

Libraries in the Dorset Council area which may have rooms for use by candidates during the pre-election period

Candidates at local and Parliamentary elections (including parish and town elections) can use certain rooms for public meetings in the run-up to the election.

A meeting room is any room that would commonly be let out for public use and wholly or partially maintained by public funds, including those in some schools and libraries.

These rooms can be used for elections from the last day for the submission of nominations.

Reasonable notice must be given. For school halls, the hire must be outside of school hours and not affect the school's usual operations.

When a room is used for meetings, the hirer is liable to be charged expenses incurred, such as heating and lighting; any damage incurred is also the responsibility of the hirer. Schools can charge a nominal fee to compensate for expenses and for a caretaker to set up/restore a room. This element is a matter between the party/candidate and the venue and should be settled directly with them. It is not a matter for the Returning Officer.

Below is a list of libraries in the Dorset Council area which may have rooms for use by candidates during the pre-election period. You will need to contact the library direct to check if they have a room that they commonly let out for public use.

Library	Bookable Meeting Room	Details of Space/ rooms facilities	Telephone number and email address
Blandford	Medium meeting room	Meeting room (medium) (Upper level - restricted access)	01258 452075 blandfordlibrary@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
Bridport	Small meeting room	Meeting room 1 (small hybrid)	01308 422778 bridportlibrary@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
Dorchester	Small meeting room Small meeting room Medium meeting room Medium meeting room Large meeting room	Meeting Room 1 - LG (small hybrid) Meeting room 2 - LG (small hybrid) Classroom 2 - UG (Medium) Classroom 3 - UG (Medium) Classroom 2/3 (Large) UG	01305 224440 dorchesterlibrary@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Ferndown	Small meeting room	Meeting room 1 - FF (small)	01202 874542 ferndownlibrary@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
	Small meeting room	Meeting room 2 - FF (small)	
	Medium meeting room	Meeting room - FF (medium)	
Gillingham	Small meeting room	Meeting room (small) (Upper level - restricted access)	01747 822180 gillinghamlibrary@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
Wareham	Small meeting room	Meeting room (small hybrid) First Floor	01929 556146 warehamlibrary@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
Weymouth	Small meeting room	Meeting room 5 (small hybrid) First Floor	01305 762410 weymouthlibrary@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
	Medium meeting room	Meeting room 7 (medium hybrid) First Floor	
Wimborne	Small meeting room	Meeting room (small hybrid) First Floor	01202 882770 wimbornelibrary@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

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