

Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Bill

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Explanatory notes to the Bill, prepared by the Cabinet Office, are published separately as Bill 63 – EN.

EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

The Deputy Prime Minister has made the following statement under section 19(1)(a) of the Human Rights Act 1998:

In my view the provisions of the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Bill are compatible with the Convention rights.

Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Bill

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Make provision for a referendum on the voting system for parliamentary elections and to provide for parliamentary elections to be held under the alternative vote system if a majority of those voting in the referendum are in favour of that; to make provision about the number and size of parliamentary constituencies; and for connected purposes.

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen’s most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

PART 1

VOTING SYSTEM FOR PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

The referendum

1 Referendum on the alternative vote system

- (1) A referendum is to be held on the voting system for parliamentary elections. 5
(2) The referendum must be held on 5 May 2011.
(3) The question that is to appear on the ballot papers is—

*Do you want the United Kingdom to adopt the
“alternative vote” system instead of the current
“first past the post” system for electing Members
of Parliament to the House of Commons?*

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- (4) In Wales, the following Welsh version of the question is also to appear on the ballot papers—

Ydych chi am i'r Deyrnas Unedig ddilyn y system "pleidlais amgen" yn lle'r system gyfredol "y cyntaf i'r felin" ar gyfer ethol Aelodau Seneddol i Dŷ'r Cyffredin?

- (5) Schedule 1 has effect in relation to the referendum. 5

2 Entitlement to vote in the referendum

- (1) Those entitled to vote in the referendum are –
- (a) the persons who, on the date of the referendum, would be entitled to vote as electors at a parliamentary election in any constituency, and
 - (b) the persons who, on that date, are disqualified by reason of being peers from voting as electors at parliamentary elections but –
 - (i) would be entitled to vote as electors at a local government election in any electoral area in Great Britain,
 - (ii) would be entitled to vote as electors at a local election in any district electoral area in Northern Ireland, or
 - (iii) would be entitled to vote as electors at a European Parliamentary election in any electoral region by virtue of section 3 of the Representation of the People Act 1985 (peers resident outside the United Kingdom).
- (2) In subsection (1)(b)(i) "local government election" includes a municipal election in the City of London (that is, an election to the office of mayor, alderman, common councilman or sheriff and also the election of any officer elected by the mayor, aldermen and liverymen in common hall). 10 15 20

3 Conduct of the referendum

- (1) The referendum is to be conducted in accordance with the rules set out in Part 1 of Schedule 2. 25
- (2) Part 2 of that Schedule (forms and directions) has effect for the purposes of those rules.
- (3) Schedule 3 (absent voting in the referendum) has effect.
- (4) Schedule 4 (application for the referendum of existing provisions) has effect. 30

4 Control of loans etc to permitted participants

- (1) The 2000 Act has effect in relation to the referendum as if the Schedule set out in Schedule 5 to this Act were inserted in that Act as Schedule 15A.
- (2) Section 120 of the 2000 Act (returns as to referendum expenses) has effect in relation to the referendum as if at the end of subsection (2)(d) there were inserted "and a statement of regulated transactions entered into in respect of the referendum which complies with the requirements of paragraphs 11 to 15 of Schedule 15A". 35
- (3) Section 123 of the 2000 Act (declaration of responsible person as to return under section 120) has effect in relation to the referendum as if for subsection 40

(3) there were substituted –

“(3) In a case where the permitted participant either is not a registered party or is a minor party, the declaration must also –

(a) in relation to all relevant donations recorded in the return as having been accepted by the permitted participants – 5

(i) state that they were all from permissible donors, or

(ii) state whether or not section 56(2) was complied with in the case of each of those donations that was not from a permissible donor;

(b) in relation to all regulated transactions recorded in the return as having been entered into by the permitted participant – 10

(i) state that none of the transactions was made void by paragraph 5(2) of Schedule 15A, or

(ii) state whether or not paragraph 5(3)(a) of that Schedule was complied with in the case of each of the transactions that was made void by paragraph 5(2) of that Schedule.” 15

(4) Section 124 of the 2000 Act (public inspection of returns under section 120) has effect in relation to the referendum as if for subsection (2) there were substituted –

“(2) If the return contains a statement of relevant donations or a statement of regulated transactions in accordance with section 120(2)(d), the Commission shall secure that the copy of the statement made available for public inspection does not include – 20

(a) in the case of any donation by an individual, the donor’s address; 25

(b) in the case of a transaction entered into by the permitted participant with an individual, the individual’s address.”

(5) Schedule 15 to the 2000 Act (control of donations to permitted participants) has effect in relation to the referendum as if for paragraph (b) of paragraph 10(2) there were substituted – 30

“(b) the value of it and any other relevant benefit or benefits is more than that amount.

In paragraph (b) “relevant benefit” means any relevant donation or regulated transaction (within the meaning of Schedule 15A) made by, or entered into with, the person who made the donation.” 35

(6) Paragraphs 4, 5, 6 and 8 of the Schedule set out in Schedule 5 do not apply to regulated transactions (within the meaning of that Schedule) entered into before the commencement of this section; but otherwise the provisions of this section (and that Schedule) apply to such transactions entered into before as well as after that commencement. 40

(7) Paragraph 7 of that Schedule applies only to a purported transfer made on or after the commencement of this section.

5 Interpretation

In this Part –

“the 1983 Act” means the Representation of the People Act 1983; 45

“the 2000 Act” means the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000;

- “Chief Counting Officer” means the Chief Counting Officer for the referendum (see section 128(2) of the 2000 Act);
- “counting officer” –
- (a) in relation to a voting area in Great Britain, means the officer appointed for that area under section 128(3) of the 2000 Act or by virtue of paragraph 2(3) of Schedule 1 to this Act; 5
 - (b) in relation to Northern Ireland, means the Chief Electoral Officer for Northern Ireland;
- “the Minister” means the Lord President of the Council or the Secretary of State; 10
- “permitted participant” has the same meaning as in Part 7 of the 2000 Act (see section 105(1) of that Act);
- “the referendum” means the referendum under section 1;
- “referendum rules” means the rules in Part 1 of Schedule 2;
- “Regional Counting Officer” means an officer appointed under paragraph 2(1) of Schedule 1; 15
- “responsible person” has the same meaning as in Part 7 of the 2000 Act (see section 105(2) of that Act);
- “voting area” means –
- (a) a relevant area in Great Britain within the meaning of Part 7 of the 2000 Act (see section 128(9) of that Act), or 20
 - (b) Northern Ireland.

Result of the referendum

6 Commencement or repeal of amending provisions

- (1) The Minister must make an order bringing into force section 7, Schedule 6 and Part 1 of Schedule 7 (“the alternative vote provisions”) if – 25
 - (a) more votes are cast in the referendum in favour of the answer “Yes” than in favour of the answer “No”, and
 - (b) the draft of an Order in Council laid before Parliament under subsection (5A) of section 3 of the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 (substituted by section 8(6) below) has been submitted to Her Majesty in Council under section 4 of that Act. 30
- (2) If more votes are not cast in the referendum in favour of the answer “Yes” than in favour of the answer “No”, the Minister must make an order repealing the alternative vote provisions. 35
- (3) An order under subsection (1) must bring the alternative vote provisions into force on the same day as the coming into force of the Order in Council in terms of the draft referred to in paragraph (b) of that subsection.
- (4) An order under subsection (1) may make transitional or saving provision.

7 The alternative vote system: amendments 40

- (1) In Schedule 1 to the 1983 Act (parliamentary elections rules), after rule 37 there

is inserted –

“How votes are to be given

- 37A (1) A voter votes by marking the ballot paper with –
- (a) the number 1 opposite the name of the candidate who is the voter’s first preference (or, as the case may be, the only candidate for whom the voter wishes to vote), 5
 - (b) if the voter wishes, the number 2 opposite the name of the candidate who is the voter’s second preference, and so on.
- (2) The voter may mark as many preferences (up to the number of candidates) as the voter wishes.” 10

(2) After rule 45 in that Schedule there is inserted –

“How votes are to be counted

- 45A (1) This rule sets out how votes are to be counted, in one or more stages of counting, in order to give effect to the preferences marked by voters on their ballot papers and so to determine which candidate is elected. 15
- (2) Votes shall be allocated to candidates in accordance with voters’ first preferences and, if one candidate has more votes than the other candidates put together, that candidate is elected. 20
- (3) If not, the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated and that candidate’s votes shall be dealt with as follows –
- (a) each vote cast by a voter who also ranked one or more of the remaining candidates shall be reallocated to that remaining candidate or (as the case may be) to the one that the voter ranked highest; 25
 - (b) any votes not reallocated shall play no further part in the counting.
- (4) If after that stage of counting one candidate has more votes than the other remaining candidates put together, that candidate is elected. 30
- (5) If not, the process mentioned in paragraph (3) above shall be repeated as many times as necessary until one candidate has more votes than the other remaining candidates put together, and so is elected.

Information to be given by returning officer after each stage of counting 35

- 45B (1) If no candidate is elected (as mentioned in rule 45A(2)) at the first stage of counting, the returning officer shall, immediately after that stage, record and make publicly available the following information –
- (a) the number of first-preference votes obtained by each candidate; 40
 - (b) which candidate was eliminated;
 - (c) the number of rejected ballot papers.

- (2) Immediately after each subsequent stage of counting, except the final stage (on completion of which the requirements in rule 50 apply), the returning officer shall record and make publicly available the following information –
- (a) the number of votes obtained by each candidate at that stage (including any reallocated in accordance with rule 45A); 5
 - (b) which candidate was eliminated at that stage;
 - (c) the number of votes of the candidate eliminated at the previous stage that were not reallocated.”
- (3) Schedule 6 makes further amendments to the parliamentary elections rules, and other legislation, in connection with the alternative vote system. 10
- (4) The Minister may by order make any amendments to primary or secondary legislation (whenever passed or made) that are consequential on amendments made by this section or Schedule 6.
- (5) In subsection (4) “primary or secondary legislation” means any provision of, or made under, any Act. 15
- (6) An order under subsection (4) may include transitional or saving provision.
- (7) An order under subsection (4) may not be made unless a draft of the order has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, each House of Parliament.
- (8) Before making an order under subsection (4) the Minister must consult the Electoral Commission. 20

PART 2

PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES

8 Reports of the Boundary Commissions

- (1) In the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 (“the 1986 Act”) section 3 (reports of the Boundary Commissions) is amended as follows. 25
- (2) In subsection (1) –
- (a) in paragraph (a), for “paragraphs 1 to 6 of Schedule 2 to this Act (read with paragraph 7 of that Schedule)” there is substituted “Schedule 2 to this Act”; 30
 - (b) in paragraph (b), the words “(read with paragraph 7)” are repealed.
- (3) For subsection (2) there is substituted –
- “(2) A Boundary Commission shall submit reports under subsection (1) above periodically –
- (a) before 1st October 2013, and 35
 - (b) before 1st October of every fifth year after that.”
- (4) After subsection (2A) there is inserted –
- “(2B) In relation to any report which a Boundary Commission are required by subsection (2) above to submit before a particular date but have not yet submitted (a “pending boundary report”), the Commission shall submit to the Speaker of the House of Commons – 40

- (a) during the January that begins one year and nine months before that date, and
- (b) during each subsequent January,
- a report setting out what progress they have made with the preparation of the pending boundary report, with particular reference to the requirement in subsection (2) above. 5
- (2C) On receiving a report under subsection (2B) above, the Speaker shall lay it before Parliament.”
- (5) Subsection (3) is repealed.
- (6) For subsection (5) there is substituted – 10
- “(5) As soon as may be after the submission of a report under subsection (1) above, the Secretary of State shall lay the report before Parliament.
- (5A) As soon as may be after the submission of all four reports under subsection (1) above that are required by subsection (2) above to be submitted before a particular date, the Secretary of State shall lay before Parliament the draft of an Order in Council for giving effect, with or without modifications, to the recommendations contained in them. 15
- (5B) Subsection (5A) above does not apply where each of the reports states that no alteration is required to be made in respect of the part of the United Kingdom with which the Commission in question are concerned.” 20
- (7) Subsections (7) and (8) are repealed.

9 Number and distribution of seats

- (1) For Schedule 2 to the 1986 Act there is substituted –
- “SCHEDULE 2 Section 3 25
- RULES FOR DISTRIBUTION OF SEATS
- Number of constituencies*
- 1 The number of constituencies in the United Kingdom shall be 600.
- Electorate per constituency*
- 2 (1) The electorate of any constituency shall be – 30
- (a) no less than 95% of the United Kingdom electoral quota, and
- (b) no more than 105% of that quota.
- (2) This rule is subject to rules 4(2), 6(2) and 7.
- (3) In this Schedule the “United Kingdom electoral quota” means –
- $\frac{U}{598}$ 35
- where U is the electorate of the United Kingdom minus the electorate of the constituencies mentioned in rule 6.

Allocation of constituencies to parts of the United Kingdom

- 3 (1) Each constituency shall be wholly in one of the four parts of the United Kingdom (England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland).
- (2) The number of constituencies in each part of the United Kingdom shall be determined in accordance with the allocation method set out in rule 8. 5

Area of constituencies

- 4 (1) A constituency shall not have an area of more than 13,000 square kilometres.
- (2) A constituency does not have to comply with rule 2(1)(a) if— 10
- (a) it has an area of more than 12,000 square kilometres, and
 - (b) the Boundary Commission concerned are satisfied that it is not reasonably possible for the constituency to comply with that rule.

Factors 15

- 5 (1) A Boundary Commission may take into account, if and to such extent as they think fit—
- (a) special geographical considerations, including in particular the size, shape and accessibility of a constituency;
 - (b) local government boundaries as they exist on the most recent ordinary council-election day before the review date; 20
 - (c) any local ties that would be broken by changes in constituencies;
 - (d) the inconveniences attendant on such changes.
- (2) The Boundary Commission for England may take into account, if and to such extent as they think fit, boundaries of the electoral regions specified in Schedule 1 to the European Parliamentary Elections Act 2002 (ignoring paragraph 2(2) of that Schedule and the references to Gibraltar) as it has effect on the most recent ordinary council-election day before the review date. 25
- (3) This rule has effect subject to rules 2 and 4. 30

Preserved constituencies

- 6 (1) There shall continue to be—
- (a) a constituency named Orkney and Shetland, comprising the areas of the Orkney Islands Council and the Shetland Islands Council; 35
 - (b) a constituency named Na h-Eileanan an Iar, comprising the area of Comhairle nan Eilean Siar.
- (2) Rule 2 does not apply to these constituencies.

Northern Ireland

- 7 (1) In relation to Northern Ireland, sub-paragraph (2) below applies in place of rule 2 where—
- (a) the difference between—
 - (i) the electorate of Northern Ireland, and 5
 - (ii) the United Kingdom electoral quota multiplied by the number of seats in Northern Ireland (determined under rule 8),exceeds one third of the United Kingdom electoral quota, and
 - (b) the Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland consider that having to apply rule 2 would unreasonably impair— 10
 - (i) their ability to take into account the factors set out in rule 5(1), or
 - (ii) their ability to comply with section 3(2) of this Act.
- (2) The electorate of any constituency shall be— 15
- (a) no less than whichever is the lesser of—
 - $N - A$
 - and 95% of the United Kingdom electoral quota, and
 - (b) no more than whichever is the greater of— 20
 - $N + A$
 - and 105% of the United Kingdom electoral quota,
- where—
- N is the electorate of Northern Ireland divided by the number of seats in Northern Ireland (determined under rule 8), and
 - A is 5% of the United Kingdom electoral quota. 25

The allocation method

- 8 (1) The allocation method referred to in rule 3(2) is as follows.
- (2) The first constituency shall be allocated to the part of the United Kingdom with the greatest electorate.
 - (3) The second and subsequent constituencies shall be allocated in the same way, except that the electorate of a part of the United Kingdom to which one or more constituencies have already been allocated is to be divided by— 30
 - $2C + 1$
- where C is the number of constituencies already allocated to that part. 35
- (4) This rule does not apply to the constituencies mentioned in rule 6, and accordingly the electorate of Scotland shall be treated for the purposes of this rule as reduced by the electorate of those constituencies. 40

Interpretation

- 9 (1) This rule has effect for the purposes of this Schedule.

- (2) The “electorate” of the United Kingdom, or of a part of the United Kingdom or a constituency, is the total number of persons whose names appear on a register of parliamentary electors in force on the review date under the Representation of the People Acts in respect of addresses in the United Kingdom, or in that part or that constituency. 5
- (3) “Local government boundaries” are—
- (a) in England, the boundaries of counties and London boroughs,
 - (b) in Wales, the boundaries of counties and county boroughs, 10
 - (c) in Scotland, the boundaries of the areas of councils constituted under section 2 of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994, and
 - (d) in Northern Ireland, the boundaries of wards.
- (4) “Ordinary council-election day” is— 15
- (a) in relation to England and Wales, the ordinary day of election of councillors for local government areas;
 - (b) in relation to Scotland, the day on which the poll is held at ordinary elections of councillors for local government areas;
 - (c) in relation to Northern Ireland, the day of an election for any district council (other than an election to fill a casual vacancy). 20
- (5) The “review date”, in relation to a report under section 3(1) of this Act that a Boundary Commission is required (by section 3(2)) to submit before a particular date, is two years and ten months before that date. 25
- (6) “The United Kingdom electoral quota” has the meaning given by rule 2(3).
- (7) A reference in rule 6 to an area is to the area as it existed on the coming into force of Part 2 of the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010.” 30
- (2) In the Schedule substituted by subsection (1), rule 5(1)(d) does not apply in relation to a report under section 3(1) of the 1986 Act that a Boundary Commission is required, by subsection (2) of section 3 of that Act as substituted by section 8(3) above, to submit before 1 October 2013. 35

10 Boundary Commission proposals: publicity and consultation

- (1) For section 5 of the 1986 Act (notices) there is substituted—
- “5 Publicity and consultation**
- (1) Where a Boundary Commission have provisionally determined to make recommendations affecting any constituency, they shall take such steps as they see fit to inform people in the constituency—
- (a) of the effect of the proposed recommendations and (except in a case where they propose to recommend that no alteration be made in respect of the constituency) that a copy of the recommendations is open to inspection at a specified place within the constituency, and 40
- 45

- (b) that representations with respect to the proposed recommendations may be made to the Commission during a specified period of 12 weeks;
and the Commission shall take into consideration any such representations duly made. 5
- (2) A Boundary Commission may not cause a public inquiry to be held for the purposes of a report under this Act.
- (3) Where a Boundary Commission revise any proposed recommendations after publicising them under subsection (1) above – 10
- (a) that subsection also applies to the revised proposals, but
- (b) it does not apply to any proposals revised a second time.”
- (2) Section 6 of the 1986 Act (local inquiries) is repealed.

11 National Assembly for Wales

- (1) In section 2 of the Government of Wales Act 2006 (Assembly constituencies and electoral regions), for subsection (1) there is substituted – 15
- “(1) The Assembly constituencies are the constituencies specified in the Parliamentary Constituencies and Assembly Electoral Regions (Wales) Order 2006 (S.I. 2006/1041) as amended by –
- (a) the Parliamentary Constituencies and Assembly Electoral Regions (Wales) (Amendment) Order 2008 (S.I. 2008/1791), and 20
- (b) any Order in Council under the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 giving effect (with or without modifications) to a report falling within section 11(3) or (4) of the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010.”
- (2) The following provisions of the Government of Wales Act 2006 are repealed – 25
- (a) section 2(5) and (6);
- (b) Schedule 1;
- (c) paragraph 1 of Schedule 11.
- (3) Subsection (5) applies where –
- (a) the Boundary Commission for Wales have informed the Secretary of State in accordance with section 5(1) of the 1986 Act of their intention to consider making a report under section 3(3) of that Act, 30
- (b) at the time when Part 2 of this Act comes into force the report has not been delivered to the Secretary of State, and
- (c) the Commission give notice in writing to the Secretary of State that they intend to proceed with the report. 35
- (4) Subsection (5) also applies where, at the time when Part 2 of this Act comes into force –
- (a) a report by the Boundary Commission for Wales under section 3(3) of the 1986 Act has been submitted to the Secretary of State, but 40
- (b) no Order in Council under that Act has yet been made for giving effect to it.
- (5) In relation to the report mentioned in subsection (3) or (4) –

- (a) for the purposes of Part 1 of the Government of Wales Act 2006 (National Assembly for Wales), the 1986 Act has effect without the amendments made by this Act;
 - (b) that Part has effect without the amendments made by subsection (2).
- (6) The 1986 Act, as it applies in accordance with subsection (5)(a) above, has effect as if— 5
- (a) subsections (1) to (2A) of section 3 were omitted, and
 - (b) the following subsection were substituted for subsection (6) of section 4—
- “(6) The coming into force of any such Order shall not affect the operation of section 10 or 11 of the Government of Wales Act 2006, or the constitution of the National Assembly for Wales, at any time before the next general election to the Assembly.” 10
- (7) Schedule 1 to the Government of Wales Act 2006, as it applies in accordance with subsection (5)(b) above, has effect as if— 15
- (a) the word “parliamentary” were omitted from paragraph 2(1), and
 - (b) paragraph 10 were omitted.

PART 3

MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL 20

12 Orders

A power under this Act to make an order is exercisable by statutory instrument.

13 Repeals

Schedule 7 (repeals) has effect. 25

14 Financial provisions

- (1) *There is to be paid out of money provided by Parliament any increase attributable to this Act in the sums payable under any other Act out of money so provided.*
- (2) *There is to be charged on and paid out of the Consolidated Fund any increase attributable to this Act in the sums to be charged on and paid out of that Fund under any other Act.* 30
- (3) *There is to be paid into the Consolidated Fund any increase attributable to this Act in the sums payable into that Fund under any other Act.*

15 Extent

This Act extends to the whole of the United Kingdom, except that— 35

- (a) Part 1 of Schedule 3 extends only to England and Wales and Scotland;
- (b) Part 2 of that Schedule extends only to Northern Ireland;
- (c) an amendment or repeal made by this Act has the same extent as the provision amended or repealed.

16 Commencement

- (1) Section 7, Schedule 6 and Part 1 of Schedule 7 come into force in accordance with provision made by an order under section 6(1).
- (2) The other provisions of this Act come into force on the day on which this Act is passed.

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17 Short title

This Act may be cited as the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010.

SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 1

Section 1

FURTHER PROVISIONS ABOUT THE REFERENDUM

Referendum period

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | For the purposes of Part 7 of the 2000 Act the referendum period for the referendum – | 5 |
| | (a) begins with the day on which this Act is passed, and | |
| | (b) ends with the date of the poll. | |

Regional Counting Officers

- | | | |
|---|---|----|
| 2 | (1) The Chief Counting Officer may appoint a Regional Counting Officer for any region in Great Britain. | 10 |
| | (2) For the purposes of this paragraph the regions are – | |
| | East Midlands; | |
| | Eastern; | |
| | London; | 15 |
| | North East; | |
| | North West; | |
| | South East; | |
| | South West; | |
| | West Midlands; | 20 |
| | Yorkshire and the Humber; | |
| | Scotland; | |
| | Wales. | |
| | The regions in England comprise the areas specified in the Table in Schedule 1 to the European Parliamentary Elections Act 2002 (ignoring paragraph 2(2) of that Schedule and the references to Gibraltar) as it has effect for the time being. | 25 |
| | (3) In the case of a region for which a Regional Counting Officer is appointed – | |
| | (a) the Chief Counting Officer may require the Regional Counting Officer to appoint counting officers for voting areas in the region; | 30 |
| | (b) the local authority in the case of each such area must place the services of their officers at the disposal of the Regional Counting Officer for the purpose of assisting the officer in the discharge of his or her functions. | |
| | In paragraph (b) “the local authority” has the same meaning as in section 128 of the 2000 Act. | 35 |

- (4) To the extent that counting officers are appointed by virtue of sub-paragraph (3)(a), the duty of the Chief Counting Officer under section 128(3) of the 2000 Act is discharged.
- (5) The duty imposed by sub-paragraph (3)(b) applies in addition to that imposed by section 128(4) of the 2000 Act. 5

General duties of counting officers etc

- 3 (1) The Chief Counting Officer, Regional Counting Officers and counting officers must do whatever things are necessary for conducting the referendum in the manner provided by this Part.
- (2) The counting officer for a voting area is responsible, as regards that area, for – 10
 - (a) the conduct of the poll,
 - (b) (subject to sub-paragraph (3)) the printing of the ballot papers,
 - (c) the issue and receipt of postal ballot papers for persons entitled to vote on their own behalf in the referendum and for their proxies, 15
 - (d) the verification of the statements made under rule 37(6) of the referendum rules (ballot paper accounts), and
 - (e) the counting of the votes cast.
- (3) Responsibility for the printing of the ballot papers for a voting area may be taken – 20
 - (a) by the Chief Counting Officer;
 - (b) in the case of a voting area in a region for which a Regional Counting Officer is appointed, by the Chief Counting Officer or the Regional Counting Officer.

The Chief Counting Officer or Regional Counting Officer may direct the counting officer concerned accordingly. 25
- (4) In the case of a region for which a Regional Counting Officer is appointed, the officer must certify as regards the votes cast in the region – 30
 - (a) the total number of ballot papers counted, and
 - (b) the total number of votes cast in favour of each answer to the question asked in the referendum.

Where two or more forms of ballot paper are used in the referendum, a separate number must be certified under paragraph (a) in relation to each form of ballot paper used.
- (5) The Chief Counting Officer may give Regional Counting Officers or counting officers – 35
 - (a) directions about the discharge of their functions;
 - (b) directions requiring them to provide the Chief Counting Officer with information that they have or are entitled to have.
- (6) A Regional Counting Officer for a region may give counting officers for voting areas within that region – 40
 - (a) directions about the discharge of their functions;
 - (b) directions requiring them to provide the Regional Counting Officer with information that they have or are entitled to have.
- (7) A power under this paragraph of a Regional Counting Officer to give a direction to a counting officer is exercisable only in accordance with a 45

specific or general authorisation or direction given by the Chief Counting Officer.

(8) A person to whom a direction is given under this paragraph must comply with it.

(9) This paragraph applies in addition to section 128 of the 2000 Act (Chief Counting Officers, and counting officers, for referendums). 5

Appointment of deputies and clerks

4 (1) The Chief Counting Officer or a Regional Counting Officer or counting officer may appoint deputies to carry out any or all of the officer's functions.

(2) An appointment under sub-paragraph (1) must be in writing. 10

(3) A Regional Counting Officer may appoint however many clerks are necessary to assist in carrying out the officer's functions.

Counting officers etc: correction of procedural errors

5 (1) A Regional Counting Officer or counting officer may take whatever steps the officer thinks appropriate to remedy any act or omission on the part of the officer or a relevant person that – 15

(a) arises in connection with any function that the officer or relevant person has in relation to the referendum, and

(b) is not in accordance with the referendum rules or any other requirements applicable to the referendum. 20

(2) But a counting officer may not under this paragraph conduct a re-count of the votes once a direction has been given under rule 42(3)(b) of the referendum rules.

(3) The relevant persons are –

(a) a registration officer appointed under section 8 of the 1983 Act; 25

(b) a presiding officer appointed under rule 13 of the referendum rules;

(c) a clerk of, or a person providing goods or services to, the Regional Counting Officer or the counting officer;

(d) a deputy or assistant of –

(i) the Regional Counting Officer or the counting officer, or 30

(ii) a person mentioned in paragraph (a), (b) or (c).

