



Voting if you develop Covid symptoms or need to self-isolate



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With elections taking place in Hertsmere on Thursday 6 May, Hertsmere Borough Council is reminding residents not to come to polling stations if they are self-isolating or develop coronavirus symptoms on polling day.

Individuals who need to self-isolate because of coronavirus will still be able to vote in the local elections through new emergency proxy voting measures.

On Thursday 6 May residents in Hertsmere will go to the polls to have their say on who represents them in the Borehamwood Kenilworth and Bushey North wards of Hertsmere Borough Council; South Mimms, Shenley and Aldenham Parish Councils; Hertfordshire County Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner elections. Planning referenda will be held in Radlett and Shenley.

If you are self-isolating or become unwell because of Covid-19 shortly before polling day, or on the day itself, you do not need to miss your opportunity to vote.

You will be able to apply for an emergency proxy vote up until 5pm on polling day. This is where someone you trust goes to your polling station and casts your vote on your behalf. The person you nominate must be eligible to vote in the election.

Sam Langford, Electoral Services Manager, said: "These elections can and will be delivered in a COVID-secure way and the new emergency form for those affected by coronavirus is a key part of this.

"The new rules will mean that voters who have tested positive for COVID-19, have developed symptoms or are self-isolating, can still have their say in these elections without having to leave their home."

As well as these measures, our Electoral Services team has been working hard to ensure polling stations are safe places to vote.

Polling stations will have safety measures in place, so anyone wanting to vote in person will be able to do so safely. Measures to keep voters in polling stations safe include:

- requiring electors to wear a mask unless exempt
- providing separate pencils to each elector (although electors may bring their own if they choose)
- Encouraging social distancing
- providing hand sanitiser

For information on how to apply for an emergency proxy vote, safety measures at our polling stations, to find your polling station or see our commonly asked questions, visit our [May 2021 elections](#) page.

For more information please speak to the elections team on 020 8207 7481 or email elections@hertsmere.gov.uk.

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