



**Isle of Man
Government**

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News Release

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It only takes a minute to respond to annual update of electoral register

Registration forms will shortly be delivered to all households in the Isle of Man as part of the 2020 update of the electoral register.

The annual canvass helps to capture the information required to maintain an accurate record of people who are eligible to vote in an election.

Forms will be posted to all households currently listed on the electoral register and to 'The Occupier' at properties with no registered electors.

It is a legal requirement to respond to the annual canvass, even if an individual chooses not to vote. The deadline for responses is 18 March 2020.

Not being registered can also affect a person's credit reference history and potentially result in an application for a mortgage, loan or mobile phone contract being refused.

Improvements have been introduced in recent years to make the canvass process quicker and easier for residents, as well as more efficient for the Government.

For most households the printed details on their registration form, such as the address and the list of eligible voters living at the property, will remain unchanged. If that is the case, people can respond in less than a minute via a telephone call, text message or online.

The online option is also available for people to notify the Electoral Registration Unit of any amendments to the prepopulated information.

Responses can still be submitted by completing and signing the paper form and returning it in the pre-paid envelope provided. However, people are encouraged to respond online, by phone or text messages, as it costs more to deal with paper and postal returns.

A number of households have already confirmed or updated their details electronically as part of a pilot e-canvass project. Anyone who wishes to take part in future e-canvasses can opt in by providing their email address for electoral registration purposes.

Further information about the electoral registration process and who is eligible to vote can be found on the [Government website](#) or by contacting elections@gov.im or tel: 685754.

Ends

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Notes for Editors

People will be able to confirm if the pre-populated information on their electoral registration form is correct by –

- Internet: www.elecreg.co.uk/iom
- Telephone (local rate): 0808 2841522
- Text (SMS): 0778 6209403

People will need to provide a two-part security code, which is printed on the form.

Computers are available for use at the Welcome Centre in Douglas for anyone who wishes to respond online, but does not have access to the internet.

People who respond online or by phone or text, do not need to return the electoral registration form.

People who need to change their details can respond via the internet or by returning their registration form by post in the pre-paid envelope.

People who consent for their email address being used for electoral registration purposes will be invited to take part in future e-canvasses.

In addition to the annual canvass the electoral register is also updated on a quarterly basis, giving residents the opportunity to join the register throughout the year. As at 1 January 2020, there were 63,244 electors on the register.

The Registration of Electors Act 2006 provides for fines of up to £1,000 for persons who fail, without reasonable excuse, to provide the information required by the Electoral Registration Officer or who provide false information.