



## **Voter Information and registration**

**Wednesday April 17th, 2024**

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### **Why Vote?**

Remember Your Vote is Your Voice and by voting you can hold politicians accountable. Democracy and voting matter and your say is important!

### **History of Voting Rights**

In history many different groups were denied the right to vote.

We will take a brief walk through history to remember some of these people who at one time or another were kept from voting. Listen to their stories:

<https://www.vote.ie/why/history-of-voting-rights.html>

The above link takes you to Dublin adult literacy site

People have died and been imprisoned while fighting for the basic human right to vote. We are benefiting from the hard work of Voter's rights activists. We owe it to them, to each other, to our children, to our communities and our country to vote in every Election. Voting is a part of good citizenship.

*"Bad Officials are elected by Good Citizens who do not Vote"*

George Jean Nathan

Nowadays its easy to Register and easy to Cast our Vote!!

# WHY VOTE?



Voting is the most important way to make your voice heard on the issues that concern you.

Voting gives you an opportunity to be part of decision-making that affects your life.



If YOU don't Vote  
Others will make  
the decisions for  
YOU!

Decisions are made  
on your behalf  
everyday,  
healthcare,  
education, housing,



Global issues like  
defence and climate  
and local issues like  
bins, libraries, parks  
and leisure facilities.



## **Local Elections**

### **When:**

Local Government Elections must be held every 5 years. The local elections will be this year will be on June 7th, 2024

### **Who can vote?**

Every person over 18 years whose name is included in the electoral register is entitled to vote in the local area in which s/he lives. It is not necessary to be an Irish citizen to vote in a Local Election. Therefore, many migrants and people from new communities can vote in local elections. Homeless people can use local post office as their address.

## **The Powers and Functions of Local Authorities**

Irish local government operates through a network of local authorities - City Councils and County Councils.

Councillors represent the views of their community in local authorities, and they identify local problems.

Local authorities work to deliver policies and are responsible for providing a broad range of services in your area.

### **1. Housing and Building:**

- Management and provision of local authority housing
- Assistance to persons housing themselves or improving their houses.
- Traveller accommodation.
- Enforcement of certain housing standards and controls etc.

### **2. Road Transport/Safety:**

- Roads, footpaths and bridges upkeep and improvement (excl. motorways)
- Public lighting.
- Traffic Management facilities.

- Safety and information.
- Collection of Motor Tax

### 3. Development Controls

- Physical Planning Policy
- Control of new developments and buildings
- Promotion of industrial and other developments etc.

### 4. Environmental Protection (rivers, lakes, air, noise)

- Waste collection and disposal
- Fire protection
- Pollution control and animal control
- Drainage
- Safety of structure and spaces
- Beach Guards (Life Guards)

### 5. Recreation and Amenities (community, arts, culture, sports, leisure activities etc.)

- Libraries
- Parks and open spaces
- Swimming pools
- Recreation centres
- Monuments
- Conservation and improvement of all the above
- Local Enterprise Support

### 6. Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare & Financial Management

- Local committees for agriculture, education, health, tourism, fisheries and harbour authorities
- Develop advice and offer recommendations to council officials
- Rates charge collection
- Markets, fairs and abattoirs

- Burial Grounds
- Public Toilets

[https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/130199/22\\_ae19c9-ca52-4b2a-863d-0d32d5c6f6f4.pdf#page=null](https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/130199/22_ae19c9-ca52-4b2a-863d-0d32d5c6f6f4.pdf#page=null)

Click the above link for sample ballot paper