then you will receive your ballot paper by post.

### **By proxy**

This is when you allow someone else to vote on your behalf. To proxy vote you will also need to complete an application form and send it to your local electoral registration office by a set deadline.



## **What do Councils do?**

When you vote in the election you will be voting for candidates who are standing to be elected as Councillors.

Elected Councillors will represent you on your local council.

In Council elections constituencies are split up into smaller areas called wards. In each ward there will be three or four Councillors.

Local Councils are responsible for making decisions about how money is spent to provide local public services.

This includes:

Education, social care, housing, environment, waste, public transport, roads, library and leisure services.





MOMENTS OF  
FREEDOM  
لحظات الحرية

We hope you find  
this helpful!

Moments of Freedom

