

Wilnecote Ward Election – Thursday 25 June 2026

1. Returning Officer's Information for Candidates
2. Pre-election Period Letter
3. Election Timetable
4. Requirement of Secrecy
5. Guidance for Candidates and Agents:

[The Full Electoral Commission guidance can be found here.](#)

It is essential that you read this guidance carefully.

6. Election Posters and Street Furniture
7. Polling Stations listed by electoral area
8. **Nomination Pack** – *Please see separate pack.*
(The nomination forms have changed. Please **DO NOT** use old packs.)
9. **The Sharing of candidates' and agents' details with Staffordshire Police**
10. **Example Nomination Forms - Completion Guidance and examples** – please see separate pack.

Wilnecote Ward Election – Thursday 25 June 2026

Information for Candidates

1. Introduction

This pack is prepared for candidates and agents; it contains documentation and information relating to the Wilnecote Ward Election taking place within the Borough of Tamworth. Whilst my colleagues and I will be as helpful as possible, it is the duty of the Returning Officer to conduct the elections taking place in accordance with the appropriate laws, rules, and regulations. You need to be aware that it is your responsibility to comply with the law, rules, and regulations at all times.

2. Electoral Services

All communications should be sent or delivered to:

The Returning Officer
Tamworth Borough Council
Marmion house
Lichfield Street
Tamworth
Staffordshire
B79 7BZ

Telephone: 01827 214155

Email: elections@tamworth.gov.uk

General queries regarding the election process and the Register of Electors should be made to this office.

Specific queries regarding the nomination process should be directed to:

Bernie Flanagan (Electoral Services Manager)
Telephone: 01827 709263
Email: bernadette-flanagan@tamworth.gov.uk

3. Enclosures (see Index attached to this document)

Timetable

A copy of the timetable is enclosed, and particular attention is drawn to the times and dates it contains. These will be adhered to absolutely.

Nomination Papers – please note that these have changed.

Nomination forms should be completed carefully. If you make an error during completion, you may make an amendment and initial it. Amendments should **not** however be made to the candidate's details once the paper has been subscribed. The paper should be completed with reference to the notes contained on it.

Please pay particular attention to the recent legislation on commonly used names as detailed in the notes and in the guidance from the Electoral Commission. [You can find this here.](#)

Only original copies of the nomination papers, home address form, consent to nomination, certificate of authorisation and emblem request (if required) and appointment of election agent (if required) will be accepted.

The candidate's consent to nomination **must** be completed at the same time as the nomination paper. The candidate's date of birth must be included. Anyone can witness the consent because they are only witnessing a signature, but it must be the same person that attests the Home Address form. **Also, if you qualify for more than one criterion you are advised to complete all relevant sections.**

Appointment of Election Agent

This form should be completed and be delivered at the same time as the nomination paper. Any candidate **not** completing this section (and delivering) will be deemed to be their own Agent.

Your attention is drawn to this section and a reminder on the Registration of Political Parties Act 1998, as amended by the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000, on the use of description and a registered party emblem. You are advised to consult any local political party you may be a member of.

Requirement for Secrecy

[You can find the relevant secrecy requirements on the Electoral Commission website here.](#) Please ensure that any campaigners are provided with the correct version for the role they are undertaking on your behalf. **Please distribute these as necessary.**

Register of Electors

As a candidate you are entitled a free copy of the current electoral register for the electoral area you are standing in. A copy of which can be supplied upon written request by the candidate. The register is the one in force from 1 May 2026. However, the deadline for registering in time for this election is not until Tuesday 9 June 2026. Any registration applications received up to this deadline will be included in the register for the polling station.

Candidate's Guide

A link to the Electoral Commissions, "Guidance for Candidates & Agents" can be found on the front page of this pack.

Display of Election Posters – Codes of Practice

Enclosed is the County Council's letter about **NOT** displaying any election material in or on the public highway, including street furniture such as lamp posts. **Please ensure that all your helpers associated with the election observe these rules.**

Role of Tellers

Please refer to the note about tellers at polling stations and guidance within the Electoral Commission's Guidance.

Method of Election

Polling day will be on Thursday 25 June 2026.

