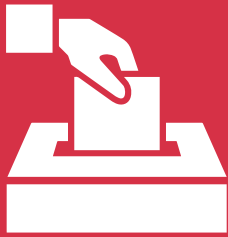


Voting on the United Kingdom's membership of the European Union



The referendum on the United Kingdom's membership of the European Union will be held on Thursday 23 June 2016.

The question that will appear on the ballot paper is "Should the United Kingdom remain a member of the European Union or leave the European Union?"

The two options on the ballot paper will be:

- remain a member of the European Union
- leave the European Union.

The purpose of this briefing is to provide members with information about the voting process for the EU referendum. This briefing includes information on:

- who is eligible to vote
- how to register to vote
- how to vote, including the deadlines for postal and proxy voting.

Who is eligible to vote?	How do I register to vote?	How do I know if I'm registered to vote?
<p>In order to vote in the EU referendum, you must be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • registered to vote in the UK • aged 18 or over on 23 June 2016 • a British or Irish citizen living in the UK • a Commonwealth citizen living in the UK who has leave to remain in the UK or who does not require leave to remain in the UK • a British citizen living overseas who has been registered to vote in the UK in the last 15 years • an Irish citizen living overseas who was born in Northern Ireland and who has been registered to vote in Northern Ireland in the last 15 years 	<p>To vote in the EU referendum, you must be registered to vote. In England, Scotland or Wales, you can register to vote online anytime at gov.uk/register-to-vote. If you are a British citizen living abroad, you can register to vote online in the same way. In Northern Ireland, you can register to vote here. The deadline to register to vote is Tuesday 7 June.</p> <p>If you are an Irish citizen living abroad who was born in Northern Ireland, visit the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland website to download the correct form.</p>	<p>Every local authority holds the electoral register for their area. If you are not sure whether you are registered to vote, you should contact your local electoral registration office. They will be able to tell you. To find the contact details for your local electoral registration office, enter your postcode on the About My Vote website: www.aboutmyvote.co.uk</p> <p>If you are a British or Irish citizen (who was born in Northern Ireland) living abroad, you will need to contact the local electoral registration office for the address you were last registered at in the UK.</p>

How do I vote?

Once you are registered to vote, there are three ways you can vote in the EU referendum.

At your polling station in person

If you are a registered voter, you will receive a poll card telling you where your polling station is. Polling stations will be open from 7am to 10pm on Thursday 23 June 2016.

By post

You can also vote by post. This may be particularly helpful for members attending RCN Congress in Glasgow. To vote by post you will need to [complete a postal vote application form](#). Once you have completed and signed your application form, send it to your local electoral registration office to arrive by 5pm on 8 June 2016.

You will receive your ballot paper by post. A ballot paper can be sent overseas, but ensure you have time to receive and return your ballot paper by 10pm on 23 June 2016. More information about casting your vote by post is available here: www.aboutmyvote.co.uk/how-do-i-vote/voting-by-post

By proxy

Voting by proxy means allowing somebody you trust to vote on your behalf. To apply to vote by proxy, you will need to complete a [proxy vote application form](#). Once you have completed and signed your application form, send it to your local electoral registration office to arrive by 5pm on 15 June 2016.

When applying for a proxy vote, you must state why you cannot vote in person. Your proxy must also be registered to vote and eligible to vote in the EU referendum. Your proxy will vote on your behalf so you will need to tell them how you want to vote. More information about casting your vote by proxy is available here: www.aboutmyvote.co.uk/how-do-i-vote/voting-by-proxy