(4) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (3)(d) a person ("A") is an assistant of another person ("P") if –

(a) A is appointed to assist P, or

(b) in the course of employment A is assisting P, 35

in connection with any function in relation to the referendum.

Public notices

6 A public notice required by this Part to be given by the Chief Counting Officer, a Regional Officer or a counting officer must be given –

(a) by posting the notice in some conspicuous place in the area or region for which the officer acts, or 40

- (b) in whatever other manner the officer thinks desirable for publicising it.

Role of Electoral Commission

- 7 The Electoral Commission must take whatever steps they think appropriate to promote public awareness about the referendum and how to vote in it. 5

Encouraging participation

- 8 (1) The Chief Counting Officer must take whatever steps the officer thinks appropriate to encourage participation in the referendum.
- (2) An officer to whom sub-paragraph (3) applies must take whatever steps the officer thinks appropriate to encourage participation in the referendum in the area or region for which the officer acts. 10
- (3) This sub-paragraph applies to –
- (a) a Regional Counting Officer;
 - (b) a counting officer;
 - (c) a registration officer appointed under section 8 of the 1983 Act. 15
- (4) In discharging the duty imposed by sub-paragraph (1) or (2) an officer must have regard to any guidance issued by the Electoral Commission.
- (5) *The Minister may reimburse any expenditure incurred by an officer for the purposes of sub-paragraph (1) or (2).*

Referendum agents 20

- 9 A permitted participant may, for any voting area, appoint an individual (who may be the responsible person) to act as the permitted participant’s agent (“referendum agent”).
- 10 (1) This paragraph applies if a permitted participant appoints a referendum agent for a voting area. 25
- (2) The responsible person must give the counting officer for the area notification of the name and home or business address of –
- (a) the permitted participant, and
 - (b) the referendum agent.
- (3) The notification must be given before noon on the 16th day before the date of the poll, disregarding for this purpose – 30
- (a) Saturdays and Sundays,
 - (b) Good Friday and any other day that is a bank holiday under the Banking and Financial Dealings Act 1971 in any part of the United Kingdom, and 35
 - (c) any day appointed as a day of public thanksgiving or mourning.
- (4) The notification must be in writing and signed by the responsible person.
- (5) The duties imposed on a responsible person by this paragraph may be discharged by any person authorised in writing by the responsible person.
- 11 (1) This paragraph applies if a counting officer is notified under paragraph 10 that a permitted participant has appointed a referendum agent. 40

-
- (2) The counting officer must as soon as practicable give public notice of –
- (a) the name and address of the referendum agent, and
 - (b) the name of the permitted participant.
- 12 (1) This paragraph applies if –
- (a) a permitted participant revokes the appointment of a referendum agent or a referendum agent dies, and 5
 - (b) the referendum agent has notified the counting officer of the appointment of a polling or counting agent under rule 17 of the referendum rules.
- (2) The permitted participant must as soon as possible appoint another agent under paragraph 9. 10
- (3) The notification under paragraph 10 must be made as soon as possible after the appointment of the new referendum agent (rather than before noon on the 16th day before the date of the poll).
- Responsible persons* 15
- 13 (1) A person who is the responsible person for a permitted participant may not give a notification under section 106(3) of the 2000 Act (notification given to become a permitted participant).
- (2) An individual who is a permitted participant ceases to be a permitted participant if he or she is the treasurer of a registered party (other than a minor party) that becomes a permitted participant. 20
- (3) A declaration made or notification given by a body does not comply with the requirement in subsection (2)(b) or (4)(b)(ii) of section 106 of the 2000 Act (to state the name of the person who will be responsible for compliance) if the person whose name is stated – 25
- (a) is already the responsible person for a permitted participant,
 - (b) is an individual who gives a notification under subsection (3) of that section at the same time, or
 - (c) is the person whose name is stated, in purported compliance with the requirement in subsection (2)(b) or (4)(b)(ii) of that section, in a notification given at the same time by another body. 30
- (4) Where a registered party (other than a minor party) makes a declaration under section 106 of the 2000 Act and the treasurer of the party (“T”) is already the responsible person for a permitted participant (“P”) – 35
- (a) T ceases to be the responsible person for P at the end of the period of 14 days beginning with the day on which (by reason of the declaration) T becomes the responsible person for the party;
 - (b) P must, before the end of that period, give a notice of alteration under section 106(5) of the 2000 Act stating the name of the person who is to replace T as the responsible person for P. 40
- (5) In sub-paragraphs (3) and (4) “the person”, in relation to a body other than a minor party, is to be read as “the person or officer”.
- (6) In this paragraph “registered party” and “minor party” have the meaning given in section 160(1) of the 2000 Act.

Grants to designated organisations may be paid in instalments

- 14 (1) This paragraph applies to a grant under subsection (2) of section 110 of the 2000 Act (assistance available to designated organisations) made in respect of the referendum.
- (2) The grant may be paid in whatever instalments the Electoral Commission consider appropriate. 5
- (3) Instalments may be withheld if the Commission are satisfied that the designated organisation concerned has failed to comply with a condition imposed under section 110(3) of the 2000 Act.
- (4) Section 110(2) of the 2000 Act, in so far as it requires the grant to be of the same amount in the case of each designated organisation, has effect in relation to the referendum subject to sub-paragraph (3). 10

Expenses incurred by persons acting in concert

- 15 (1) This paragraph applies where –
- (a) referendum expenses are incurred by or on behalf of an individual or body during the referendum period for the referendum, and 15
- (b) those expenses are incurred in pursuance of a plan or other arrangement by which referendum expenses are to be incurred by or on behalf of –
- (i) that individual or body, and 20
- (ii) one or more other individuals or bodies, respectively with a view to, or otherwise in connection with, promoting or procuring a particular outcome in relation to the question asked in the referendum.
- (2) The expenses mentioned in sub-paragraph (1)(a) are to be treated for the purposes of the provisions of the 2000 Act set out in sub-paragraph (3) as having also been incurred, during the referendum period, by or on behalf of the other individual or body (or, as the case may be, each of the other individuals or bodies) mentioned in sub-paragraph (1)(b)(ii). 25
- (3) The provisions are – 30
- (a) section 117;
- (b) section 118 and Schedule 14;
- (c) sections 120 to 123.
- (4) This paragraph applies whether or not any of the individuals or bodies in question is a permitted participant. 35
- (5) But this paragraph does not treat any expenses incurred by or on behalf of a permitted participant that is designated in respect of the referendum by the Electoral Commission under section 108 of the 2000 Act (designation of organisations to whom assistance is available) as having been incurred by or on behalf of any other individual or body. 40
- (6) Subsections (5) and (6) of section 117 of the 2000 Act (certain expenditure incurred before the referendum period treated as incurred during that period) apply for the purposes of this paragraph as they apply for the purposes of that section.

Advertisements

- 16 (1) The Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) Regulations 1992 (S.I. 1992/666) apply in relation to the display on any site in Wales of an advertisement relating specifically to the referendum as they apply in relation to the display of an advertisement relating specifically to a pending parliamentary election. 5
- (2) The Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) (Scotland) Regulations 1984 (S.I. 1984/467) apply in relation to the display on any site in Scotland of an advertisement relating specifically to the referendum as they apply in relation to the display of an advertisement relating specifically to a pending parliamentary election. 10
- (3) The Planning (Control of Advertisements) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1992 (S.R. 1992/448) apply in relation to the display on any site in Northern Ireland of an advertisement relating specifically to the referendum as they apply in relation to the display of an advertisement relating specifically to a pending parliamentary election. 15

Non-domestic rating: premises used for referendum purposes

- 17 (1) Section 65(6) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (occupation for election meetings and polls) has effect as if—
- (a) the reference to public meetings in furtherance of a person’s candidature at an election included a reference to public meetings to promote or procure a particular outcome in relation to the question asked in the referendum, and 20
- (b) the reference to use by a returning officer for the purpose of taking the poll in an election included a reference to use by a counting officer for the purposes of taking the poll in the referendum. 25
- (2) Section 98 of the 1983 Act and rule 22(3) in Schedule 1 to that Act (which make equivalent provision, applying in Scotland and Northern Ireland) have effect as if—
- (a) the reference in section 98 to public meetings in furtherance of a person’s candidature at an election included a reference to public meetings to promote or procure a particular outcome in relation to the question asked in the referendum, and 30
- (b) the reference in rule 22(3) to use for the purpose of taking the poll in an election included a reference to use by a counting officer for the purposes of taking the poll in the referendum. 35

Payments to counting officers and Regional Counting Officers

- 18 (1) A counting officer or Regional Counting Officer is entitled to recover his or her charges in respect of services rendered, or expenses incurred, for or in connection with the referendum if— 40
- (a) the services were necessarily rendered, or the expenses were necessarily incurred, for the efficient and effective conduct of the referendum, and
- (b) the total of the officer’s charges does not exceed the amount (“the overall maximum recoverable amount”) specified in, or determined in accordance with, an order made by the Minister, with the consent of the Treasury, for the purposes of this sub-paragraph. 45

- (2) An order under sub-paragraph (1) may specify, or make provision for determining in accordance with the order, a maximum recoverable amount for services or expenses of a specified description –
- (a) for counting officers;
 - (b) for Regional Counting Officers.
- 5
- Subject to sub-paragraph (3), an officer may not recover more than the specified amount in respect of such services or expenses.
- (3) In a particular case the Electoral Commission may, with the consent of the Treasury, authorise the payment of –
- (a) more than the overall maximum recoverable amount, or
 - (b) more than the specified maximum recoverable amount for any specified services or expenses,
- 10
- if the Commission are satisfied that the conditions in sub-paragraph (4) are met.
- (4) The conditions are –
- (a) that it was reasonable for the officer concerned to render the services or incur the expenses, and
 - (b) that the charges in question are reasonable.
- 15
- (5) The Electoral Commission must pay the amount of any charges recoverable in accordance with this paragraph on an account being submitted to them. But if the Commission think fit they may, before payment, apply for the account to be taxed under paragraph 19.
- 20
- (6) Where the superannuation contributions required to be paid by a local authority in respect of a person are increased by a fee paid under this paragraph as part of the charges of a counting officer or Regional Counting Officer at the referendum, then on an account being submitted to them the Electoral Commission must pay to the authority a sum equal to the increase.
- 25
- (7) At the request of a counting officer or Regional Counting Officer, the Electoral Commission may make an advance on account of the officer's charges on such terms as they think fit.
- 30
- (8) The Electoral Commission may by regulations make provision as to the time when and the manner and form in which accounts are to be rendered to the Commission for the purposes of the payment of the charges of a counting officer or Regional Counting Officer.
- (9) An order or regulations under this paragraph may make different provision for different cases.
- 35
- (10) *Any sums required by the Electoral Commission for making payments under this paragraph are to be charged on and paid out of the Consolidated Fund.*

Taxation of counting officer's or Regional Counting Officer's account

- 19 (1) An application for the account of a counting officer or Regional Counting Officer to be taxed must be made –
- (a) except where paragraph (b) applies, to a county court;
 - (b) where the officer is one who was appointed for an area in Scotland, or for the region of Scotland, to the Auditor of the Court of Session.
- 40
- A reference in this paragraph to “the court” includes a reference to that Auditor.
- 45

- (2) On any such application the court has jurisdiction to tax the account in whatever manner and at whatever time and place the court thinks fit, and finally to determine the amount payable to the officer.
- (3) Where an application is made for the account of a counting officer or Regional Counting Officer to be taxed, the officer may apply to the court for it to examine any claim made by any person (“the claimant”) against the officer in respect of matters charged in the account. 5
- (4) On an application under sub-paragraph (3), after the claimant has been given notice and an opportunity to be heard and to tender any evidence, the court may allow, disallow or reduce the claim, with or without costs. 10
The court’s determination of the claim is final for all purposes and as against all persons.
- (5) An application under sub-paragraph (1) for taxation of the account of the Chief Electoral Officer for Northern Ireland must be made to the county court that has jurisdiction at the place where the officer certified the number of ballot papers counted and votes cast. 15

Electoral Commission accounts

- 20 (1) If directed to do so by the Treasury, the Electoral Commission must prepare accounts in respect of their expenditure in relation to the referendum.
- (2) Accounts under this paragraph must be prepared in accordance with directions given to the Commission by the Treasury. 20
- (3) Directions under sub-paragraph (2) may include, in particular, directions as to –
- (a) the information to be contained in the accounts and the manner in which it is to be presented, 25
 - (b) the methods and principles in accordance with which the accounts are to be prepared, and
 - (c) the additional information (if any) that is to accompany the accounts.
- (4) Accounts under this paragraph must be submitted by the Commission to –
- (a) the Comptroller and Auditor General, and 30
 - (b) the Speaker’s Committee,
- as soon may be practicable after the giving of the direction under sub-paragraph (1).

Restriction on challenge to referendum result

- 21 (1) No court may entertain any proceedings for questioning the number of ballot papers counted or votes cast in the referendum as certified by the Chief Counting Officer or a Regional Counting Officer or counting officer unless –
- (a) the proceedings are brought by a claim for judicial review, and
 - (b) the claim form is filed before the end of the permitted period. 40
- (2) In sub-paragraph (1) “the permitted period” means the period of 6 weeks beginning with –
- (a) the day on which the officer in question gives a certificate as to the number of ballot papers counted and votes cast in the referendum, or

- (b) if the officer gives more than one such certificate, the day on which the last is given.
- (3) In the application of this paragraph to Scotland, sub-paragraph (1) has effect—
 - (a) with the substitution in paragraph (a) of “a petition” for “a claim”; 5
 - (b) with the substitution in paragraph (b) of “the petition is lodged” for “the claim form is filed”.
- (4) In the application of this paragraph to Northern Ireland, sub-paragraph (1) has effect—
 - (a) with the substitution in paragraph (a) of “an application” for “a claim”; 10
 - (b) with the substitution in paragraph (b) of “the application for leave to apply for judicial review is lodged” for “the claim form is filed”.

SCHEDULE 2

Section 3

RULES FOR CONDUCT OF THE REFERENDUM 15

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PART 1 30

REFERENDUM RULES

TIME

Timetable

1	The proceedings at the referendum are to be conducted in accordance with the following table.	35
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<i>Proceeding</i>	<i>Time</i>	
Publication of notice of referendum	Not later than the 25th day before the day of the referendum	
Notice of poll	Not later than the 16th day before the day of the referendum	5
Hours of polling	Between 7 am and 10 pm on the day of the referendum	
<i>Computation of time</i>		10
2	(1) In calculating any period of time (other than a year) for the purposes of these rules the following are to be disregarded –	
	(a) Saturdays and Sundays,	
	(b) Good Friday and any other day that is a bank holiday under the Banking and Financial Dealings Act 1971 in any part of the United Kingdom, and	15
	(c) any day appointed as a day of public thanksgiving or mourning.	
	(2) In relation to proceedings adjourned by a presiding officer under rule 36 (riot or open violence), the reference in paragraph (1)(b) to a day that is a bank holiday in any part of the United Kingdom is to be read as a reference to a day that is a bank holiday in the part of the United Kingdom where the proceedings are adjourned.	20

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Notice of referendum

3	Each counting officer must give public notice of the referendum stating –	25
	(a) the date of the poll;	
	(b) the date by which –	
	(i) applications to vote by post or by proxy, and	
	(ii) other applications and notices about postal or proxy voting, must reach the registration officer in order that they may be effective for the referendum.	30

Poll to be taken by ballot

4	The votes at the poll are to be given by ballot.	
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The ballot paper

5	(1) The ballot of every voter is to consist of a ballot paper, which is to be printed in the form set out in Form 1 in Part 2 of this Schedule and according to the directions specified in that Part.	35
	(2) Each ballot paper –	
	(a) must set out the question as specified in section 1;	

- (b) must be capable of being folded up;
- (c) must have a number and other unique identifying mark printed on the back.

Corresponding number list

- 6 (1) The counting officer must prepare a list containing the numbers and other unique identifying marks of all of the ballot papers to be – 5
- (a) issued by the officer in pursuance of rule 11(1), or
 - (b) provided by the officer in pursuance of rule 16(1).
- (2) The list must be in the form set out in Form 2 in Part 2 of this Schedule.

The official mark 10

- 7 (1) Every ballot paper must contain an appropriate security marking (the official mark).
- (2) The official mark must be kept secret.
- (3) The counting officer may use a different official mark for different purposes.

Prohibition of disclosure of vote 15

- 8 A person who has voted in the referendum may not be required, in any legal proceeding to question the referendum, to state for which answer he or she voted.

Use of schools and public rooms

- 9 (1) The counting officer may use, free of charge, for the purpose of taking the poll – 20
- (a) a room in a school within paragraph (3);
 - (b) a room the expense of maintaining which is met by any local authority (in England and Wales or Scotland) or is payable out of any rate (in Northern Ireland). 25
- (2) The counting officer must –
- (a) make good any damage done to any such room, and
 - (b) defray any expense incurred by the persons having control over any such room,
- by reason of its being used for that purpose. 30
- (3) The schools within this paragraph are –
- (a) in England and Wales –
- (i) a school maintained or assisted by a local education authority;
 - (ii) a school in respect of which grants are made out of moneys provided by Parliament to the person or body of persons responsible for the management of the school; 35
- (b) in Scotland, a school that is not an independent school within the meaning of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980;
 - (c) in Northern Ireland, a school in receipt of a grant out of moneys appropriated by Measure of the Northern Ireland Assembly, other than a school that – 40

- (i) adjoins or is adjacent to a church or other place of worship, or
- (ii) is connected with a nunnery or other religious establishment.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN BEFORE THE POLL

Notice of poll

- | | | |
|----|--|----|
| 10 | (1) The counting officer must give public notice of the poll stating— | 5 |
| | (a) the day and hours fixed for the poll; | |
| | (b) the question that is to appear on the ballot paper. | |
| | (2) The notice of the poll must be published not later than the 16th day before the day of the referendum. | |
| | (3) No later than the time of the publication of the notice of the poll, the counting officer must also give public notice of— | 10 |
| | (a) the situation of each polling station; | |
| | (b) the description of voters entitled to vote there. | |
| | (4) As soon as practicable after giving the notice under paragraph (3), the counting officer must give a copy of it to each of the referendum agents appointed for the officer’s area. | 15 |

Postal ballot papers

- | | | |
|----|--|----|
| 11 | (1) The counting officer must, in accordance with the relevant regulations, issue to those entitled to vote by post— | |
| | (a) a ballot paper, | 20 |
| | (b) in the case of those entitled to vote in England and Wales or Scotland, a postal voting statement in the form set out in Form 3 in Part 2 of this Schedule, and | |
| | (c) in the case of those entitled to vote in Northern Ireland, a declaration of identity in the form set out in Form 4 in Part 2 of this Schedule, | 25 |
| | together with envelopes for their return complying with the requirements prescribed by the relevant regulations. | |
| | (2) The counting officer must also issue to those entitled to vote by post whatever information the officer thinks appropriate about how to obtain— | |
| | (a) translations into languages other than English of any directions to, or guidance for, voters sent with the ballot paper; | 30 |
| | (b) a translation into Braille of those directions or guidance; | |
| | (c) graphical representations of those directions or guidance; | |
| | (d) those directions or guidance in any other form (including any audible form). | 35 |
| | (3) In the case of a ballot paper issued to a person resident in the United Kingdom, the counting officer must ensure that the return of the ballot paper and postal voting statement or declaration of identity is free of charge to the voter. | |

Provision of polling stations

- 12 (1) The counting officer must provide a sufficient number of polling stations and, subject to the following provisions of this rule, must allot the electors to the polling stations in whatever manner the officer thinks most convenient.
- (2) One or more polling stations may be provided in the same room. 5
- (3) The polling station allotted to electors from any polling district must be in the polling place for that district.
- (4) The polling districts and polling places that apply for the purposes of paragraph (3) are those that would apply by virtue of – 10
- (a) sections 18A and 18B of the 1983 Act (in Great Britain), or
- (b) sections 18A(1), 18B(1) and 18E(4) of that Act (in Northern Ireland), in relation to a parliamentary election held on the day of the referendum.
- (5) The number of ballot papers counted or votes cast as certified by the Chief Counting Officer or a Regional Counting Officer or counting officer may not be questioned by reason of – 15
- (a) any non-compliance with a provision mentioned in sub-paragraph (a) or (b) of paragraph (4), or
- (b) any informality relative to polling districts or polling places.
- (6) The counting officer must provide each polling station with however many compartments are necessary in which the voters can mark their votes screened from observation. 20

Appointment of presiding officers and clerks

- 13 (1) The counting officer must appoint and pay –
- (a) a presiding officer to attend at each polling station;
- (b) however many clerks are necessary for the purposes of the referendum. 25
- But the officer may not employ a person who has been employed by or on behalf of a permitted participant in or about the referendum.
- (2) The counting officer may, if the officer thinks fit, preside at a polling station. The provisions of these rules relating to a presiding officer apply to a counting officer so presiding, with the necessary modifications as to things to be done by the counting officer to the presiding officer or by the presiding officer to the counting officer. 30
- (3) A presiding officer may do, by the clerks appointed to assist the officer, any act (including the asking of questions) which the officer is required or authorised by these rules to do at a polling station except order the arrest, exclusion or removal of a person from the polling station. 35

Issue of official poll cards

- 14 (1) The counting officer must, as soon as practicable after the publication of notice of the referendum, send to electors and their proxies an official poll card. 40
- (2) An official poll card must not be sent to a person registered, or to be registered, in pursuance of –

-
- (a) an overseas elector’s declaration, within the meaning of section 2 of the Representation of the People Act 1985 (registration of British citizens overseas), or
- (b) a declaration made by virtue of subsection (5) of section 3 of that Act (extension of franchise for European Parliamentary Elections). 5
- (3) An elector’s official poll card must be sent or delivered to his or her qualifying address, and a proxy’s to his or her address as shown in the list of proxies.
- (4) In the case of an elector who is entitled to vote in the referendum in England and Wales or Scotland – 10
- (a) an official poll card sent to the elector must be in the form set out in Form 5 in Part 2 of this Schedule;
- (b) an official postal poll card sent to the elector must be in the form set out in Form 6 in Part 2 of this Schedule;
- (c) an official poll card sent to the proxy of the elector must be in the form set out in Form 7 in Part 2 of this Schedule; 15
- (d) an official postal poll card sent to the proxy of the elector must be in the form set out in Form 8 in Part 2 of this Schedule.
- (5) In the case of an elector who is entitled to vote in the referendum in Northern Ireland – 20
- (a) an official poll card sent to the elector must be in the form set out in Form 9 in Part 2 of this Schedule;
- (b) an official postal poll card sent to the elector must be in the form set out in Form 10 in Part 2 of this Schedule;
- (c) an official poll card sent to the proxy of the elector must be in the form set out in Form 11 in Part 2 of this Schedule; 25
- (d) an official postal poll card sent to the proxy of the elector must be in the form set out in Form 12 in Part 2 of this Schedule.
- (6) An official poll card or official postal poll card may set out whatever information, in addition to that required by virtue of paragraph (4) or (5), the counting officer thinks appropriate. 30
- (7) Different information may be provided in pursuance of paragraph (6) to different electors or descriptions of elector.
- (8) In this rule –
- “qualifying address” means the address in respect of which a person is entitled to be registered on the register of electors; 35
- “elector” includes only those electors who, on the last day for publication of notice of the referendum, appear on a register to be used for the referendum.
- Notification that certain electors entitled to absent vote* 40
- 15 (1) As soon as practicable after the publication of notice of the referendum, a registration officer must –
- (a) notify those peers who are within entry 3 or 4 of the table in paragraph 5(2) or 16(2) of Schedule 3 that they are entitled to vote by post in the referendum; 45

- (b) notify those electors who are within entry 2, 3 or 4 of the table in paragraph 5(3) or 16(3) of Schedule 3 that they are entitled to vote by proxy in the referendum.
- (2) A notice given to a peer under paragraph (1)(b) must –
 - (a) in the case of a peer within entry 3 of the table, state that the peer’s entitlement to vote by proxy in the referendum arises by virtue of the peer’s inclusion in the record kept under paragraph 3 of Schedule 4 to the Representation of the People Act 2000 as voting by proxy at local government elections; 5
 - (b) in the case of a peer within entry 4 of that table, state that the peer’s entitlement to vote by proxy in the referendum arises by virtue of the peer’s inclusion in the record kept under paragraph 3 of Schedule 2 to the European Parliamentary Elections Regulations 2004 (S.I. 2004/293) or (as the case may be) regulation 8 of the European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2004 (S.I. 2008/1741) as voting by proxy. 10 15

Equipment of polling stations

- 16 (1) The counting officer must provide each presiding officer with however many ballot boxes and ballot papers the counting officer thinks are necessary. 20
- (2) Every ballot box must be constructed so that the ballot papers can be put in it, but cannot be withdrawn from it, without the box being unlocked or (in the case of a box without a lock) the seal being broken.
- (3) The counting officer must provide each polling station with –
 - (a) materials to enable voters to mark the ballot papers; 25
 - (b) copies of each register of electors used for the referendum that contains the entries relating to the electors allotted to the station (or, in the case of a register only part of which contains those entries, that part);
 - (c) the parts of any special lists prepared for the referendum corresponding to each register or part of a register provided under sub-paragraph (b); 30
 - (d) a list consisting of that part of the list prepared under rule 6 that contains the numbers (but not the other unique identifying marks) corresponding to those on the ballot papers provided to the presiding officer of the polling station. 35

The list provided under sub-paragraph (d) must be in the form set out in Form 13 in Part 2 of this Schedule.

