



St Helena
Government



General Election 2017

Voting: Your questions answered

Polling Day is on Wednesday, 26 July 2017, and in this paper we have questions and answers on voting along with an example of a ballot paper.

Polling Stations will be set up in each of the eight electoral districts. Each station will be manned by a Presiding Officer and an Assistant Presiding Officer.

Form B	
ELECTIONS ORDINANCE, 2009	
<i>ELECTIONS REGULATIONS</i>	
BALLOT PAPER	
<i>(Regulation 5)</i>	
Legislative Council Election.	
ADAMS, Eric	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROWN, Mary	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUNSC, Jeremiah	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUTTON, Benjamin	<input type="checkbox"/>
DUDLEY, Sarah	<input type="checkbox"/>
EARNES, Johnathan	<input type="checkbox"/>
FORBES, Matthew	<input type="checkbox"/>
FORSTER, Ben	<input type="checkbox"/>
JONES, Joseph	<input type="checkbox"/>
JOHNSON, Geraldine	<input type="checkbox"/>
LEMON, Sebastian	<input type="checkbox"/>
ROGBOURNE, Kyle	<input type="checkbox"/>
PATTON, Anthony	<input type="checkbox"/>
ROGERS, Edward	<input type="checkbox"/>
SMITH, John	<input type="checkbox"/>
WATSON, Terry	<input type="checkbox"/>
WATERS, Marianne	<input type="checkbox"/>

The Presiding Officer will provide each voter with a ballot paper which will have a unique number printed on the back and an official mark on both sides.

All you need to know about voting, including voting by proxy.

Questions and Answers Inside...

You must put an 'X' in the box alongside the names of up to 12 candidates you want to vote for. You don't have to vote for 12 candidates but if you vote for more than 12 then your votes **will not** be counted.



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Questions and Answers

Q I want to vote in the General Election but I am not registered. Is it too late to get my name on the Register?

A Whilst you can make application at any time to get on the Register, applications received after a Writ of Election has been issued cannot be processed until after the election. So, if your name is not already on the Register as published in the Government Gazette dated 14 June 2017, for the year commencing 1 July 2017, you cannot vote in this year's General Election on 26 July.

Q I can't remember which polling district I am registered under. Where can I view this information?

A This information is printed in the Register of Electors; this can be inspected at the office of the Registration Officer in the Castle or you can check with any of the Assistant Registration Officers. Copies are also available at the Customer Service Centre, the Public Library and on the SHG Website.

Q Where can I cast my vote?

A There will be one polling station in each electoral district. The venues are as follows: Blue Hill Community Centre, Sandy Bay Community Centre, Kingshurst Community Centre, Half Tree Hollow Community Centre, Jamestown Community Centre, Harford Community Centre, Levelwood Clinic and Judges Lodge, Alarm Forest. You must vote in the polling district you are registered under on the Register of Electors published on 14 June 2017.

Q When will the Polling Stations open and close?

A Polling Stations will open at 10am and will close at 7pm on Wednesday, 26 July 2017.

Q If I am working in Jamestown on Polling Day, can I vote at the Jamestown Community Centre?

A You can only do so if you are registered in the Jamestown Polling District. If, for example, you are registered in Levelwood, you will have to vote at the Levelwood Clinic.

Q Will I be allowed to have time off work to cast my vote?

A Polling stations will still be open after normal working hours and will not close until 7pm. However, the Elections

Ordinance states that employers must allow their employees reasonable time to vote on polling day. The employer cannot deduct this time from the employee's pay. If an employer refuses to grant a reasonable period for the employee to vote, then the employer will commit an offence (maximum penalty fine of £1000, six months imprisonment or both). This applies to all employers, including the private sector.

Q I hear that there are seventeen candidates. Can I vote for all of them?

A No. You can only vote for up to twelve candidates to fill the seats on Legislative Council.

Q Can I vote for just one candidate?

A Yes. If you only wish to vote for one out of the seventeen candidates then that decision is entirely up to you.

Q Will candidates be allowed to vote?

A Yes, candidates can vote in the polling district in which they are registered.

Q Who will I find at the Polling Station?

A At the Polling Station you will find a Presiding Officer and an Assistant Presiding Officer. You may also find candidates and their polling agents since they are allowed to be at the Polling Stations. A Police Officer might also be present.

Q How will the names of the candidates be listed on my ballot paper?

A Names will be listed alphabetically with the surname appearing first.

Q Why will my ballot paper be numbered?

A Each ballot paper has a unique number. In addition, the Presiding Officer will write your serial number on your ballot paper counterfoil before you vote. This is needed in case anyone challenges the elections before the Supreme Court. The election papers are sealed up in separate packages in such a way that an individual ballot paper cannot be linked to its voter unless the Supreme Court orders the opening of the packages; this would only be done if there was good reason to suspect some kind of electoral fraud.

