

STATES OF JERSEY



Jersey

DRAFT ELECTIONS (ELECTORAL REGISTERS) AMENDMENT (JERSEY) COMMENCEMENT ACT 202-

**Lodged au Greffe on 10th February 2026
by the Privileges and Procedures Committee
Earliest date for debate: 10th March 2026**

STATES GREFFE

REPORT

This Commencement Act brings into force the [Elections \(Electoral Registers\) \(Jersey\) Amendment Law 2025](#) (the ‘Electoral Registers Law’). The Electoral Registers Law amends the [Elections \(Jersey\) Law 2002](#) (the ‘Elections Law’) in relation to electoral registers, and makes consequential amendments to other legislation.

The Act provides for the Electoral Registers Law, except Article 23, to come into force on 17th March 2026. Article 23 inserts transitional provision in the Elections Law, to come into force a couple of days earlier on 14th March 2026.

The reason for this earlier commencement date is that Article 23, amongst other things, removes the requirement under Article 7A of the existing Law for Electoral Administrators to send out notices between 1st and 15th March in an election year advising householders they are listed on the electoral register. In addition to the administrative burden for Parishes, these notices usually cost around £30,000 to send. Islanders will be provided with information about the new Automatic Voter Registration process in the run up to the election and if they are unsure about their inclusion on the register they will be able to check their registration status online and in real time, thereby removing the need for the aforementioned notices.

If Islanders are not registered, they can approach their Parish, and be added, if they can prove they meet the age and residency criteria for registration. The Electoral Administrator (Parish Secretaries) will still have power to add or remove a person from the register.

Communication is key and vote.je will target messaging to those approaching the age of 16 and those who have moved to the Island in the last year, reminding them of the need to check they are included, where appropriate, on the register.

A Supplementary Register will be available up to 7 working days before the election so that those who are not included in an electoral register for any election before the candidate nomination period can subsequently be included in an electoral register. A person who appears at the polling station on the day of the election, but is not on the Register, will be able to vote if they are entitled to do so (and if they have supporting documentation to show their entitlement).

The Electoral Administrators in each Parish will retain overall responsibility for the register.

Members will recall that PPC brought forward an amendment to the Law which allows for anyone who has been formally declared a candidate in an election, to apply to their electoral administrator for a special list of names and addresses of those living in their constituency. This ‘candidate list’ provides candidates with data, whilst ensuring those who wish to protect their privacy and not appear on a public list are respected.

As well as increasing the accuracy of the register and making the process simpler for the public and Parishes, AVR has shown promise in addressing turnout among historically under-represented groups by making the process more accessible. Increased registration rates among minority groups have been observed in those places which have AVR, such as the Netherlands, Sweden, Germany and Canada, which suggests that adopting this registration system can play a significant role in promoting greater political equality. All those countries also enjoy consistently high voter turnout and PPC hopes that will also be the case in Jersey in 2026.

Children’s Rights Impact Assessment

A Children’s Rights Impact Assessment (CRIA) has not been prepared in relation to this proposition as a CRIA is not required, in accordance with Schedule 2 to the [Children \(Convention Rights\) \(Jersey\) Law 2022](#)

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Act provides for the Elections (Electoral Registers) (Jersey) Amendment Law 2025 (the “Electoral Registers Law”) to come into force.

The Electoral Registers Law amends the Elections (Jersey) Law 2002 (the “Elections Law”) in relation to electoral registers, and amends other legislation in connection with those changes.

This Act provides for the Electoral Registers Law, except Article 23, to come into force on 17 March 2026.

This Act also provides for Article 23 of the Electoral Registers Law, which inserts transitional provision into the Elections Law, to come into force on 14 March 2026. Among other things, the transitional provision disapplies Article 7A of the Elections Law for 2026, under which electoral administrators are required to send out certain notices between 1 and 15 March in an election year. Article 7A, along with other provisions of Part 3 of the Elections Law, will be substituted by the new provisions relating to electoral registers when the remaining provisions of the Electoral Registers Law come into force a few days later.



Jersey

DRAFT ELECTIONS (ELECTORAL REGISTERS) AMENDMENT (JERSEY) COMMENCEMENT ACT 202-

Made [date to be inserted]

Coming into force [date to be inserted]

THE STATES make this Act under Article 27 of the [Elections \(Electoral Registers\) \(Jersey\) Amendment Law 2025](#) –

1 Commencement of [Elections \(Electoral Registers\) \(Jersey\) Amendment Law 2025](#)

- (1) Article 23 of the [Elections \(Electoral Registers\) \(Jersey\) Amendment Law 2025](#) comes into force on 14 March 2026.
- (2) The remaining provisions of that Law come into force on 17 March 2026.

2 Citation

This Act may be cited as the Elections (Electoral Registers) Amendment (Jersey) Commencement Act 202-.