- (4) The counting officer must also provide each polling station with –
 - (a) at least one large version of the ballot paper, which must be displayed inside the polling station for the assistance of voters who are partially sighted; 40
 - (b) a device for enabling voters who are blind or partially sighted to vote without any need for assistance from the presiding officer or any companion (within the meaning of rule 30(1)). 45
- (5) The device mentioned in paragraph (4)(b) must –

-
- (a) allow a ballot paper to be inserted into and removed from the device, or attached to and detached from it, easily and without damage to the paper;
- (b) keep the ballot paper firmly in place during use;
- (c) provide suitable means for the voter – 5
- (i) to identify the spaces on the ballot paper on which the voter may mark his or her vote,
- (ii) to identify the answer to which each such space refers, and
- (iii) to mark his or her vote on the space the voter has chosen.
- (6) A notice in the form set out in Form 14 in Part 2 of this Schedule, giving directions for the guidance of the voters in voting, must be printed in conspicuous characters and exhibited inside and outside every polling station. 10
- (7) In every compartment of every polling station there must be exhibited the notice – 15
- “Mark one box only. Put no other mark on the ballot paper, or your vote may not be counted”.
- (8) The reference in paragraph (3)(b) to the copies of a register of electors includes a reference to copies of any notices issued under section 13B(3B) or (3D) or 13BA(9) of the 1983 Act in respect of alterations to the register. 20

Appointment of polling and counting agents

- 17 (1) A referendum agent may, before the commencement of the poll, appoint –
- (a) polling agents to attend at polling stations for the purpose of detecting personation;
- (b) counting agents to attend at the counting of the votes. 25
- (2) A referendum agent may, for each count, designate one counting agent as a person authorised to require a re-count under rule 40.
A designation under this paragraph must be made at the same time as the person’s appointment as a counting agent.
- (3) In paragraph (2) above “count” includes a re-count and “re-count” includes a further re-count. 30
- (4) The counting officer may limit the number of counting agents that may be appointed, so long as –
- (a) the number that may be appointed by each referendum agent is the same, and 35
- (b) the number that may be appointed by each referendum agent is not (except in special circumstances) less than the number obtained by dividing the number of clerks employed on the counting by the number of referendum agents.
- (5) For the purposes of paragraph (4)(b), a counting agent appointed by more than one referendum agent is to be treated as a separate agent for each of them. 40
- (6) A referendum agent who appoints a polling or counting agent must give the counting officer notice of the appointment by no later than the 5th day before the day of the poll. 45

- (7) If a polling or counting agent dies, or becomes incapable of acting, the referendum agent may appoint another agent and must give the counting officer notice of the new appointment as soon as practicable.
- (8) If a referendum agent designates a counting agent under paragraph (2) the notice under paragraph (6) or (7) must include notice of that fact. 5
- (9) A notice under paragraph (6) or (7) –
(a) must be in writing, and
(b) must give the name and address of the appointee.
- (10) In the following provisions of these rules, references to polling agents and counting agents are to be read as references to polling or counting agents appointed under paragraph (1) or (7) – 10
(a) whose appointments have been duly made and notified, and
(b) where the number of agents is restricted, who are within the permitted numbers.
- (11) Any notice required to be given to a counting agent by the counting officer may be delivered at, or sent by post to, the address stated in the notice of appointment. 15
- (12) A referendum agent may do or assist in doing anything that a polling or counting agent appointed by him or her is authorised to do; and anything required or authorised by these rules to be done in the presence of the polling or counting agents may be done in the presence of a referendum agent instead of his or her polling or counting agents. 20
- (13) Where by these rules anything is required or authorised to be done in the presence of the polling or counting agents, the non-attendance of any agent or agents at the time and place appointed for the purpose does not invalidate the thing (if the thing is otherwise duly done). 25

Notification of requirement of secrecy

- 18 The counting officer must make whatever arrangements the officer thinks are appropriate to ensure that –
(a) every person attending at a polling station (otherwise than for the purpose of voting, or assisting a voter with disabilities to vote, or as a constable on duty there) has been given a copy in writing of the provisions of subsections (1), (3) and (6) of section 66 of the 1983 Act as modified by Schedule 4; 30
(b) every person attending at the counting of the votes (other than any constable on duty at the counting) has been given a copy in writing of the provisions of subsections (2) and (6) of that section as so modified. 35

Return of postal ballot papers

- 19 (1) Where – 40
(a) a postal vote has been returned in respect of a person who is entered in the postal voters list, or
(b) a proxy postal vote has been returned in respect of a proxy who is entered in the proxy postal voters list,
the counting officer must mark the list in the manner prescribed by the relevant regulations. 45

- (2) Rule 39(3) and (4) does not apply for the purpose of determining whether, for the purposes of this rule, a postal vote or a proxy postal vote is returned.

THE POLL

Admission to polling station

- 20 (1) The presiding officer must exclude from the polling station everyone except—
- (a) voters,
 - (b) persons under the age of 18 who accompany voters to the polling station,
 - (c) the Chief Counting Officer, the Regional Counting Officer (in the case of a polling station in a region for which a Regional Counting Officer is appointed) and the counting officer,
 - (d) the referendum agents,
 - (e) the polling agents appointed to attend at the polling station,
 - (f) the clerks appointed to attend at the polling station,
 - (g) persons who are entitled to attend by virtue of any of sections 6A to 6D of the 2000 Act,
 - (h) the constables on duty, and
 - (i) the companions of voters with disabilities attending at the polling station.
- (2) The presiding officer must regulate the total number of voters and persons under the age of 18 who accompany them to be admitted to the polling station at the same time.
- (3) No more than one polling agent may be admitted at the same time to a polling station on behalf of the same referendum agent.
- (4) A constable or person employed by a counting officer may be admitted to vote in person elsewhere than at the polling station allotted under these rules only on production and surrender of a certificate (in these rules referred to as a “certificate as to employment on duty on the day of the poll”) that—
- (a) confirms that the person is a constable or, as the case may be, is employed by a counting officer,
 - (b) is in the form set out in Form 15 in Part 2 of this Schedule, and
 - (c) is signed by an officer of police of or above the rank of inspector or, as the case may be, by the counting officer.
- (5) A certificate surrendered under this rule must be cancelled immediately.

Keeping of order in polling station

- 21 (1) It is the presiding officer’s duty to keep order at the officer’s polling station.
- (2) If a person engages in misconduct in a polling station or fails to obey the presiding officer’s lawful orders, the person may immediately, by the presiding officer’s order, be removed from the polling station—
- (a) by a constable in or near that station, or
 - (b) by any other person authorised in writing by the counting officer to discharge this function.

- (3) A person so removed may not, without the presiding officer’s permission, re-enter the polling station that day.
- (4) A person so removed may, if charged with the commission in the polling station of an offence, be dealt with as a person taken into custody by a constable for an offence without a warrant. 5
- (5) The powers conferred by this rule may not be exercised so as to prevent a voter who is otherwise entitled to vote at a polling station from having an opportunity to vote at that station.

Sealing of ballot boxes

- 22 (1) Immediately before the commencement of the poll, the presiding officer must show anyone present in the polling station that the ballot box is empty. 10
- (2) The presiding officer must then–
 - (a) lock the box (if it has a lock) and place his or her seal on it in a manner that prevents it from being opened without breaking the seal, and
 - (b) place the box in his or her view for the receipt of ballot papers, and keep it so locked (if it has a lock) and sealed. 15

Questions to be put to voters

- 23 (1) At the time of the application (but not afterwards), the questions specified in the second column of the table –
 - (a) may be put by the presiding officer to a person who is mentioned in the first column, and 20
 - (b) must be put if the letter “R” appears after the question and a referendum or polling agent requires the question to be put.

Person applying for ballot paper

Questions

25

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|---|----|
| 1 | A person applying as an elector | (a) “Are you the person registered in the register of electors as follows (<i>read out the whole entry from the register</i>)?” [R] | |
| | | (b) “Have you already voted in the referendum, here or elsewhere, otherwise than as proxy for some other person?” [R] | 30 |
| | | (c) In Northern Ireland, “What is your date of birth?” | 35 |

<i>Person applying for ballot paper</i>	<i>Questions</i>	
2 A person applying as proxy	(a) “Are you the person whose name appears as A B in the list of proxies for the referendum as entitled to vote as proxy on behalf of C D?” [R]	5
	(b) “Have you already voted in the referendum, here or elsewhere, as proxy on behalf of C D?” [R]	10
	(c) “Are you the spouse, civil partner, parent, grandparent, brother/sister, child or grandchild of C D?” [R]	
3 A person applying in England and Wales or Scotland as proxy for an elector with an anonymous entry (instead of the questions at entry 2)	(a) “Are you the person entitled to vote as proxy on behalf of the elector whose number on the register of electors is (<i>read out the number from the register</i>)?” [R]	15
	(b) “Have you already voted in the referendum, here or elsewhere, as proxy on behalf of the elector whose number on the register of electors is (<i>read out the number from the register</i>)?” [R]	20
	(c) “Are you the spouse, civil partner, parent, grandparent, brother/sister, child or grandchild of the person whose number on the register of electors is (<i>read out the number from the register</i>)?” [R]	25
4 Person applying as proxy if the question at entry 2(c), or 3(c) (if applicable) is not answered in the affirmative.	“Have you already voted in the referendum on behalf of two persons of whom you are not the spouse, civil partner, parent, grand-parent, brother/sister, child or grandchild?” [R]	30
		35
5 A person applying as an elector in relation to whom there is an entry in the postal voters list.	(a) “Did you apply to vote by post?”	
	(b) “Why have you not voted by post?”	40
		45

<i>Person applying for ballot paper</i>	<i>Questions</i>		
6	A person applying as proxy who is named in the proxy postal voters list	(a) “Did you apply to vote by post as proxy?” (b) “Why have you not voted by post as proxy?”	5
(2)	In the case of a voter in respect of whom a notice has been issued under section 13B(3B) or (3D) or 13BA(9) of the 1983 Act, references in the table to reading from the register are to be read as references to reading from that notice.		10
(3)	A ballot paper must not be delivered to any person required to answer any of the above questions unless the person has answered each question satisfactorily.		
(4)	Except as authorised by this rule, no inquiry is permitted as to the right of any person to vote.		15

Challenge of voter

24	A person is not to be prevented from voting by reason only that –		
	(a) a referendum or polling agent declares that there is reasonable cause to believe that the person has committed an offence of personation, or		20
	(b) the person is arrested on suspicion of committing or of being about to commit an offence of personation.		

Voting procedure

25	A ballot paper must be delivered to a voter who applies for one, subject to any provision of these rules to the contrary.		25
26	(1) In Northern Ireland a ballot paper must not be delivered to a voter unless the voter has produced a specified document to the presiding officer or a clerk.		
	(2) A clerk or presiding officer in Northern Ireland to whom a specified document is produced must not deliver a ballot paper to the voter if the clerk or officer decides that –		30
	(a) the document raises a reasonable doubt as to whether the voter is the elector or proxy he or she claims to be, or		
	(b) the apparent age of the voter as compared with the date of birth supplied in pursuance of section 10(4A)(b), 10A(1A)(b) or 13A(2A)(b) of the 1983 Act raises a reasonable doubt as to whether the voter is the elector or proxy he or she claims to be.		35
(3)	Where such a decision is made by a clerk, the clerk must refer the case to the presiding officer, who must deal with it under this rule as if the specified document had been produced to the officer in the first place. The presiding officer must deal with the case in person (and accordingly rule 13(3) does not apply).		40

-
- (4) For the purposes of this rule a specified document is one that for the time being falls within the following list –
- (a) a licence to drive a motor vehicle if the licence bears the photograph of the person to whom it is issued;
 - (b) a passport issued by the Government of the United Kingdom or by the Government of the Republic of Ireland; 5
 - (c) an electoral identity card, issued under section 13C of the 1983 Act;
 - (d) a Senior SmartPass issued under the Northern Ireland Concessionary Fares Scheme for use from 1st May 2002;
 - (e) a Blind Person’s SmartPass, issued under the Northern Ireland Concessionary Fares Scheme for use from 1st May 2002; 10
 - (f) a War Disabled SmartPass, issued under the Northern Ireland Concessionary Fares Scheme for use from 1st May 2002;
 - (g) a 60+ SmartPass issued under the Northern Ireland Concessionary Fares Scheme for use from 1st October 2008. 15
- (5) In paragraph (4)(a) “licence to drive a motor vehicle” means a licence granted under –
- (a) Part 3 of the Road Traffic Act 1972 or Part 3 of the Road Traffic Act 1988,
 - (b) the Road Traffic (Northern Ireland) Order 1981, or 20
 - (c) any corresponding enactment for the time being in force,
- and includes a Community licence within the meaning of those enactments.
- (6) References in this rule to producing a document are to producing it for inspection.
- 27 (1) This rule applies where there is a duty to deliver a ballot paper to a voter under rule 25. 25
- (2) Immediately before delivery of the ballot paper –
- (a) the number and (unless paragraph (3) applies) name of the elector as stated in the copy of the register of electors must be called out;
 - (b) the number of the elector must be marked on the list mentioned in rule 16(3)(d) beside the number of the ballot paper to be issued to the elector; 30
 - (c) a mark must be placed in the register of electors against the number of the elector to note that a ballot paper has been received but without showing the particular ballot paper which has been received; 35
 - (d) in the case of a person applying for a ballot paper as proxy, a mark must also be placed against the person’s name in the list of proxies.
- (3) An elector who has an anonymous entry must show the presiding officer his or her official poll card and only the number is to be called out in pursuance of paragraph (2)(a). 40
- (4) In the case of an elector who is added to the register in pursuance of a notice issued under section 13B(3B) or (3D) or 13BA(9) of the 1983 Act –
- (a) the reference in paragraph (2)(a) to the copy of the register of electors is to be read as a reference to the copy of the notice; 45
 - (b) the reference in paragraph (2)(c) to a mark being placed in the register of electors is to be read as a reference to a mark being made on the copy of the notice.

- 28 (1) Immediately after receiving a ballot paper the voter must –
- (a) proceed into one of the compartments in the polling station and there secretly mark the paper and fold it up so as to conceal the vote, and then
 - (b) show to the presiding officer the back of the paper, so as to disclose the number and other unique identifying mark, and put the ballot paper so folded up into the ballot box in the presiding officer’s presence. 5
- (2) The voter must vote without undue delay, and must leave the polling station as soon as he or she has put the ballot paper into the ballot box. 10

Votes marked by presiding officer

- 29 (1) This rule applies where a voter applies to the presiding officer to mark the voter’s ballot paper and the voter –
- (a) is incapacitated by blindness or other disability from voting in the manner directed by these rules, or 15
 - (b) declares orally that he or she is unable to read.
- (2) The presiding officer must, in the presence of the polling agents –
- (a) cause the voter’s vote to be marked on a ballot paper in the manner directed by the voter, and
 - (b) cause the ballot paper to be placed in the ballot box, 20
- but in Northern Ireland this is subject to paragraph (3).
- (3) In the case of a voter who makes an application in Northern Ireland under this rule, rule 26 applies as if the references to delivering a ballot paper were references to causing the voter’s vote to be marked on the ballot paper.
- (4) The name of every voter whose vote is marked in pursuance of this rule 25 must be entered on a list (in these rules called “the list of votes marked by the presiding officer”), together with –
- (a) the voter’s number on the register of electors, and
 - (b) the reason for the vote being marked in pursuance of this rule.
- (5) In the case of a person voting as proxy for an elector, the number to be 30 entered together with the voter’s name is the elector’s number.
- (6) In the case of a person in respect of whom a notice has been issued under section 13B(3B) or (3D) or 13BA(9) of the 1983 Act, the reference in paragraph (4)(a) to the voter’s number on the register of electors is to be read 35 as a reference to the number relating to the voter on the notice.

Voting by people with disabilities

- 30 (1) Paragraph (2) applies where a voter applies to the presiding officer, on the ground of blindness or other disability or inability to read, to be allowed to vote with the assistance of an accompanying person (in these rules referred to as the “companion”). 40
- (2) The presiding officer must grant the application if –
- (a) the voter makes an oral or written declaration that he or she is so incapacitated by blindness or other disability, or by an inability to read, as to be unable to vote without assistance,
 - (b) the presiding officer is satisfied that the voter is so incapacitated, and 45

- (c) the presiding officer is satisfied by a written declaration made by the companion (in these rules referred to as “the declaration made by the companion of a voter with disabilities”) that the companion –
- (i) is a person qualified to assist the voter, and
 - (ii) has not previously assisted more than one voter with disabilities to vote in the referendum, 5
- but in Northern Ireland this is subject to paragraph (3).
- (3) In the case of a voter who makes an application in Northern Ireland under this rule, rule 26 applies as if the references to delivering a ballot paper were references to granting the voter’s application. 10
- (4) For the purposes of paragraph (2)(c) a person is qualified to assist a voter with disabilities to vote if the person –
- (a) is entitled to vote as an elector in the referendum, or
 - (b) is the father, mother, brother, sister, spouse, civil partner, son or daughter of the voter and has attained the age of 18 years. 15
- (5) The declaration made by the companion –
- (a) must be in the form set out in Form 16 in Part 2 of this Schedule,
 - (b) must be made before the presiding officer at the time when the voter applies to vote with the assistance of the companion, and
 - (c) must be given immediately to the presiding officer, 20
- and the presiding officer must attest and retain the declaration.
- (6) No fee or other payment may be charged in respect of the declaration.
- (7) If the presiding officer grants an application under this rule, anything which is by these rules required to be done to or by the voter in connection with the giving of his or her vote may be done to, or with the assistance of, the companion. 25
- (8) The name of every voter whose vote is given in accordance with this rule must be entered on a list (in these rules referred to as “the list of voters with disabilities assisted by companions”) together with –
- (a) the voter’s number on the register of electors, and
 - (b) the name and address of the companion. 30
- (9) In the case of a person voting as proxy for an elector, the number to be entered together with the voter’s name is the elector’s number.
- (10) In the case of a person in respect of whom a notice has been issued under section 13B(3B) or (3D) or 13BA(9) of the 1983 Act, the reference in paragraph (8)(a) to the voter’s number on the register of electors is to be read as a reference to the number relating to the voter on the notice. 35
- (11) For the purposes of these rules a person is a voter with disabilities if the person has made a declaration under this rule.

Tendered ballot papers 40

- 31 (1) In the following cases a person is entitled to mark a ballot paper (a “tendered ballot paper”) in the same manner as any other voter if –
- (a) in cases 1 to 7, the person satisfactorily answers the questions permitted by law to be asked at the poll;

- (b) in case 8, the person satisfactorily answers the questions permitted by law to be asked at the poll other than the question at entry 1(c) in the table in rule 23.
- Rule 32 makes further provision about tendered ballot papers.
- (2) Case 1 is that— 5
- (a) a person applies for a ballot paper,
 - (b) the person claims—
 - (i) to be a particular elector named on the register, and
 - (ii) not to be named in the postal voters list or the list of proxies,and 10
 - (c) another person has already voted in person either as that elector or as proxy for that elector. 20
- (3) Case 2 is that—
- (a) a person applies for a ballot paper,
 - (b) the person claims to be— 15
 - (i) a particular person named in the list of proxies as proxy for an elector, and
 - (ii) not entitled to vote by post as proxy,and
 - (c) another person has already voted in person either as that elector or as proxy for that elector. 20
- (4) Rule 26 applies in relation to a voter in Northern Ireland who seeks to mark a tendered ballot paper in reliance on Case 1 or 2 as it applies in relation to a voter who applies for a ballot paper under rule 25.
- (5) Case 3 is that— 25
- (a) a person applies for a ballot paper,
 - (b) the person claims to be a particular elector named on the register,
 - (c) the person is also named in the postal voters list, and
 - (d) the person claims not to have made an application to vote by post.
- (6) Case 4 is that— 30
- (a) a person applies for a ballot paper,
 - (b) the person claims to be a particular person named as a proxy in the list of proxies,
 - (c) the person is also named in the proxy postal voters list, and
 - (d) the person claims not to have made an application to vote by post as proxy. 35
- (7) Case 5 is that, before the close of the poll but after the last time at which a person may apply for a replacement postal ballot paper—
- (a) a person claims to be a particular elector named on the register and also named in the postal voters list, and 40
 - (b) the person claims to have lost or not received the postal ballot paper.
- (8) Case 6 is that, before the close of the poll but after the last time at which a person may apply for a replacement postal ballot paper—
- (a) a person claims to be a particular person named as a proxy in the list of proxies and also named in the proxy postal voters list, and 45
 - (b) the person claims to have lost or not received the postal ballot paper.

-
- (9) Case 7 is that—
- (a) a person applies for a ballot paper in Northern Ireland, and
 - (b) there has been a refusal under paragraph (2) of rule 26 (including that paragraph as applied by rule 29 or 30 or this rule) by a presiding officer. 5
- (10) Case 8 is that—
- (a) a person applies for a ballot paper in Northern Ireland, and
 - (b) the person fails to answer the question at entry 1(c) in the table in rule 23 satisfactorily.
- (11) In the case of an elector who has an anonymous entry, the references in this rule to a person named on a register or list are to be read as references to a person whose number appears on the register or list (as the case may be). 10
- (12) In the case of a person in respect of whom a notice has been issued under section 13B(3B) or (3D) or 13BA(9) of the 1983 Act, the references in this rule to a person named on the register are to be read as references to a person in respect of whom such a notice has been issued. 15
- 32 (1) Tendered ballot papers must be a different colour from the other ballot papers.
- (2) A person in Northern Ireland who marks a tendered ballot paper in reliance on Case 7 or 8 in rule 31 must sign the paper, unless it is marked after an application was refused under rule 29 or 30. 20
- (3) If a tendered ballot paper is required to be signed under paragraph (2) and the paper is not signed, the paper is void.
- (4) Tendered ballot papers must be given to the presiding officer instead of being put into the ballot box. 25
- (5) On receiving a tendered ballot paper from a voter the presiding officer must endorse it with the voter’s name and number on the register of electors.
- (6) The presiding officer must set tendered ballot papers aside in a separate packet.
- (7) The name and number on the register of electors of every voter whose vote is marked in pursuance of rule 31 must be entered on a list (in these rules referred to as the “tendered votes list”). 30
- (8) In the case of a person voting as proxy for an elector, the number to be endorsed or entered together with the voter’s name is the elector’s number.
- (9) In the case of an elector who has an anonymous entry, the references in paragraphs (5) and (7) to the name of the voter are to be ignored. 35
- (10) In the case of a person in respect of whom a notice has been issued under section 13B(3B) or (3D) or 13BA(9) of the 1983 Act, the references in paragraphs (5) and (7) to the voter’s number on the register of electors are to be read as references to the number relating to the voter on the notice. 40

Refusal to deliver ballot paper

- 33 A decision by a presiding officer taken under paragraph (2) of rule 26, including that paragraph as applied by rule 29, 30 or 31, is final (except

that it is subject to review in proceedings brought by an application for judicial review).

Spoilt ballot papers

- 34 (1) This rule applies if a voter has inadvertently dealt with his or her ballot paper in a manner which means that it cannot conveniently be used as a ballot paper and – 5
- (a) the voter delivers the ballot paper (in these rules referred to as “a spoilt ballot paper”) to the presiding officer, and
 - (b) proves the fact of the inadvertence to the satisfaction of the officer.
- (2) The voter may obtain a replacement ballot paper and the spoilt ballot paper must be cancelled immediately. 10

Correction of errors on day of poll

- 35 The presiding officer must keep a list of persons to whom ballot papers are delivered in consequence of an alteration to the register made by virtue of section 13B(3B) or (3D) or 13BA(9) of the 1983 Act that takes effect on the day of the poll. 15

Adjournment of poll in case of riot

- 36 (1) Where the proceedings at a polling station are interrupted or obstructed by riot or open violence, the presiding officer must adjourn the proceedings till the following day and must give notice to the counting officer as soon as practicable. 20
- (2) Where the poll is adjourned at a polling station –
- (a) the hours of polling on the day to which it is adjourned must be the same as for the original day, and
 - (b) references in these rules to the close of the poll are to be read accordingly. 25

Procedure on close of poll

- 37 (1) As soon as practicable after the close of the poll, the presiding officer must, in the presence of any polling agents, make up into separate packets –
- (a) each ballot box in use at the station, sealed so as to prevent the introduction of additional ballot papers and unopened, but with the key (if any) attached; 30
 - (b) the unused and spoilt ballot papers placed together;
 - (c) the tendered ballot papers;
 - (d) the marked copies of the registers of electors (including any marked copy notices issued under section 13B(3B) or (3D) or 13BA(9) of the 1983 Act) and of the list of proxies; 35
 - (e) the lists prepared under rule 6, including the parts that were completed in accordance with rule 27(2)(b) (together referred to in these rules as “the completed corresponding number lists”); 40
 - (f) the certificates as to employment on duty on the day of the poll;
 - (g) the tendered votes list, the list of voters with disabilities assisted by companions, the list of votes marked by the presiding officer, a statement of the number of voters whose votes are so marked by the

presiding officer under the heads “disability” and “unable to read”, the list maintained under rule 35, and the declarations made by the companions of voters with disabilities.	
(2) The marked copies of the registers of electors (including any marked copy notices issued under section 13B(3B) or (3D) or 13BA(9) of the 1983 Act) and of the list of proxies must be in one packet and must not be in the same packet as the completed corresponding number lists or the certificates as to employment on duty on the day of the poll.	5
(3) The packets must be sealed with –	
(a) the presiding officer’s seal, and	10
(b) the seals of any polling agents who want to affix their seals.	
(4) The presiding officer must deliver the packets, or cause them to be delivered, to the counting officer to be taken charge of by that officer.	
(5) If the packets are not delivered by the presiding officer personally to the counting officer, their delivery must be in accordance with arrangements approved by the counting officer.	15
(6) The packets must be accompanied by a statement (in these rules referred to as “the ballot paper account”) made by the presiding officer showing the number of ballot papers entrusted to him or her, and accounting for them under the following heads –	20
(a) ballot papers issued and not otherwise accounted for,	
(b) unused ballot papers,	
(c) spoiled ballot papers, and	
(d) tendered ballot papers.	
COUNTING OF VOTES	25
<i>Attendance at the count</i>	
38 (1) The counting officer must make arrangements for counting the votes in the presence of the counting agents as soon as practicable after the close of the poll.	
(2) The counting officer must give the counting agents notice in writing of the time and place at which the counting of votes will begin.	30
(3) A person may be present at the counting of the votes only if –	
(a) the person falls within paragraph (4), or	
(b) the person is permitted by the counting officer to attend.	
(4) The persons within this paragraph are –	35
(a) the Chief Counting Officer, the Regional Counting Officer (where the voting area is in a region for which a Regional Counting Officer is appointed) and the counting officer;	
(b) the counting officer’s clerks;	
(c) the referendum agents;	40
(d) the counting agents;	
(e) persons who are entitled to attend by virtue of any of sections 6A to 6D of the 2000 Act.	

- (5) The counting officer may give a person permission under paragraph (3)(b) only if –
- (a) the officer is satisfied that the person’s attendance will not impede the efficient counting of the votes, and
 - (b) the officer has consulted the referendum agents or thought it impracticable to do so. 5
- (6) The counting officer must give the counting agents –
- (a) whatever reasonable facilities for overseeing the proceedings, and
 - (b) whatever information with respect to the proceedings,
- the officer can give them consistently with the orderly conduct of the proceedings and the discharge of the officer’s duties. 10
- (7) In particular, where the votes are counted by sorting the ballot papers according to the answer for which the vote is given and then counting the number of ballot papers for each answer, the counting agents are entitled to satisfy themselves that the ballot papers are correctly sorted. 15

The count

- 39 (1) The counting officer must –
- (a) in the presence of the counting agents open each ballot box and count and record the number of ballot papers in it;
 - (b) in the presence of the referendum agents verify each ballot paper account; 20
 - (c) count the postal ballot papers that have been duly returned and record the number counted.
- (2) The counting officer must not count the votes given on any ballot papers until –
- (a) in the case of postal ballot papers, they have been mixed with the ballot papers from at least one ballot box;
 - (b) in the case of ballot papers from a ballot box, they have been mixed with the ballot papers from at least one other ballot box. 25
- (3) In England and Wales or Scotland a postal ballot paper is not to be taken to be duly returned unless –
- (a) it is returned in the manner prescribed by the relevant regulations and reaches the counting officer or a polling station in the appropriate area before the close of the poll,
 - (b) the postal voting statement, duly signed, is also returned in the manner prescribed by the relevant regulations and reaches the counting officer or polling station before that time, 35
 - (c) the postal voting statement also states the date of birth of the elector or proxy (as the case may be), and
 - (d) in a case where an elector’s or proxy’s date of birth and signature are to be verified in accordance with the relevant regulations, the counting officer verifies the date of birth and signature of the elector or proxy (as the case may be). 40
- In paragraph (a) “the appropriate area” means the voting area containing the address in respect of which the elector is registered. 45
- (4) In Northern Ireland a postal ballot paper is not to be taken to be duly returned unless –

-
- (a) it is returned in the proper envelope so as to reach the counting officer before the close of the poll and is accompanied by the declaration of identity duly signed and authenticated, and
- (b) in the case of an elector, the declaration of identity states the elector's date of birth and the counting officer is satisfied that the date stated corresponds with the date supplied as the elector's date of birth in pursuance of section 10(4A)(b), 10A(1A)(b) or 13A(2A)(b) of the 1983 Act. 5
- (5) In the case of an elector in Northern Ireland, unless section 10(4B), 10A(1B) or 13A(2B) of the 1983 Act applies, the declaration of identity referred to in paragraph (4) is not to be taken to be duly signed unless the counting officer is satisfied that the signature on the declaration corresponds with the signature supplied as the elector's signature in pursuance of section 10(4A)(a), 10A(1A)(a) or 13A(2A)(a) of that Act. 10
- (6) The counting officer must not count any tendered ballot papers. 15
- (7) The counting officer, while counting and recording the number of ballot papers and counting the votes, must –
- (a) keep the ballot papers with their faces upwards, and
- (b) take all proper precautions for preventing anyone from seeing the numbers or other unique identifying marks printed on the back of the papers. 20
- (8) The counting officer must –
- (a) verify each ballot paper account by comparing it with the number of ballot papers recorded by the officer, and the unused and spoilt ballot papers in the officer's possession and the tendered votes list (opening and resealing the packets containing the unused and spoilt ballot papers and the tendered votes list); 25
- (b) draw up a statement as to the result of the verification.
- (9) Any counting agent present at the verification may copy the statement drawn up under paragraph (8)(b). 30
- (10) Once the statement is drawn up the counting officer must –
- (a) in the case of a voting area in a region for which a Regional Counting Officer is appointed, inform the Regional Counting Officer of the contents of the statement;
- (b) in the case of any other voting area, inform the Chief Counting Officer of the contents of the statement. 35
- (11) The counting officer must so far as practicable proceed continuously with the counting of votes, allowing only time for refreshment, except that –
- (a) the officer may, with the agreement of the counting agents, exclude the whole or any part of the period between 7 pm and 9 am on the next day; 40
- (b) the officer may exclude a day mentioned in rule 2(1).
- (12) During the time so excluded the counting officer must –
- (a) place the ballot papers and other documents relating to the election under the officer's own seal and the seals of any of the counting agents who want to affix their seals, and 45
- (b) otherwise take proper precautions for the security of the papers and documents.