The remainder of these notes deal with election by polling.

Poll Cards

When elections are contested the issue of poll cards is mandatory. Poll cards will be issued before absent vote and voter authority certificate deadlines (VAC), reminding the public of these dates. Information regarding voter ID and the accepted forms of ID will be included on poll cards where required. Poll Cards will be distributed from Friday 15 May 2026.

Absent Voting

The way electors apply to vote by post and proxy has changed. They are now able to apply to vote by post and certain types of proxy online. Electors can do this here:

Postal Vote Application: [Apply for a postal vote - GOV.UK](#)

Certain Proxy Vote Applications: [Apply for a proxy vote - GOV.UK](#)

Please note that the Electoral Registration Officer must still capture personal identifiers i.e., signature and date of birth in a standard format for all absent voters. Consequently, you are advised electors to apply online using the web addresses above or if they are unable to apply online to pass the requests for postal and proxy votes to the Electoral Services Office. There are links to the GOV.UK absent vote application websites on our Election 2026 webpage.

All absent voters will be sent a poll card. It is a legal requirement to send this poll card which reminds the elector of this facility, the proposed date the ballot papers are being sent (if a postal voter) and how to cancel their postal/proxy vote if they wish to do so.

Postal Vote deadline – 5pm on Wednesday 10 June 2026

Proxy Vote deadline – 5pm on Wednesday 17 June 2026

Voter ID

Since May 2023, electors who vote in person at a polling station have been required to show an [approved form](#) of photo identification before they can be issued with a ballot paper.

If an elector's photographic identification document has expired it will still be accepted so long as the photograph is still a good likeness, unless it is a temporary Voter Authority Certificate which is not valid for use on the date of poll.

An elector may be required to provide further proof of identity if there is any discrepancy between the name as shown on the form of photographic identification and the name of the elector.

If an elector does not have an approved form of ID, they can apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate. Electors can apply online at <https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate>

Paper applications are also available if needed please see the Electoral Commission website or contact the Electoral Services Office for more information.

The deadline to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate before these polls is 5pm on Wednesday 17 June 2026.

Polling Stations

I enclose a list of the 5 polling stations we have booked for these elections.

4. Delivery of Nomination Papers

Please ensure that you do not use any out-of-date forms.

The earliest date for delivery is **Wednesday 20 May 2026**. The papers should be delivered by hand to the address shown on the Notice of Election and in accordance with the timetable and before the last time for delivery i.e. **4pm on Friday 29 May 2026**. This is an absolute deadline, and any papers received after this, even by a few minutes will be invalid.

An informal check of nomination paper details will be carried out prior to formal submission; this will take place whilst you wait. It is advised that an appointment is arranged to complete this process. A formal confirmation of validity letter will follow to the candidate.

It is in your own interests to submit your paper as early as possible to safeguard your nomination in the event that errors are discovered at the informal checking stage.

All nomination papers must be delivered by hand.

The Statement of Persons Nominated will be published as soon as possible following the close of nominations but not later than 4pm on Monday 1 June 2026. This will be displayed at the Council Offices and be posted along with other articles on the Council's website www.tamworth.gov.uk/elections-2026.

5. Inspection of Nomination Papers

Nomination papers will be available for public inspection at the Electoral Services Office during office hours on any working day from the close of nominations up to and including the day before polling day.

6. Withdrawal of Candidature

If, you wish to withdraw your candidature a Notice is enclosed for completion in such circumstances. Please note that the deadline is **4pm on Friday 29 May 2026**.

The above rules only apply to new candidates. Candidates that were nominated to stand before the postponement of this poll are not allowed to withdraw as their deadline passed.

7. Count Centre

The verification and count will take place at:

1st Floor - Marmion House
Tamworth Borough Council
Lichfield Street
Tamworth
B79 7BZ

The verification and counting of ballot papers will take place overnight on Thursday 25 June 2026. Tickets will be issued for attendance at the verification and count processes for those duly appointed or legally entitled to be present. Tickets will be available for collection from **Monday 22 June 2026 from the Post Room at Marmion House**. We shall only issue tickets to any names that have been formally notified to us, we shall not automatically be issuing these to any spouse/partner/guest unless you tell us who they are using the official form.

