

## Who is eligible to register to vote?

### You can register to vote in the UK if you are:

- resident (usually live) in the UK, and
- aged 16 or over (but you will not be able to vote until you are 18).

### You must also be either:

- a British, Irish or European Union citizen, or
- a Commonwealth citizen who has leave to enter or remain in the UK or who does not require such leave.

## The open register

### There are two registers. Why?

Using information received from the public, registration officers keep two registers – the electoral register and the open register (also known as the edited register).

#### The electoral register

The electoral register lists the names and addresses of everyone who is registered to vote in public elections. The register is used for electoral purposes, such as making sure only eligible people can vote. It is also used for other limited purposes specified in law, such as:

- detecting crime (e.g. fraud)
- calling people for jury service
- checking credit applications.

If you are concerned that having your name or address on the register may affect your safety, there could be other options available to you. In certain circumstances, you can register without your name and address showing on the register. To find out more, please contact your Electoral Registration Officer. You can find their address on p1 of this form. You can find out more information about both registers and how they may be used at [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote)

If you want to change 'included on open register' status please email: [electoral.registration@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:electoral.registration@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk) or write to the address on page 1.

#### The open register

The open register is an extract of the electoral register, but is not used for elections. It can be bought by any person, company or organisation. For example, it is used by businesses and charities to confirm name and address details.

Your name and address will be included in the open register unless you ask for them to be removed. Removing your details from the open register does not affect your right to vote.

## Your personal information

We will only use the information you give us for electoral purposes.

We will look after personal information securely and we will follow the Data Protection Act 1998.

We will not give personal information about you and the other people in your household to anyone else or another organisation unless we have to by law.

## Postal and proxy votes

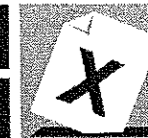
To arrange to vote by **post** or by **proxy** (someone voting on your behalf) you can download an application form at [aboutmyvote.co.uk](http://aboutmyvote.co.uk). To change any existing postal or proxy vote arrangements contact your local Electoral Registration Officer. Email: [electoral.registration@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:electoral.registration@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

## Problems with the form?

Contact your Electoral Registration Officer if you need any help understanding or completing this form – or if you need this form in large print or in another format. You can find their address on p1 of this form.

**YOUR VOTE MATTERS**

**DON'T LOSE IT**



The Owner or Occupier  
12 Accacia Road  
Sandy Town  
Bedford  
Mkxx 2xx

Central Bedfordshire  
Priory House  
Monks Walk  
Chicksands  
Shefford  
SG17 5TQ

Call 0300 300 8008

Email  
[electoral.registration@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:electoral.registration@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)  
Web [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

Date: 17 August 2017

## Annual Household Enquiry Form

Please respond now so that  
we can check who is eligible to register to vote

Dear Occupier

This is an important letter as we need to know who lives at this address in order to check who is eligible to register to vote. The law requires us to do this every year so we need to have a response from you. If you don't you could be fined £1000. A Household Enquiry Form (HEF) is printed overleaf showing who we believe to be registered at this address.

If this information is correct please choose **ONE** of the following options to respond:

- Visit [www.householdresponse.com/centralbeds](http://www.householdresponse.com/centralbeds) and enter part 1 and part 2 of your security code
- Call **0800 197 9871** and when prompted enter part 1 and part 2 of your security code
- Text **NOCHANGE** followed by your security code to **80212** and when prompted enter part 1 and part 2 of your security code.

Your security code is **Part 1: xxxxxx Part 2: xxxxxx**

If this information is incorrect and you need to make changes please

- Visit [www.householdresponse.com/centralbeds](http://www.householdresponse.com/centralbeds) and enter part 1 and part 2 of your security code

Alternatively you can complete/amend and return the form to us in the envelope provided – postage is free.

Even if you are already registered and the details are correct we still need to hear from you. The information you provide will enable us to send a separate registration form to all the people living at this address who are eligible and need to register. Any new residents who are eligible to vote can go online to register at [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote) once you have responded to this form.

Yours faithfully

Brian Dunleavy  
Deputy Electoral Registration Officer