- (13) For the purposes of paragraph (11)(a) the agreement of a referendum agent is effective as the agreement of his or her counting agents.

Re-count

- 40 (1) A person within paragraph (2) who is present at the completion of the counting (or any re-count) of the votes in a voting area may require the counting officer to have the votes for that area re-counted (or again re-counted), but the counting officer may refuse to do so if in the officer's opinion the requirement is unreasonable. 5
- (2) The persons within this paragraph are – 10
- (a) referendum agents;
- (b) counting agents who, in relation to the count (or re-count), are designated under rule 17(2).
- (3) No step is to be taken on the completion of the counting (or any re-count) of the votes until the persons within paragraph (2) present at its completion have been given a reasonable opportunity to exercise the right conferred by this rule. 15
- (4) A counting officer may not conduct a re-count once a direction has been given under rule 42(3)(b).

Rejected ballot papers

- 41 (1) Any ballot paper – 20
- (a) that does not bear the official mark, or
- (b) on which a vote is given for both answers to the referendum question, or
- (c) on which anything is written or marked by which the voter can be identified (except the printed number and other unique identifying mark on the back), or 25
- (d) which is unmarked or does not indicate the voter's intention with certainty,
- is void and not to be counted.
- (2) But a ballot paper on which the vote is marked – 30
- (a) elsewhere than in the proper place, or
- (b) otherwise than by means of a cross, or
- (c) by more than one mark,
- is not to be treated as void for that reason if the voter's intended answer to the referendum question is apparent, and the way the paper is marked does not itself identify the voter and it is not shown that the voter can be identified by it. 35
- (3) The counting officer must endorse the word "rejected" on any ballot paper which under this rule is not to be counted, and must add to the endorsement the words "rejection objected to" if an objection is made by a counting agent to the officer's decision. 40
- (4) The counting officer must draw up a statement showing the number of ballot papers rejected under each of the following heads –
- (a) no official mark;
- (b) both answers voted for; 45

- (c) writing or mark by which voter could be identified;
 - (d) unmarked or void for uncertainty.
- (5) Once the statement is drawn up the counting officer must –
- (a) in the case of a voting area in a region for which a Regional Counting Officer is appointed, inform the Regional Counting Officer of the contents of the statement; 5
 - (b) in the case of any other voting area, inform the Chief Counting Officer of the contents of the statement.
- (6) Where two or more forms of ballot paper are used in the referendum, the counting officer must prepare a separate statement under paragraph (4) in relation to each form of ballot paper used. 10

Direction to conduct re-count

- 42 (1) On the completion of the counting of the votes (including any re-count under rule 40), and on the completion of any re-count under this rule, the counting officer must draw up a statement showing – 15
- (a) the total number of ballot papers counted, and
 - (b) the number of votes cast in favour of each answer to the question asked in the referendum.
- (2) Once the statement is drawn up the counting officer must –
- (a) in the case of a voting area in a region for which a Regional Counting Officer is appointed, inform the Regional Counting Officer of the contents of the statement; 20
 - (b) in the case of any other voting area, inform the Chief Counting Officer of the contents of the statement.
- (3) The Regional Counting Officer or Chief Counting Officer must then either – 25
- (a) direct the counting officer to have the votes re-counted, or
 - (b) direct the counting officer to make the certification under section 128(5) of the 2000 Act.
- (4) The Regional Counting Officer or Chief Counting Officer may give a direction under paragraph (3)(a) only if the officer thinks that there is reason to doubt the accuracy of the counting of the votes in the counting officer’s voting area. 30
- (5) A counting officer who is given a direction under paragraph (3)(a) must –
- (a) begin the re-count as soon as practicable, and
 - (b) if the officer does not begin the re-count immediately, notify the counting agents of the time and place at which it will take place. 35
- (6) A counting officer may not make the certification under section 128(5) of the 2000 Act until directed to do so under paragraph (3)(b).

Decisions on ballot papers

- 43 The decision of the counting officer on any question arising in respect of a ballot paper is final (subject to review in accordance with paragraph 21 of Schedule 1). 40

FINAL PROCEEDINGS

Declaration by counting officers

- 44 (1) This rule applies to the counting officer for a voting area in a region for which a Regional Counting Officer is appointed.
- (2) After making the certification under section 128(5) of the 2000 Act, the counting officer must –
- (a) immediately give to the Regional Counting Officer notice of the matters certified; 5
 - (b) as soon as practicable give to the Regional Counting Officer notice of the number of rejected ballot papers under each head shown in the statement of rejected ballot papers. 10
- (3) When authorised to do so by the Regional Counting Officer, the counting officer must –
- (a) make a declaration of the matters certified under section 128(5) of the 2000 Act; 15
 - (b) give public notice of the matters certified together with the number of rejected ballot papers under each head shown in the statement of rejected ballot papers.
- 45 (1) This rule applies to –
- (a) the counting officer for Northern Ireland; 20
 - (b) the counting officer for a voting area in a region for which no Regional Counting Officer is appointed.
- (2) After making the certification under section 128(5) of the 2000 Act, the counting officer must –
- (a) immediately give to the Chief Counting Officer notice of the matters certified; 25
 - (b) as soon as practicable give to the Chief Counting Officer notice of the number of rejected ballot papers under each head shown in the statement of rejected ballot papers.
- (3) When authorised to do so by the Chief Counting Officer, the counting officer must –
- (a) make a declaration of the matters certified under section 128(5) of the 2000 Act; 30
 - (b) give public notice of the matters certified together with the number of rejected ballot papers under each head shown in the statement of rejected ballot papers. 35

Declaration by Regional Counting Officers

- 46 (1) After making the certification under paragraph 3(4) of Schedule 1, a Regional Counting Officer must –
- (a) immediately give to the Chief Counting Officer notice of the matters certified; 40
 - (b) as soon as practicable give to the Chief Counting Officer notice of the number of rejected ballot papers for the region under each head shown in the statements of rejected ballot papers.

- (2) When authorised to do so by the Chief Counting Officer, a Regional Counting Officer must –
- (a) make a declaration of the matters certified under paragraph 3(4) of Schedule 1;
 - (b) give public notice of the matters certified together with the number of rejected ballot papers for the region under each head shown in the statements of rejected ballot papers. 5

Declaration of referendum result by Chief Counting Officer

- 47 After making the certification under section 128(6) of the 2000 Act, the Chief Counting Officer must – 10
- (a) immediately make a declaration of the matters certified under that provision;
 - (b) as soon as practicable give public notice of the matters certified together with the number of rejected ballot papers under each head shown in the statement of rejected ballot papers. 15

DISPOSAL OF DOCUMENTS

Sealing up of ballot papers

- 48 (1) On the completion of the counting the counting officer must seal up in separate packets – 20
- (a) the counted ballot papers, and
 - (b) the rejected ballot papers.
- (2) The counting officer may not open the sealed packets of – 25
- (a) tendered ballot papers,
 - (b) the completed corresponding number lists,
 - (c) certificates as to employment on duty on the day of the poll, or
 - (d) marked copies of the registers of electors (including any marked copy notices issued under section 13B(3B) or (3D) or 13BA(9) of the 1983 Act) and lists of proxies.

Delivery or retention of documents

- 49 (1) The counting officer must endorse on each of the sealed packets a description of its contents and the name of the voting area and must – 30
- (a) in the case of a counting officer for a voting area in England and Wales, forward the documents specified in paragraph (2) to the registration officer of the local authority for the area for which the counting officer is appointed; 35
 - (b) in the case of a counting officer for a voting area in Scotland or the counting officer for Northern Ireland, retain the documents.
- (2) The documents referred to above are – 40
- (a) the packets of ballot papers;
 - (b) the ballot paper accounts and the statements of –
 - (i) rejected ballot papers, and
 - (ii) the result of the verification of the ballot paper accounts;
 - (c) the tendered votes lists, the lists of voters with disabilities assisted by companions, the lists of votes marked by the presiding officer and

- the related statements, the lists maintained under rule 35 and the declarations made by the companions of voters with disabilities;
- (d) the packets of the completed corresponding number lists;
- (e) the packets of certificates as to employment on duty on the day of the poll; 5
- (f) the packets containing marked copies of the registers (including any marked copy notices issued under section 13B(3B) or (3D) or 13BA(9) of the 1983 Act) and marked copies of the postal voters list, of lists of proxies and of the proxy postal voters list;
- (g) any other documents prescribed for the purposes of this subparagraph by the relevant regulations. 10

Orders for production of documents

- 50 (1) The High Court or a county court or, in the case of a voting area in Scotland, the Court of Session or the sheriff, may make an order –
- (a) for the inspection or production of any rejected ballot papers in the custody of a registration officer or (as the case may be) a counting officer, 15
 - (b) for the opening of a sealed packet of the completed corresponding number lists or of certificates as to employment on duty on the day of the poll, or 20
 - (c) for the inspection of any counted ballot papers in the officer’s custody,
- if satisfied by evidence on oath that the order is required for the purpose of instituting or maintaining a prosecution for an offence in relation to ballot papers or for the purpose of proceedings brought as mentioned in paragraph 21 of Schedule 1. 25
- (2) An order under this rule may be made subject to whatever conditions the court or sheriff thinks expedient as to –
- (a) persons,
 - (b) time, 30
 - (c) place and mode of inspection, or
 - (d) production or opening.
- (3) In making and carrying into effect an order for the opening of a packet of the completed corresponding number lists or of certificates or for the inspection of counted ballot papers, care must be taken to avoid disclosing the way in which the vote of any particular voter has been given until it has been proved – 35
- (a) that the vote was given, and
 - (b) that the vote has been declared by a competent court to be invalid.
- (4) An appeal lies to the High Court from any order of a county court under this rule, and to the Court of Session from any order of the sheriff under this rule. 40
- (5) A power given under this rule to a court (other than a county court in Northern Ireland) or the sheriff may be exercised by any judge of the court, or by the sheriff, otherwise than in open court.
- (6) A power given under this rule to a county court in Northern Ireland may be exercised in whatever manner rules of court provide. 45

-
- (7) Where an order is made for the production by a registration officer or a counting officer of a document in the officer's possession relating to the referendum –
- (a) the production by the officer or the officer's agent of the document ordered in the manner directed by the order is conclusive evidence that the document relates to the referendum; 5
 - (b) any endorsement on any packet of ballot papers so produced is prima facie evidence that the ballot papers are what they are stated to be by the endorsement.
- (8) The production from proper custody of – 10
- (a) a ballot paper purporting to have been used at the referendum, and
 - (b) a completed corresponding number list with a number marked in writing beside the number of the ballot paper,
- is prima facie evidence that the elector whose vote was given by that ballot paper was the person whose entry on the register of electors (or on a notice issued under section 13B(3B) or (3D) or 13BA(9) of the 1983 Act) at the time of the referendum contained the same number as the number written as mentioned in sub-paragraph (b). 15
- (9) Except as provided by this rule (or a court order) nobody may –
- (a) inspect any rejected or counted ballot papers in the possession of a registration officer or counting officer, or 20
 - (b) open any sealed packets of the completed corresponding number lists or of certificates.

Retention and public inspection of documents

- 51 (1) A registration officer or (as the case may be) counting officer must retain for a year all documents relating to the referendum and then, unless otherwise directed by an order of a competent court, must have them destroyed. 25
- (2) For the purposes of paragraph (1) a competent court is –
- (a) in relation to a registration officer in England and Wales, the High Court, the Crown Court or a magistrates' court; 30
 - (b) in relation to a counting officer in Scotland, the Court of Session;
 - (c) in relation to the counting officer for Northern Ireland, the High Court.
- (3) While documents are retained under paragraph (1) they must be open to public inspection. 35
- This does not apply to –
- (a) ballot papers;
 - (b) the completed corresponding number lists;
 - (c) certificates as to employment on duty on the day of the poll.
- (4) The registration officer or (as the case may be) counting officer must, on request, supply to any person copies of or extracts from any description of the documents open to public inspection that is prescribed by the relevant regulations. 40
- (5) A right to inspect or be supplied with a document or part of a document under this rule is subject to – 45
- (a) any conditions imposed by the relevant regulations, and

- (b) the payment of any fee required by the relevant regulations.

SUPPLEMENTARY

Interpretation

52 In these rules –

- “anonymous entry”, in relation to a register of electors, is to be read in accordance with section 9B of the 1983 Act and “the record of anonymous entries”, means the record prepared in pursuance of regulations made by virtue of paragraph 8A of Schedule 2 to that Act; 5
- “counting agent” is to be read in accordance with rule 17(10); 10
- “elector” means a person who is entitled to vote on his or her own behalf in the referendum;
- “list of proxies” –
- (a) in relation to England and Wales and Scotland, means the list kept under paragraph 5(3) of Schedule 3; 15
- (b) in relation to Northern Ireland, means the list kept under paragraph 16(3) of Schedule 3;
- “polling agent” is to be read in accordance with rule 17(10);
- “postal voters list” –
- (a) in relation to England and Wales and Scotland, means the list kept under paragraph 5(2) of Schedule 3; 20
- (b) in relation to Northern Ireland, means the list kept under paragraph 16(2) of Schedule 3;
- “presiding officer” is to be read in accordance with rule 13(1) and (2);
- “proxy postal voters list” – 25
- (a) in relation to England and Wales and Scotland, means the list kept under paragraph 8(6) of Schedule 3;
- (b) in relation to Northern Ireland, means the list kept under paragraph 19(6) of Schedule 3;
- “referendum agent” means a person appointed under paragraph 9 of Schedule 1; 30
- “registration officer” has the meaning given in section 8 of the 1983 Act;
- “the relevant regulations” –
- (a) in relation to England and Wales, means the Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001 (S.I. 2001/341) as applied by Schedule 4; 35
- (b) in relation to Scotland, means the Representation of the People (Scotland) Regulations 2001 (S.I. 2001/497) as so applied;
- (c) in relation to Northern Ireland, means the Representation of the People (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2008 (S.I. 2008/1741) as so applied; 40
- “voter” means a person voting in the referendum and includes a person voting as proxy and “vote” (whether noun or verb) is to be construed accordingly; and a reference to an elector voting or an elector’s vote includes a reference to an elector voting by proxy or an elector’s vote given by proxy. 45

PART 2

FORMS REFERRED TO IN REFERENDUM RULES

Note - The forms contained in this Part may be adapted so far as circumstances require.

Rule 5(1) 5

FORM 1 - FORM OF BALLOT PAPER

Front of ballot paper

<p>Referendum on the voting system for parliamentary elections</p> <p>Vote (X) once only</p>		10
<p>Do you want the United Kingdom to adopt the “alternative vote” system instead of the current “first past the post” system for electing Members of Parliament to the House of Commons?</p>		
YES		15
NO		

Back of ballot paper

No.

Other Unique Identifying Mark

Referendum on the voting system for parliamentary elections 20

[Insert name of voting area] [Insert date of poll]

Directions as to printing the ballot paper

- 1 Nothing is to be printed on the ballot paper except in accordance with these directions.
- 2 So far as practicable, the instructions specified in paragraphs 3 to 8 must be observed in printing the ballot paper. 25
- 3 No words must be printed on the front of the ballot paper except—

- (a) the heading “Referendum on the voting system for parliamentary elections”;
 - (b) the direction “Vote (X) once only”;
 - (c) those constituting the referendum question;
 - (d) those indicating the alternative forms of answer to the question; and
 - (e) if the official mark is printed on the front of the ballot paper, any words forming part of that mark. 5
- 4 Nothing must be printed on the back of the ballot paper except –
- (a) the number and other unique identifying mark;
 - (b) the name of the referendum: “Referendum on the voting system for parliamentary elections”;
 - (c) the name of the voting area;
 - (d) the date of the poll; and
 - (e) the official mark (if it is not printed on the front of the ballot paper). 10
- 5 Words printed on the ballot paper must be printed in a clear typeface and in characters of such a size that they are easily legible. 15
- 6 The following words on the front of the ballot paper must be printed in large characters –
- (a) Referendum on the voting system for parliamentary elections;
 - (b) Vote (X) once only. 20
- 7 The following words on the front of the ballot paper must be printed in bold characters –
- (a) the words mentioned in paragraph 6(a);
 - (b) the words indicating the alternative forms of answer to the referendum question. 25
- 8 In relation to the referendum question and answers –
- (a) a horizontal rule must separate each of the answers to the question from one another and, in the case of the first answer, from the question;
 - (b) each of the answers must be separated by a vertical rule from a box providing a space in respect of each answer for marking a vote;
 - (c) the portions containing each of the answers to the question must be of equal size;
 - (d) the spaces for marking a vote for each answer must be of equal size. 30
- Rule 6(2) 35

FORM 2 - FORM OF CORRESPONDING NUMBER LIST (TO BE USED IF REFERENDUM TAKEN ALONE)

Voting area:	40
Date of Poll:	
Sheet No.:	

Date of birth

D	D	M	M	Y	Y	Y	Y
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

 (voter's date of birth)

#Signature

--

 (voter's signature)
IMPORTANT - Keep signature within border

#(Counting officer to omit where a person has been granted a waiver) 5

It is an offence to vote using a ballot paper that is not addressed to you.

PLEASE READ INSTRUCTIONS TO THE VOTER

Issued by the counting officer

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE VOTER

Complete the ballot paper yourself and in private. If you need help, contact the counting officer's staff as shown below. 10

[contact details for assistance; include address as appropriate]

1. You must provide your [#signature and] date of birth. If you do not, the postal voting statement will be invalid and your vote will not be counted.
2. Vote once only. Do not mark the ballot paper in any other way or your vote may not be counted. 15
3. Mark a cross (X) in the box on the right hand side of the ballot paper opposite the answer you are voting for.
4. If you need help voting, the person helping you must not tell anyone how you voted. 20
5. Put the ballot paper in the small envelope marked A and seal it.
6. Complete the postal voting statement by [#signing it, and] providing your date of birth.
7. Then put the envelope marked A together with the postal voting statement in the larger envelope marked B. Return it straightaway. 25
8. **After receiving this postal vote, you cannot vote in person at a polling station in this referendum.**
9. If you accidentally spoil your ballot paper, you can apply to the counting officer for a replacement before 5 pm on [day/date of poll]. You must return the spoilt ballot paper, the postal voting statement and the envelopes marked A and B. Make sure you contact the counting officer as soon as possible. 30

! Your ballot paper and the postal voting statement must be received by the counting officer by 10 pm on [day/date of poll]. You can deliver your completed postal vote to any polling station in your voting area on polling day.

It is an offence to vote using a ballot paper that is not addressed to you. 5

It is illegal to vote more than once (unless you are appointed as a proxy for another person) in this referendum.

#(Counting officer to omit where a person has been granted a waiver)

Rule 11(1)(c)

FORM 4 - DECLARATION OF IDENTITY (NORTHERN IRELAND) 10

Front of form

Declaration of identity

Referendum on the voting system for United Kingdom parliamentary elections

Ballot Paper no..... 15

I am the person to whom the ballot paper numbered above was sent.

My date of birth is (you are not required to give your date of birth if you are to vote as a proxy for someone else).

Voter’s signature

The voter, who is personally known to me, has signed this declaration in my presence. 20

Witness’s signature

Name of witness (WRITE CLEARLY)

Address of witness (WRITE CLEARLY)

..... 25

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE BACK OF THIS FORM

Back of form

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE VOTER

1. You must sign this declaration of identity in the presence of a person known to you. That person should then sign this declaration as a witness, adding his or her name and address. Without this the declaration will be invalid. 30

2. Vote once only. Put no other mark on the ballot paper or your vote may not be counted.

3. Mark a cross (X) in the box on the right hand side of the ballot paper opposite the answer you are voting for. Do this secretly. If you cannot vote without assistance, the person assisting you must not disclose how you have voted.
4. Put the ballot paper in the small envelope marked “A” and seal it. Then put the envelope marked “A”, together with the declaration of identity, in the larger envelope marked “B”. Return it without delay. The ballot paper must be received by the counting officer not later than the close of the poll. 5
5. If you receive more than one ballot paper, remember that it is illegal to vote more than once (otherwise than as proxy) in this referendum.
6. In this referendum you cannot vote in person at a polling station. 10
7. If you inadvertently spoil your ballot paper, you can apply to the counting officer for another one. With your application you must return, in your own envelope, the spoiled ballot paper, the declaration of identity and the envelopes marked “A” and “B”. We can only issue replacement postal ballot papers before 5 p.m. on [-1 day/date deadline]. 15

Rule 14(4)(a)

FORM 5 - OFFICIAL POLL CARD (TO BE SENT TO AN ELECTOR NOT VOTING BY POST)

Front of card

Referendum on the voting system for United Kingdom parliamentary elections		20
OFFICIAL POLL CARD		
Voting area Polling Day Polling hours: 7 am to 10 pm Your polling station will be:	Number on register *Name *Address *Counting officer to omit where poll card sent to an anonymous elector. Poll card to anonymous elector must be delivered in a sealed envelope.	25
*This card is for information only. You can vote without it, but it will save you time if you take it to the polling station and show it to the clerk there.		
<i>SEE FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE BACK OF THIS CARD</i>		30

Back of card

Referendum on the voting system for United Kingdom parliamentary elections 35

*When you go to the polling station, tell the clerk your name and address, as shown on the front of the card.

***The clerk will confirm your details on the register.**

When you are given your ballot paper, go to one of the polling booths. Mark a cross (X) in the box on the right hand side of the ballot paper opposite the answer you are voting for. 5

Vote ONCE only. Do not put any other mark on the ballot paper, or your vote may not be counted.

If you spoil your ballot paper by mistake, show it to the presiding officer and ask for a replacement. 10

Fold the ballot paper in two. Show the presiding officer the number and other unique identifying mark on the back of the ballot paper, but do not let anyone see your vote. Put the ballot paper in the ballot box and leave the polling station.

If you will be away on the date of the poll –

- You can apply to vote by post. Your application must be received by the electoral registration officer before 5 pm on [-11 day/date deadline]. If you are given a postal vote, you will not be entitled to vote in person in this referendum. 15
- You can apply to vote by proxy (this means someone else can vote on your behalf). Your application must be received before 5 pm on [-6 day/date deadline]. If you appoint a proxy, you can still vote in this referendum yourself provided you do so before your proxy votes for you and provided your proxy is not entitled to vote on your behalf by post. 20

In certain circumstances it may be possible to apply to vote by proxy after [-6 day/ deadline]. 25

To change any of your voting arrangements please contact [helpline number] as soon as possible.

ISSUED BY THE COUNTING OFFICER

[Where poll card sent to an anonymous elector substitute for the paragraphs marked with * above – 30

You must have this card with you when you vote. You cannot vote without it.

When you go to the polling station, ask to speak to the presiding officer and show them this card.

The presiding officer will confirm your entry on the register.]

Rule 14(4)(b) 35

FORM 6 - OFFICIAL POSTAL POLL CARD (TO BE SENT TO AN ELECTOR VOTING BY POST)

Front of card

<p>Referendum on the voting system for United Kingdom parliamentary elections</p>
--

OFFICIAL POSTAL POLL CARD	
Voting area For the referendum on: [day/date] Number on Register: *Name and Address:	This poll card is to tell you that you will receive a postal vote for this referendum because you have asked to vote by post at elections or specifically in this referendum. You will not be able to vote in a polling station. If you want to cancel your postal vote, please call [helpline number] before 5 pm on [-11 day/deadline]. We will send your postal voting papers around [day/date]. *Addressed to: (Name and Address) If your postal voting papers have not arrived by [day/date] call [helpline number] and ask for help.
<i>*Counting officer to omit where postal poll card sent to an anonymous elector. Postal poll card to anonymous elector must be delivered in a sealed envelope.</i>	
If you lose or accidentally spoil your postal ballot paper, please call [helpline number] as soon as possible. Replacement ballot papers can only be issued before 5 pm on [day/date of poll].	
This card is to provide you with information about voting by post.	
SEE FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE BACK OF THIS CARD	

Back of card 25

Referendum on the voting system for United Kingdom parliamentary elections	
When you receive your postal voting pack, please read the instructions with it carefully before completing your postal ballot paper.	
Do not let anyone see your vote. If you need help voting, the person helping you must not tell anyone how you have voted. You can get independent help from the counting officer: please call our helpline on [helpline number].	
You must sign the postal voting statement (unless you have been granted a waiver by prior arrangement with the electoral registration officer) and provide your date of birth. This is a security measure. It will not affect your vote or mean it can be identified. Without your signature and date of birth the statement will not be valid and your vote will not be counted. The counting officer can cross check your signature against other records that they hold.	
If you lose or accidentally spoil your ballot paper, please call the helpline number below as soon as possible. We can only issue replacement postal ballot papers before 5 pm on [day/date of poll].	

Complete and return your postal vote as soon as possible. The counting officer must receive your postal vote by 10 pm on [*day/date of poll*]. You can deliver your completed voting papers to any polling station in the voting area.

If you want to vote in person in this referendum, you must cancel your postal vote before 5 pm on [*-11 day/date deadline*].

If you need any assistance, please call our helpline on: [*helpline number*].

It is an offence to vote using a ballot paper that was not addressed to you.

