

Dear Minister Phelan,

As someone who has been registered to vote since my 18th birthday and someone who takes this very seriously I wanted to submit my thoughts/ideas on modernising the Electoral Registration process.

1. Start by wiping/deleting the current register; it's outdated and highly incorrect. I say this from experience whereby a member of my family has polling cards delivered to his current address and still to a former address that he hasn't lived at in over 10 years.
2. Start a new register from scratch and if at all possible allow an online registration format for the new register, linking it to peoples PPSN number, to ensure one person has one registered address and therefore one vote.
3. Allow people an offline registration process also as there are people who will find an online system difficult.
4. Use the An Post network of offices to assist people with the offline registration process. Allow them to fill in the forms at the Post Office therefore providing more ease of access for people who cannot get to their local authority offices to complete/submit the form.
5. If at all possible allow/link the new register so that it will be updated when someone has their information updated by the Revenue Commissioners. I have made use of 'my account' on Revenue.ie and find it a very good service. i.e. move their voting information to their new constituency if they change address automatically with Revenue. We all deal with the revenue so this cannot be that difficult to do.
6. Give people plenty of notice! Have a wide ranging media campaign to get everyone on board.

Kind Regards

Conor Crowley