

News release: 3 September 2020

Voter registration reminder

Local people urged to take action if they receive an invitation to register to vote, to make sure they don't lose their voice on decisions that affect them.

Through this year's annual canvass, which started in the summer, 1,021 people across Lichfield District have been identified that are not registered to vote at their home address.

As a result the council is sending out invitations to register to these individuals, either by email or through the post, to encourage them to register to vote.

Diane Tilley, Electoral Registration Officer for Lichfield District, said: "If we have sent you an invitation to register to vote, please take action if you have not already done so. The easiest way to register is online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote.

"With the Staffordshire County Council and Staffordshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner elections taking place in May 2021, this is an important opportunity for our residents to make sure they can take part in the democratic process."

People who have moved address recently are particularly encouraged to make sure they are registered to vote at their new address. Research by the Electoral Commission indicates that recent home movers are far less likely to be registered than those who have lived at the same address for a long time.

Across Great Britain, 92% of people who have been at their property for more than sixteen years will be registered, compared to 36% of people who have lived at an address for less than one year.

The council is also posting out 3,839 household canvass form reminders and is urging residents to respond by 2 October 2020, whether or not there have been any changes in the household. This will be followed with a telephone canvass later in October to target any properties that have not responded to their reminder forms.

Melanie Davidson, Head of Support and Improvement at the Electoral Commission, said: "It's really important that everyone who is entitled to vote is able to do so. Making sure you provide the necessary information to your local authority when it is needed will ensure the process runs smoothly."

To find out more, go to www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/canvass and to register to vote go to www.gov.uk/register-to-vote and make sure you have your national insurance number to hand.

Ends

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