

Penrith Neighbourhood Development Plan Information Statement

A referendum relating to the adoption of the Penrith Neighbourhood Development Plan will be held on Thursday 28 November 2024.

The question that will be asked in the Referendum is:

‘Do you want Westmorland and Furness Council to use the neighbourhood plan for Penrith to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?’

The Referendum area is identified on the map, which is included with this information statement.

The Referendum area is identical to the area that has been designated as the Penrith Neighbourhood area.

A person is eligible to vote in the Referendum if, on Thursday 28 November 2024:

- He or she is entitled to vote in a local government election in the Referendum area; and
- His or her qualifying address for the election is in the Referendum area. A person's qualifying address is, in relation to a person registered in the register of electors, the address in respect of which he or she is entitled to be registered.

The Referendum expenses limit that will apply in relation to the Referendum is £2363 plus £0.059 for each entry in the relevant register of electors. The number of persons entitled to vote in the Referendum by reference to which that limit has been calculated is 13350.

The Referendum will be conducted in accordance with procedures similar to those used at local government elections.

A copy of the specified documents, that is those documents listed below, may be inspected online from 21 October 2024 at <https://www.eden.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-policy/neighbourhood-planning/penrith-neighbourhood-planning-area/>

Paper copies of the specified documents are also available to view at the following locations during normal opening hours:

- Voreda House, Portland Place, Penrith, CA11 7BF
- Penrith Library, St Andrew's Churchyard, Penrith, CA11 7YA
- Kendal Town Hall, South Lakeland House, Lowther Street, Kendal, LA9 4DQ
- Barrow Town Hall, Duke Street, Barrow in Furness, LA14 2LD

The specified documents are:

- Penrith Neighbourhood Development Plan (Final – Referendum Version and it's appendices)
- Report of the Independent Examiner.
- Summary of the Regulation 16 representations submitted to the independent examiner.
- Decision Statement (and addendum) by the local planning authority that the draft plan meets the basic conditions and complies with the relevant legislation
- This information statement.
- A statement that sets out general information about town and country planning including neighbourhood planning and the referendum.



Eligible residents who are not registered to vote must do so by midnight on Tuesday 12 November 2024.

[Register to vote at gov.uk/register to vote](https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote)

How to vote

There are three ways of voting:

In person:

You can vote in person on 28 November 2024 at your local polling station. You will receive a poll card confirming your polling station for this Referendum. Polling stations are open from 7am to 10pm.

Voter ID

In the UK you are legally required to show photo identification (ID) when voting at a polling station at this election.

Examples of photo ID

You may already have a form of photo ID that is acceptable. You can use any of the following:

- Passport
- Driving licence (including provisional license)
- Blue badge
- Certain concessionary travel cards
- Identity card with PASS mark (Proof of Age Standards Scheme)
- Biometric Immigration document
- Defence identity card
- Certain national identity cards

You will only need to show one form of photo ID, but it needs to be the original version and not a photocopy. The name on your ID must be the same name you used to register to vote.

If you don't have an accepted form of photo ID

If you don't already have an accepted form of photo ID, or you're not sure whether your photo ID still looks like you, you can apply for a free voter ID document, known as a Voter Authority Certificate.

Voreda House, Portland Place, Penrith CA11 7BF
T. 0300 373 3300

[westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk](https://www.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk)



Voter Authority Certificate

[Apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate](#)

If you need any help with applying for a Voter Authority Certificate or want to request an application form, contact our elections team by email at elections2@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk

The deadline to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate for use at a particular referendum is 5pm on 20 November 2024.

For more information, including the full list of accepted forms of photo ID, visit the Electoral Commission website or call their helpline on 0800 328 0280.

By post:

If you have an existing postal vote arrangement, you will receive a poll card confirming this.

If you want to vote by post, you will need to complete an application form and send it to the Electoral Registration Officer. It must be received by 5pm on 13 November 2024 at the address below.

Postal votes can be sent overseas, but think about whether you will have time to receive and return your completed postal vote by 28 November 2024.

You should receive your postal vote approximately 10 days before polling day. If it doesn't arrive in time, you can ask for replacement. Deadline to issue replacements for spoilt or lost ballot papers is 5pm on 28 November 2024 by contacting us on elections2@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk or telephoning 0300 373 3300

Changes to postal vote arrangements

New rules have been introduced to support the security of postal voting at elections.

Anyone returning a postal vote by hand to the Returning Officer must complete a postal vote return form. A postal vote returned by hand that is not accompanied by a postal vote return form will be rejected. There are also new limits on the number of postal votes that can be handed in by one person.

Postal voters are encouraged to use the Royal Mail envelope provided with the postal vote pack, where ever possible.

Electors who wish to hand their postal vote in at the polling stations or designated council offices must complete a postal vote return form for the postal vote to be accepted.

At polling stations: Presiding Officers and Clerks will have the necessary form to be completed at the polling station.

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westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk



Council Offices: Signage will be in place at each office to tell electors where they need to go to complete the form necessary for them to hand their postal vote in.

Postal votes should not be put through the letter boxes or internal mail boxes in the buildings as these will have to be rejected.

By proxy:

If you have an existing proxy vote arrangement, you will receive a poll card confirming this. If you can't get to the polling station on the 28 November 2024 and don't wish to vote by post, you may be able to vote by proxy.

Proxy voting is where you appoint somebody you trust to cast your vote on your behalf, either at a polling station or by post. You and your proxy must be registered to vote in the UK. Your proxy must also provide photo ID at the polling station when they go to vote for you.

You need to prove your identity as part of the application process. Both online and paper applications require ID verification. You will need to supply your date of birth, National Insurance number and signature.

You can now apply online for certain types of proxy vote

[Apply for a proxy vote online on the GOV.UK website](#)

If you are unable to use the online service, you can complete and return a paper form. The completed form must be received by 5pm on 20 November 2024 at the address below.

elections2@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk

You can call our helpline on 0300 373 3300

To write to us contact:

Electoral Registration Officer

Voreda House

Portland Place

Penrith

CA11 7BF

Alternatively, you can contact the teams in person at Voreda House, Penrith, Town Hall at Barrow or Kendal.

Voreda House, Portland Place, Penrith CA11 7BF

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