8. Contested Election Provisions

Postal Ballot Papers – Issue

For your information postal ballot papers will be issued from **Friday 12 June 2026**. Please note that under current legislation only the Returning Officer and his staff are entitled to attend the issue of postal ballot papers.

Postal Ballot Paper – Opening

Please refer to the Postal Vote Timetable below.

You are legally entitled to attend – please complete and return the appropriate form if you wish to appoint an agent in addition to attending yourself. Please let me know if you are to attend by submitting the [appropriate form](#).

You will only be allowed to see the process for the electoral area you are standing in or appointed to as an agent.

Each stage will involve a scanning and checking process of the personal identifiers (i.e., signature and date of birth) given on the security statement using our computer system.

Please note – all ballot papers will be kept face down at all times. All sessions will be held on the 1st Floor at the Council Offices, Tamworth unless otherwise stated. We intend to pre-split the outer envelope prior to opening. **You will not be allowed to make any tally charts.**

Dates & Times for the Opening of Postal Votes

Thursday 25 June 2026

Session No	Date	Time
TR	Monday 22 June	9:30am for Training
1		10:00am to 5:00pm
2	Tuesday 23 June	10:00am to 5:00pm
3	Wednesday 24 June	10:00am to 5:00pm
4	Thursday 25 June	10:00am to 5:00pm
		From 8pm at verification & count venue.

Candidates and Agents will be given a minimum of 48 hours' notice regarding additional sessions added to the postal vote opening schedule.

The sessions listed above will only take place if there is enough post received to run the session.

Agents are requested to contact the Electoral Services Office to confirm whether opening sessions they wish to attend are going ahead.

9. Post-Election Procedures

Acceptance of Office

Successful candidates are required to positively accept the office of councillor by making a declaration of acceptance of office. You will receive an information pack containing more information at the count.

Candidate Expense Returns

Candidate expense returns must be completed and submitted within 35 days of the declaration of result even if nothing has been spent on the campaign. These should be sent directly to Tamworth Borough Council using the details below:

Bernie Flanagan
Electoral Services Manager
Tamworth Borough Council
Lichfield Street
Tamworth
B79 7BZ

Pre-Election Period Guidance

Wilnecote Ward Election: 20 May 2026 – 25 June 2026

The **Wilnecote Ward election** for Tamworth Borough Council will take place on Thursday 25 June 2026. This guidance provides advice for Members and officers on the rules governing publicity, use of Council resources, and related activities during the pre-election period, which begins on Wednesday 20 May 2026.

1. Publicity Requirements

Local authorities must comply with [the Code of Recommended Practice on Local Authority Publicity](#) during the pre-election period.

The Code prevents the council from issuing any publicity that would be seen to support or promote individual candidates, groups or political parties involved in an election campaign or attempt to influence voters.

The key points to be aware of in the Code are:

33. Local authorities should pay particular regard to the legislation governing publicity during the period of heightened sensitivity before elections and referendums – see paragraphs 7 to 9 of this code. It may be necessary to suspend the hosting of material produced by third parties, or to close public forums during this period to avoid breaching any legal restrictions.

34. During the period between the notice of an election and the election itself, local authorities should not publish any publicity on controversial issues or report views or proposals in such a way that identifies them with any individual members or groups of members. Publicity relating to individuals involved directly in the election should not be published by local authorities during this period unless expressly authorised by or under statute. It is permissible for local authorities to publish factual information which identifies the names, wards, and parties of candidates at elections.

35. In general, local authorities should not issue any publicity which seeks to influence voters.

March 2026

The Local Government Association have also issued some helpful guidance for councillors that is available here <https://www.local.gov.uk/our-support/guidance-and-resources/pre-election-period>

All local authorities in England and Wales are under a duty to have regard at all times to the Code.

2. Use of Council Resources

Council resources may only be used for day-to-day business. They must not be used for political purposes. Council email, IT systems, social media channels, and property must remain politically neutral.

3. Decision-Making

Business-as-usual decision-making continues. Statutory meetings may be held, but agendas must avoid items that could be seen as politically advantageous. Delegated officer decisions and public events may continue with care.