More Q&As on the next page →



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A full list of candidates standing in this year's election can be found on the last page. Also a list of Assistant Registration Officers.



Q When I select my candidates, should I use a tick or an 'X'?

A You should put an 'X' alongside the name of the candidates you want to represent you on Legislative council.

Q What should I do if I mark the wrong box on my ballot paper by mistake?

A If you mark the wrong box, take your form to the Presiding Officer, explain your mistake and if the Presiding Officer is content that you made a mistake he or she will take your ballot paper and will provide you with a new one.

Q What happens if I vote for more than twelve candidates?

A If you vote for more than twelve candidates, none of your votes will be counted.

Voting By Proxy

Q If I can't make it to the Polling Station, can someone else vote on my behalf?

A Yes. There is provision to vote by proxy if you are going to be away from the Island or if you are ill or incapacitated. However, you must get permission from the Returning Officer before this can happen. To get permission, you need to complete the relevant form and this must be handed in by **no later than 10am on Monday, 24 July 2017**. Forms are available from the office of the Returning Officer and from Assistant Registration Officers.

Q Can I ask anyone to be my proxy?

A No. Your proxy must be registered in the same polling district that you are registered in and they can only be proxy for one person.

Q How will my proxy prove to the Presiding Officer that they are my proxy?

A The Returning Officer will have informed the Presiding Officer in advance. In addition, the Returning Officer will provide your proxy with a form certifying that he or she can vote on your behalf. Your proxy must present this form to the Presiding Officer on the day and will need to sign it in the presence of the Presiding Officer.

Q If I am incapacitated, can I arrange for someone to accompany me to the Polling Station?

A Yes, this is allowed but they cannot help you to vote. Your helper can take you to the Presiding Officer who will help you to cast your vote if necessary. As an alternative, you can choose to vote by proxy.

Q Are candidates allowed inside of the Polling Station?

A Yes, candidates are allowed inside, along with one of their polling agents. However, they are not allowed to communicate with voters. Candidates must inform the Returning Officer of the names and addresses of their polling agents at least 48 hours before the poll.

Q Will I be allowed to witness the counting of votes on Polling Day?

A Generally, 'NO'. The law restricts access to the count, so that the count can proceed efficiently without unnecessary distraction. However, the candidates and their counting agents are entitled to attend.

Q When the votes have been counted, can a candidate or a counting agent demand a recount?

A Candidates and counting agents, who are present when the count is complete, can ask for a recount. The Returning Officer can refuse if she considers the request to be unreasonable.

Q How can Assistant Registration Officers help me?

A Assistant Registration Officers can provide you with proxy forms if needed. In addition, they hold copies of the current Register of Electors so if you want to check whether you are entitled to vote, Assistant Registration Officers can let you look at the register.

Q How can I get additional information?

A If you need more information, please contact the Returning Officer, Gillian Francis, on tel 22314 or email: gillian.francis@sainthelena.gov.sh or contact Assistant Returning Officer, Carol George, via email: carol.george@sainthelena.gov.sh.



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Full list of candidates standing in the election:

Clint Richard Beard
 Cruyff Gerard Buckley
 Gavin George Ellick
 Corinda Sebastiana Stuart Essex
 Anthony Arthur Green
 Cyril Keith Gunnell
 Lawson Arthur Henry
 Kylie Marie Hercules
 Brian William Isaac
 Jeremy James Johns
 Elizabeth Margaret Mary Johnson-Idan
 Cyril Kenneth Leo
 Christine Lilian Scipio-O'Dean
 Derek Franklin Thomas
 Pamela Ward Pearce
 Marian Bernadette Yon
 Russell Keith Yon

For proxy forms and to inspect the current Register of Electors, contact any of the following Assistant Registration Officers:

District	Assistant Registration Officer
HTH	Mrs Karen Yon
	Mrs Michelle Yon
	Mrs Connie Johnson
Jamestown	Mr Robert Essex
	Mrs Alicia Thomas
	Mrs Olive Williams
Alarm Forest	Mr Douglas Bennett
	Mrs Jane Augustus
	Mrs Brenda Thomas
Longwood	Miss Paula Moyce
	Miss Christina Henry
Levelwood	Mr Ronald Coleman
	Mrs Pamela Joshua
Sandy Bay	Miss Anita Legg
	Mrs Phyllis Coleman
Blue Hill	Mrs Elizabeth March
	Mrs Georgina Young
	Mr Stedson Francis
St Paul's	Miss Alfreda Yon
	Mrs Jackie Moyce

Polling Day is on Wednesday, 26 July 2017

Exercise your right to vote!

#YourFutureYourResponsibility