



News Release

Date: 14 January 2021

2021 is election year – make sure you are registered to vote

Members of the public are being urged to take action to ensure they are eligible to vote in this year's local and national elections.

Forms will shortly be delivered to all households in the Isle of Man as part of the 2021 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. The deadline for responses is 18 March 2021.

This year's update is particularly important as 2021 is election year in the Isle of Man, with Local Authority elections taking place on Thursday 22 April and the House of Keys General Election on Thursday 23 September. Only those who appear on the electoral register will be entitled to vote.

It is a legal requirement to respond to the annual canvass, even if an individual chooses not to vote.

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.

Responding to the canvass for electoral registration is quick, easy and free of charge.

People can confirm if the information printed on their household enquiry form is correct – or make any necessary changes – by using the web portal at www.gov.im/electoralregistration or by returning the form in the pre-paid envelope.

Online responses are encouraged wherever possible, as it costs more for Government to deal with postal returns.

Legislation being implemented later this year will see a transition towards a system of individual and continuous electoral registration, which will reduce the need for a full postal canvass in future.

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

Word count: 322

Notes for Editors

People can confirm if the pre-populated information on their electoral registration form is correct by using the web portal at www.gov.im/electoralregistration or by returning their form in the pre-paid envelope.

Any changes, such as updating the list of people in the household who are eligible to vote, can also be made online or on the paper form.

People who respond online will need to provide a security code, which is printed on the form.

People who respond online do not need to return the electoral registration form by post.

People who provide consent for their email address to be used for electoral registration purposes may be contacted by email in future.

Public Health advice was sought before launching this year's canvass for electoral registration.

The Isle of Man Post Office has put in place additional safety measures during the lockdown period.