

Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board

Beware of Companies that charge you to register to Vote!

We have been made aware of a number of companies advertising on the internet who charge electors to have their name added to the electoral register or offer a service to have their name removed from the edited version of the electoral register.

Registering to vote is free of charge, with no associated costs to complete and return a form to an individual's Electoral Registration Office. **We want to make sure that no one uses any other service that charges for something that is straightforward and free.**

What is the Electoral Register?

The electoral register is the list of everyone who is registered to vote in a local area. You must be on the electoral register to vote at elections, and not being on the register can also affect your credit rating. You are **not** automatically registered even if you pay council tax. There are two versions of the register - the **full** version and the **edited** version. Your details will appear on the full version of the register, but you can choose to have your details excluded from the edited version when registering. The full register is used for elections, preventing and detecting crime, and checking applications for credit. The edited register is available for general sale and can be used for commercial activities such as marketing.

Registering to vote is simple.

Electoral registration takes place on a local basis by each local authority's Electoral Registration Officer. The electoral register is updated on a monthly basis. You can register to vote at any time of the year by visiting our website at www.renfrewshire-vjb.gov.uk or the electoral commission website at www.aboutmyvote.co.uk

If you have recently moved house or changed your name, you will need to re-register to be eligible to vote.

There is a misconception that by adding your name to the electoral register you will be inundated with junk mail and marketing telephone calls. This is not true, marketing agencies obtain their data from wide variety of sources. You can drastically reduce the amount of junk mail and marketing telephone calls **FREE OF CHARGE** by choosing to exclude your name from the edited version of the electoral register, registering with the telephone preference service and the mail preference service.

Renfrewshire Valuation Joint Board www.renfrewshire-vjb.gov.uk

Telephone Preference Service www.tpsonline.org.uk

Mail Preference Service www.mpsonline.org.uk

Further information and advice is available please telephone **0300 300 0150**