

Timetable for the referendum on the UK's membership of the European Union: 23 June 2016¹

Regulations confirming the date of the referendum have now been approved by the UK Parliament and the date has been set for the 23 June 2016.

This timetable below sets out the key deadlines which now apply to the referendum, including timings for the designation of lead campaigners (boxes shaded in green) and the Commission's public awareness activity (in the boxes shaded in red) ahead of the 23 June.

This timetable is based on the European Union Referendum Act 2015 and the European Union Referendum (Conduct) Regulations 2016. This timetable also reflects the Chief Counting Officer's (CCO's) directions which have been issued along with this timetable and can be found [here](#).

Certain days are disregarded in calculating the timetable – Saturdays, Sundays, any bank holiday in the UK and any day appointed for public thanksgiving in the UK are disregarded in the calculation of all deadlines which are based on working days, while bank and public holidays in Gibraltar are only disregarded in the calculation of certain deadlines.

Where bank and public holidays in Gibraltar are **not** taken into account in the calculation of a deadline, this is specified in the 'working days before poll' column of the table below. The bank holidays relevant to this timetable are:

- the UK Spring Bank Holiday on 30 May 2016
- the Gibraltar Bank Holiday for the Queen's Birthday on 13 June

Timetable dates which apply only to Northern Ireland appear in boxes shaded in blue with italic text. Some deadlines do not apply to Northern Ireland. Where this is the case, this is explicitly stated.

Public awareness campaign

The public awareness campaign will launch around five-and-a-half weeks before polling day, and will span three phases.

The first, running for two weeks, will coincide with the delivery of the voter information booklet to all households. It will encourage voters to look out for their booklet and register by 7 June. The second will follow this, and run for

¹ This timetable applies only to the UK

around a week up until the registration deadline, telling people that they should have received a booklet, and to register.

The third phase, running from registration deadline day until polling day, will tell people they should have received a booklet. This, like the previous two phases, will direct people to aboutmyvote.co.uk or to the call centre for more information.

Timetable

Event	Working days before poll (deadline if not midnight)	Date
Application period for designation as lead campaigner opens	N/A	Friday 4 March
Application period for designation as lead campaigner closes	N/A	Thursday 31 March
Statutory deadline for designation of lead campaigners	N/A	Thursday 14 April
Launch of public awareness campaign	Between five and six weeks	Sunday 15 May
Launch of first phase of public awareness campaign	Between five and six weeks	Monday 16 May
Door-drop of public information booklet begins		
Publication of notice of referendum	Not later than 25 days; on the date specified by the CCO	Tuesday 17 May
Delivery of poll cards to electors	As soon as practicable after the publication of the notice of referendum; within a period of five working days starting with the day after the last date for publication of the notice of referendum	Between Wednesday 18 May and Tuesday 24 May
Despatch of postal votes to overseas addresses	Within a period of five days starting with the day which is four days after the last date for publication of the notice of referendum; must not be issued so as to be received before 28 calendar days before the poll	Between Monday 23 May and Friday 27 May

Event	Working days before poll (deadline if not midnight)	Date
Publication of first interim referendum notice of alteration (excluding Northern Ireland)	19 days	Wednesday 25 May
Postal votes delivered to electors at UK addresses	Within a period of five days starting with the day which is eight days after the last date for publication of the notice of referendum; must not be issued so as to be received before 28 calendar days before the poll	Between Friday 27 May and Friday 3 June
Phase one of public awareness campaign ends	Three-and-a-half weeks	Saturday 28 May
Phase two of public awareness campaign begins	Three-and-a-half weeks	Sunday 29 May
Deadline for the notification of appointment of referendum agents	16 days (noon)	Noon on Tuesday 31 May
Publication of notice of poll and situation of polling stations	Not later than 15 days	Not later than Wednesday 1 June
<i>Deadline for receiving new postal vote, postal proxy and proxy vote applications, and for changes to existing postal or proxy votes (Northern Ireland only)</i>	<i>14 days (5pm) (Gibraltar bank and public holidays are not disregarded)</i>	<i>5pm on Friday 3 June</i>
Phase two (and all registration messaging) of public awareness campaign ends	13 days (Day before registration deadline)	Monday 6 June
Phase three of public awareness campaign begins	12 days (day of registration deadline)	Tuesday 7 June

Event	Working days before poll (deadline if not midnight)	Date
Deadline for receiving applications for registration	12 days (Gibraltar bank and public holidays are not disregarded)	Tuesday 7 June
Deadline for receiving new postal vote and postal proxy applications, and for changes to existing postal or proxy votes (excluding Northern Ireland)	11 days (5pm) (Gibraltar bank and public holidays are not disregarded)	5pm on Wednesday 8 June
<i>Deadline for receiving new applications to vote by post or proxy on the grounds of health or employment as a constable or by the Counting Officer (Northern Ireland only)</i>	<i>6 days (5pm)</i>	<i>5pm on Wednesday 15 June</i>
Deadline for receiving new applications to vote by proxy (not postal proxy or emergency proxies) (excluding Northern Ireland)	6 days (5pm)	5pm on Wednesday 15 June
Publication of second interim referendum notice of alteration (excluding Northern Ireland)	Between 18 days and 6 days	Between Thursday 26 May and Wednesday 15 June (inclusive)
Publication of final referendum notice of alteration	5 days	Thursday 16 June
Deadline for notification of appointment of polling and counting agents	5 days	Thursday 16 June
First date that electors can apply for a replacement for lost postal votes (excluding Northern Ireland)	4 days	Friday 17 June

Event	Working days before poll (deadline if not midnight)	Date
<i>Last time for receipt of spoilt postal votes in time for postal votes to be re-issued (Northern Ireland only)</i>	1 day (5pm)	5pm on Wednesday 22 June
Polling day	0 (7am to 10pm)	7am to 10pm on Thursday 23 June
Phase three of public awareness campaign – and all activity – ends	0 (5pm)	5pm on Thursday 23 June
Last time for re-issue of spoilt or lost postal votes (excluding Northern Ireland)	0 (5pm)	5pm on Thursday 23 June
Deadline for emergency proxy applications (excluding Northern Ireland)	0 (5pm)	5pm on Thursday 23 June
<i>Last time to alter the register due to clerical error or court appeal (Northern Ireland only)</i>	0 (7pm)	7pm on Thursday 23 June
Last time to alter the register due to clerical error or court appeal (excluding Northern Ireland)	0 (9pm)	9pm on Thursday 23 June