Issued by the Counting Officer

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Rule 14(4)(c)

FORM 7 - OFFICIAL PROXY POLL CARD (TO BE SENT TO AN APPOINTED PROXY VOTING IN PERSON)

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Front of card

Referendum on the voting system for United Kingdom parliamentary elections	
OFFICIAL PROXY POLL CARD	
Voting area Polling Day Polling hours: 7 am to 10 pm The polling station at which you may vote on behalf of the person named on the back of this card will be:	*This poll card is to tell you that you may vote in this referendum on behalf of the person named on the back of this card. Your appointment to vote for this person as his or her proxy is either an existing appointment for elections or an appointment made specifically for this referendum. *Proxy’s name..... *Proxy’s address..... *(Counting officer to omit where poll card sent to the proxy of an anonymous elector. Poll card to proxy of anonymous elector must be delivered in a sealed envelope.)
*This card is for information only. You can vote without it, but it will save time if you take it to the polling station and show it to the clerk there.	
<i>SEE FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE BACK OF THIS CARD</i>	

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Back of card

<p>Referendum on the voting system for United Kingdom parliamentary elections</p> <p>*This poll card is to tell you that for this referendum you are appointed as proxy for:</p> <p>.....</p> <p>*(Person's name)</p> <p>.....</p> <p>*(Person's address)</p> <p>.....</p> <p>*(Person's number on electoral register)</p> <p>*When you go to the polling station, tell the clerk that you wish to vote as proxy on behalf of the person shown above.</p> <p>The clerk will confirm your details on the register.</p> <p>When you are given the ballot paper, go to one of the polling booths. Mark a cross (X) in the box on the right hand side of the ballot paper opposite the answer you are voting for.</p> <p>Vote ONCE only. Do not put any other mark on the ballot paper, or the vote may not be counted.</p> <p>If you spoil the ballot paper by mistake, show it to the presiding officer and ask for a replacement.</p> <p>Fold the ballot paper in two. Show the presiding officer the number and other unique identifying mark on the back of the ballot paper, but do not let anyone see the vote. Put the ballot paper in the ballot box and leave the polling station.</p> <p>If you will be away on the date of the poll, you can apply to vote by post before 5 pm on [-11 day/date deadline]. If you are given a postal vote, you or the person for whom you are appointed as proxy will not be entitled to vote in person in this referendum.</p> <p>The person for whom you are appointed as proxy may vote in this referendum. If they wish to do so they must vote in person before you vote on their behalf.</p> <p>It is illegal to do any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vote more than once (unless you are appointed as a proxy for another person) in this referendum.• Vote as a proxy in this referendum for more than two persons unless you are their spouse, civil partner, parent, grandparent, brother, sister, child or grandchild.• Vote as a proxy for a person if you know that the person is subject to a legal incapacity to vote. <p>Issued by the counting officer</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10</p> <p>15</p> <p>20</p> <p>25</p> <p>30</p> <p>35</p>
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If you lose or accidentally spoil the proxy postal ballot paper, please call: [helpline number] as soon as possible. Replacement ballot papers can only be issued before 5 pm on [day/date of poll].

This card is to provide you with information about voting by post.

SEE FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE BACK OF THIS CARD

5

Back of card

Referendum on the voting system for United Kingdom parliamentary elections

***This poll card is to tell you that for this referendum you will be able to vote as proxy for the person named below and you will be sent a postal vote.**

10

.....
*(Person's name)

.....
*(Person's address)

When you receive the postal voting pack, please read the instructions with it carefully before completing the postal ballot paper.

15

Do not let anyone see your vote. If you need help voting, the person helping you must not tell anyone how you have voted. You can get independent help from the counting officer: please call our helpline on [helpline number].

You must **sign** the postal voting statement (unless you have been granted a waiver by prior arrangement with the electoral registration officer) and provide your date of birth. This is a security measure. It will not affect your vote or mean it can be identified. Without your signature and date of birth the statement will not be valid and your vote will not be counted. The counting officer can cross check your signature against other records that they hold.

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If you lose or accidentally spoil the postal ballot paper, please call the helpline number below as soon as possible. We can only issue replacement postal ballot papers before 5 pm on [day/date of poll].

25

Complete and return the postal vote as soon as possible. The counting officer must receive the postal vote by 10 pm on [day/date of poll]. You can deliver your completed voting papers to any polling station in the voting area.

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If you want to vote in person as a proxy in this referendum, you must cancel your postal vote before 5 pm on [-11 day/date deadline].

It is illegal to do any of the following:

- Vote more than once (unless you are appointed as a proxy for another person) in this referendum.
- Vote as a proxy in this referendum for more than two persons unless you are their spouse, civil partner, parent, grandparent, brother, sister, child or grandchild.
- Vote as a proxy for a person if you know that the person is subject to a legal incapacity to vote.

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Issued by the Counting Officer	
[Where poll card sent to the proxy of an anonymous elector substitute for the text marked with * above:	
This poll card is to tell you that for this referendum you will be able to vote as proxy for the person whose electoral number is shown below and you will be sent a postal vote.	5
You are entitled to vote as proxy for the person whose electoral number is shown below:	
.....	
(Person’s number on electoral register)	10

Rule 14(5)(a)

FORM 9 - OFFICIAL POLL CARD (TO BE SENT TO AN ELECTOR IN NORTHERN IRELAND NOT VOTING BY POST)

Front of card

Referendum on the voting system for United Kingdom parliamentary elections	15
OFFICIAL POLL CARD	
Voting area: Northern Ireland	
Polling day	
Your polling station will be	20
Polling hours: 7 am to 10 pm	
Number on register	
Name	
Address	
.....	
	25

Back of card

Referendum on the voting system for United Kingdom parliamentary elections	
This card is for information only. You can vote without it, but it will save time if you take it to the polling station and show it to the clerk there. Remember that you will not be able to vote unless you show an approved form of photographic identification.	
	30

When you go to the polling station, tell the clerk your name and address, as shown on the front of the card and show your photographic identification. If the clerk is satisfied that you are entitled to vote you will be given a ballot paper.	
Go to one of the compartments. Mark a cross (X) in the box on the right hand side of the ballot paper opposite the answer you are voting for.	5
Fold the ballot paper in two. Show the number and other unique identifying mark to the presiding officer, but do not let anyone see your vote. Put the ballot paper in the ballot box and leave the polling station.	
Vote once only. Put no other mark on the ballot paper, or your vote may not be counted.	10
If by mistake you spoil a ballot paper, show it to the presiding officer and ask for another one.	
If you are given a postal vote for this referendum, you will not be able to vote in person in the referendum.	
If you have appointed a proxy to vote for you, you may nevertheless vote in this referendum yourself provided you do so before your proxy has voted on your behalf and provided your proxy is not entitled to vote on your behalf by post.	15
If you need help with voting please ask the clerk who will explain the assistance which can be provided.	
To obtain information in relation to the approved forms of photographic identification or other information relating to voting procedures please phone [helpline number]	20
ISSUED BY THE COUNTING OFFICER	

Rule 14(5)(b)

FORM 10 - OFFICIAL POSTAL POLL CARD (TO BE SENT TO AN ELECTOR VOTING BY POST IN NORTHERN IRELAND) 25

Front of card

Referendum on the voting system for United Kingdom parliamentary elections		
OFFICIAL POSTAL POLL CARD		30
Voting area: Northern Ireland For the referendum on: [day/date] Number on Register:	This poll card is to tell you that you will receive a postal vote for this referendum because you have asked to vote by post at elections or specifically at this referendum. You will not be able to vote in a polling station. If you want to cancel your postal vote, please call [helpline number] before 5 pm on [-14 day/date deadline].	35

Name and Address:	<p>We will send your postal voting papers around [day/date].</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Addressed to: (Name and Address)</p> <p>If your postal voting papers have not arrived by [day/date] call [helpline number] and ask for help.</p>	5
If you accidentally spoil your postal ballot paper, please call [helpline number] as soon as possible. Replacement ballot papers can only be issued before 5 pm on [-1 day/date deadline].		10
This card is to provide you with information about voting by post.		
<i>SEE INFORMATION ON THE BACK OF THIS CARD</i>		

Back of card

<p>Referendum on the voting system for United Kingdom parliamentary elections</p> <p>When you receive your postal voting pack, please read the instructions with it carefully before completing your postal ballot paper.</p> <p>Do not let anyone see your vote. If you need help voting, the person helping you must not tell anyone how you have voted. You can get independent help from the counting officer: please call our helpline on [helpline number].</p> <p>You must provide your date of birth and sign the declaration of identity in the presence of a person known to you. That person should then sign the declaration as a witness, adding his or her name and address. This is a security measure. It will not affect your vote or mean it can be identified. Without this, the declaration will not be valid and your vote will not be counted. The counting officer can cross check your signature against other records that they hold.</p> <p>If you accidentally spoil your ballot paper, please call the helpline number below as soon as possible. We can only issue replacement postal ballot papers before 5 pm on [-1 day/date deadline].</p> <p>Complete and return your postal vote as soon as possible. The counting officer must receive your postal vote by 10 pm on [day/date of poll]. You can deliver your completed voting papers to any polling station in Northern Ireland.</p> <p>If you want to vote in person in this referendum, you must cancel your postal vote before 5 pm on [-14 day/date deadline].</p> <p>If you need any assistance, please call our helpline on: [helpline number].</p> <p style="text-align: center;">It is an offence to vote using a ballot paper that was not addressed to you.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Issued by the Counting Officer</p>	<p>15</p> <p>20</p> <p>25</p> <p>30</p> <p>35</p>
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FORM 11 - OFFICIAL PROXY POLL CARD (TO BE SENT TO AN APPOINTED PROXY VOTING IN
PERSON IN NORTHERN IRELAND)

Front of card

Referendum on the voting system for United Kingdom parliamentary elections 5

PROXY'S OFFICIAL POLL CARD

Proxy's name.....

Proxy's address.....

Voting area: Northern Ireland 10

Polling day

The poll will be open from 7 am to 10 pm

This poll card is to tell you that you may vote in this referendum on behalf of the person named on the back of this card. Your appointment to vote for this person as his or her proxy is either an existing appointment for elections or an appointment made specifically for this referendum. 15

Back of card

Referendum on the voting system for United Kingdom parliamentary elections 20

The person named below whose proxy you are is entitled to vote at the polling station –

.....

To vote as proxy you must go to that polling station. Remember that you will not be able to vote unless you show an approved form of photographic identification. Tell the clerk that you wish to vote as proxy; show your approved form of photographic identification and give the name and qualifying address of the person on whose behalf you wish to vote, as follows: 25

Number on register

Name

Address 30

If the clerk is satisfied that you are able to vote as a proxy the clerk will give you a ballot paper. The method of voting as proxy is the same as for casting your own vote.

It is an offence to vote as proxy for some other person if you know that that person is subject to a legal incapacity to vote, e.g. if that person has been convicted and is detained in a penal institution in pursuance of his or her sentence. It is also an offence to vote in this referendum for more than two persons of whom you are not the spouse, civil partner, parent, grandparent, brother, sister, child or grandchild. 5

The person for whom you are appointed as proxy may himself or herself vote in person in this referendum if he or she is able, and wishes, to do so and if he or she votes before you on his or her own behalf.

If you need help with voting please ask the clerk who will explain the assistance which can be provided. 10

To obtain information in relation to the approved forms of photographic identification or other information relating to voting procedures please phone [helpline number]

ISSUED BY THE COUNTING OFFICER 15

Rule 14(5)(d)

FORM 12 - OFFICIAL PROXY POSTAL POLL CARD (TO BE SENT TO AN APPOINTED PROXY VOTING BY POST IN NORTHERN IRELAND)

Front of card

Referendum on the voting system for United Kingdom parliamentary elections		20
OFFICIAL PROXY POSTAL POLL CARD		
Voting area: Northern Ireland For the referendum on: [day/date] Name and Address (Proxy):	This poll card is to tell you that you may vote in this referendum on behalf of the person named on the back of this card. Your appointment to vote for this person as his or her proxy is either an existing appointment for elections or an appointment made specifically for this referendum. You will receive a postal vote for the referendum because you have asked to vote by post at elections or specifically at this referendum. You will not be able to vote as proxy in a polling station. If you want to cancel this postal vote and vote in person on polling day, please call [helpline number] before 5 pm on [-14 day/date deadline].	25
		30
		35
	We will send the proxy postal voting papers around [day/date].	40

	If the postal voting papers have not arrived by [day/date] please call [helpline number] and ask for help.
If you accidentally spoil the proxy postal ballot paper, please call [helpline number] as soon as possible. Replacement ballot papers can only be issued before 5 pm on [-1 day/date deadline].	
This card is to provide you with information about voting by post.	
<i>SEE INFORMATION ON THE BACK OF THIS CARD</i>	

5

Back of card

Referendum on the voting system for United Kingdom parliamentary elections	
This poll card is to tell you that for this referendum you will be able to vote as proxy for the person named below and you will be sent a postal vote.	
.....	
(Person's name)	
.....	
(Person's address)	
When you receive the postal voting pack, please read the instructions with it carefully before completing the postal ballot paper.	
Do not let anyone see your vote. If you need help voting, the person helping you must not tell anyone how you have voted. You can get independent help from the counting officer: please call our helpline on [helpline number].	
You must sign the declaration of identity in the presence of a person known to you. That person should then sign the declaration as a witness, adding his or her name and address. This is a security measure. It will not affect your vote or mean it can be identified. Without this, the declaration will not be valid and the vote will not be counted.	
If you accidentally spoil the postal ballot paper, please call the helpline number below as soon as possible. We can only issue replacement postal ballot papers before 5 pm on [-1 day/date deadline]	
Complete and return the postal vote as soon as possible. The counting officer must receive the postal vote by 10 pm on [day/date of poll]. You can deliver your completed voting papers to any polling station in Northern Ireland.	
If you want to vote in person as a proxy at this referendum, you must cancel your postal vote before 5 pm on [-14 day/date deadline]	

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Rule 16(6)

FORM 14 - FORM OF DIRECTIONS FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE VOTERS IN VOTING

Guidance for voters

1. When you are given a ballot paper go to one of the compartments. Mark a cross (X) in the box on the right hand side of the ballot paper opposite the answer you are voting for. 5
2. Vote once only. Put no other mark on the ballot paper, or your vote may not be counted. Do not let anyone see your vote.
3. Fold the ballot paper in two. Show the back of the ballot paper to the presiding officer so as to disclose the number and other unique identifying mark. Put the ballot paper in the ballot box and leave the polling station. 10
4. If by mistake you spoil a ballot paper, show it to the presiding officer and ask for another one.

Rule 20(4)(b)

FORM 15 - FORM OF CERTIFICATE OF EMPLOYMENT 15

Referendum on the voting system for parliamentary elections

[insert name of voting area]

I certify that (name) who is numbered in the register of electors cannot reasonably be expected to go in person to the polling station allotted to him or her in the referendum on (*date of poll*) by reason of the particular circumstances of his or her employment on that date for a purpose connected with the referendum *as a constable / *by me. 20

*Delete whichever is inappropriate.

Signature

*Counting officer / police officer (inspector or above) 25

Date

Note: The person named above is entitled to vote at any polling station on production and surrender of this certificate to the presiding officer.

Rule 30(5)

FORM 16 - FORM OF DECLARATION TO BE MADE BY THE COMPANION OF A VOTER WITH
 DISABILITIES

I, A.B., of, having been requested to assist C.D. (*in the case of a person with disabilities voting as proxy add*) voting as proxy for M.N.) whose number on the register is to record his vote in the referendum now being held in this voting area hereby declare that (I am entitled to vote as a voter at that referendum) (I am the *..... of the said voter and have attained the age of 18 years), and that I have not previously assisted any person with a disability (except E.F., of) to vote in that referendum. 5
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*State the relationship of the companion to the voter.

(Signed) A.B.

Date

I, the undersigned, being the presiding officer for the polling station in the [*insert name of voting area*] hereby certify that the above declaration, having been first read to the above-named declarant, was signed by the declarant in my presence. 15

(Signed) G.H.

[Date]

..... minutes past o'clock [am] [pm] 20

NOTE: (1) If the person making the above declaration knowingly and wilfully makes therein a statement false in a material particular, he or she will be guilty of an offence.

(2) A voter with disabilities is a voter who has made a declaration under rule 30(2) that he or she is so incapacitated by blindness or other disability, or by an inability to read, as to be unable to vote without assistance. 25

SCHEDULE 3

Section 3

ABSENT VOTING IN THE REFERENDUM

PART 1

GREAT BRITAIN

30

Interpretation

- 1 In this Part of this Schedule –
 “anonymous entry”, in relation to a register of electors, is to be read in accordance with section 9B of the 1983 Act;

“European Parliamentary Elections Regulations” means the European Parliamentary Elections Regulations 2004 (S.I. 2004/293);

“peer” means a peer who is a member of the House of Lords;

“registration officer” has the meaning given in section 8 of the 1983 Act;

“relevant register” means –

(a) a register of parliamentary electors, or

(b) in relation to a peer –

(i) a register of local government electors, or

(ii) a register of peers maintained under section 3 of the Representation of the People Act 1985 (peers resident outside the United Kingdom);

“the relevant regulations” –

(a) in relation to England and Wales, means the Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001 (S.I. 2001/341) as applied by Schedule 4;

(b) in relation to Scotland, means the Representation of the People (Scotland) Regulations 2001 (S.I. 2001/497) as so applied;

“the RPA 2000” means the Representation of the People Act 2000.

Manner of voting in the referendum

2 (1) This paragraph applies to determine the manner of voting in England and Wales or Scotland of a person entitled to vote in the referendum.

(2) The person may vote in person at the polling station allotted to him or her under the referendum rules, unless the person is entitled to vote by post or by proxy in the referendum.

(3) The person may vote by post if the person is entitled to vote by post in the referendum.

(4) If the person is entitled to vote by proxy in the referendum, the person may so vote unless, before a ballot paper has been issued for the person to vote by proxy, the person applies at the polling station allotted to him or her under the referendum rules for a ballot paper for the purpose of voting in person, in which case he or she may vote in person there.

(5) If –

(a) the person is not entitled to vote by post or by proxy in the referendum, but

(b) the person cannot reasonably be expected to go in person to the polling station allotted to him or her under the referendum rules by reason of the particular circumstances of his or her employment, either as a constable or by the counting officer, on the date of the poll for a purpose connected with the referendum,

he or she may vote in person at any polling station.

(6) Nothing in this paragraph applies to a person to whom section 7 of the 1983 Act (mental patients who are not detained offenders) applies and who is liable, by virtue of any enactment, to be detained in the mental hospital in question, whether the person is registered by virtue of that provision or not; and such a person may vote –

-
- (a) in person (where the person is granted permission to be absent from the hospital and voting in person does not breach any condition attached to that permission), or
 - (b) by post or by proxy (where the person is entitled to vote by post or, as the case may be, by proxy in the referendum). 5
- (7) Nothing in this paragraph applies to a person to whom section 7A of the 1983 Act (persons remanded in custody) applies, whether the person is registered by virtue of that provision or not; and such a person may vote only by post or by proxy (where the person is entitled to vote by post or, as the case may be, by proxy in the referendum). 10
- (8) Sub-paragraph (2) does not prevent a person, at the polling station allotted to him or her, marking a tendered ballot paper in pursuance of rule 31 of the referendum rules.
- (9) In this paragraph “enactment” includes – 15
- (a) any provision of an Act,
 - (b) any provision of, or of any instrument made under, an Act of the Scottish Parliament,
 - (c) any provision of, or of any instrument made under, Northern Ireland legislation, and
 - (d) any provision of subordinate legislation (within the meaning of the Interpretation Act 1978). 20

Entitlement to vote by post or by proxy

- 3 (1) A person entitled to vote in the referendum is entitled to vote by post or by proxy if sub-paragraph (2) or (3) (as the case may be) applies to the person.
- (2) This sub-paragraph applies to a person who is shown in the postal voters list mentioned in paragraph 5(2) as entitled to vote by post in the referendum. 25
- (3) This sub-paragraph applies to a person who is shown in the list of proxies mentioned in paragraph 5(3) as entitled to vote by proxy in the referendum.

Application to vote by post or by proxy in the referendum

- 4 (1) Where a person applies to the registration officer to vote by post in the referendum, the registration officer must grant the application if – 30
- (a) the officer is satisfied that the applicant is or will be registered in a relevant register, and
 - (b) the application contains the applicant’s signature and date of birth and meets the requirements prescribed by the relevant regulations. 35
- (2) Where a person applies to the registration officer to vote by proxy in the referendum, the registration officer must grant the application if – 40
- (a) the officer is satisfied that the applicant’s circumstances on the date of the poll will be or are likely to be such that the applicant cannot reasonably be expected to vote in person at the polling station allotted or likely to be allotted to the applicant under the referendum rules,
 - (b) the officer is satisfied that the applicant is or will be registered in a relevant register, and

- (c) the application contains the applicant’s signature and date of birth and meets the requirements prescribed by the relevant regulations.
- (3) Where a person –
 - (a) has an anonymous entry in a relevant register, and
 - (b) applies to the registration officer to vote by proxy in the referendum, the registration officer must grant the application if it meets the requirements prescribed by the relevant regulations. 5
- (4) Nothing in sub-paragraph (1), (2) or (3) applies to –
 - (a) a person who is included in the record kept under paragraph 3 of Schedule 4 to the RPA 2000 (absent vote at elections for definite or indefinite period) in respect of parliamentary elections, 10
 - (b) a peer who is included in the record kept under paragraph 3 of Schedule 4 to the RPA 2000 (absent vote at elections for definite or indefinite period) in respect of local government elections, or
 - (c) a peer who is included in the record kept under paragraph 3 of Schedule 2 to the European Parliamentary Elections Regulations (absent vote at elections for definite or indefinite period). 15
- (5) But if a person is included in a record mentioned in sub-paragraph (4)(a), (b) or (c) and is shown in the record as voting by post, the person may, in respect of the referendum, apply to the registration officer – 20
 - (a) for his or her ballot paper to be sent to a different address from that shown in the record, or
 - (b) to vote by proxy.
- (6) The registration officer must grant an application under sub-paragraph (5) if – 25
 - (a) (in the case of any application) it meets the requirements prescribed by the relevant regulations, and
 - (b) (in the case of an application to vote by proxy) the registration officer is satisfied that the applicant’s circumstances on the date of the poll will be or are likely to be such that the applicant cannot reasonably be expected to vote in person at the polling station allotted or likely to be allotted to the applicant under the referendum rules. 30
- (7) The registration officer may dispense with the requirement under sub-paragraph (1)(b) or (2)(c) for the applicant to provide a signature if the officer is satisfied that the applicant – 35
 - (a) is unable to provide a signature because of any disability the applicant has,
 - (b) is unable to provide a signature because the applicant is unable to read or write, or
 - (c) is unable to sign in a consistent and distinctive way because of any such disability or inability. 40
- (8) The registration officer must keep a record of those whose applications under this paragraph have been granted, showing –
 - (a) their dates of birth, and
 - (b) except in cases where the registration officer in pursuance of sub-paragraph (7) has dispensed with the requirement to provide a signature, their signatures. 45

Absent voters lists

- 5 (1) The registration officer must, for the purposes of the referendum, keep the two special lists mentioned in sub-paragraphs (2) and (3) respectively.
- (2) The first of those lists is a list (“the postal voters list”) of those within column 2 of the following table, together with the addresses provided as mentioned in column 3 as the addresses to which their ballot papers are to be sent.

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	<i>Description of person voting by post</i>	<i>Address</i>	
1	A person whose application under paragraph 4(1) to vote by post in the referendum has been granted.	Address provided in the person’s application under paragraph 4(1).	10
2	A person who – (a) is for the time being shown in the record kept under paragraph 3 of Schedule 4 to the RPA 2000 as voting by post at parliamentary elections, and (b) is not within entry 1 of this table or entry 1 in the table in sub-paragraph (3).	Address provided in the person’s application under paragraph 3 of Schedule 4 to the RPA 2000 or (as the case may be) paragraph 4(5)(a) above.	15
3	A peer who – (a) is for the time being shown in the record kept under paragraph 3 of Schedule 4 to the RPA 2000 as voting by post at local government elections, (b) is not for the time being shown in the record kept under paragraph 3 of Schedule 2 to the European Parliamentary Elections Regulations as voting by post, or was included in that record before being included in the record mentioned in paragraph (a) above, and (c) is not within entry 1 of this table or entry 1 in the table in sub-paragraph (3).	Address provided in the peer’s application under paragraph 3 of Schedule 4 to the RPA 2000 or (as the case may be) paragraph 4(5)(a) above.	20 25 30
4	A peer who – (a) is for the time being shown in the record kept under paragraph 3 of Schedule 2 to the European Parliamentary Elections Regulations as voting by post, (b) is not for the time being shown in the record kept under paragraph 3 of Schedule 4 to the RPA 2000 as voting by post at local government elections, or was included in that record before being included in the record mentioned in paragraph (a) above, and (c) is not within entry 1 in this table or entry 1 in the table in sub-paragraph (3).	Address provided in the peer’s application under paragraph 3 of Schedule 2 to the European Parliamentary Elections Regulations or (as the case may be) paragraph 4(5)(a) above.	35 40 45

(3) The second of the lists mentioned in sub-paragraph (1) is a list (“the list of proxies”) of those within column 2 of the following table, together with the names and addresses of their proxies appointed as mentioned in column 3.

	<i>Description of person voting by proxy</i>	<i>Proxy</i>	
1	A person (not within entry 1 in the table in sub-paragraph (2)) whose application under paragraph 4(2), (3) or (5)(b) to vote by proxy in the referendum has been granted.	Proxy appointed under paragraph 6.	5
2	A person who – (a) is for the time being shown in the record kept under paragraph 3 of Schedule 4 to the RPA 2000 as voting by proxy at parliamentary elections, and (b) is not within entry 1 of this table or entry 1 in the table in sub-paragraph (2).	Proxy appointed under paragraph 6 of Schedule 4 to the RPA 2000 for parliamentary elections.	10 15
3	A peer who – (a) is for the time being shown in the record kept under paragraph 3 of Schedule 4 to the RPA 2000 as voting by proxy at local government elections, (b) is not for the time being shown in the record kept under paragraph 3 of Schedule 2 to the European Parliamentary Elections Regulations as voting by proxy, or was included in that record before being included in the record mentioned in paragraph (a) above, and (c) is not within entry 1 of this table or entry 1 or 4 in the table in sub-paragraph (2).	Proxy appointed under paragraph 6 of Schedule 4 to the RPA 2000 for local government elections.	20 25 30
4	A peer who – (a) is for the time being shown in the record kept under paragraph 3 of Schedule 2 to the European Parliamentary Elections Regulations as voting by proxy, (b) is not for the time being shown in the record kept under paragraph 3 of Schedule 4 to the RPA 2000 as voting by proxy at local government elections, or was included in that record before being included in the record mentioned in paragraph (a) above, and (c) is not within entry 1 in this table or entry 1 or 3 in the table in sub-paragraph (2).	Proxy appointed under paragraph 6 of Schedule 2 to the European Parliamentary Elections Regulations.	35 40

(4) In the case of a person who has an anonymous entry in a register, the postal voters list or list of proxies (as the case may be) must show in relation to the person only – 45

- (a) his or her electoral number, and
- (b) the period for which the anonymous entry has effect.