In the vast majority of cases, the pre-election period will have no impact on normal council business.

What can still be done?

- The council must continue supporting day-to-day business and therefore formal meetings such as Cabinet, Scrutiny Boards and other meetings prescribed by the council's constitution can still be convened, but care must be taken to ensure that agendas do not offer any perceived political gain.
- Individual Cabinet Member decisions can still be taken.
- Public scrutiny of council decisions.
- Officers can continue to make decisions in accordance with the delegated powers.
- Consultations, launches and other public events can still take place, but the attendance of election candidates should be avoided, and any resulting publicity will be purely factual in content.
- Members holding key positions are able to comment within the council's own publicity only in an emergency or in response to an issue which arises outside of the council's control, for example, comment on a public safety incident.

What cannot be done?

- The council's resources, including powers and facilities, cannot be used for electoral campaigning or political purposes. Council headed stationery, logo and other related designs must not be used or appear in any election related campaign material.

March 2026

- There will be no publicity issued which supports, or appears to support, any individual candidates, groups or political parties involved in an election campaign, or which seeks to influence voters.
- Council resources, including officer time, must not be used to prepare any party-political information including newsletters, leaflets, photos, banners, badges, voter lists, canvassing maps.
- Member and officer council e-mail addresses (@tamworth.gov.uk), any council provided computer hardware and software, and council provided data networks (in the council offices or at home) including smartphones must not be used for anything other than in the support and promotion of day-to-day council business. They must not be used to promote any political campaign or electioneering activity.
- There will be no publicity issued across any council format or channel which supports, or appears to support, any individual candidate, groups or political parties involved in an election campaign, or which seeks to influence voters. Council channels include, but are not restricted to, social media, public relations, printed materials, e-bulletins and pages on our website. Where messages are issued by council officers via social media, Members should refrain from commenting on those messages or, in the case of X, of forwarding (or sharing) those messages and adding personal comment.
- Party political information and / or campaign material must not be displayed in, or on, any council property including the council house, street furniture or vehicles.

5. Queries

For queries regarding this guidance, contact:

Nicola Hesketh, Monitoring Officer

Tel: 01827 709266

Email: Nicola-Hesketh@tamworth.gov.uk

Tamworth Borough Council Elections

Wilnecote Ward Thursday 25 June 2026

Key dates and Deadline for Thursday 25 June 2026

All information and election notices will be published here:
www.tamworth.gov.uk/elections-2026

A Candidates and Agents Briefing will take place on Wednesday 13 May at 6pm on Microsoft Teams. Please use the link below to join:

<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/361089398099526?p=a2KqV9WJTfpqoPeQoJ>

Meeting ID: 361 089 398 099 526

Passcode: c6cW77oe

Nominations will run daily from Wednesday 20 May to Friday 29 May between the hours of 10:00am and 4:00pm (excluding lunch).

An additional **Candidates and Agents Briefing** will take place via Teams on Monday 1 June at 6pm for confirmed candidates and agents. The link for this will be email to candidates and agents on Friday 29 May.

Postal Vote Issue Dates

	Postal Vote Posting Dates <i>(using Royal Mail 1st Class)</i>
1 st Tranche	Friday 12 June
Hand issued tranches	Daily from Thursday 18 June

Provisional Postal Vote Opening Sessions

Session No	Date	Time
TR	Monday 22 June	9:30am for Training
1		10:00am to 5:00pm
2	Tuesday 23 June	10:00am to 5:00pm
3	Wednesday 24 June	10:00am to 5:00pm
4	Thursday 25 June	10:00am to 5:00pm
5		From 8pm at verification & count venue.

The sessions listed above will only take place if there is enough post received to run the session.

Candidates and Agents must be given a minimum of 48 hours' notice should further sessions be added to this schedule.

Interim Notices of Alteration

	Determined by Date	Notice Publication Date
1 st Interim	Thursday 28 May	Friday 29 May
2 nd Interim	Tuesday 16 June	Wednesday 17 June
Final Interim	Wednesday 17 June	Thursday 18 June

The verification & counting of votes will take place overnight on Thursday 25 June at:

1st Floor
Marmion House
Tamworth Borough Council
Lichfield Street
Tamworth
B79 7BZ

The deadline to submit forms for polling and counting agents is Thursday 18 June. Please ensure that you have returned your forms in good time.

