

Postal Voter Survey - Results

Any response by Electoral Services to comments or feedback received, is shown **in bold blue text**.

Question 1 – How did you find out there was an election in your area?

Postal Voters Poll Card	162
Political Party Leaflet	96
Local Newspaper	51
Word of Mouth	26
Postal Voter Pack	102
Political Party Visit	2
National Newspaper	45
TV	92
Radio	32
Other	1

Question 2 – Are you aware that election information is available on www.leeds.gov.uk?

Yes	84
No	123
I do not have internet access	152

Question 3 – Did you use your postal vote at the elections on 3rd May 2007?

Yes	323
No	11

Question 4 – If you did not vote, please state your reason why

There wasn't a candidate I wanted to vote for	2
I did not receive a postal ballot pack	3
The timing was inconvenient	5
Other	0

Question 5 – Did you find the mailings sent to you from Electoral Services clear and easy to understand?

Yes	320
No	17

Comments:

Because a lot of comments were received we have only included a limited number.

- Complicated
- The date to be sent by was not clear
- Easy to understand
- Rather complicated in some cases, better use of colours would help

- Confusing – opened and re-sealed envelope.
- Very easy to do vote by post thanks.
- Envelope sizes didn't fit well for the ballot paper itself.
- Very good indeed
- Having to stick multiple stickers on multiple envelopes is fiddly and unnecessary
- The system is not simple but the explanation – particularly illustrations – as clear as possible
- It was easy and simple to understand. Thank you
- I am pleased to have a postal vote as I am not able to walk far since having a stroke.
- A little complex.
- Could be made simpler.
- Sort of – I had to read the instructions 2 or 3 times and follow the procedure slowly.

Question 6 – Did you find the removal of the witness requirement and the inclusion of DOB details improved the procedure?

Yes	276
No	16
N/A First time postal voter	30

Comments:

Because a lot of comments were received we have only included a limited number.

- When forms are simplified its easier for people to understand
- I hope that you don't pass on my details to other companies. [We do not disclose any details regarding dates of birth or signatures to other companies](#)
- No chasing around for a signature
- Brilliant idea, as long as no fraudulent dealings can come from this new way!
- Forward thinking
- Arranging for a witness to the signature was a serious inconvenience
- Not really!!
- As long as you cut out fraud the postal vote is easier for older people
- It leaves the system open to abuse from undesirables and fraudlulents.
[Every signature and date of birth on the security statement are checked against that on the original application form, if one or both do not match the vote is not accepted.](#)
- No difference – don't believe either method really protects against someone using your vote.
- Still feel that some kind of independent witness would keep down possible chicanery as reported in daily papers.
- This helped my elderly mother vote (by post) as she didn't need to find a witness. Im also confident it is sufficient as a security measure.

Question 7 – If you had not registered for a postal vote would you have voted at your polling station?

Yes	187
No	126

If no because – the comments received in answer to this question were

Disabled	32
Too far away	20
Work Commitments/Student	18
Holiday	12
Age Reasons	2
Unaware of where polling station was	2

Question 8 – Contact with Electoral Services

(a) If you had cause to contact Electoral Services in the past 6 months please state the method

Email	1
Letter/Fax	6
Telephone	13
In person	0

(b) Was your query dealt with efficiently , quickly and correctly?

Yes	11
No	0

(c) Were you treated fairly and sensitively by staff?

Yes	10
No	0

Comments:

- Great Service
- For me, the whole process took place smoothly. Thank you for this communication.

Thank you to everyone who responded to our Postal Voter Questionnaire.
Leeds City Council Electoral Services, Level 2, Town Hall, The Headrow, Leeds LS1 3AD