Proxies

- 6 (1) Subject to what follows, any person is capable of being appointed under this paragraph to vote as proxy for another (the “principal”) in the referendum. 5
- (2) The principal cannot have more than one person at a time appointed as proxy to vote for him or her in the referendum.
- (3) A person is capable of being appointed to vote as proxy only if – 10
- (a) the person is not subject to any legal incapacity (age apart) to vote in the referendum in his or her own right, and
 - (b) the person is either a Commonwealth citizen or a citizen of the Republic of Ireland.
- (4) Where the principal applies to the registration officer for the appointment of a proxy under this paragraph, the registration officer must make the appointment if the application meets the requirements prescribed by the relevant regulations and the officer is satisfied that the principal is or will be – 15
- (a) registered in a relevant register, and
 - (b) entitled to vote by proxy in the referendum by virtue of an application under paragraph 4(2), (3) or (5)(b), 20
- and that the proxy is capable of being, and willing to be, appointed.
- (5) The appointment of a proxy under this paragraph is to be made by means of a proxy paper, in the form set out in Part 3 of this Schedule, issued by the registration officer.
- (6) The appointment may be cancelled by the principal by giving notice to the registration officer and also ceases to be in force on the issue of a proxy paper appointing a different person under this paragraph to vote for the principal in the referendum. 25
- 7 (1) Subject to what follows, where a relevant proxy appointment is in force, the person appointed is entitled to vote as proxy for the person for whom the appointment was made (the “principal”). 30
- (2) In sub-paragraph (1) “relevant proxy appointment” means – 35
- (a) in relation to a principal who is included in the list of proxies by virtue of entry 1 in the table in paragraph 5(3), an appointment under paragraph 6;
 - (b) in relation to a principal who is included in the list of proxies by virtue of entry 2 in that table, an appointment under paragraph 6 of Schedule 4 to the RPA 2000 for parliamentary elections;
 - (c) in relation to a principal who is a peer included in the list of proxies by virtue of entry 3 in that table, an appointment under paragraph 6 of Schedule 4 to the RPA 2000 for local government elections; 40
 - (d) in relation to a principal who is a peer included in the list of proxies by virtue of entry 4 in that table, an appointment under paragraph 6 of Schedule 2 to the European Parliamentary Elections Regulations.
- (3) A person is capable of voting as proxy in the referendum only if – 45

- (a) the person is not subject to any legal incapacity (age apart) to vote in the referendum in his or her own right, and
 - (b) person is either a Commonwealth citizen or a citizen of the Republic of Ireland.
- (4) A person is not capable of voting as proxy in the referendum unless on the date of the poll the person has attained the age of 18. 5
- (5) A person is not entitled to vote as proxy in the referendum on behalf of more than two others of whom that person is not the spouse, civil partner, parent, grandparent, brother, sister, child or grandchild.

Voting as proxy

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- 8 (1) A person entitled to vote as proxy for another (the “principal”) in the referendum may do so in person at the polling station allotted to the principal under the referendum rules unless the proxy is entitled to vote by post as proxy for the principal in the referendum, in which case the proxy may vote by post. 15
- (2) Where a person is entitled to vote by post as proxy for the principal in the referendum, the principal may not apply for a ballot paper for the purpose of voting in person in the referendum.
- (3) For the purposes of this Part of this Schedule and the 1983 Act a person entitled to vote as proxy for another in the referendum is entitled so to vote by post if the person is included in the list kept under sub-paragraph (6). 20
- (4) Where a person applies to the registration officer to vote by post as proxy in the referendum the officer must grant the application if –
- (a) the officer is satisfied that the principal is or will be registered in a relevant register, 25
 - (b) the applicant is the subject of a relevant proxy appointment within the meaning of paragraph 7(2) (and is not included in a record mentioned in sub-paragraph (5) below), and
 - (c) the application contains the applicant’s signature and date of birth and meets the requirements prescribed by the relevant regulations. 30
- (5) A person who is the subject of a relevant proxy appointment within the meaning of paragraph 7(2) and who –
- (a) is included in the record kept under paragraph 7(6) of Schedule 4 to the RPA 2000 (record of proxies who have applied to vote by post) in respect of parliamentary elections, 35
 - (b) is included in the record kept under paragraph 7(6) of Schedule 4 to the RPA 2000 (record of proxies who have applied to vote by post) in respect of local government elections, or
 - (c) is included in the record kept under paragraph 7(6) of Schedule 2 to the European Parliamentary Elections Regulations (record of proxies who have applied to vote by post), 40
- may apply to the registration officer for his or her referendum ballot paper to be sent to a different address from that shown in the record, and the officer must grant the application if it meets the requirements prescribed by the relevant regulations. 45
- (6) The registration officer must, in respect of the referendum, keep a special list (“the proxy postal voters list”) of those within column 2 of the following

table, together with the addresses provided as mentioned in column 3 as the addresses to which their ballot papers are to be sent.

	<i>Description of proxy postal voters</i>	<i>Address</i>	
1	A proxy whose application under sub-paragraph (4) has been granted.	Address provided in the proxy's application under sub-paragraph (4).	5
2	A proxy who – (a) was appointed as mentioned in column 3 of entry 2 in the table in paragraph 5(3) for a person mentioned in column 2 of that entry, and (b) is for the time being included in the record kept under paragraph 7(6) of Schedule 4 to the RPA 2000 (record of proxies who have applied to vote by post).	Address provided in the proxy's application under paragraph 7(4)(a) of Schedule 4 to the RPA 2000 or (as the case may be) sub-paragraph (5) above.	10 15
3	A proxy who – (a) was appointed as mentioned in column 3 of entry 3 in the table in paragraph 5(3) for a peer mentioned in column 2 of that entry, and (b) is for the time being included in the record kept under paragraph 7(6) of Schedule 4 to the RPA 2000 (record of proxies who have applied to vote by post).	Address provided in the proxy's application under paragraph 7(4)(a) of Schedule 4 to the RPA 2000 or (as the case may be) sub-paragraph (5) above.	20 25
4	A proxy who – (a) was appointed as mentioned in column 3 of entry 4 in the table in paragraph 5(3) for a peer mentioned in column 2 of that entry, and (b) is for the time being included in the record kept under paragraph 7(6) of Schedule 2 to the European Parliamentary Elections Regulations.	Address provided in the proxy's application under paragraph 7(4)(a) of Schedule 2 to the European Parliamentary Elections Regulations or (as the case may be) sub-paragraph (5) above.	30 35

(7) In the case of a person who has an anonymous entry in a register, the special list mentioned in sub-paragraph (6) must contain only –

- (a) the person's electoral number, and
- (b) the period for which the anonymous entry has effect.

(8) Sub-paragraph (2) does not prevent a person, at the polling station allotted to him or her, marking a tendered ballot paper in pursuance of rule 31 of the referendum rules. 40

(9) The registration officer may dispense with the requirement under sub-paragraph (4)(c) for the applicant to provide a signature if the officer is satisfied that the applicant – 45

- (a) is unable to provide a signature because of any disability the applicant has,
 - (b) is unable to provide a signature because the applicant is unable to read or write, or
 - (c) is unable to sign in a consistent and distinctive way because of any such disability or inability. 5
- (10) The registration officer must also keep a record in relation to those whose applications under sub-paragraph (4) have been granted showing –
- (a) their dates of birth, and
 - (b) except in cases where the registration officer in pursuance of sub-paragraph (9) has dispensed with the requirement to provide a signature, their signatures. 10

Use of personal identifier information

- 9 The registration officer must either –
- (a) provide the counting officer with a copy of the information contained in records kept by the registration officer in pursuance of – 15
 - (i) paragraphs 3(9) and 7(12) of Schedule 4 to the RPA 2000 (dates of birth and signatures of certain electors and proxies) in relation to persons entitled to vote in the referendum, 20
 - (ii) paragraphs 3(9) and 7(13) of Schedule 2 to the European Parliamentary Elections Regulations (dates of birth and signatures of certain electors and proxies) in relation to peers entitled to vote in the referendum, and
 - (iii) paragraphs 4(8) and 8(10) above, or 25
 - (b) give the counting officer access to such information.
- 10 Information contained in records kept by a registration officer in pursuance of paragraph 4(8) or 8(10) may be disclosed by the officer (subject to any conditions prescribed by the relevant regulations) to –
- (a) any other registration officer if the officer thinks that to do so will assist the other registration officer in the performance of his or her duties; 30
 - (b) any person exercising functions in relation to the preparation or conduct of legal proceedings under this Act or the Representation of the People Acts. 35

Offences

- 11 (1) A person who –
- (a) in any declaration or form used for any of the purposes of this Part of this Schedule, makes a statement knowing it to be false, or
 - (b) attests an application under paragraph 4 knowing – 40
 - (i) that he or she is not authorised to do so, or
 - (ii) that it contains a statement which is false,
- is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.
- (2) A person who provides false information in connection with an application under paragraph 4(1) or (2) or 8(4) is guilty of an offence. 45

- (3) Subsections (3) to (8) of section 13D of the 1983 Act (but not the words “and Northern Ireland” in subsection (7)) apply for the purposes of subparagraph (2) as they apply for the purposes of subsection (1A) of that section.

PART 2

5

NORTHERN IRELAND

Interpretation

- 12 In this Part of this Schedule –
- “European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) Regulations” means the European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2004 (S.I. 2004/1267); 10
 - “Local Elections (Northern Ireland) Order” means the Local Elections (Northern Ireland) Order 1985 (S.I. 1985/454);
 - “peer” means a peer who is a member of the House of Lords;
 - “registration officer” has the meaning given in section 8 of the 1983 Act; 15
 - “relevant register” means –
 - (a) a register of parliamentary electors, or
 - (b) in relation to a peer –
 - (i) a register of local government electors, or
 - (ii) a register of peers maintained under section 3 of the Representation of the People Act 1985 (peers resident outside the United Kingdom); 20
 - “the 2008 regulations” means the Representation of the People (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2008 (S.I. 2008/1741) as applied by Schedule 4; 25
 - “the 1985 Act” means the Representation of the People Act 1985.

Manner of voting in the referendum

- 13 (1) This paragraph applies to determine the manner of voting in Northern Ireland of a person entitled to vote in the referendum.
- (2) The person may vote in person at the polling station allotted to him or her under the referendum rules, unless the person is entitled to vote by post or by proxy in the referendum. 30
- (3) The person may vote by post if the person is entitled to vote by post in the referendum.
- (4) If the person is entitled to vote by proxy in the referendum, the person may so vote unless, before a ballot paper has been issued for the person to vote by proxy, the person applies at the polling station allotted to him or her under the referendum rules for a ballot paper for the purpose of voting in person, in which case he or she may vote in person there. 35
- (5) If – 40
- (a) the person is not entitled to vote by post or by proxy in the referendum, but
 - (b) the person cannot reasonably be expected to go in person to the polling station allotted to him or her under the referendum rules by

reason of the particular circumstances of his or her employment, either as a constable or by the counting officer, on the date of the poll for a purpose connected with the referendum, he or she may vote in person at any polling station.

- (6) Nothing in this paragraph applies to— 5
- (a) a person to whom section 7 of the 1983 Act (mental patients who are not detained offenders) applies and who is liable, by virtue of any enactment, to be detained in the mental hospital in question, whether the person is registered by virtue of that provision or not;
 - (b) a person to whom section 7A of the 1983 Act (persons remanded in custody) applies, whether the person is registered by virtue of that provision or not; 10
- and such a person may vote only by post or by proxy (where the person is entitled to vote by post or, as the case may be, by proxy in the referendum).
- (7) Sub-paragraph (2) does not prevent a person, at the polling station allotted to him or her, marking a tendered ballot paper in pursuance of rule 31 of the referendum rules. 15
- (8) In this paragraph “enactment” includes—
- (a) any provision of an Act,
 - (b) any provision of, or of any instrument made under, an Act of the Scottish Parliament, 20
 - (c) any provision of, or of any instrument made under, Northern Ireland legislation, and
 - (d) any provision of subordinate legislation (within the meaning of the Interpretation Act 1978). 25

Entitlement to vote by post or by proxy

- 14 (1) A person entitled to vote in the referendum is entitled to vote by post or by proxy if sub-paragraph (2) or (3) (as the case may be) applies to the person.
- (2) This sub-paragraph applies to a person who is shown in the postal voters list mentioned in paragraph 16(2) as entitled to vote by post in the referendum. 30
- (3) This sub-paragraph applies to a person who is shown in the list of proxies mentioned in paragraph 16(3) as entitled to vote by proxy in the referendum.

Application to vote by post or by proxy in the referendum

- 15 (1) Where a person applies to the registration officer to vote by post, or to vote by proxy, in the referendum, the registration officer must grant the application if— 35
- (a) the officer is satisfied that the applicant is or will be registered in a relevant register,
 - (b) the officer is satisfied that the applicant’s circumstances on the date of the poll will be or are likely to be such that the applicant cannot reasonably be expected to vote in person at the polling station allotted or likely to be allotted to the applicant under the referendum rules, 40
 - (c) the application states the applicant’s date of birth and the registration officer is satisfied that the date stated corresponds with 45

-
- the date supplied as the date of the applicant's birth in pursuance of section 10(4A)(b), 10A(1A)(b) or 13A(2A)(b) of the 1983 Act,
- (d) the application is signed and (unless section 10(4B), 10A(1B) or 13A(2B) of the 1983 Act applies) the registration officer is satisfied that the signature on the application corresponds with the signature supplied as the applicant's signature in pursuance of section 10(4A)(a), 10A(1A)(a) or 13A(2A)(a) of the 1983 Act, 5
- (e) the application either states the applicant's national insurance number or states that the applicant does not have one, and the registration officer is satisfied as mentioned in sub-paragraph (2) below, and 10
- (f) the application meets the requirements prescribed by the 2008 Regulations.
- (2) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1)(e), the registration officer must be satisfied – 15
- (a) if the application states a national insurance number, that the requirements of sub-paragraph (3) are met, or
- (b) if the application states that the applicant does not have a national insurance number, that no such number was supplied as the applicant's national insurance number in pursuance of section 10(4A)(c)(i), 10A(1A)(c)(i) or 13A(2A)(c)(i) of the 1983 Act. 20
- (3) The requirements of this subsection are met if –
- (a) the number stated as mentioned in sub-paragraph (2)(a) is the same as the one supplied as the applicant's national insurance number in pursuance of section 10(4A)(c)(i), 10A(1A)(c)(i) or 13A(2A)(c)(i) of the 1983 Act, or 25
- (b) no national insurance number was supplied under any of those provisions, but the registration officer is not aware of any reason to doubt the authenticity of the application.
- (4) Nothing in sub-paragraph (1) applies to – 30
- (a) a person who is included in the record kept under section 6 of the 1985 Act (absent vote at parliamentary elections for indefinite period),
- (b) a peer who is included in the record kept under paragraph 1 of Schedule 2 to the Local Elections (Northern Ireland) Order (absent vote at local elections for indefinite period), or 35
- (c) a peer who is included in the record kept under regulation 8 of the European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) Regulations (absent vote at elections for indefinite period).
- (5) But if a person is included in a record mentioned in sub-paragraph (4)(a), (b) or (c) and is shown in the record as voting by post, the person may, in respect of the referendum, apply to the registration officer – 40
- (a) for his or her ballot paper to be sent to a different address in the United Kingdom from that shown in the record, or
- (b) to vote by proxy. 45
- (6) The registration officer must grant an application under sub-paragraph (5) if it meets the requirements prescribed by the 2008 Regulations.
- (7) A person applying to vote by post must provide an address in the United Kingdom as the address to which the person's ballot paper is to be sent.

Absent voters lists

- 16 (1) The registration officer must, for the purposes of the referendum, keep the two special lists mentioned in sub-paragraphs (2) and (3) respectively.
- (2) The first of those lists is a list (“the postal voters list”) of those within column 2 of the following table, together with the addresses provided as mentioned in column 3 as the addresses to which their ballot papers are to be sent.

5

	<i>Description of person voting by post</i>	<i>Address</i>	
1	A person whose application under paragraph 15(1) to vote by post in the referendum has been granted.	Address provided in the person’s application under paragraph 15(1).	10
2	A person who – (a) is for the time being shown in the record kept under section 6 of the 1985 Act as voting by post at parliamentary elections, and (b) is not within entry 1 of this table or entry 1 in the table in sub-paragraph (3).	Address provided in the person’s application under section 6 of the 1985 Act or (as the case may be) paragraph 15(5)(a) above.	15
3	A peer who – (a) is for the time being shown in the record kept under paragraph 1 of Schedule 2 to the Local Elections (Northern Ireland) Order, (b) is not for the time being shown in the record kept under regulation 8 of the European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) Regulations as voting by post, or was included in that record before being included in the record mentioned in paragraph (a) above, and (c) is not within entry 1 of this table or entry 1 in the table in sub-paragraph (3).	Address provided in the peer’s application under paragraph 1 of Schedule 2 to the Local Elections (Northern Ireland) Order or (as the case may be) paragraph 15(5)(a) above.	20 25 30
4	A peer who – (a) is for the time being shown in the record kept under regulation 8 of the European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) Regulations as voting by post, (b) is not for the time being shown in the record kept under paragraph 1 of Schedule 2 to the Local Elections (Northern Ireland) Order, or was included in that record before being included in the record mentioned in paragraph (a) above, and (c) is not within entry 1 in this table or entry 1 in the table in sub-paragraph (3).	Address provided in the peer’s application under regulation 8 of the European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) Regulations or (as the case may be) paragraph 15(5)(a) above.	35 40 45

(3) The second of the lists mentioned in sub-paragraph (1) is a list (“the list of proxies”) of those within column 2 of the following table, together with the names and addresses of their proxies appointed as mentioned in column 3.

	<i>Description of person voting by proxy</i>	<i>Proxy</i>	
1	A person (not within entry 1 in the table in sub-paragraph (2)) whose application under paragraph 15(1) or (5)(b) to vote by proxy in the referendum has been granted.	Proxy appointed under paragraph 17.	5
2	A person who – (a) is for the time being shown in the record kept under section 6 of the 1985 Act as voting by proxy at parliamentary elections, and (b) is not within entry 1 of this table or entry 1 in the table in sub-paragraph (2).	Proxy appointed under section 8 of the 1985 Act for parliamentary elections.	10 15
3	A peer who – (a) is for the time being shown in the record kept under paragraph 1 of Schedule 2 to the Local Elections (Northern Ireland) Order as voting by proxy, (b) is not for the time being shown in the record kept under regulation 8 of the European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) Regulations as voting by proxy, or was included in that record before being included in the record mentioned in paragraph (a) above, and (c) is not within entry 1 of this table or entry 1 or 4 in the table in sub-paragraph (2).	Proxy appointed under paragraph 3 of Schedule 2 to the Local Elections (Northern Ireland) Order.	20 25 30
4	A peer who – (a) is for the time being shown in the record kept under regulation 8 of the European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) Regulations as voting by proxy, (b) is not for the time being shown in the record kept under paragraph 1 of Schedule 2 to the Local Elections (Northern Ireland) Order as voting by proxy, or was included in that record before being included in the record mentioned in paragraph (a) above, and (c) is not within entry 1 in this table or entry 1 or 3 in the table in sub-paragraph (2).	Proxy appointed under regulation 10 of the European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) Regulations.	35 40

Proxies

- 17 (1) Subject to what follows, any person is capable of being appointed under this paragraph to vote as proxy for another (the “principal”) in the referendum.
- (2) The principal cannot have more than one person at a time appointed as proxy to vote for him or her in the referendum. 5
- (3) A person is capable of being appointed to vote as proxy only if—
- (a) the person is not subject to any legal incapacity (age apart) to vote in the referendum in his or her own right, and
 - (b) the person is either a Commonwealth citizen or a citizen of the Republic of Ireland. 10
- (4) Where the principal applies to the registration officer for the appointment of a proxy under this paragraph, the registration officer must make the appointment if the application meets the requirements prescribed by the 2008 Regulations and the officer is satisfied that the principal is or will be—
- (a) registered in a relevant register, and 15
 - (b) entitled to vote by proxy in the referendum by virtue of an application under paragraph 15(1) or (5)(b),
- and that the proxy is capable of being, and willing to be, appointed.
- (5) The appointment of a proxy under this paragraph is to be made by means of a proxy paper, in the form set out in Part 3 of this Schedule, issued by the registration officer. 20
- (6) The appointment may be cancelled by the principal by giving notice to the registration officer and also ceases to be in force on the issue of a proxy paper appointing a different person under this paragraph to vote for the principal in the referendum. 25
- 18 (1) Subject to what follows, where a relevant proxy appointment is in force, the person appointed is entitled to vote as proxy for the person for whom the appointment was made (the “principal”).
- (2) In sub-paragraph (1) “relevant proxy appointment” means—
- (a) in relation to a principal who is included in the list of proxies by virtue of entry 1 in the table in paragraph 16(3), an appointment under paragraph 17; 30
 - (b) in relation to a principal who is included in the list of proxies by virtue of entry 2 in that table, an appointment under section 8 of the 1985 Act for parliamentary elections; 35
 - (c) in relation to a principal who is a peer included in the list of proxies by virtue of entry 3 in that table, an appointment under paragraph 3 of Schedule 2 to the Local Elections (Northern Ireland) Order;
 - (d) in relation to a principal who is a peer included in the list of proxies by virtue of entry 4 in that table, an appointment under regulation 10 of the European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) Regulations. 40
- (3) A person is capable of voting as proxy in the referendum only if—
- (a) the person is not subject to any legal incapacity (age apart) to vote in the referendum in his or her own right, and 45
 - (b) the person is either a Commonwealth citizen or a citizen of the Republic of Ireland.

- (4) A person is not capable of voting as proxy in the referendum unless on the date of the poll the person has attained the age of 18.
- (5) A person is not entitled to vote as proxy in the referendum on behalf of more than two others of whom that person is not the spouse, civil partner, parent, grandparent, brother, sister, child or grandchild. 5

Voting as proxy

- 19 (1) A person entitled to vote as proxy for another (the “principal”) in the referendum may do so in person at the polling station allotted to the principal under the referendum rules unless the proxy is entitled to vote by post as proxy for the principal in the referendum, in which case the proxy may vote by post. 10
- (2) Where a person is entitled to vote by post as proxy for the principal in the referendum, the elector may not apply for a ballot paper for the purpose of voting in person in the referendum.
- (3) For the purposes of this Part of this Schedule and the 1983 Act a person entitled to vote as proxy for another in the referendum is entitled so to vote by post if the person is included in the list kept under sub-paragraph (6). 15
- (4) Where a person applies to the registration officer to vote by post as proxy in the referendum the officer must grant the application if –
- (a) the officer is satisfied that the principal is or will be registered in a relevant register, 20
 - (b) the applicant is the subject of a relevant proxy appointment within the meaning of paragraph 18(2) (and is not included in a record mentioned in sub-paragraph (5) below),
 - (c) either – 25
 - (i) the officer is satisfied that the applicant’s circumstances on the date of the poll will be or are likely to be such that the applicant cannot reasonably be expected to vote in person at the polling station allotted or likely to be allotted to the principal under the referendum rules, or 30
 - (ii) the applicant is, or the officer is satisfied that the applicant will be, included in the absent voters list for the referendum,
 - (d) the application specifies an address in the United Kingdom as the address to which the ballot paper is to be sent, and
 - (e) the application meets the requirements prescribed by the 2008 Regulations. 35
- (5) A person who is the subject of a relevant proxy appointment within the meaning of paragraph 18(2) and who –
- (a) is included in the record kept under section 9(6) of the 1985 Act (record of proxies who have applied to vote by post) in respect of parliamentary elections, 40
 - (b) is included in the record kept under paragraph 4(5) of Schedule 2 to the Local Elections (Northern Ireland) Order (record of proxies who have applied to vote by post), or
 - (c) is included in the record kept under regulation 11(5) of the European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) Regulations (record of proxies who have applied to vote by post), 45

may apply to the registration officer for his or her referendum ballot paper to be sent to a different address in the United Kingdom from that shown in the record, and the officer must grant the application if it meets the requirements prescribed by the 2008 Regulations.

- (6) The registration officer must, in respect of the referendum, keep a special list (“the proxy postal voters list”) of those within column 2 of the following table, together with the addresses provided as mentioned in column 3 as the addresses to which their ballot papers are to be sent. 5

	<i>Description of proxy postal voters</i>	<i>Address</i>	
1	A proxy whose application under sub-paragraph (4) has been granted.	Address provided in the proxy’s application under sub-paragraph (4).	10
2	A proxy who – (a) was appointed as mentioned in column 3 of entry 2 in the table in paragraph 16(3) for a person mentioned in column 2 of that entry, and (b) is for the time being included in the record kept under section 9(6) of the 1985 Act.	Address provided in the proxy’s application under section 9(4) of the 1985 Act or (as the case may be) sub-paragraph (5) above.	15 20
3	A proxy who – (a) was appointed as mentioned in column 3 of entry 3 in the table in paragraph 16(3) for a peer mentioned in column 2 of that entry, and (b) is for the time being included in the record kept under paragraph 4(5) of Schedule 2 to the Local Elections (Northern Ireland) Order.	Address provided in the proxy’s application under paragraph 4(4) of Schedule 2 to the Local Elections (Northern Ireland) Order or (as the case may be) sub-paragraph (5) above.	25
4	A proxy who – (a) was appointed as mentioned in column 3 of entry 4 in the table in paragraph 16(3) for a peer mentioned in column 2 of that entry, and (b) is for the time being included in the record kept under regulation 11(5) of the European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) Regulations.	Address provided in the proxy’s application under regulation 11(4) of the European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) Regulations or (as the case may be) sub-paragraph (5) above.	30 35

- (7) Sub-paragraph (2) does not prevent a person, at the polling station allotted to him or her, marking a tendered ballot paper in pursuance of rule 31 of the referendum rules. 40

Offences

- 20 (1) A person who –
 (a) in any declaration or form used for any of the purposes of this Part of this Schedule, makes a statement knowing it to be false, or 45

- (b) attests an application under paragraph 15 knowing –
 - (i) that he or she is not authorised to do so, or
 - (ii) that it contains a statement which is false,
 is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale. 5
- (2) A person who provides false information in connection with an application under paragraph 15(1) or 19(4) is guilty of an offence.
- (3) Subsections (3) to (7) of section 13D of the 1983 Act apply for the purposes of sub-paragraph (2) as they apply for the purposes of subsection (1A) of that section. 10

PART 3

FORM OF PROXY PAPER

REFERENDUM ON THE VOTING SYSTEM FOR PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

Voting area..... 15

Name of proxy.....

Address.....

.....

.....

is hereby appointed as proxy for 20

(Name of elector).....

[*who is qualified to be registered for

(qualifying address).....]

[*who has made an overseas elector’s declaration]

Signature..... 25

Electoral Registration Officer

Address.....

.....

.....

Date..... 30

** Delete whichever is inappropriate*

YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE AS PROXY

- (1) This proxy paper gives you the right to vote as proxy on behalf of the elector whose name is given overleaf. However, you may not vote as proxy in the referendum for more than two electors of whom you are not the spouse, civil partner, parent, grandparent, brother, sister, child or grandchild. 5
- (2) Your appointment as proxy is for the purposes of the referendum only.
- (3) You may vote as proxy at the polling station allotted to the elector on whose behalf you are appointed. Shortly before polling day you will be sent a proxy poll card telling you where the polling station is. You do not need to take either the poll card or this proxy paper to the polling station but you may find it helpful to do so. 10
- (4) If you cannot vote in person at the polling station, you should consult the electoral registration officer about your right to vote by post.

