

FAQ'S

AM I ON THE REGISTER AND IF NOT CAN I VOTE IN MAY?

If you are not on the register you can apply to go on for these elections up to **17 April 2018**. You can apply to register online at www.gov.uk/registertovote or if you want a paper form contact us on **01257 515132** or at elections@chorley.gov.uk . We must have received a completed form back by **17 April 2018** in order for you to apply to vote in this year's May elections.

MY FRIEND HAS RECEIVED A POLL CARD. WHY HAVE I NOT?

1. Are you on the register?

Note, you do not need a poll card to vote. If you are on the register and you are not registered for a postal vote then you can go to the polling station for your area, give the poll clerk your name and address and you will be allowed to vote. If you wish to check if you are on the register call **01257 515132**.

2. Is there a local borough election in your ward?

Chorley has 20 wards, and 17 of these wards will hold elections on 3 May 2018. Elections **will not** be held in the following wards:

- Brindle and Hoghton
- Heath Charnock and Rivington
- Lostock

I AM UNABLE TO VOTE AT MY LOCAL POLLING STATION – WHAT CAN I DO?

If you are away during this forthcoming election or you do not want to vote at your local polling station, there are two options available. These are:

Postal Vote

The deadline for a postal vote is **5.00pm on 18 April 2018** when we must have received your fully completed and signed form. If you want to apply for a postal vote, call **01257 515132**.

Postal votes for existing postal voters and new applications received before 5 April will be delivered from 19 April 2018. New applications received after 5 April but before the deadline on 18 April will be delivered from 24 April 2018.

Proxy Vote

If you want to apply for a proxy vote (which is appointing someone to go to a polling station and vote on your behalf) the deadline for us to receive your fully completed form is **5.00pm on 25 April 2018**. If you would like to apply for a proxy vote, call **01257 515132** for an application form.

Note, if you already have a postal vote and wish to change to a proxy vote or you want to arrange a postal vote proxy you must do this by 5.00pm on 18 April 2018.

I'VE RECEIVED MY POSTAL VOTE BUT I AM FINDING IT COMPLICATED. CAN YOU EXPLAIN WHAT I HAVE TO DO?

Postal vote ballot papers for the local borough election will be **White**.

There may also be Parish Elections in some areas and should these be contested then postal voters in those areas will receive an additional postal vote pack containing a **Green Parish paper**.

The Packs:

BOROUGH ELECTION PACK

The postal pack you should receive should include in it:

- 1- "A" envelope (GREY)
- 1- Borough Election Ballot Paper (WHITE)
- 1 - Postal Vote Statement
- 1 - "B" envelope (PURPLE)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTING BY POST

- Step 1** Check that the numbers on the back of your ballot paper(s) matches the numbers shown on the front of the postal voting statement.
- Detach this postal voting statement by tearing carefully along the perforations
 - Make sure you fill in your date of birth and signature

Step 2 Fill in your ballot paper(s):

- The ballot paper tells you how many votes you have.
- Mark each of your votes using an X.
- Do not mark the ballot paper in any other way or your votes may not count.

Step 3 Peel off the left hand label “A” and stick it carefully in the space on the front of ballot paper envelope “A”

Step 4 Place your completed ballot paper(s) into envelope “A” and seal it.

Step 5 Peel off the right hand label “B” and stick it carefully in the space on the front of envelope “B”

Step 6 Place your completed postal voting statement (NOT FOLDED) AND the sealed envelope “A” into return envelope “B” and post without delay.

Deadline: we must receive your postal vote by **10pm on Thursday 3 May 2018**. If you miss the post, you can drop it off at our office or at any polling station in your voting area **before 10pm on 3 May 2018**.

After receiving this postal vote, you cannot vote in person at a polling station at these elections.

I’VE SPOILED MY POSTAL VOTE AND/OR BALLOT PAPER?

If you accidentally spoil your ballot paper, you can apply for a replacement from **27 April 2018 to 5pm on 3 May 2018**. You however need to call into the Elections Office for a replacement and produce 2 forms of ID to prove who you are. The elector’s spoiled papers must also be handed back in before a replacement is issued.

CAN I TAKE MY POSTAL VOTE TO A POLLING STATION?

If you wish you can take your postal vote to a polling station but it must be one that is within the area you are voting in. This must be the full postal vote pack (as if you were posting it back) and you should hand this to the Polling Station Staff.

You **CANNOT** place this in the ballot box. Likewise you cannot just deliver your postal ballot paper to the polling station. It must be the full postal voting pack that is handed in.