



This booklet was made by those who need accessible information working with btm.

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Voting



An EasyRead Guide



In the UK almost all men and women who are over 18 can vote.

When we vote we help to choose the people who make decisions about our country or our local area.

When we vote for the people to make decisions about our country it's called a General Election.

When we vote for the people to make decisions about our local area it's called a Local Election.

They are both very important.

Voting words

Polling station

The place you go to vote.

Poll card

Tells you information about where and when to vote.

Ballot paper

The piece of paper that you mark your vote on.

Ballot box

The box you put your ballot paper in when you have voted.

Postal voting statement

The form you must sign and send with your postal vote.

Candidate

The people that you can vote for.



They might put leaflets through your door or visit you at your home.



You might see them in town centres. They hold meetings called hustings where you can go and ask them questions.

You should vote for the person who you agree with most. Look at the things they say they will do if they get elected.

To vote in an election you must be on the electoral register.

This is a list of everyone who can vote.

You can register to vote online or download a form from the Bradford Council website:

www.bradford.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/register-to-vote



You will need to give your national insurance number. If you don't have one you will need other identification.



**YOUR
VOTE
COUNTS**



Remember it is your vote and your choice.

If you need help you can phone:

01274 431360
 01274 432287



Most people vote at a polling station. It's usually in a school or hall near to where you live.



A few weeks before Election Day you will get a poll card in the post. It will tell you where to go.

You don't need it to vote but it's useful to take it with you.



Polling stations are open from 7 in the morning until 10 at night.



It can be hard to decide who to vote for. The best thing to do is to find out as much as you can about the candidates in your area.

If they are in a political party you can look at their manifesto. It tells people what they will do if they get elected.



Some of the parties make an EasyRead version. Ask to see a copy.

Candidates will do lots of things before election day to try to get you to vote for them. This is called campaigning.



You can ask someone to vote for you if you can't vote for yourself. This is called Voting by Proxy.

You must have a reason for not being able to vote for yourself, such as a disability.



The staff inside will ask your name and address. This is to check that you are on the electoral register.

They will give you a ballot paper. It has the names of the people you can vote for on.

Application Form to Vote by Proxy for a Particular Election
Please complete in BLACK INK and BLOCK CAPITALS and return to Electoral Services, City Hall, Centenary Square, Bradford, BD1 1HY. If you need help filling in this form please phone 01274 432287.

<input type="checkbox"/> Address where you are registered to vote	<input type="checkbox"/> Who do you want to vote on your behalf?
<input type="checkbox"/> About you	<input type="checkbox"/> Proxy vote for which elections?
<input type="checkbox"/> Your Date of Birth	<input type="checkbox"/> Reason for this application
<input type="checkbox"/> Your Declaration	<input type="checkbox"/> Proxy's Declaration (separate)
<input type="checkbox"/> Have you had help completing this form?	

For office use only

You need to fill in a form to apply for a proxy vote. You can download it from the Bradford Council website.
www.bradford.gov.uk

Make sure that you trust the person you choose to vote for you. Make sure that they will vote the way you want.



Take it to the voting booth so nobody can see who you vote for. Put a cross in the box next to the name of the person you want to vote for.

Fold the ballot paper in half and put it in the ballot box.

