



St Helena
Government



Voting: Your questions answered

Form B	
ELECTIONS ORDINANCE, 2009	
ELECTIONS REGULATIONS	
BALLOT PAPER	
(Regulation 5)	
ADAMS, Eric	
ALLEN, Arthur	
BROWN, Mary	
BENSON, Jeremiah	
BUTTON, Benjamin	
DUDLEY, Sarah	
DIAZ, Sheri	
DOBSON, David	
EARNES, Johnathan	
EASTWOOD, Earnest	
FORBES, Matthew	
FORSTER, Ben	
JONES, Joseph	
JOHN, Wesley	
JACKSON, Junior	
MC DONALD, Lillian	
MCDONALD, Casey	
OGBOURNE, Kyle	
PATTON, Anthony	
PANASER, Perry	
ROGERS, Edward	
SMITH, John	
STRIDER, Walter	
TERRY, Tim	
UMBRIDGE, Una	
WALKER, Terry	
WALTERS, Marianne	
YALE, Peter	

Polling Day is on Wednesday, 3 September 2025, and in this paper we provide information on all you need to know about 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.

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.

You must put an 'X' in the box alongside the names of **no more than 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.

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

Questions and Answers

General Election 2025 - Questions & Answers

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

A. Yes, unfortunately, it's too late to register to vote for the General Election on 3 September 2025.

While you can apply to be added to the register at any time, applications received after a Writ of Election has been issued cannot be processed until after the election. The official register for this election was published in the St Helena Government Extraordinary Gazette number 71 on 30 June 2025. If your name is not on that list, you won't be able to vote this time.

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. If you are unable to inspect the register in person, you can call the Registration Officers on tel no 22470 or 22590. Copies are also available at the Customer Services 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 St Mary's Church, the Briars in Alarm Forest. You must vote in the electoral district you are registered under on the Register of Electors published on 30 June 2025.

Q. When will the Polling Stations open and close?

A. Polling Stations will open at 10am and will close at 7pm sharp on Wednesday, 3 September 2025.

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 electoral 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 be open 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 £1,000, six months imprisonment or both). This applies to all employers, including the private sector.

Q. If there's more than 12 candidates, can I vote for all of them?

A. No. You can only vote for a maximum of 12 candidates to fill the seats on Legislative Council.

Q. Can I vote for fewer than 12 candidates?

A. Yes. If you don't wish to vote for 12 candidates, you can vote for fewer than 12 that decision is entirely up to you.

Q. Will candidates be allowed to vote?

A. Yes, candidates can vote in the electoral 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. The Returning Officer or one of the Assistant Returning Officers and a Police Officer might also be present. This year the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association UK is organising an Election Observation Mission to oversee the General Election and two members of that team may also be present at the Polling Station when you vote.

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. When there are a number of candidates with the same surname, those candidates will be listed in alphabetical order of their surname, followed by their first and any other names. It is important to take time to read the ballot paper carefully and ensure you mark an 'X' in the box alongside the name of the candidate you wish to vote for.

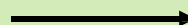
Q. Why will my ballot paper be numbered?

A. Each ballot paper has a unique number. In addition, the Presiding Officer will write your serial number as in the Register of Electors effective from 1 July 2025 on your ballot paper counterfoil before you vote. This is needed in case anyone challenges the election 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.

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

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

More Q&As on the next page



General Election 2025 - Questions & Answers Continued

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 ballot paper to the Presiding Officer, explain your mistake and if the Presiding Officer is content that you made a mistake they will take your ballot paper and will provide you with a new one.

Q. What happens if I vote for more than 12 candidates?

A. If you vote for more than 12 candidates, none of your votes will be counted. If you notice you have marked an 'X' against more than 12 candidates before you place your ballot paper into the ballot box, explain this to the Presiding Officer who will give you a new ballot paper.

Q. Can I take a photo of my ballot paper?

A. No. Under no circumstances should you take a photo of your ballot paper, whether before or after it has been completed. This is to protect the secrecy and integrity of the voting process.

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 opens.

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

A. 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 and the count will be broadcast live on local radio.

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 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, Carol Henry, on tel: 22470 or via email: carol.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh or Assistant Returning Officers:

- Anita Legg on tel: 22590 or email anita.legg@sainthelena.gov.sh
- Gillian Francis, on tel: 22314 or via email: gillian.francis@sainthelena.gov.sh
- Connie Johnson on tel: 22470 or via email: connie.johnson@sainthelena.gov.sh

Voting By Proxy

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

A. Yes. Those on the Register of Electors effective from 1 July 2025 should know that if they are ill, physically incapacitated, or off-Island and cannot make it to the Polling Station on Polling Day, there is provision to vote by Proxy. **This includes Saints overseas whose names are included on this Register.**

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 GMT on Monday, 1 September 2025.**

Forms are available from the office of the Returning Officer, the Public Library, Customer Services Centre, the SHG website and from Assistant Returning Officers, Anita Legg, Gillian Francis and Connie Johnson who can be contacted on tel no 22470.

Q. Can I ask anyone to be my Proxy?

A. No. Your Proxy must be registered in the same electoral district that you are registered in. An elector can only act as a Proxy for one person and should vote for the candidates requested by the person, which should be no more than 12.

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 they can vote on your behalf. **Your Proxy must present this form to the Presiding Officer on polling day and will need to sign it in the presence of the Presiding Officer.**