



Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí
Cork City Council

Register of Electors Privacy Notice

1. Your information is collected to assess your eligibility to vote at an election or referendum. To determine eligibility for inclusion on the Register, persons wishing to be included are required to provide personal data and meet the eligibility criteria:
 - Age: Be at least 18 years of age on polling day, having made a valid application before the deadline that applies before each electoral event.
 - Citizenship: while every adult ordinarily resident is entitled to have their name on the register of electors, the registration authority needs to know a person's citizenship because it is citizenship that determines which electoral event a person is entitled to vote in.
 - Residence: a person must be ordinarily resident within Cork City Council's administrative boundary. The 'no fixed abode' application option is open to those without a fixed abode. A person may be registered at one address only.
2. The electoral registration process changed in October 2022 making it easier to register to vote and to update your details.

While you can still use the website www.CheckTheRegister.ie to check if you are on the electoral register by using the original details you registered with. The CheckTheRegister.ie website also now allows you to make an application to:

- Register to vote
- Complete your existing record with your PPSN, date of birth, citizenship
- Make any changes to your name or address, including eircode

For now, paper application forms are still available and needed for some requests. These applications generally require certification/witnessing or supporting documentation. The forms can be downloaded from the [forms](#) section of this site.

3. How your information is used has changed. To complete an online form to register to vote or to make changes to an existing record some personal data is requested (including your name, address, date of birth, PPSN, and citizenship) this enables the local authority to process your application.

This information may be shared with other local authorities securely where necessary to manage and maintain the electoral register.

To protect the accuracy of the register, your identity data will be cross checked with data held by the Department of Social Protection on a limited basis to confirm the identity details you provide (name, date of birth, PPSN, and citizenship).

This helps to ensure that:

- only eligible people are on the register of electors,
- the register is kept up to date, and
- no person is on the register more than once or has incorrect details.

The legal basis for this is set out in the [Electoral Reform Act 2022](#).

4. Registration Authorities are required by law to maintain an accurate and up-to-date Rolling Register of Electors. The volume of personal data needed to generate the Electoral Register requires an IT system to produce the Electoral Register. In this regard personal data provided by prospective constituents is recorded on the iReg system. Access to this system is password protected and restricted to Cork City Council staff responsible for generating the Electoral Register.

The Rolling Register is published periodically and is available for inspection on request during working hours at Cork City Council, City Hall, Anglesea Street, Cork City, T12 T997.

The published version only includes a person name and address. It does not contain a person PPSN, date of birth, and phone, and email address, as those details are used by the registration authority only.

5. The legal basis for the collection of this data to form and manage the electoral register and related functions is provided for in the Electoral Reform Act 2022, Electoral Act 1992 (as amended) and associated regulations, together with Department Circulars. The Jurys Act 1976 also applies. Processing is necessary for compliance with a legal obligation to which the Council is subject and for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest in accordance with Article 6(1) (c) and 6(1) (e) of the General Data Protection Regulation 2016.
6. The information you provide may in order to fulfil statutory or regulatory obligations or in the public interest be shared with other organisations or entities (In Ireland, or within the EU). Such organisations/entities may include
 - Other Registration Authorities - To assist in the compilation of the Electoral Register, where persons have made applications notifying a local authority of a change of address to a location outside Cork City, the local authority receiving such application will, where relevant, share such applications with the local authority responsible for managing that person's registration.
 - Elected public representatives and election candidates/agents - Copies of the Register are provided free to elected public representatives and election candidates, for electoral purposes, in accordance with provisions of the Act.
 - Courts Service - Copies may also be provided to the Courts Service.
 - An Post - Election candidates are entitled to send postage-free one item of election material to each household in a constituency (section 57 of the Electoral Act 1992; section 32 of the Presidential Elections Act 1993; rule 22 of the 2nd Schedule to the European Elections Act 1997 refers). Name and address data on the Register will be shared with An Post for this purpose.
 - **MARKED REGISTER**- Following the conclusion of a local election, the Council's returning officer shall retain the marked version of the electoral registers for a period of 6 months. Under the Electoral Register Act 1992 and Local Election Regulations 1995, a copy of the Marked register, showing constituents that voted in Local Elections shall be open to public

inspection as specified by the Returning Officer. For the avoidance of doubt this only indicates that a person was given a ballot paper, but it could not - and does not - show how a person voted.

7. The information supplied for inclusion on the Electoral Register will be retained on the iReg system for as long as you remain on the register. The original application form received (online or paper) will be retained for 24 months.

8. Your Data Protection Rights

You have the right to request access to personal data held about you, obtain confirmation as to whether data concerning you exists, be informed of the content and source of data and check its accuracy.

<https://www.corkcity.ie/media/nznfcft4/data-subject-access-request-form-copy.pdf>

9. Right of Complaint to the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of the response you received from Cork City Council in relation to your data subject access request, then you are entitled to make a complaint to the Data Protection Commissioner who may investigate the matter for you.

The Data Protection Commissioner's website is www.dataprotection.ie or you can contact their Office at 01 765 01 00 or 1800 437 737 or Data Protection Commissioner, 21 Fitzwilliam Square South, Dublin 2, D02 RD28

For further information in relation to Cork City Council's Data Protection Policy & Privacy Statement, please go to <https://www.corkcity.ie/en/council-services/public-info/gdpr/>

If you require a paper copy of either document, please contact us on 021 492 4000 or email dataprotection@corkcity.ie