# UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak Sets July 4, 2024, for General Election



Prime Minister Rishi Sunak has announced that the next general election in the UK will take place on July 4, 2024. This decision follows months of speculation and marks a significant political event for the nation.

Sunak formally requested the dissolution of Parliament from King Charles III on May 22, which will officially take place on May 30. The dissolution of Parliament signifies that MPs lose their status and must campaign for re-election if they wish to return to their seats.

Important dates leading up to the election include:
- June 7: Deadline for candidate nomination.
- June 18: Final day to register to vote.
- June 19: Deadline to apply for a postal vote.
- June 26: Deadline to apply for a proxy vote and for a Voter ID certificate if required.

For the first time, all voters will be required to present a valid photo ID at polling stations. Acceptable forms include passports, driving licenses, and certain bus passes. Voters who do not have such identification can apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate to ensure they are eligible to vote.

The election will be conducted under the "first past the post" system, where the candidate with the most votes in each of the 650 constituencies wins a seat in the House of Commons. Should no party achieve a majority, the result could be a hung parliament, leading to potential coalition or minority government scenarios.

Eligible voters include British citizens, qualifying Commonwealth citizens, and Republic of Ireland citizens who are registered and at least 18 years old on polling day. Additionally, UK citizens residing abroad can vote in their last registered constituency.

This general election is notable for its new constituency boundaries, aimed at reflecting population changes and equalizing voter numbers across areas. The outcome will determine the new Prime Minister and government, with the election date set for July 4, 2024.