# **NOTICE OF ELECTION**

# Whitburn & Blackburn Ward (Ward 7) West Lothian Council Election of Councillor – Thursday 11 December 2025

One councillor is to be elected for the Whitburn & Blackburn Ward (Ward 7) of West Lothian Council.

#### **Nominations**

Nomination papers and other forms may be downloaded from the <u>council's website</u> or the <u>Electoral Commission's website</u>. Should that not be possible they can be obtained from the Election Office.

The Election Office is open for the issue and delivery of nomination papers between 10 am and 4 pm from **Monday 3 November 2025 until Friday 7 November 2025**, both inclusive. A prior appointment is preferred. The Returning Officer will on request prepare a nomination paper for signature.

Completed nomination papers and home address forms **must** be **delivered**, not posted or emailed, to the Election Office by **4 pm** on **Friday 7 November 2025.** 

If the election is contested then voting will take place between 7 am and 10 pm on Thursday 11 December 2025.

## Registration to vote

Applications to register to vote **must** reach the Electoral Registration Officer on or before **midnight** on **Monday 24 November 2025**. Applications can be made <u>online</u>. The minimum age for voting at this election is 16 years old on 11 December 2025.

Electors do not require photographic ID to vote in this election.

Electors may apply for a postal or proxy vote. Proxy voting means someone else voting on their behalf. For advice on eligibility, registration, postal or proxy voting, contact the Electoral Registration Officer.

## Postal voting

Applications to vote by post at this election **must** reach the Electoral Registration Officer by **5 pm** on **Tuesday 25 November 2025**. Applications to amend or cancel existing postal vote arrangements **must** reach the Electoral Registration Officer by **5 pm** on **Tuesday 25 November 2025**. Electors who consider they already have a postal vote should check with the Electoral Registration Officer that they have one for this election. Electors who may be away from home before polling day may wish to consider appointing a proxy.

The issue of postal ballot papers will commence around Tuesday 18 November 2025 They will be issued by first class post (except where a postal voter applies in person for a replacement for a spoilt or lost postal ballot paper). Delivery dates cannot be guaranteed.

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Electors given a postal vote will not be able to vote in person. However, postal ballot papers may be returned before **10 pm** on **Thursday 11 December 2025** by post or hand delivery to the Election Office, or by hand delivery to any polling station in use for this by election. No additional form is required to do so for this election.

#### **Proxy voting**

Applications to vote by proxy at this election **must** reach the Electoral Registration Officer by **5 pm** on **Wednesday 3 December 2025**. Applications to amend or cancel existing proxy arrangements **must** reach the Electoral Registration Officer by **5 pm** on **Tuesday 25 November 2025**.

After the deadline for applications for proxy votes, electors entitled to vote in person but who cannot attend the polling station to vote in person may apply for an emergency proxy vote. Applications to vote by emergency proxy **must** reach the Electoral Registration Officer by **5 pm** on **Thursday 11 December 2025**. The reason for being unable to vote in person or apply earlier must have arisen or have come to the elector's knowledge after 5 pm on Wednesday 3 December 2025.

Electors given a proxy vote may still vote in person but only if their proxy has not already voted or obtained a postal vote for them.

#### **Notes**

The Election Office is the Emergency Planning Room in the West Lothian Civic Centre, Howden South Road, Livingston, West Lothian, EH54 6FF, 01506 282035 (elections@westlothian.gov.uk). Other rooms may be used as required.

The <u>Electoral Registration Officer</u> is at 17A South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh, EH12 9FL, 0131 344 2500 (enquiries@lothian-vjb.gov.uk).

The rules about completing and delivering nomination papers and home address and other forms are in the Scottish Local Government Elections Order 2011 (as amended).

Voters, candidates and their agents are asked to bear in mind that postal delivery dates cannot be guaranteed.

Every person guilty of a corrupt or illegal practice will, on conviction, be liable to the penalties imposed by the Representation of the People Act 1983 (as amended).

Graham Hope Returning Officer

31 October 2025