

how to help boost voter turnout

employer's guide

Business are a vital part of the communities they belong to - and a workforce can become community in its own right.

Supporting your employees to vote may have benefits for your business; increasing dialogue and discussion in the workplace, encourages interest and taking an informed view and shows you support your staff both in and out of the work environment. It also demonstrates, as a business, your social awareness and responsibility.

You don't need to take costly measures, or offer a stance on who to vote for. Here are some ideas on how to support your staff on polling day:

- **Put up a poster (or allow someone else to) in the staff room** - make your own or download one from www.network.vote . Help your workforce to be aware of the date of the Election, polling times and helpful ways they too can support others to boost the vote.
- **Assist non-UK citizens who may be eligible to find out if they qualify to vote** - many qualifying Commonwealth and Irish citizens may not be aware that they have the right to vote in elections. Reach out to your staff members and suggest they check if they qualify for the right to vote.
- **Be flexible with working times** - this is an unusual election, called at short notice. It will also be dark earlier and later than a summer election, making people wary to go out. Be flexible about start and finish times; allow staff to take a long lunch, or swap shifts - making their lives easier.
- **If you can, find means to support staff with childcare** - Many schools will be closed, requiring parents to find additional childcare. This can be costly and difficult to organise. Consider if there are ways you can practically or financially support them, or allow time off to look after their children.
- **Send out an email or add the date to the calendar** - remind your workforce of the date and the measures you're putting in place to support them to vote.

Remember: if you support one person to exercise their right to vote, you have made a difference.

To find material and resources you may find useful, visit network.vote online