

**MIDLOTHIAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS
THURSDAY 5 MAY 2022**



Timetable for Candidates and Election Agents

NOTE – Items/dates highlighted in **BLUE** are statutory events

DAY	DATE	EVENT	ELECTION DAYS
Monday	7 March	Election Office Opens. Election background papers including Nomination Papers, Administrative Arrangements, etc appear on Midlothian Council web site.	-
		Publication of monthly alterations to Electoral Register.	-
Wednesday	9 March	Pre-Nomination Briefing for prospective Candidates – virtual at 10am	-
Monday	14 March	NOTICE OF ELECTION Commencement of period for issue of nomination papers at the Election Office, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith, Midlothian, EH22 1DN.	35
Tuesday	15 March	DELIVERY AND WITHDRAWAL OF NOMINATION PAPERS Commencement of period for delivery and withdrawal of nomination papers by hand at the Election Office, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith, Midlothian, EH22 1DN. (Note: The Returning Officer’s Staff will only be available to meet with the candidates between the hours of 10.00 am and 4 pm – appointments may be made in advance.) First Dispatch of Poll Cards – to be completed by 16 March	34
Wednesday	16 March		33
Thursday	17 March		32
Friday	18 March		31
Saturday	19 March	<i>Dies Non</i>	-
Sunday	20 March	<i>Dies Non</i>	-
Monday	21 March		30
Tuesday	22 March		29
Wednesday	23 March	Last possible day for Notice of Election to be published and therefore date for determining candidates’ limit on expenses based on the electorate on that day.	28
Thursday	24 March		27
Friday	25 March		26

DAY	DATE	EVENT	ELECTION DAYS
Saturday	26 March	<i>Dies Non</i>	-
Sunday	27 March	<i>Dies Non</i>	-
Monday	28 March		25
Tuesday	29 March		24
Wednesday	30 March	<p>LAST DAY FOR CANDIDATES LODGING NOMINATION PAPERS - 4 PM.</p> <p>Last day for Candidates withdrawing nomination papers – 4 pm.</p> <p>Last day for candidates lodging Declarations of Appointment of Election Agents (otherwise candidate becomes own Election Agent) – 4 pm.</p> <p>Last day for registering a party with the Electoral Commission – 4 pm.</p> <p>Last day for receipt by Returning Officer of Certificate of Authorisation of Description issued by or on behalf of a Party's Nominating Officer - 4 pm.</p> <p>Last day for receipt by Returning Officer of request by candidate for the ballot paper to contain a party emblem – 4 pm.</p> <p>Notice of Poll published as soon as practicable after the deadline for delivery and withdrawal of nominations – 4 pm. (Subject to the 24 hour period from the close of nominations for the RO to decide whether a nomination is valid.)</p> <p>(Applications from Registered Electors for Postal Votes received by this date will be included in First Issue of postal packs on 14 April 2022)</p>	23
Thursday	31 March	<p>Last time for Returning Officer to give decision on validity of nomination – as soon as practicable after delivery of nomination paper and not later than 4 pm on Thursday 31 March</p> <p>First time nomination papers are open to inspection – from 4 pm.</p>	22
Friday	1 April		21
Saturday	2 April	<i>Dies Non</i>	-
Sunday	3 April	<i>Dies Non</i>	-
Monday	4 April		20
Tuesday	5 April		19
Wednesday	6 April		18
Thursday	7 April		17
Friday	8 April	(Applications from Registered Electors for Postal Votes received by this date will be included in the Second Issue of postal packs on 19 April 2022.)	16
Saturday	9 April	<i>Dies Non</i>	-
Sunday	10 April	<i>Dies Non</i>	-

