# Here's how to take part!

As a member of the cooperative, you have a voice and can exercise your democratic right to vote. You can also run as a representative yourself and nominate someone for election.



### Yes, I want to vote!

Then simply put a cross on the ballot form and send it back to us. You will be sent your voting documents automatically by post.



# Yes, I also want to stand as a representative!

Simply fill in the forms and return them to us by post with your signature or scan them and send them as a file by email to: vertreterwahl2022@vbs-frankfurt.de You can also give the signed documents in an envelope to your concierge.



# Yes, I want to nominate someone for the office of representative!

Then simply fill in the forms and return them to us by post with your signature and that of the candidate of your choice, or scan them and send them as a file by email to: vertreterwahl2022@vbs-frankfurt.de

You can also give the signed documents in an envelope to your concierge.

## **Finding forms:**

All the necessary forms are available on our website. Alternatively, we can send them to you by post on request.





#### Facts about the election

- 7.400 members
- 83 representatives up for election
- several deputy representatives
- Voluntary role that everyone can organise on an individual basis (with expenses allowance)
- Duration: 5 years
- Each representative represents approximately 90 VBS members
- 5 electoral districts
- You can: vote by absentee ballot AND get yourself elected AND nominate someone else

We wish all candidates the best of luck!

Volks- Bau- und Sparverein Frankfurt am Main eG Großer Hirschgraben 20-26 60311 Frankfurt am Main

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Your

Voice

for our

home

vbs-frankfurt.de/vertreterwahl-2022



Volks- Bau- und Sparverein

Frankfurt am Main eG

# for our home

Get involved, stand for election as a representative.

Thank you to all our representatives who have a say in our cooperative. Together, we can achieve anything!

vbs-frankfurt.de/vertreterwahl-2022

# What is it all about?

Our VBS has around 7,400 members. You are one of them. When 7,400 people speak at once, nobody actually gets heard. This is why the constitution stipulates that representatives must be elected if there are more than 1,501 members, who will represent the interests of VBS members and have a say in the major decisions taken by your cooperative.

These representatives are the original democratic idea of our cooperative. We need them if we are to be able to make a difference. That's why it is so important for you to get involved and take part in the postal vote or stand for election. It's well worth it!

Voting means: when you vote by post, you put your cross in the box and post your letter.

Standing for election means: you stand for election as a representative because you feel responsible as a comrade and want to work for your neighbourhood.



# What to expect as a representative

### "I am a representative - and proud!"

That's because I can make a difference in my environment, I can make the outdoor areas more beautiful for everyone, I can build playgrounds, bicycle houses or raised beds for my community. It's not a lot of work really, but it keeps the cooperative together and I keep in touch with lots of people. That gives me a sense of purpose. Plus, it's a voluntary position that I can put as much effort into as I feel is good for me.

I can submit my own ideas and suggestions for improvement from the neighbourhood in which I live to the Supervisory Board/Executive Board at any time.

Any member can become a representative - you just have to stand for election.

## Your responsibilities:

A representative meeting is held once a year, in which you will participate as a representative (and receive an expenses allowance).

This will give you an insight into the business policy of VBS eG and its results - and you'll even be involved in voting on them!

This roughly corresponds to the decision-making authority of a shareholder in a limited company. The only difference is that everything is more practical in our cooperative, as our focus is on managing our properties, which you live in yourself as a tenant or to which you have a direct connection as a member.



# This is how it works in detail

Every member is entitled to vote and may cast his or her vote by postal ballot. All VBS members will receive their election documents by post.

Each member may stand for election as a representative. As far as exceptions are concerned, there is an exclusion procedure and members of the executive board or supervisory board may not stand for election.

Votes are cast for a particular candidate. The person who receives the most votes is elected as the representative. The remaining candidates with the highest number of votes are automatically elected as deputy representatives.

If a representative has to resign before the end of their 5-year term of office (e.g. illness or personal reasons), the next deputy representative (according to the ranking list) takes their place.

The allocation of 5 constituencies ensures that the interests of all VBS members are evenly represented.

Postal vote: the electoral district corresponds to the residential district of the members who live in a VBS apartment. All other members are allocated to one of the 5 constituencies through an automated procedure.

Standing for election: If you want to stand as a candidate, you will have to choose a constituency - preferably the one in your own area. Irrespective of this, all candidates are of course also able to take part in the postal vote.