SCHEDULE 4

Section 3

APPLICATION TO THE REFERENDUM OF EXISTING PROVISIONS 15

PART 1

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT 1983

- 1 (1) The provisions of the 1983 Act listed in the first column of the table apply for the purposes of the referendum.
- (2) In their application by virtue of this paragraph, those provisions have effect – 20
- (a) with the modifications (if any) shown in the second column of the table, and
- (b) with any other necessary modifications, including in particular those set out in sub-paragraph (3). 25
- (3) Except where the context otherwise requires –
- (a) a reference to a provision that is applied by this Schedule has effect as a reference to that provision as so applied (subject to sub-paragraph (4)(b));
- (b) expressions are to be construed in accordance with the definitions in section 5 of this Act and rule 52 of the referendum rules. 30
- (4) In the following provisions of the 1983 Act a reference to a provision that is applied by this paragraph includes a reference to that provision as so applied –
- (a) sections 13(5) and 13A(2)(b), (4) and (5) (which relate to registration); 35
- (b) sections 56(4A) and 58(5) (registration appeals), including sections 56(4A) and 58(5) as applied by this paragraph.
- (5) In sections 173 and 173A of the 1983 Act (which relate to incapacities where a person has been convicted of a corrupt or illegal practice) a reference to a person convicted of a corrupt or illegal practice includes a reference to a 40

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>	
	In subsection (5) omit “prevent the rejection of the vote on a scrutiny, or”.	
Section 50 (effect of misdescription)	In paragraph (c) – (a) omit “nomination paper,”; (b) for “and the parliamentary election rules” substitute “or Part 1 of the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”.	5
Section 52 (discharge of registration duties)	The Secretary of State may give a direction under section 52(1) only if it is in accordance with a recommendation made by the Electoral Commission.	10
	In subsections (1), (2) and (4), after “this Act” insert “and Part 1 of the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”.	15
Section 54 (payment of expenses of registration)	In subsection (1), after the first “this Act” insert “or Part 1 of the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”.	
Section 56(3) to (4A) (registration appeals: England and Wales)	In subsection (3) – (a) for “notice of an election is given” substitute “notice of the referendum is given”; (b) for “the election” substitute “the referendum”.	20 25
	In subsection (4A), for “that election” substitute “the referendum”.	
Section 57 (registration appeals: Scotland)	Section 57 applies for the purposes of the referendum only in so far as it applies section 56(3) to (4A).	30
Section 58(3) to (5) (registration appeals: Northern Ireland)	In subsection (3) – (a) for “notice of an election is given” substitute “notice of the referendum is given”; (b) for “the election” substitute “the referendum”.	35
	In subsection (5), for “that election” substitute “the referendum”.	
Section 60 (personation)	In subsection (2), for “at a parliamentary or local government election” substitute “in the referendum”.	40

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>
Section 61 (other voting offences)	<p>For subsections (1) to (4) substitute –</p> <p>“(1) A person shall be guilty of an offence if –</p> <p style="padding-left: 2em;">(a) he votes in person or by post, whether on his own behalf or as proxy, or applies to vote by proxy or by post on his own behalf, in the referendum, knowing that he is subject to a legal incapacity to vote in the referendum; or</p> <p style="padding-left: 2em;">(b) he applies for the appointment of a proxy to vote for him in the referendum knowing that he is or the person to be appointed is subject to a legal incapacity to vote in the referendum; or</p> <p style="padding-left: 2em;">(c) he votes, whether in person or by post, as proxy for some other person in the referendum knowing that that person is subject to a legal incapacity to vote.</p> <p>For the purposes of this subsection references to a person being subject to a legal incapacity to vote do not, in relation to things done before polling day, include his being below voting age if he will be of voting age on that day.</p> <p>(2) A person shall be guilty of an offence if –</p> <p style="padding-left: 2em;">(a) he votes on his own behalf otherwise than by proxy more than once in the referendum; or</p> <p style="padding-left: 2em;">(b) he votes on his own behalf in person in the referendum when he is entitled to vote by post; or</p> <p style="padding-left: 2em;">(c) he votes on his own behalf in person in the referendum, knowing that a person appointed to vote as his proxy either has already voted in person or is entitled to vote by post; or</p> <p style="padding-left: 2em;">(d) he applies under Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010 for a person to be appointed as his proxy to vote for him without applying for the cancellation of a previous appointment of a third person then in force under that Schedule or without withdrawing a pending application for such an appointment.</p>

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>	
Section 62A(1) to (5) (applications for absent voting: offences)	(3) A person shall be guilty of an offence if –	
	(a) he votes as proxy for the same person more than once in the referendum; or	5
	(b) he votes in person as proxy for another person in the referendum and he is entitled to vote by post as proxy for that person; or	
	(c) he votes in person as proxy for another person in the referendum and he knows that other person has already voted in person.	10
	(4) A person shall also be guilty of an offence if he votes as proxy for more than two persons of whom he is not the spouse, civil partner, parent, grandparent, brother, sister, child or grandchild.”	15
	In subsection (6A), for the words from “ballot paper” to the end substitute “in reliance on Case 3, 4, 5 or 6 in rule 31 of the referendum rules.”	20
	Omit subsection (6B).	
	In subsection (7) –	
(a) after “section 173 below” insert “(read with paragraph 1(5) of Schedule 4 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010)”;	25	
(b) omit paragraph (b).		
	In subsection (1)(a), omit “at a parliamentary or local government election”.	30
	In subsection (2)(c), for “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”.	

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>
Section 63 (breach of official duty)	<p>For subsections (3) and (4) substitute—</p> <p>“(3) The persons to whom this section applies are—</p> <p style="padding-left: 2em;">(a) the Chief Counting Officer and any Regional Counting Officer or counting officer, 5</p> <p style="padding-left: 2em;">(b) any presiding officer or registration officer, 10</p> <p style="padding-left: 2em;">(c) any official designated by a universal postal service provider, and</p> <p style="padding-left: 2em;">(d) any deputy of a person mentioned in any of paragraphs (a) to (c) above or any person appointed to assist or in the course of his employment assisting a person so mentioned in connection with his official duties; 15</p> <p>and “official duty” shall for the purposes of this section be construed accordingly, but shall not include duties imposed otherwise than by Part 1 of the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010 or the law relating to referendums. 20</p> <p>25</p> <p>(4) Where—</p> <p style="padding-left: 2em;">(a) a Regional Counting Officer or counting officer is guilty of an act or omission in breach of his official duty, but 30</p> <p style="padding-left: 2em;">(b) he remedies that act or omission in full by taking steps under paragraph 5 of Schedule 1 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010, 35</p> <p>he shall not be guilty of an offence under subsection (1) above.”</p>
Section 65 (tampering with papers)	<p>In subsection (1)—</p> <p style="padding-left: 2em;">(a) for “at a parliamentary or local government election” substitute “in the referendum”; 40</p> <p style="padding-left: 2em;">(b) omit paragraph (a);</p> <p style="padding-left: 2em;">(c) in paragraph (f), for “election” substitute “referendum”.</p>

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>	
Section 66(1) to (6) (requirement of secrecy)	For subsection (2) substitute –	
	“(2) In Scotland, a person shall be guilty of an offence if –	
	(a) in the referendum, he forges or counterfeits any ballot paper or the official mark on any ballot paper; or	5
	(b) he fraudulently or without due authority, as the case may be, attempts to do any of those things.”	10
	In subsection (3), for “a returning officer” substitute “the Chief Counting Officer, a Regional Counting Officer, a counting officer”.	
	In subsection (1), for paragraphs (a) to (d) substitute –	15
	“(a) the Chief Counting Officer, and every Regional Counting Officer and counting officer, attending at a polling station,	
	(b) every deputy of such an officer so attending,	20
	(c) every presiding officer and clerk so attending,	
	(d) every referendum agent, polling agent and counting agent so attending, and	25
(e) every person so attending by virtue of any of sections 6A to 6D of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000.”.	30	
	In subsections (2)(b), (3)(b) and (c), (4)(d) and (5), for “the candidate for whom” substitute “the referendum answer for which”.	
	In subsection (3)(d), for “the name of the candidate for whom” substitute “the referendum answer for which”.	35
	In subsection (5) –	
(a) for “blind voter” substitute “voter with disabilities”;		
(b) at the end insert –	40	
““Voter with disabilities” has the meaning given by rule 30(11) of the referendum rules.”		
Section 66A (prohibition on publication of exit polls)	In subsection (1), for “an election to which this section applies”, and for “the election” (in both places), substitute “the referendum”.	45

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>	
	Omit –	
	(a) subsection (2);	
	(b) in subsection (4), the words after “whatever means”.	5
Section 66B (failure to comply with conditions relating to supply etc. of documents)	In subsection (1)(a), for “regulations under rule 57 of the parliamentary election rules” substitute “regulations mentioned in rule 51(5)(a) of the referendum rules”.	
Section 92 (broadcasting from outside UK)	In subsection (1) –	10
	(a) for “at a parliamentary or local government election” substitute “in the referendum”;	
	(b) for “the election” substitute “the referendum”.	15
	In subsection (2), after “section 173 below” insert “(read with paragraph 1(5) of Schedule 4 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010)”.	
Section 94(1) (imitation poll cards)	For “the election of any candidate at a parliamentary election or a local government election to which this section applies” substitute “a particular result in the referendum”.	20
Section 95 (rooms for meetings)	For subsection (1) substitute –	25
	“(1) Subject to the provisions of this section, a permitted participant is entitled, for the purpose of holding a public meeting to promote a particular result in the referendum, to use free of charge at reasonable times during the referendum period (within the meaning given by paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010) any meeting room to which this section applies.”	30
	Omit subsection (2).	
	In subsection (3) omit “situated in the constituency,”.	
	In subsection (5), for “candidate” substitute “permitted participant”.	40

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>	
	The lists maintained in accordance with paragraph 3 of Schedule 5 to the 1983 Act have effect for the purposes of the referendum; and at any time during the referendum period the following are entitled at all reasonable hours to inspect those lists or a copy of those lists –	5
	(a) permitted participants;	
	(b) persons authorised by permitted participants to inspect those lists;	10
	(c) referendum agents.	
Section 97 (disturbances at meetings)	For subsection (2) substitute –	
	“(2) This section applies to a meeting held by a permitted participant during the referendum period (within the meaning given by paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010) in connection with the referendum.”	15
		20
Section 99 (officials not to act for candidates)	For subsection (1) substitute –	
	“(1) If –	
	(a) the Chief Counting Officer or any Regional Counting Officer or counting officer,	25
	(b) any officer, deputy or clerk appointed by such a person,	
	(c) any officer of a local authority whose services have been placed at the disposal of a Regional Counting Officer under paragraph 2(3)(b) of Schedule 1 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010, or	30
	(d) any officer of a local authority whose services have been placed at the disposal of a counting officer under section 128 of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000,	35
	acts as a referendum agent for a permitted participant, he shall be guilty of an offence.”	40
Section 100 (illegal canvassing by police officers)	In subsection (1), for the words after “proxy” substitute “in the referendum”.	45
Section 109 (payments for exhibition of election notices)	In subsection (1), for “the election of a candidate at an election” substitute “a particular result in the referendum”.	

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>	
	In subsection (2), for “an election” substitute “the referendum”.	
Section 111 (prohibition of paid canvassers)	For “an election” substitute “the referendum”	5
	For “a candidate’s election” substitute “a particular result in the referendum”.	
Section 112(a) and (c) (providing money for illegal purposes)		10
Section 113 (bribery)	In subsection (2) –	
	(a) for “the return of any person at an election” (in both places) substitute “a particular result in the referendum”;	
	(b) omit paragraph (iii).	15
	In subsection (3), for “at any election” (in both places) substitute “in the referendum”.	
	In subsections (4), (5) and (6), for “an election” substitute “the referendum”.	
Section 114 (treating)	In subsection (2), for “an election” substitute “the referendum”.	20
Section 115 (undue influence)		
Section 116(a) (rights of creditors)		
Section 117(2) (saving for employees to be absent for voting)	For “parliamentary electors” substitute “persons entitled to vote on their own behalf”.	25
	For “at a parliamentary election” substitute “in the referendum”.	
	In paragraphs (b) and (c), for “any particular candidate at the election” substitute “a particular answer in the referendum”.	30
In section 118 (interpretation), the definitions of “money”, “pecuniary reward” and “payment”		35
Section 167(1) to (2) (application for relief)	For subsection (1) substitute –	
	“(1) An application for relief under this section may be made to the High Court.”	40
	In subsection (2)(c), omit the words from “in the constituency” to “was held,”.	

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>	
Sections 168(1) and (7), 169 and 170 (prosecutions for corrupt and illegal practices)		
Section 175(1) and (3) (prosecution for illegal employment)		5
Section 176 (time limit for prosecutions)	In subsection (2C), for “rule 57 of the parliamentary elections rules” substitute “rule 51 of the referendum rules”.	10
	In subsection (2D), for paragraph (a) substitute – “(a) directing the registration officer not to cause the documents to be destroyed at the expiry of the period of one year mentioned in rule 51 of the referendum rules,”.	15
Section 178 (prosecution of offences committed outside the UK)		
Section 179 (offences by associations)	Omit paragraph (b).	20
Section 181(1) (Director of Public Prosecutions)		
Section 184 (service of notices)	In subsection (1) – (a) for “an election” substitute “the referendum”; (b) omit “or any election court,”; (c) in paragraph (a), omit the words from “in the constituency” to the end.	25
In section 185 (interpretation), the definitions of “payment” and “Licensing Acts”		30
Section 186 (computation of time)		
Section 199B(1) to (9) (translations etc. of certain documents)	In subsection (1) – (a) after “this Act” insert “or Part 1 of the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”; (b) for “a parliamentary or local government election” substitute “the referendum”.	35
	In subsection (4) omit paragraph (a).	40

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>	
	For subsections (5) and (6) substitute –	
	“(5) The counting officer may cause to be displayed at every polling station an enlarged sample copy of the ballot paper.	5
	(6) The sample copy mentioned in subsection (5) above –	
	(a) must have printed on it the words “Vote (X) once only” both at the top and immediately below the referendum question, and	10
	(b) below the second occurrence of those words, may include a translation of those words into such other languages as the counting officer thinks appropriate.”	15
In section 202 (interpretation), the definitions in subsection (1) of “legal incapacity”, “legal process”, “person”, “prescribed” and “universal postal service provider”; and subsection (2)	In the definition of “prescribed”, after “regulations” insert “applied by Schedule 4 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”.	20
Section 204(3), (5) and (8) (general application to Scotland)		25
Section 205 (general application to Northern Ireland)		
PART 2		30
ELECTORAL ADMINISTRATION ACT 2006		
2	Section 71 of the Electoral Administration Act 2006 (restriction on powers of arrest by persons other than constables) applies for the purposes of the referendum as if the reference to section 60 of the 1983 Act (personation) were to that section as applied by Part 1 of this Schedule.	35
PART 3		
THE 2001 REGULATIONS (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND 2001 REGULATIONS (SCOTLAND)		
3	(1) The provisions of the relevant regulations listed in the first column of the table apply for the purposes of the referendum; and for this purpose the relevant regulations are –	40
	(a) the Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001 (S.I. 2001/341) (referred to in this paragraph as “the England and Wales Regulations”), and	

- (b) the Representation of the People (Scotland) Regulations 2001 (S.I. 2001/497) (referred to in this paragraph as “the Scotland Regulations”).
- (2) In their application by virtue of this paragraph, those provisions have effect— 5
 - (a) with the modifications (if any) shown in the second column of the table, and
 - (b) with any other necessary modifications, including in particular those set out in sub-paragraph (3).
- (3) Except where the context otherwise requires— 10
 - (a) a reference to a provision that is applied by this Schedule has effect as a reference to that provision as so applied (subject to sub-paragraph (4)(c), (d), (e) and (g));
 - (b) expressions are to be construed in accordance with the definitions listed in section 5 of this Act and rule 52 of the referendum rules. 15
- (4) In the following provisions of the relevant regulations, a reference to subsection (3), (3B) or (3D) of section 13B of the 1983 Act includes a reference to that subsection as applied by Part 1 of this Schedule—
 - (a) regulation 7(5)(b) (copies of documents);
 - (b) regulation 31A(1)(c) (objections made after an application has been allowed but before an alteration to the register has taken effect etc.); 20
 - (c) regulation 36A (communication of notices issued on polling day), including that regulation as applied by this paragraph;
 - (d) regulation 92 (definition of register for certain purposes), including that regulation as applied by this paragraph; 25
 - (e) regulation 97 of the Scotland Regulations (supply of free copy of full register for electoral purposes), including that regulation as applied by this paragraph;
 - (f) regulations 97A(1)(b), 98(1)(b), 99(1)(b), 100(2)(b), 108A(1)(b), 110(1)(b) and (7) and 111(1) and (6)(b) of the Scotland Regulations (supply of the register to certain persons); 30
 - (g) regulation 98 of the England and Wales Regulations (supply of free copy of full register for electoral purposes), including that regulation as applied by this paragraph;
 - (h) regulations 99(1)(b), 100(1)(b), 101(3)(b), 102(1)(b), 109A(1)(b), 111(1)(b) and (7) and 112(1), (6)(b) and (7) of the England and Wales Regulations (supply of the register to certain persons); 35
 - (i) regulation 116(1)(aa) (interpretation of Part 7).
- (5) In relation to the referendum—
 - (a) regulation 45B(2) of the Scotland Regulations (restrictions on supply etc. of record of anonymous entries) has effect as if after sub-paragraph (a) there were inserted— 40
 - “(aa) a deputy of the registration officer acting in that other capacity;”and as if the references in sub-paragraph (b) to “that officer” were to “a person mentioned in sub-paragraph (a) or (aa);” 45
 - (b) regulation 94(2) of the England and Wales Regulations (restrictions on supply etc. of full register) has effect as if after sub-paragraph (b)

- there were inserted –
- “(ba) the Chief Counting Officer and any Regional Counting Officer;
 - (bb) any deputy of the Chief Counting Officer or any Regional Counting Officer;” 5
- and as if the references in sub-paragraph (c) to “any person mentioned in paragraph (a) or (b)” and “any such officer” were references to “a person mentioned in sub-paragraph (a), (b), (ba) or (bb)”;
- (c) regulation 94(2) of the Scotland Regulations (restrictions on supply etc. of full register) has effect as if after sub-paragraph (a) there were inserted – 10
 - “(aa) any deputy of the registration officer acting in that other capacity,
 - (ab) the Chief Counting Officer and any Regional Counting Officer, 15
 - (ac) any deputy of the Chief Counting Officer or any Regional Counting Officer,”

and as if the references in sub-paragraph (b) to “that officer” were to “a person mentioned in sub-paragraph (a), (aa), (ab) or (ac)”.

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- (6) The provisions of the relevant regulations that apply for the purposes of the referendum by virtue of this paragraph are in addition to the provisions of the regulations that would apply for those purposes in any event.

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>	
Regulation 3(1) and (3) (interpretation)		25
Regulation 4 (forms)	In paragraph (1) – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) for paragraphs (a) and (b) substitute “applications made under Part 1 of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010 and Part 4 of these Regulations”; (b) “an election” substitute “the referendum”. Paragraph (2) applies for the purposes of the referendum only in so far as it relates to Form K in Schedule 3 to the regulations.	30 35
Regulation 5 (applications, notices etc.)		
Regulation 6 (electronic signatures)		40
Regulation 8 (time)		
Regulation 11 (interference with notices etc.)		

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>	
Regulation 32A (representations regarding clerical errors)		
Regulation 36(2) and (3) (notices in connection with registration)	In paragraph (2) omit “13A(2) or”.	5
Regulation 36A (communication of notices issued on polling day)		10
Regulation 50 (interpretation of Part 4)	Omit the definition of “allotted polling station”.	
Regulation 51 (general requirements for applications for an absent vote)	For “Schedule 4” substitute “Part 1 of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”.	15
	In paragraph (2) –	
	(a) in sub-paragraph (b), for “paragraph 7(4) or (7) of Schedule 4” substitute “paragraph 8(4) or (5) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”;	20
	(b) in sub-paragraph (f), for “paragraph 3, 4 or 7 of Schedule 4” substitute “paragraph 4 or 8 of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”.	25
	Omit paragraph (4).	
	For paragraph (5) substitute –	
	“(5) An application that is made under Part 1 of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010 for the purposes of the referendum must state that it is so made.”	30
Regulation 51A (additional provision concerning requirement that applications for absent vote must be signed)	In sub-paragraph (a) –	
	(a) for “Schedule 4” substitute “Part 1 of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”;	35
	(b) for “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”.	

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>
Regulation 51AA (additional requirement for applications for ballot paper to be sent to different address from that stated in application)	In paragraph (1) –
	<p>(a) in sub-paragraph (a), for “paragraph 3(1) or (7) or 4(1) of Schedule 4” substitute “paragraph 4(1) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”; 5</p> <p>(b) in sub-paragraph (b), for “paragraph 7(4) of Schedule 4” substitute “paragraph 8(4) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”. 10</p>
Regulation 51B (additional requirement for applications for ballot paper to be sent to different address from that shown in records)	In paragraph (1), for sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) substitute “paragraph 4(5)(a) or 8(5) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010 by a person shown as voting by post in the record referred to in that provision”. 15
Regulation 52 (additional requirements for applications for appointment of proxy)	For “paragraphs 3 and 4 of Schedule 4” substitute “paragraph 4 of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”. 20
Regulation 55 (additional requirements for applications for proxy to vote in respect of a particular election)	For paragraph (1) substitute –
	<p>“(1) An application under paragraph 4(2) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010 to vote by proxy in the referendum shall set out why the applicant’s circumstances on the date of the poll will be or are likely to be such that he cannot reasonably be expected to vote in person at the polling station allotted to him under the referendum rules.” 25</p> <p>30</p>
	In paragraph (2) –
	<p>(a) for “paragraph 4(2) of Schedule 4” substitute “paragraph 4(2) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”; 35</p> <p>(b) for “at the election for which it is made” substitute “for the referendum”.</p>

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>
	In paragraph (4) of the England and Wales Regulations and in paragraph (3A) of the Scotland Regulations –
	(a) for “paragraph 4(2) of Schedule 4” substitute “paragraph 4(2) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”; 5
	(b) for “paragraph 2(5A)” substitute “paragraph 2(6)”; 10
	(c) for “at the election for which it is made” substitute “for the referendum”.
Regulation 56 (closing date for applications)	For paragraph (1) substitute –
	“(1) An application under paragraph 3(1), (6) or (7) or 7(4) of Schedule 4 to the 2000 Act or an application under paragraph 8(4) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010 shall be disregarded for the purposes of the referendum, and an application under paragraph 4(5) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010 shall be refused, if it is received by the registration officer after 5 pm on the eleventh day before the date of the poll for the referendum.” 15 20 25
	In paragraph (2) –
	(a) for “a particular parliamentary or local government election” substitute “the referendum”; 30
	(b) for “at that election” substitute “for the referendum”.
	For paragraphs (3) and (3A) substitute –
	“(3) Subject to paragraph (3A), an application under paragraph 4(2) or 6(4) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010 shall be refused if it is received by the registration officer after 5 pm on the sixth day before the date of the poll for the referendum. 35 40

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>
	<p>(3A) Where an application made under paragraph 4(2) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010 is made— 5</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) on the grounds of the applicant’s disability and the applicant became disabled after 5 pm on the sixth day before the date of the poll for the referendum; or 10</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(b) by a person to whom paragraph 2(6) of that Schedule applies, the application, or an application under paragraph 6(4) of that Schedule made by virtue of that application, shall be refused if it is received after 5 pm on the day of the poll for the referendum.” 15</p> <p>For paragraph (4) substitute—</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“(4) An application under paragraph 4(1) or 8(5) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010 shall be refused if it is received by the registration officer after 5 pm on the eleventh day before the date of the poll for the referendum.” 20</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">25</p> <p>In paragraph (5)—</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) after “paragraph 6(10) of that Schedule by an elector” insert “, or a notice under paragraph 6(6) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010 by a person,”; 30</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(b) for “a particular parliamentary or local government election” substitute “the referendum”;</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(c) for “at that election” substitute “for the referendum”. 35</p> <p>In paragraph (6), after “bank holiday” insert “or any day appointed as a day of public thanksgiving or mourning”.</p> <p>For paragraph (7) substitute— 40</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“(7) In paragraph (6) above “bank holiday” means a day which is a bank holiday under the Banking and Financial Dealings Act 1971 in any part of the United Kingdom.”</p>
Regulation 57 (grant or refusal of applications)	Omit paragraph (3). 45

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>	
	In paragraph (4), for “Schedule 4” substitute “Part 1 of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”.	
	In paragraph (4A), for sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) substitute –	5
	“(a) paragraph 4(5)(a) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010 by a person shown as voting by post in the record mentioned in that provision; or	10
	(b) paragraph 8(5) of that Schedule by a person shown as voting by post in the record mentioned in that provision.”.	15
	Omit paragraph (4B).	
	In paragraph (5), for “a particular parliamentary or local government election” substitute “the referendum”.	20
	For paragraph (6) substitute –	
	“(6) Where the registration officer is not the counting officer for the relevant area in the area for which he is the registration officer, he shall send to that officer details of any application to vote by post which he has granted as soon as practicable after doing so.”	25
Regulation 59 (cancellation of proxy appointment)	For the words from “by notice given” to the end substitute “under paragraph 6(6) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010, or otherwise ceases to be in force by virtue of that provision, the registration officer shall notify the person who was the proxy, unless the registration officer has previously been notified by that person that he no longer wishes to act as proxy.”	30 35
Regulation 60A(7) to (9) (requirement to provide fresh signatures at five yearly intervals)	In paragraph (7), for the words from “from the records” to the end substitute “from the postal voters list, list of proxies or proxy postal voters list (as the case may be) kept under paragraph 5(2), 5(3) or 8(6) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”.	40

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>
	<p>In paragraph (8) –</p> <p>(a) in sub-paragraph (a), for “the appropriate rules (as defined in paragraph 1 of Schedule 4)” substitute “the referendum rules”; 5</p> <p>(b) in sub-paragraph (b), omit “and regulation 58”; 10</p> <p>(c) in sub-paragraph (b), for “Schedule 4” substitute “Part 1 of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”.</p>
	<p>In paragraph (9), for the words from “removal from” to the end substitute “removal from the postal voters list, list of proxies or proxy postal voters list (as the case may be) kept under paragraph 5(2), 5(3) or 8(6) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010, information – 15</p> <p>(a) explaining the effect of such removal; and 20</p> <p>(b) reminding the absent voter that he may make a fresh application to vote by post or by proxy (as the case may be).”</p>
Regulation 61 (records and lists kept under Schedule 4)	<p>In paragraph (1), for the words from “any of the following” to the end substitute “the current or final version of the postal voters list, the list of proxies or the proxy postal voters lists which he is required to keep under paragraph 5(2), 5(3) or 8(6) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010.” 25</p> <p>In paragraph (5), for “paragraph 5(2) of Schedule 4” substitute “paragraph 5(2) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”. 30</p>
	<p>In paragraph (6) –</p> <p>(a) in sub-paragraph (a), for “paragraphs 5 and 7(8) of Schedule 4” substitute “paragraphs 5 and 8(6) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”; 40</p> <p>(b) for sub-paragraph (b) substitute – 45</p> <p>“(b) if he is not the counting officer for the relevant area in the area for which he is the registration officer, send to that officer a copy of those lists;”.</p>

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>	
	In paragraph (7), for “paragraph 5(3) of Schedule 4” substitute “paragraph 5(3) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”.	5
Regulation 61A (conditions on the use, supply and inspection of absent voter records or lists)	For “regulations 61(1)(a) and (b)” substitute “regulation 61(1)”.	
Regulation 61B (personal identifiers record)	For paragraph (1) substitute – “(1) The registration officer shall maintain a record (“the personal identifiers record”), apart from the other records and lists which he is required to keep under Part 1 of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010, of the signatures and dates of birth provided by persons whose applications under paragraph 4(1) or (2) or paragraph 8(4) of that Schedule were granted, until the expiry of twelve months from the date of the poll for the referendum.”	10 15 20
Regulation 62 (marked register for polling stations)	In paragraph (3)(a), omit “candidate or”.	25
Regulation 64 (interpretation of Part 5)	For the definition of “agent” substitute – ““agent”, except in regulation 69, means a referendum agent or an agent appointed under that regulation;”.	30
Regulation 67 (persons entitled to be present at proceedings on issue of postal ballot papers)	In the definition of “valid postal voting statement”, for “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”. For “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”.	35
Regulation 68 (persons entitled to be present at proceedings on receipt of postal ballot papers)	For sub-paragraphs (a) to (c) substitute – “(a) the counting officer and his clerks, (b) a referendum agent;”.	40
Regulation 69 (agents of candidates who may attend proceedings on receipt of postal ballot papers)	Before paragraph (1) insert – “(A1) A reference in this regulation to a candidate is to be read as a reference to a referendum agent.”	45

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>	
	For “returning officer” (in each place) substitute “counting officer”.	
	Omit paragraph (5).	
Regulation 70 (notification of requirement of secrecy)	For “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”.	5
Regulation 71 (time when postal ballot papers are to be issued)	For paragraph (1) substitute – “(1) In the case of a person within entry 2, 3 or 4 of the table in paragraph 5(2) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010 or entry 2, 3 or 4 of the table in paragraph 8(6) of that Schedule (electors and proxies entitled to vote by post for an indefinite or definite period), no postal ballot paper (and postal voting statement) shall be issued until after 5 pm on the eleventh day before the date of the poll (computed in accordance with regulation 56(6) above).”	10 15 20
	In paragraph (2), for “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”.	
Regulation 72 (procedure on issue of postal ballot papers)	In paragraph (8), for sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) substitute “as mentioned in column 3 of the table in paragraph 5(2) or 8(6) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010.”	25
Regulation 73 (refusal to issue ballot paper)	For “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”.	
	For “at any one election” substitute “for the referendum”.	30
Regulation 74 (envelopes)	In paragraph (1), for “rule 24 of the elections rules” substitute “rule 11 of the referendum rules”.	
Regulation 75 (sealing up of completed corresponding number lists)	For “returning officer” (in both places) substitute “counting officer”.	35
Regulation 76 (delivery of postal ballot papers)	In paragraph (1) – (a) for “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”; (b) in sub-paragraph (c), for “rule 26(1) of the elections rules” substitute “rule 13 of the referendum rules”.	40
	In paragraph (2), for “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”.	