DAY	DATE	EVENT	ELECTION DAYS
Monday	11 April	<i>(Edinburgh Spring Holiday)</i>	15
Tuesday	12 April		14
Wednesday	13 April		13
Thursday	14 April	First Issue of Postal Votes (Issue to be completed by 16 April)	12
Friday	15 April	<i>Dies Non – Good Friday</i>	-
Saturday	16 April	<i>Dies Non</i>	-
Sunday	17 April	<i>Dies Non</i>	-
Monday	18 April	<p><i>Dies Non – Easter Monday</i></p> <p>ELECTORAL REGISTRATION DEADLINE</p> <p>Latest time for receipt (by the Electoral Registration Officer, 17A South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh, EH12 9LF or at Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith, EH22 1DN) of applications for inclusion in the Register of Electors – Midnight.</p>	-
Tuesday	19 April	<p>Latest Time for Receipt (by Electoral Registration Officer, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith or 17A South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh, EH12 9FL) of Absent Vote Applications – 5 pm.</p> <p>Latest time to cancel or alter postal and 'normal' proxy votes – 5 pm.</p> <p>Latest time to change from postal to proxy voting – 5 pm.</p> <p>Second Issue of Postal Voting Packs</p>	11
Wednesday	20 April	First opening of Postal Ballot Packs at 10.00 am in the Council Chambers, Midlothian House, Midlothian Council, 40-46 Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith.	10
Thursday	21 April		9
Friday	22 April		8
Saturday	23 April	<i>Dies Non</i>	-
Sunday	24 April	<i>Dies Non</i>	-
Monday	25 April	<i>(Edinburgh Spring Holiday)</i>	7
Tuesday	26 April	<p>Last day for applications to vote by proxy (not postal proxy or for medical emergencies or work reasons) – 5pm.</p> <p>Third and Final Issue of Postal Votes.</p>	6
Wednesday	27 April	<p>Last day for giving written notification to the Returning Officer of appointment of Polling and Counting Agents.</p> <p>Final Notice of Alterations to the Electoral Register published.</p>	5

DAY	DATE	EVENT	ELECTION DAYS
Thursday	28 April		4
Friday	29 April		3
Saturday	30 April	<i>Dies Non</i>	-
Sunday	1 May	<i>Dies Non</i>	-
Monday	2 May	<i>Dies Non - May Day Bank Holiday</i>	-
Tuesday	3 May		2
Wednesday	4 May	<p>Latest time for applying for replacements for lost or spoiled voting papers (other than in person) – 5pm.</p> <p>Last time – close of business - 5pm - nomination papers are open to inspection.</p> <p>Count Briefing Meeting for Candidates & Agents at the Count Hall, The Lasswade Centre, Eskdale Drive, Bonnyrigg, EH19 2LA at - time to be confirmed.</p>	1
Thursday	5 May	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>POLLING DAY</p> <p>Hours of Poll – 7.00am to 10.00pm.</p> <p>(Note: Postal Ballot Papers will be accepted at any Polling Station within the Midlothian Council area and at the Reception Desk at Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith, between 7am and 10pm on Polling Day.)</p> <p>Latest time for applying for replacements for lost or spoiled voting papers - 10pm. (Note: Applications before 10pm must be in person.)</p> <p>Latest time for new applications to vote by proxy on grounds of medical emergency or work reason – 5pm.</p> <p>Latest time to make alterations to the register of elector to correct a clerical error or to implement a court (registration appeal) decision – 9pm.</p> <p>Final opening of postal ballot packs at The Lasswade High Centre, Eskdale Drive, Bonnyrigg, EH19 2LA – 10pm. This may need to be continued at 8am on Friday 6 May.</p> <p>Receive at The Lasswade High Centre, Eskdale Drive, Bonnyrigg, EH19 2LA, the sealed Ballot Boxes (and the election stationery boxes) from the Polling Stations for secure storage overnight – from 10pm. (Candidates & Election Agents can monitor this event.)</p> </div>	0

DAY	DATE	EVENT	ELECTION DAYS
		(Note: As the ballot boxes are logged in an arithmetical check will be made of the Ballot Paper Accounts and each Account will be photocopied to aid the count process the following day – the ballot boxes will remain unopened and sealed. Any major discrepancy in a ballot paper account will result in the relevant polling station stationery box being opened and the unused ballot papers and ‘spoilt papers’ being verified.)	
Friday	6 May	<p style="text-align: center;">THE VERIFICATION AND COUNT <i>at The Lasswade High Centre, Eskdale Drive, Bonnyrigg, EH19 2LA</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Commencement of Verification and Counting of Ballot Papers – 9.15am</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ballot Boxes will be released at 7.50am from the secure area where they will have been stored overnight. • <u>The Verification of Spoilt and Unused Ballot Papers will commence at 8am</u> • The E-Count system will be cleared down ie - ‘purged’ at 8.10am in readiness for the Count beginning. 	+1
Tuesday	24 May	First Midlothian Council Meeting after Elections – 11am	-
Thursday	9 June	Last day for <u>delivery</u> to Returning Officer of Election Expenses Returns from the date the Result is declared (<i>*Dies non</i> does not apply).	+ 35*
Thursday	16 June	Last day for <u>delivery</u> to Returning Officer of Candidate’s Election Declaration. (<i>*Dies non</i> does not apply)	+42*