

VOTING STARTER PACK



ELECTION DAY DETAILS

4 November 2026 / 07:00-21:00

double check

where you are registered!

- Send your ID number to 32810 (R1 per SMS)
- IEC WhatsApp chatbot at 0600 88 0000
- IEC call centre during office hours at 0800 11 8000
- IEC Voter Portal: <https://online.elections.org.za/voterportal>

**YOU CAN ONLY VOTE AT THE STATION
WHERE YOU ARE REGISTERED.**

**VOTERS WHO APPLIED FOR A SPECIAL VOTE WILL CAST THEIR
VOTES ON 2 AND 3 NOVEMBER. [CHECK YOUR SPECIAL VOTE
STATUS HERE.](#)**

WHAT TO BRING WITH



Your valid South
African ID book/card.



Remember your water and
maybe a cup of coffee for
early morning voting.



Check the
weather before
taking on the
queue!

+1

bring a friend to vote as well!

THE VOTING PROCESS

1

Your ID will be checked and scanned by the Voter's Roll Officer.

2

Your left thumb will be marked by a dot of ink.

3

You will receive 2 or 3 ballot papers to take to your voting booth, depending on what type of municipality you live in. See page 7.

4

At your voting booth, you will place your vote in the form of an X on each ballot paper.

5

You will place each ballot inside the corresponding box in your voting station.

NB!!

ONLY PLACE ONE **X** ON EACH BALLOT & DOUBLE-CHECK THAT YOU PLACE EACH BALLOT PAPER IN THE CORRECT BOX!

WHAT EXACTLY ARE WE VOTING FOR?

In the upcoming Local Government Elections, we are voting for people and parties that will be responsible for running our local communities via municipal councils.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE

METROPOLITAN **MUNICIPALITIES**

Metros are dense, highly populated economic hubs. They have a single budget and handle all local government services within their boundaries.

E.g., the cities of Cape Town, Johannesburg, Durban (eThekweni Municipality), Bloemfontein (Mangaung Municipality) and Gqeberha (Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality).



DISTRICT **MUNICIPALITIES**

Regional structures that coordinate multiple local municipalities.

E.g., the Cape Winelands, Namakwa, and Zululand District Municipalities.



LOCAL **MUNICIPALITIES**

Smaller towns and urban/rural areas that share local governance responsibilities with a district municipality.

E.g., Stellenbosch, Ulundi, and Bela-Bela.

WHAT EXACTLY ARE WE VOTING FOR?

service delivery

by-laws

overall city/town(ship)

municipal costs

functioning

RESPONSIBILITIES OF MUNICIPAL COUNCILS:

- Ensuring effective local service delivery, including amongst others, water, sanitation and waste management, electricity, physical infrastructure, community safety and emergency services.
- Passing by-laws to enable service delivery and ensure compliance with legal standards.
- Passing the annual municipal budget, allocating public funds, and procuring goods and services to meet local government obligations.
- Setting rates and tariffs for public service delivery, property rates, etc. and collecting service fees and charges from the public.

AFTER THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION RESULTS ARE FINALISED, THE NEW COUNCIL CONVENES TO ELECT A MAYOR FROM AMONGST ITS MEMBERS.

WHAT EXACTLY ARE WE VOTING FOR?

MUNICIPAL COUNCILS CONSIST OF

WARD COUNCILLORS

+

PR COUNCILLORS

Represent a specific geographic area within the municipality. Elected by name on the **GREY BALLOT**.

Represent their party across the entire municipality. Allocated from a pre-submitted party list based on votes from the **YELLOW BALLOT**.

THE BALLOT PAPERS

metropolitan municipalities

WARD BALLOT

You vote for a specific individual (party-backed or independent) to represent your geographic ward.

LOCAL PR BALLOT

You vote for a political party to represent you in governing the metro overall.

PR = proportional representation

A percentage of municipal council seats are allocated to political parties. Based on each party's proportional share of the votes, they secure representation on the councils together with elected ward councillors.

local/district municipalities

WARD BALLOT

You vote for a specific individual (party-backed or independent) to represent your ward in the local municipality.

LOCAL PR BALLOT

You vote for a political party to represent you in governing the local municipality.

DISTRICT PR BALLOT

You vote for a political party to fill the directly elected seats of the overarching district council.

THE FINAL ITEM FOR YOUR VOTING STARTER PACK:

faithful prayer

**“ALSO, SEEK THE PEACE AND PROSPERITY
OF THE CITY TO WHICH I HAVE CARRIED YOU
INTO EXILE. PRAY TO THE LORD FOR IT,
BECAUSE IF IT PROSPERS, YOU TOO WILL
PROSPER.”**

Jeremiah 29:7