***May 5th 2022 ----- Local Government Election.***

You may already be aware but it is the local government election this year. We go to the polls on 5 May to vote in all 70 Aberdeenshire councillors. In the meantime, it is essential that we spread the word about how easy it is to register to vote, and subsequently encourage people to use their vote on polling day. I have attached an example of online resources, but in short go to <https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote> and follow the clear steps to get registered. ***Voter registration deadline in 18 April,*** but as the campaign below suggests it only takes 5 minutes to register.

**Just 5 spare minutes, and you’re all set to have your say on the issues that matter to you. So, what are you waiting for?**

**Go to** [**gov.uk/register-to-vote**](https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote) **now #YourVoteMatters. Don’t lose it.**

***This is also a Census year.***

It is important that as many people as possible participate. It is an online census for 2022 but there are opportunities for other forms of non-digital engagement being explored also. Between 28 February and 4 March, households will receive their letters with Internet Access Codes so they can start to fill in their census online, or request a paper form. Every household in Scotland has a legal responsibility to complete a census questionnaire.

**Proud to support Scotland’s Census. Scotland’s Census is the official count of every person and household in the country. It usually takes place every 10 years. The census asks questions about people’s age, sex, home and living situation, employment, education and qualifications, as well as ethnicity. Every household in Scotland must complete the census and by doing so are helping to shape Scotland’s future.**