Count tickets will be available for collection from 10am on Monday 22 June to 5pm on Thursday 25 June.

Timetable for local elections taking place in Tamworth on Thursday 25 June 2026.

This timetable covers the following polls taking place on Thursday 25 June 2026:

- local government principal area elections (i.e. district, borough, county borough and unitary authority elections)
- parish council elections
- local authority mayoral elections in England
- police and crime commissioner elections in England
- any combined authority mayoral elections in England

The days which are disregarded in calculating the timetable are Saturday, Sunday, Good Friday, Easter Monday, bank holidays and any day appointed for public thanksgiving or mourning.

Please be aware that the timetable may change in the event of days being appointed for public thanksgiving or mourning.

Date	Event	Extra Information
Wednesday 13 May	Candidates & Agents Briefing	This will take place on Wednesday 13 May at 6pm on Microsoft Teams. Join: https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/361089398099526?p=a2KqV9WJTfpqoPeQoJ Meeting ID: 361 089 398 099 526 Passcode: c6cW77oe
Wednesday 20 May	Notice of Election Published for the Wilnecote Ward	Will be displayed in main Reception area and on website.
Wednesday 20 May to Friday 29 May (4pm)	Nominations for the Tamworth Borough Council elections	Nominations will be taken daily between 10am and 4pm. Please make an appointment by calling 01827 214155 or by emailing candidates&agents@tamworth.gov.uk Nomination Forms are available to download from the Electoral Commission. Further information will be available on www.tamworth.gov.uk/elections-2026 after the briefing has taken place on Wednesday 13 May. <u>Please ensure that you DO NOT use old nomination forms</u>
Tuesday 26 May	Poll cards to be delivered by end of day	
Friday 29 May	DEADLINE for receipt of Nomination Papers (4pm)	
	DEADLINE for withdrawal of candidature (4pm)	

Date	Event	Extra Information
	DEADLINE of Appointment of Election Agents	
	Publication of Notice of Election Agents (one per electoral area)	Will be displayed in main Reception area and on website as soon as possible after 4pm.
Monday 1 June	Publish Statement of Persons Nominated	Will be displayed in main Reception area and on website no later than 4pm.
Tuesday 9 June	DEADLINE for receipt of registrations (Midnight)	
Wednesday 10 June	DEADLINE for receipt of new postal vote applications (5pm)	
	DEADLINE to amend or cancel an existing proxy or postal vote (5pm)	
	DEADLINE to apply for a postal proxy (5pm)	
Friday 12 June	Postal packs posted 1 st class today.	This issue will be for all postal voters within the ward.
Wednesday 17 June	DEADLINE to publish Notice of Poll (one per electoral area)	Will be displayed in main Reception area and on website.
	DEADLINE to apply for a proxy (5pm)	
	DEADLINE to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate (VAC) (5pm)	
Thursday 18 June	DEADLINE for Appointments of Polling and Counting Agents.	
Friday 19 June	First day to reissue lost/spoilt postal vote packs.	
Monday 22 June	Verification & Count tickets can be collected from today.	Tickets and information packs will be ready for collection from 10:00am from the Post Room at Marmion House.
Thursday 25 June	Polling Day (7am to 10pm)	

