**Why haven’t I been allowed to vote?**

From 4 May 2023, you must show an acceptable form of photo ID at a polling station before they are given a ballot paper to vote.

This is a new law made by UK government, and applies to everyone voting in person at a polling station in today’s [xxxx district/borough council elections / xxxx parish council elections / xxxx mayoral election]

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| --- | --- |
| 1. **If you did not bring photo ID…**

**or**1. **You had ID with you but it was not acceptable…**
 | The polling staff cannot give you a ballot paper. You can still vote if you come back to the polling station with acceptable photo ID. The list of acceptable photo ID is overleaf. The polling station closes at 10pm. |
| 1. **If you do not have any of the acceptable forms of photo ID…**
 | You can apply for a Voter Authority Certificate at [www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-to-vote) Unfortunately, it is too late to be able to vote today – the deadline for applying was 5pm on [25 April 2023].But you can apply for a Voter Authority Certificate to use at future elections. |

The polling station staff have no choice – they can only accept photo ID from the list of acceptable documents included in the Elections Act 2022.

For more information about voting visit the Electoral Commission website www.elecoralcommission.org.uk

If you have any questions, please contact [insert ERO contact details]

If you wish to express concerns about the introduction of voter ID, please email correspondence@levellingup.gov.uk or write to Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF.

**Acceptable forms of photo ID**

|  |
| --- |
| **Passport** issued by the UK, any of the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, a British Overseas Territory, an EEA state or a Commonwealth country (including an Irish Passport Card) |
| Photographic **driver’s licence** issued by the UK, Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, or an EEA state (including provisional) |
| National identity card issued by an EEA state  |
| Biometric immigration document |
| An identity card bearing the Proof of Age Standards Scheme hologram (**PASS** card) |
| Ministry of Defence Form 90 (Defence Identity Card) |
| A **Blue Badge** |
| Concessionary **travel pass** issued in the UK * Older Person’s Bus Pass funded by the Government of the United Kingdom
* Disabled Person’s Bus Pass funded by the Government of the United Kingdom
* Oyster 60+ Card funded by the Government of the United Kingdom
* Freedom Pass
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| Concessionary **travel pass** issued in Scotland * National Entitlement Card
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| Concessionary **travel pass** issued in Wales * 60 and over Welsh Concessionary Travel Card
* Disabled Person’s Welsh Concessionary Travel Card
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| Concessionary **travel pass** issued in Northern Ireland* Senior SmartPass
* Registered Blind SmartPass or Blind Person’s Smartpass
* War Disablement Smartpass or War Disabled Smart Pass
* 60+ Smartpass
* Half Fare SmartPass
 |
| Electoral Identity Card issued in Northern Ireland |

**Only original documents are accepted** – scanned images, pictures on mobile phones or copies will not be accepted.

**Expired photo ID is acceptable if the photo is still a good likeness of you.**

To be able to vote you may need to provide further proof of identity if there is any discrepancy between your name on your photo ID and your name on the electoral register.