

THE ELECTORAL OFFICE FOR NORTHERN IRELAND



Chief Electoral Officer: Douglas Bain CBE TD Advocate

3rd Floor, St Anne's House, 15 Church Street, Belfast BT1 1ER Telephone: 0800 4320 712
Fax: 028 9023 5612
Textphone: 0800 3284 502
Email: info@eoni.org.uk
Website: www.eoni.org.uk

TUESDAY 5 JANUARY 2010

FULL AHEAD AS ELECTORAL OFFICE PREPARES FOR GENERAL ELECTION

With the General Election only a matter of months away the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland has launched a number of wide ranging initiatives and pilot schemes aimed at making it even easier for people to secure their vote and check that their registration is up to date.

Over the coming weeks the Office will carry out mini-canvasses in a total of nine wards in Belfast, Ballymena, Magherafelt, Lisburn, Downpatrick, Bangor and Newtownards which, based on independent statistics, have low levels of registration.

Of particular interest to people in Londonderry, Omagh and Banbridge, their area offices will be piloting a scheme that will see late night opening one night a week and the opening of temporary sub-offices on one afternoon each week for the next six weeks.

In East Antrim, South Antrim and Belfast North around 18,000 households in wards with low registration levels will be receiving a leaflet from the Electoral Office over the next few weeks reminding them of the need to be on the Electoral Register.

Douglas Bain, Chief Electoral Officer said:

“The General Election is now at most only 6 months away and everyone eligible to vote should be on the register.

“My staff are working hard to make it as easy and as convenient as possible for anyone to register for the first time or to change their details and I would urge everyone eligible to get on the list.”

If the schemes prove successful they will be considered for other areas.

Notes to Editors

The General Election must take place no later than 4 June 2010.



CUSTOMER SERVICE EXCELLENCE

Mini Canvass:

Mini Canvasses will take place in the following wards that, based on independent statistics provided by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency, have low levels of registration:

Windsor, Glencairn and Bloomfield in Belfast
Clandeboyne in Bangor
Movilla in Newtownards
Audleys Ward in Downpatrick
Lisnagarvey in Lisburn
Ballee in Ballymena
Town Parks East in Magherafelt

Extended opening and sub-office details:

The Londonderry Office address and phone number is:

20 Queen Street
Londonderry
BT48 7EQ
Telephone: 0800 4320 712
Textphone: 0800 3284 502

It will be open until 7pm every Thursday night from 14 January until 18 February.

The sub-office address is:

Coleraine Library,
Queen Street,
Coleraine
BT52 1BE

It will be open every Tuesday from 12 January until 16 February between 10am and 2pm.

The Omagh Area Electoral Office address and phone number is:

21 Kevlin Avenue
Omagh
BT78 1ER
Telephone: 0800 4320 712
Textphone: 0800 3284 502

It will be open until 7pm every Thursday night from 14 January until 18 February

The sub-office addresses are:



Fermanagh District Council Offices
Townhall Street
Enniskillen
BT74 7BA

The Enniskillen sub-office will be open every Wednesday from 13 January until 17 February between 1pm and 4.30pm.

Dungannon Borough Council Offices
Ranfurly House
26 Market Square
Dungannon
BT70 1AB

The Dungannon sub-office will be open every Thursday from 14 January until 18 February between 1pm and 4.30pm.

The Banbridge Area Electoral Office address and phone number is:

52 Bridge Street
Banbridge
BT32 3JU
Telephone: 0800 4320 712
Textphone: 0800 3284 502

It will be open until 7.30pm every Thursday night from 14 January until 18 February.

The sub-office address is:

St Patrick's Trian
40 English Street
Armagh
BT61 7BA

It will be open Thursday from 14 January until 18 February between 12.30pm and 4.30pm.

Maps showing the locations of all offices can be viewed on www.eoni.org.uk

Leaflet Drop:

Leaflets will be delivered to all households in three wards, with low levels of registration, in each of the three constituencies for which the Newtownabbey office has responsibility:

East Antrim - Antiville, Ballyloran and Rostulla
South Antrim - Ballyduff, Mallusk and Stiles
Belfast North - Abbey, Whitehouse and Woodvale



CUSTOMER SERVICE EXCELLENCE