Date	Event	Extra Information
	<p>DEADLINE for receipt of Emergency Proxy Vote Applications (5pm)</p>	<p>The emergency MUST have occurred after 5pm on Wednesday 17 June.</p> <p>If after 5pm on Wednesday 17 June, the elector is unable to vote in person because they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a medical emergency that occurred after 5pm on Wednesday 17 June, or • Learnt that they cannot go to the polling station because of work reasons that occurred after 5pm on Wednesday 17 June, or • Voter ID due to being lost, stolen or damaged; sent away to prove ID elsewhere; ID applied for but not received.
	<p>DEADLINE to reissue lost/spoilt Postal Vote Packs (5pm)</p>	
<p>+35 days from Declaration</p> <p><i>(This will be Thursday 30 July if the results are declared before midnight or Friday 31 July if results are declared after midnight.)</i></p>	<p>DEADLINE to submit candidates' expenses</p>	<p>Temporary Voter Authority Certificates can only be issued in very specific circumstances. Please put any queries through to the Electoral Services Team.</p> <p>The verification and counting of ballot papers will take place immediately after the close of poll at:</p> <p>1st Floor - Marmion House Tamworth Borough Council Lichfield Street Tamworth B79 7BZ</p> <p>Admittance will be via ticket only.</p> <p>Please see the Electoral Commission website for further guidance.</p> <p>Election expenses should be sent directly to Tamworth Borough Council using the details below:</p> <p>Bernie Flanagan Electoral Services Manager Tamworth Borough Council Marmion House Lichfield Street Tamworth B79 7BZ</p>

Notification of secrecy requirements – postal voting

Section 66 of the Representation of the People Act 1983 (as amended)

3A) No person may—

(a) except for some purpose authorised by law, obtain or attempt to obtain information, or communicate at any time to any other person any information, as to the number or other unique identifying mark on the back of a ballot paper sent to a person for voting by post at a relevant election;

(b) except for some purpose authorised by law, obtain or attempt to obtain information, or communicate at any time to any other person any information, as to the official mark on a ballot paper sent to a person for voting by post at a relevant election;

(c) obtain or attempt to obtain information, in the circumstances mentioned in subsection (3B), as to the candidate for whom a person voting by post at a relevant election ("V") is about to vote or has voted;

(d) communicate at any time to any other person information obtained in contravention of paragraph (c).

(3B) The circumstances referred to in subsection (3A)(c) are where V is about to mark, is in the process of marking, or has just marked, a ballot paper sent to V for voting by post at the election.

(3C) But—

(a) a person ("E") who is voting by proxy does not contravene subsection (3A) by obtaining or attempting to obtain from the person appointed as E's proxy information as to a matter mentioned in paragraph (a) or (c) of that subsection that relates to E's vote, and

(b) a person who is appointed as proxy for an elector does not contravene subsection (3A) by communicating to that elector information as to a matter mentioned in paragraph (a) or (c) of that subsection that relates to that elector's vote.

(3D) Subsection (3A)(c) and (d) does not apply where the purpose (or main purpose) for which the information is sought or communicated is its use for the purposes of—

(a) a published statement relating to the way in which voters intend to vote or have voted at the relevant election, or

(b) a published forecast as to the result of that election which is based on information given by voters.

3E) In subsection (3D) —

(a) “forecast” includes estimate;

(b) “published” means made available to the public at large or to any section of the public, in whatever form and by whatever means;

(c) the reference to the result of the relevant election is a reference to the result of the election either as a whole or so far as any particular candidate or candidates at the election is or are concerned.

(4) Every person attending the proceedings in connection with the issue or the receipt of ballot papers for persons voting by post shall maintain and aid in maintaining the secrecy of the voting and shall not —

(a) except for some purpose authorised by law, communicate, before the poll is closed, to any person any information obtained at those proceedings as to the official mark; or

(b) except for some purpose authorised by law, communicate to any person at any time any information obtained at those proceedings as to the number or other unique identifying mark on the back of the ballot paper sent to any person; or

(c) except for some purpose authorised by law, attempt to ascertain at the proceedings in connection with the receipt of ballot papers the number or other unique identifying mark on the back of any ballot paper; or

(d) attempt to ascertain at the proceedings in connection with the receipt of the ballot papers the candidate for whom any vote is given in any particular ballot paper or communicate any information with respect thereto obtain at those proceedings.

[...]

(6) If a person acts in contravention of this section he shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months.

Notification of secrecy requirements – the poll

Section 66 of the Representation of the People Act 1983 (as amended)

(1) The following persons –

- (a) every returning officer and every presiding officer or clerk attending at a polling station,
- (b) every candidate or election agent or polling agent so attending
- (c) every person so attending by virtue of any of sections 6A to 6D of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000

shall maintain and aid in maintaining the secrecy of voting and shall not, except for some purpose authorised by law, communicate to any person before the poll is closed any information as to –

- (i) the name of any elector or proxy for an elector who has or has not applied for a ballot paper or voted at a polling station;
- (ii) the number on the register of electors of any elector who, or whose proxy, has or has not applied for a ballot paper or voted at a polling station; or
- (iii) the official mark.

