

# THE ELECTORAL OFFICE FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

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## PRESS RELEASE

5 September 2005

### REGISTER TO VOTE THE 2005 ELECTORAL CANVASS BEGINS TODAY

The next person to call at your home could be an Electoral Canvasser. Fill in your registration form now and have it ready for collection!

From this week until early October the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland (EONI) is conducting its annual canvass in preparation for the publication of the new Electoral Register on 1 December.

While it is not compulsory to vote, it is a legal requirement for everyone in Northern Ireland aged 17 and over to register to vote and to be included on the Electoral Register.

The Electoral Office is making this as easy as possible and registration forms have already been posted out to every person currently registered and to every dwelling where there is no one currently on the Electoral Register. From today Canvassers will be calling at every house during the canvass period to collect the completed forms. They will offer friendly advice and assist anyone who needs help to complete the form. The personal information you give on the form is kept confidential by EONI – it is not published on any Register.

If a Canvasser calls to collect your forms and no one is at home, Freepost envelopes will be left so that completed forms can be returned quickly by post. All Canvassers will have formal identification and your form should not be given to any other person.

The Electoral Office is particularly eager to reach people not currently registered and especially those eligible to go on to the Register for the first time. In addition to registration forms being available from a Canvasser or from any of the nine area Electoral Offices, forms will be available at schools, colleges, youth clubs, community centres and local Council Offices. For people with access to the Internet, the Electoral Office Website ([www.electoralofficeni.gov.uk](http://www.electoralofficeni.gov.uk)) offers the

facility to download electoral registration forms and also provides more information about the canvass.

If your name is not included in the Electoral Register you will not be able to vote at any election and you will be unable to have a say in who represents you. Safeguarding your vote is easy, just take a few moments and complete and return your electoral registration form.

For advice, help or to request additional registration forms, contact the Electoral Office Advice Line on 028 9044 6688 (this is a new central number for the Electoral Office) or email [info@eoni.gov.uk](mailto:info@eoni.gov.uk).

### Notes to Editors

A new Electoral Register is created and published each year by the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland. Under the Electoral Fraud (NI) Act 2002 each eligible person has to complete an individual form and give details of their name, address, date of birth and National Insurance number as well as signing the form personally. The next Register will be published on 1 December 2005.

### Canvass dates

The canvass begins on 5 September when Canvassers will call to collect forms which were posted to households at the end of August. It may be as late as early October before a Canvasser covers their complete area. Forms should be returned by 18 October, after which there will be a postal reminder to non-responders. All forms must be returned to the Electoral Office by 18 November for inclusion on the 1 December Register.

Nine Electoral Offices - Address Details (attached)

### Electoral Office Contact details/Point of contact:

June Butler, Assistant Chief Electoral Officer.

Office – 028 9044 6660 Mobile – 07900 578045

# ELECTORAL OFFICE

## TELEPHONE NUMBER:

### 028 9044 6688

AREA ELECTORAL OFFICES				
DISTRICT COUNCIL WARDS		AREA ELECTORAL OFFICER	CONSTITUENCIES	ADDRESS
01 02 03	Londonderry (01-30) Limavady (01-15) Coleraine (01-22)	Patricia Murphy	FOYLE EAST LONDONDERRY	Embassy Building 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor 3 Strand Road LONDONDERRY BT48 7BH  Fax: 7136 6074
04 05 07 08 09 13	Ballymoney (01-16) Moyle (01-15) Ballymena (01-24) Magherafelt (01-16) Cookstown (01-16) Dungannon (06-11)	Rae Kirk	NORTH ANTRIM MID ULSTER	9(A) Linenhall Street BALLYMONEY BT53 6DP  Fax: 2766 8663
10 11 12 13	Strabane (01-16) Omagh (01-21) Fermanagh (01-23) Dungannon (01-05,12-22)	Martin Fox	WEST TYRONE FERMANAGH & SOUTH TYRONE	21 Kevlin Avenue OMAGH BT78 1ER  Fax: 8224 8905
14 15 16 17	Craigavon (01-26) Armagh (01-22) Newry & Mourne (14-30) Banbridge (01,02,03,12-17)	Amanda Mason	UPPER BANN NEWRY & ARMAGH	52 Bridge Street BANBRIDGE BT32 3JU  Fax: 4062 9766
16 17 18 19	Newry & Mourne (01-13) Banbridge (04-11) Down (02-5, 08-23) Lisburn (01-26)	Majella Morgan	SOUTH DOWN LAGAN VALLEY	As above
06 20 21 22	Larne (01-15) Antrim (01-19) Newtownabbey (01-20) Carrickfergus (01-17)	Sharon Allen	EAST ANTRIM SOUTH ANTRIM	1-3 Portland Avenue Glengormley NEWTOWNABBEY BT36 5EY  Fax: 9084 2130
18 23 24 25	Down (01,06,07) North Down (01-25) Ards (01-23) Castlereagh (01-5,09,20,21)	Jeanette Murray	STRANGFORD NORTH DOWN	2(B) Regent Street NEWTOWNARDS BT23 4LH  Fax: 9182 8387
25 26	Castlereagh (06-08,10-19,22-23) Belfast (01-24)	Alison Allen	BELFAST SOUTH BELFAST EAST	6-10 William Street BELFAST BT1 1PR  Fax: 9024 8689
19 21 26	Lisburn (27-30) Newtownabbey (21-25) Belfast (25-51)	Paul O'Loughlin	BELFAST NORTH BELFAST WEST	As above