[...]

(3) No person shall –

- (a) interfere with or attempt to interfere with a voter when recording his vote;
- (b) otherwise obtain or attempt to obtain in a polling station information as to the candidate for whom a voter in that station is about to vote or has voted;
- (c) communicate at any time to any person any information obtained in a polling station as to the candidate for whom a voter in that station is about to vote or has voted, or as to the number or other unique identifying mark on the back of the ballot paper given to a voter at that station;
- (d) directly or indirectly induce a voter to display his ballot paper after he has marked it so as to make known to any person the name of the candidate for whom he has or has not voted.

[...]

(3F) A person voting as proxy for an elector at a relevant election—

(a) must not communicate at any time to any person other than that elector any information as to the candidate for whom the person is about to vote, or has voted, as proxy for that elector;

(b) except for some purpose authorised by law, must not communicate at any time to any person other than that elector the number or other unique identifying mark on the back of a ballot paper sent or delivered to the person for voting as proxy for that elector.

[...]

(4A) No person having undertaken to assist a relevant voter to vote at a relevant election may communicate at any time to any person except that voter any information as to—

(a) the candidate for whom the voter intends to vote or has voted, or

(b) the number or other unique identifying mark on the back of the ballot paper given for the use of the voter.

(4B) In subsection (4A) “relevant voter” means a voter who is blind, has another disability, or is unable to read.

(5) No person having undertaken to assist a blind voter to vote [at an election in Scotland or Wales under the local government Act] shall communicate at any time to any person any information as to the candidate for whom that voter intends to vote or has voted, or as to the number or other unique identifying mark on the back of the ballot paper given for the use of that voter.

(6) If a person acts in contravention of this section he shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months.

Notification of secrecy requirements – the count

Section 66 of the Representation of the People Act 1983 (as amended)

[...]

(2) Every person attending at the counting of the votes shall maintain and aid in maintaining the secrecy of voting and shall not –

(a) ascertain or attempt to ascertain at the counting of the votes the number or other unique identifying mark on the back of any ballot paper;

(b) communicate any information obtained at the counting of the votes as to the candidate for whom any vote is given on any particular ballot paper.

[...]

(6) If a person acts in contravention of this section he shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months.

Guidance for Candidates and Agents

[The Full Electoral Commission guidance can be found here.](#)

It is essential that you read this guidance carefully.

Dear Sir or Madam

Tamworth Borough Council Elections – Thursday 25 June 2026
Posting of Election/Campaign Materials on Street Lighting/Street Furniture

As campaigning begins, I'm writing to formally draw your attention to the County Council's policy in relation to the placing of election/campaign posters and material on County Council owned land and property including highway verges, street lighting columns and signs.

As the Highway Authority, the County Council does not allow the use of its land, property and highways land and structures for the display of election/campaign posters or materials. In particular, the Council does not give any permission to any person or body to place election/campaign posters, or other election/campaign material, on street lighting columns, traffic signs and other street furniture or otherwise place such material within highway limits.

In recent years the County Council has experienced occasional disregard for this policy and will therefore be closely monitoring activity. Any material displayed without permission is likely to be removed and the relevant Election Agent will be charged with the cost of that removal.

I trust that you appreciate the County Council's position on this matter and thank you in anticipation of your co-operation.

Yours sincerely



Patrick Flaherty
County Returning Officer
Staffordshire County Council

Ward	PS Number	District(s)	Polling Place
Wilnecote	48	WI1, WI6, WI7, WI8	Wilnecote Junior Academy, Smithy Lane, B77 5LA
	49	WI2	Wilnecote Junior Academy, Smithy Lane, B77 5LA
	50	WI3	Palmerston Avenue - Temporary Station, Wilnecote, Tamworth, B77 5FE
	51	WI4	Heathfields Infant Academy, Saxon Close, B77 5LU
	52	WI5	Heathfields Infant Academy, Saxon Close, B77 5LU