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>	
Regulation 77 (spoilt postal ballot papers)	For “returning officer” (in each place) substitute “counting officer”.	
Regulation 78 (lost postal ballot papers)	For “returning officer” (in each place) substitute “counting officer”.	5
Regulation 79 (alternative means of returning postal ballot paper or postal voting statement)	For “returning officer” (in each place) substitute “counting officer”.	
	In the England and Wales Regulations, in paragraph (1), for “rule 45(1B) of the rules in Schedule 1 to the 1983 Act” substitute “rule 39(3) of the referendum rules”.	10
	In the England and Wales Regulations, in paragraph (3), for “rule 43(1) of the elections rules” substitute “rule 37(1) of the referendum rules”.	15
	In the Scotland Regulations, in paragraph (1), for “rule 45(1B) of the elections rules” substitute “rule 39(3) of the referendum rules”.	
	In the Scotland Regulations, in paragraph (2), for “rule 43(1) of the elections rules” substitute “rule 37(1) of the referendum rules”.	20
Regulation 80 (notice of opening of postal ballot paper envelopes)	In paragraph (1) – (a) for “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”; (b) for “candidate” substitute “referendum agent”.	25
	In paragraph (2)(b), for “candidate” substitute “referendum agent”.	
Regulation 81 (postal ballot boxes and receptacles)	For “returning officer” (in each place) substitute “counting officer”.	30
	In paragraph (2), for the words from “constituency” to the end substitute “voting area”.	
	In paragraph (4), after “lock the ballot box” insert “(if it has a lock)”.	35
Regulation 82 (receipt of covering envelope)	For “returning officer” (in both places) substitute “counting officer”.	
Regulation 83 (opening of postal voters’ ballot box)	In paragraphs (1) and (2), for “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”.	
	In paragraph (3), for “rule 45 of the elections rules” substitute “rule 39 of the referendum rules”.	40

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>	
Regulation 84 (opening of covering envelopes)	For “returning officer” (in each place) substitute “counting officer”.	
Regulation 84A (confirming receipt of postal voting statements)	For “returning officer” (in each place) substitute “counting officer”.	5
Regulation 85 (procedure in relation to postal voting statements)	For “returning officer” (in each place) substitute “counting officer”.	
Regulation 85A (procedure in relation to postal voting statements: personal identifier verification)	For “returning officer” (in each place) substitute “counting officer”.	10
Regulation 85B (postal voting statements: additional personal identifier verification)	For “returning officer” (in each place) substitute “counting officer”.	15
	In paragraph (4), for “lock and reseal the postal ballot box” substitute “lock the postal ballot box (if it has a lock) and reseal it”.	20
Regulation 86 (opening of ballot paper envelopes)	In paragraph (1), for “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”.	
Regulation 86A (retrieval of cancelled postal ballot papers)	In paragraph (1), for “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”.	25
	In paragraph (2)(f), for “rule 45 of the elections rules” substitute “rule 38 of the referendum rules”.	
	In paragraph (3), for “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”.	
Regulation 87 (list of rejected postal ballot papers)	In paragraph (1), for “In respect of any election, the returning officer” substitute “The counting officer”.	30
Regulation 88 (checking of lists of rejected postal ballot papers)	For “returning officer” (in each place) substitute “counting officer”.	
	In paragraph (3), for the words from “in the constituency” to the end substitute “in the voting area under rule 37(1) of the referendum rules”.	35
Regulation 89 (sealing of receptacles)	In paragraph (1), for “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”.	

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>
Regulation 91 (forwarding or retention of documents)	<p>In the England and Wales Regulations, for paragraph (1) substitute –</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“(1) The counting officer shall forward to the registration officer of the local authority for the relevant area for which the counting officer is appointed, at the same time as he forwards the documents mentioned in rule 48 of the referendum rules –</p> <p style="padding-left: 80px;">(a) any packets referred to in regulations 75, 77(6), 78(2C), 84(9) and 89 above, endorsing on each packet a description of its contents, the date of the referendum and the name of the voting area, and</p> <p style="padding-left: 80px;">(b) a completed statement in Form K of the number of postal ballot papers issued.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">In this paragraph “local authority” has the same meaning as in section 128 of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000.”</p> <p>In the England and Wales Regulations, in paragraph (3), for “returning officer” (in both places) substitute “counting officer”.</p> <p>In the England and Wales Regulations, in paragraph (4), for “Rules 56 and 57 of the elections rules” substitute “Rules 50 and 51 of the referendum rules”.</p> <p>In the England and Wales Regulations, in paragraph (5), for “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”.</p>
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<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>
	<p>In the Scotland Regulations, for paragraph (1) substitute –</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“(1) The counting officer shall retain, together with the documents mentioned in rule 48 of the referendum rules –</p> <p style="padding-left: 80px;">(a) any packets referred to in regulations 75, 77(6), 78(2C), 84(8) and 89 above, endorsing on each packet a description of its contents, the date of the referendum and the name of the voting area, and</p> <p style="padding-left: 80px;">(b) a completed statement in Form K of the number of postal ballot papers issued.”</p>
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	<p>In the Scotland Regulations, in paragraph (2), for “returning officer” (in both places) substitute “counting officer”.</p>
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	<p>In the Scotland Regulations, in paragraph (4), for “Rules 56, 57 and 58 of the elections rules” substitute “Rules 50 and 51 of the referendum rules”.</p>
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Regulation 92 (interpretation and application of Part 6)	<p>In the Scotland Regulations, in paragraph (5), for “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”.</p> <p>In paragraph (2), omit the definitions of “relevant conditions” and “research purposes”.</p>
	30
	<p>In the England and Wales Regulations, in paragraph (7), for the words from “under regulations” to the first “may” substitute “under regulation 98 may”.</p>
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Regulation 97 of the Scotland Regulations (supply of free copy of full register for electoral purposes and restrictions on use)	<p>In the England and Wales Regulations, in paragraph (10), for the words from “in regulations” to “below” substitute “in regulation 98(9) below”.</p> <p>For paragraphs (1) to (6) substitute –</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“(1) This regulation applies where a registration officer is not the counting officer for the relevant area that falls within his registration area.</p>
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<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>
	<p>(2) By no later than the publication of the notice of the referendum, the registration officer shall supply the counting officer with as many printed copies of the following as he may reasonably require for the purposes of the referendum –</p> <p style="text-align: right;">5</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) the latest version of the relevant registers,</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(b) any notice, published under section 13A(2) or 13B(3), (3B) or (3D) of the 1983 Act, setting out an alteration to the latest version of a relevant register, and</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(c) the latest version of the list of overseas electors.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p style="text-align: right;">15</p>
	<p>(3) In this regulation “relevant register” means –</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) the register of parliamentary electors, published under section 13(1) or (3) of the 1983 Act,</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(b) the register of local government electors, published under section 13(1) or (3) of that Act, or</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(c) the register of peers, maintained under section 3 of the 1985 Act, and published under section 13(1) or (3) of the 1983 Act (as applied by regulation 13(4) of, and Schedule 4 to, these regulations).</p> <p style="text-align: right;">20</p> <p style="text-align: right;">25</p> <p style="text-align: right;">30</p>
	<p>(4) If at any time after a registration officer has complied with paragraph (2) –</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) a revised version of a relevant register is published,</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(b) a notice is published, under section 13A(2) or 13B(3), (3B) or (3D) of the 1983 Act, setting out an alteration to the latest version of a relevant register, or</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(c) a revised version of the list of overseas electors is published,</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">the registration officer shall supply the counting officer with as many printed copies of the register, notice or list as he may reasonably require for the purposes of the referendum.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">35</p> <p style="text-align: right;">40</p> <p style="text-align: right;">45</p>

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>
Regulation 98 of the England and Wales Regulations (supply of free copy of full register for electoral purposes and restrictions on use)	(5) Where a registration officer is under a duty to supply a counting officer with printed copies of a register, notice or list under this regulation, he must also supply a copy of the register, notice or list in data form. 5
	(6) A register, notice or list supplied under this regulation shall be supplied free of charge.”
	In paragraph (7) –
	(a) for “the register” substitute “any register”; 10
	(b) for “an election” substitute “the referendum”.
	For paragraphs (1) to (8) substitute –
	“(1) This regulation applies where a registration officer is not the counting officer for the relevant area that falls within his registration area. 15
	(2) By no later than the publication of the notice of the referendum, the registration officer shall supply the counting officer with as many printed copies of the following as he may reasonably require for the purposes of the referendum – 20
	(a) the latest version of the relevant registers, 25
	(b) any notice, published under section 13A(2) or 13B(3), (3B) or (3D) of the 1983 Act, setting out an alteration to the latest version of a relevant register, and 30
(c) the latest version of the list of overseas electors.	
(3) In this regulation “relevant register” means – 35	
(a) the register of parliamentary electors, published under section 13(1) or (3) of the 1983 Act,	
(b) the register of local government electors, published under section 13(1) or (3) of that Act, or 40	
(c) the register of peers, maintained under section 3 of the 1985 Act, and published under section 13(1) or (3) of the 1983 Act (as applied by regulation 13(4) of, and Schedule 4 to, these regulations). 45	

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>	
	(4) If at any time after a registration officer has complied with paragraph (2) –	
	(a) a revised version of a relevant register is published,	5
	(b) a notice is published, under sections 13A(2) or 13B(3), (3B) or (3D) of the 1983 Act, setting out an alteration to the latest version of a relevant register, or	10
	(c) a revised version of the list of overseas electors is published, the registration officer shall supply the counting officer with as many printed copies of the register, notice or list as he may reasonably require for the purposes of the referendum.	15
	(5) Where a registration officer is under a duty to supply a counting officer with printed copies of a register, notice or list under this regulation, he must also supply a copy of the register, notice or list in data form.	20
	(6) A register, notice or list supplied under this regulation shall be supplied free of charge.”	
	In paragraph (9) –	25
	(a) for “the register” substitute “any register”;	
	(b) for “an election” substitute “the referendum”.	
Regulation 115 (offences)	In the England and Wales Regulations, for paragraph (2) substitute –	30
	“(2) The provisions are regulations 61(3) and (14), 92(9) and 98(9).”	
	In the Scotland Regulations, for paragraph (2) substitute –	
	“(2) The provisions are regulations 61(3) and (14) and 97(7).”	35
Regulation 116 (interpretation of Part 7)	In the England and Wales Regulations, in paragraph (1), for “rule 55(1)(e) of the elections rules” substitute “by virtue of rule 49(2)(f) of the referendum rules”.	40

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>
	In the England and Wales Regulations, after paragraph (1) insert –
	“(1A) In this Part references to “the relevant registration officer” are to a registration officer mentioned in rule 49(1)(a) of the referendum rules.” 5
	In the Scotland Regulations, in paragraph (1) –
	(a) for “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”; 10
	(b) for “rule 58 of the elections rules” substitute “by virtue of rule 49(2)(f) of the referendum rules”.
	In the Scotland Regulations, in paragraph (4), for “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”. 15
Regulation 117 (supply of marked registers and lists after an election)	In the England and Wales Regulations, in paragraph (1) –
	(a) for the words from “regulation 100” to “local government election” substitute “regulation 100, 106, 109 or 113 with copies of the full register”; 20
	(b) at the end insert –
	“The reference to a person entitled to be supplied in accordance with regulation 106 with copies of the full register does not include a person mentioned in regulation 106(1)(b).” 25
	In the England and Wales Regulations, in paragraph (2) –
	(a) for “regulation 103, 105, 106 or 108 before a particular election” substitute “regulation 106(1)(a) or (c) before the referendum”; 30
	(b) for “that election for which the marked register or list was prepared” substitute “the referendum”. 35
	In the England and Wales Regulations, in paragraph (6)(b), for “regulations 100, 103, 105, 106, 108, 109 or 113” substitute “regulations 100, 106, 109 and 113”.
In the England and Wales Regulations, in paragraph (7), for “regulations 100(3), 103(3), 105(4), 106(3), 108(5) and 109(3)” substitute “regulations 100(3), 106(3) and 109(3)”. 40	
In the Scotland Regulations, for “returning officer” (in each place) substitute “counting officer”. 45	

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>	
	In the Scotland Regulations, in paragraph (1) –	
	(a) for the words from “regulation 99” to “parliamentary election” substitute “regulation 99, 105, 108 and 112 with copies of the full register”;	5
	(b) at the end insert – “The reference to a person entitled to be supplied in accordance with regulation 105 with copies of the full register does not include a person mentioned in regulation 105(1)(b).”	10
	In the Scotland Regulations, in paragraph (2) –	
	(a) for “regulation 102, 104, 105 or 107 before a particular election” substitute “regulation 105(1) or (c) before the referendum”;	15
	(b) for “that election for which the marked register or list was prepared” substitute “the referendum”.	
	In the Scotland Regulations, in paragraph (6)(b), for “regulations 99, 102, 104, 105, 107, 108 or 112” substitute “regulations 99, 105, 108 and 112”.	20
	In the Scotland Regulations, in paragraph (7), for “regulation 99(3), 102(3), 104(4), 105(3), 107(5) or 108(3)” substitute “regulation 99(3), 105(3) or 108(3)”.	25
Regulation 118 (inspection of documents open to public inspection)	In paragraph (1)(b) –	
	(a) for “an election” substitute “the referendum”;	
	(b) in paragraph (iii), for “election” substitute “referendum”.	30
	In the Scotland Regulations, for “returning officer” (in each place) substitute “counting officer”.	
Regulation 119 (conditions on the use, supply and disclosure of documents open to public inspection)	In paragraph (2), omit “either” and after paragraph (ii) insert “, or	35
	(iii) any purpose in connection with the referendum.”	
Regulation 120 (calculating the fee for supply of marked registers or lists)		40
In Schedule 3, Form K	For the heading substitute “REFERENDUM ON THE VOTING SYSTEM FOR PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS”.	
	For “constituency” substitute “voting area”.	

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>	
Regulation 4 (forms)	In paragraph (1), for “an election” substitute “the referendum”.	
Regulation 5 (applications, notices etc.)	Paragraph (2) applies for the purposes of the referendum only in so far as it relates to Form N in Schedule 3 to the regulations.	5
Regulation 6 (electronic signatures)		10
Regulation 8 (time)		
Regulation 11 (interference with notices etc.)		
Regulation 25 (alteration of registers under section 13BA(3) of the 1983 Act)		15
Regulation 40 (representations regarding clerical errors)		
Regulation 44(2) and (3) (notices in connection with registration)	In paragraph (2) omit “13A(2) or”.	20
Regulation 45 (communication of notices issued on polling day)	In paragraph (3), for “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”.	25
Regulation 54 (interpretation of Part 4)	In the definition of “his allotted polling station”, for “elections rules” substitute “referendum rules”.	
Regulation 55 (general requirements for applications for an absent vote)	In paragraph (1), for “section 6, 7, 8 or 9 of the 1985 Act” substitute “Part 2 of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”.	30

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>
	<p>In paragraph (2) –</p> <p>(a) for “section 6(1) or 7(1)” substitute “paragraph 15(1) or 19(4) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”; 5</p> <p>(b) for “section 6(1)(ba) to (bc) or section 7(1)(ba) to (bc) of the 1985 Act” substitute “paragraph 15(1)(c) to (e) or 19(4)(d) of that Schedule”; 10</p> <p>(c) in sub-paragraph (b), for “section 9 of the 1985 Act” substitute “paragraph 19(4) of that Schedule”;</p> <p>(d) in sub-paragraph (d), for “section 6(1), 7(1) or 9(4) or (7) of the 1985 Act” substitute “paragraph 15(1) of that Schedule”. 15</p>
Regulation 55A (additional requirement for applications for ballot paper to be sent to different address from that shown in register)	<p>In paragraph (1) –</p> <p>(a) omit sub-paragraph (a);</p> <p>(b) in sub-paragraph (b), for “section 7(1) of the 1985 Act, the address provided in accordance with section 7(5) of that Act” substitute “paragraph 15(1) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010, the address provided in accordance with paragraph 15(7) of that Schedule”; 20</p> <p>(c) omit sub-paragraph (c). 25</p> <p>In paragraph (2), for “the provisions of the 1985 Act mentioned above” substitute “paragraph 15(7) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”. 30</p>
Regulation 55B (additional requirement for applications for ballot paper to be sent to different address from that shown in records)	<p>For sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) substitute “paragraph 15(5)(a) or 19(5) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010 by a person (“A”) shown as voting by post in the record mentioned there”. 35</p>
Regulation 56 (additional requirements for applications for appointment of proxy)	<p>For “section 8(6) or (7) of the 1985 Act” substitute “paragraph 17(4) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”. 40</p>

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>	
Regulation 59 (additional requirement for applications in respect of a particular election)	For paragraph (1) substitute –	
	<p>“(1) An application under paragraph 15(1) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010 shall set out why the applicant’s circumstances on the date of the poll will be or are likely to be such that he cannot reasonably be expected to vote in person at the polling station allotted to him under the referendum rules.”</p>	5 10
	In paragraphs (2)(d) and (3)(d) omit the words from “in respect of the election” to the end.	
	In paragraphs (4), (6) and (8), for “section 7(1) of the 1985 Act” substitute “paragraph 15(1) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”.	15
	In paragraph (6)(a), for “the election in question” substitute “the referendum”.	
Regulation 60 (additional requirements for applications by proxies to vote by post at a particular election)	In paragraph (8), for sub-paragraph (b) substitute –	20
	<p>“(b) in which the circumstances set out in accordance with paragraph (1) relate to the applicant’s employment either as a constable or by a counting officer on the date of the poll for the referendum for a purpose connected with the referendum;”.</p>	25
Regulation 61 (closing date for applications)	For “section 9(7) of the 1985 Act” substitute “paragraph 19(4) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”.	30
	For “elections rules” substitute “referendum rules”.	
Regulation 61 (closing date for applications)	For paragraphs (1) to (3) substitute –	35
	<p>“(1) An application under section 6(1) or (5), 8(6) or 9(4) of the 1985 Act shall be disregarded for the purposes of the referendum if it is received by the registration officer after 5 pm on the fourteenth day before the date of the poll for the referendum.”</p>	40

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>	
	(2) Subject to paragraph (3), an application under paragraph 15(1) or (5), 17(4) or 19(4) or (5) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010 shall be refused if it is received by the registration officer after 5 pm on the fourteenth day before the day of the poll for the referendum.	5
	(3) Paragraph (2) shall not apply to an application which satisfies the requirements of either paragraphs (6) and (7) or paragraph (8) of regulation 59; and such an application shall be refused if it is received by the registration officer after 5 pm on the sixth day before the day of the poll for the referendum.”	10
	In paragraph (4) –	
	(a) after “section 8(9) of that Act by an elector” insert “; or a notice under paragraph 17(6) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010 by a person,”;	20
	(b) for “a particular election” substitute “the referendum”;	25
	(c) for “at that election” substitute “for the referendum”.	
	For paragraph (6) substitute –	
	“(6) In paragraph (5) “bank holiday” means a day which is a bank holiday under the Banking and Financial Dealings Act 1971 in any part of the United Kingdom.”	30
Regulation 62 (grant or refusal of applications)	In paragraph (1), for “section 6, 7, 8 or 9 of the 1985 Act” substitute “Part 2 of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”.	35
	Omit paragraph (3).	
	For paragraph (4) substitute –	
	“(4) Where the registration officer refuses an application under Part 2 of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010 he shall notify the applicant of his decision.”	40

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>	
Regulation 64 (cancellation of proxy appointment)	For the words from “by notice” to the end substitute “under paragraph 17(6) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010, or otherwise ceases to be in force by virtue of that provision, the registration officer shall notify the person who was the proxy, unless the registration officer has previously been notified by that person that he no longer wishes to act as proxy.”	5 10
Regulation 66(1) and (3) (records and lists kept under sections 6, 7 and 8 of the 1985 Act)	For “sections 7(4) and 9(9) of the 1985 Act” substitute “paragraphs 16(2) or (3) or 19(6) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”.	
Regulation 70 (interpretation of Part 5)	In the definition of “absent voters list”, for “section 7(4) of the 1985 Act” substitute “paragraph 16(2) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”.	15
	For the definition of “agent” substitute – “agent”, except in regulation 73, means a referendum agent or an agent appointed under that regulation;”.	20
	In the definition of “list of postal proxies”, for “section 9(9) of the 1985 Act” substitute “paragraph 19(6) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”.	25
Regulation 72 (persons entitled to be present at proceedings on issue and receipt of postal ballot papers)	For sub-paragraphs (a) to (c) substitute – “(a) the counting officer and his clerks, (b) a referendum agent,”.	30
Regulation 73 (agents of candidates who may attend proceedings on issue or receipt of postal ballot papers)	Before paragraph (1) insert – “(A1) A reference in this regulation to a candidate is to be read as a reference to a referendum agent.”	35
	For “returning officer” (in each place) substitute “counting officer”.	
	Omit paragraph (6).	40
Regulation 74 (notification of requirement of secrecy)	For “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”.	

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>	
Regulation 75 (notice of issue of postal ballot papers)	In paragraphs (1) and (2)– (a) for “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”; (b) for “candidate” (in each place) substitute “referendum agent”.	5
Regulation 76 (procedure on issue of postal ballot papers)	In paragraph (5)(b), for “section 9(9) of the 1985 Act” substitute “paragraph 19(6) of Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010”.	10
Regulation 77 (refusal to issue postal ballot paper)	For “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”.	
Regulation 78 (envelopes)	In paragraph (1), for “rule 24 of the elections rules” substitute “rule 11 of the referendum rules”.	
Regulation 79 (sealing up of completed corresponding number lists)	For “returning officer” (in each place) substitute “counting officer”.	15
Regulation 80 (delivery of postal ballot papers)	In paragraph (1)– (a) for “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”; (b) in sub-paragraph (c), for “rule 26(1) of the elections rules” substitute “rule 13 of the referendum rules”.	20
	In paragraph (2), for “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”.	25
Regulation 81 (spoilt postal ballot papers)	For “returning officer” (in each place) substitute “counting officer”.	
Regulation 82 (notice of opening of postal ballot paper envelopes)	In paragraph (1)– (a) for “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”; (b) for “candidate” substitute “referendum agent”.	30
	In paragraph (2), for “candidate” substitute “referendum agent”.	
Regulation 83 (postal ballot boxes and receptacles)	For “returning officer” (in each place) substitute “counting officer”.	35
	In paragraph (2), for the words “constituency for which the election is held” substitute “voting area”.	
	In paragraph (4), after “lock the postal ballot box” insert “(if it has a lock)”.	40
Regulation 84 (receipt of covering envelope)	For “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”.	

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>	
Regulation 85 (opening of postal voters' ballot box)	In paragraphs (1) and (2), for “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”.	
	In paragraph (3), for “rule 45 of the elections rules” substitute “rule 39 of the referendum rules”.	5
Regulation 86 (opening of covering envelopes)	For “returning officer” (in each place) substitute “counting officer”.	
Regulation 87 (procedure in relation to declarations of identity)	For “returning officer” (in each place) substitute “counting officer”.	10
	In paragraph (1)(b), for “rule 45(2)(b) and (2A) of the elections rules)” substitute “rule 39(4) of the referendum rules”.	
Regulation 88 (opening of ballot paper envelopes)	In paragraph (1), for “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”.	15
Regulation 89 (sealing of receptacles)	For “returning officer” substitute “counting officer”.	
Regulation 91 (forwarding of documents)	For paragraph (1) substitute –	
	“(1) The Chief Electoral Officer for Northern Ireland shall retain, together with the documents mentioned in rule 49 of the referendum rules –	20
	(a) any packets referred to in regulations 79, 81(5) and 89, endorsing on each packet a description of its contents, the date of the referendum and the name of the voting area; and	25
	(b) a completed statement in Form N.”	30
Regulation 115 (interpretation of Part 7)	In paragraph (2), for “returning officer” (in both places) substitute “counting officer”.	
	In paragraph (3), for “Rules 56 and 57 of the elections rules” substitute “Rules 50 and 51 of the referendum rules”.	35
	In paragraph (1), for “rule 57(1A) of the elections rules” substitute “rule 49(1)(b) of the referendum rules”.	

<i>Provision</i>	<i>Modification</i>	
Regulation 116 (supply of marked registers and lists after an election)	In paragraph (1) –	
	(a) for the words from “regulation 99” to “local government election” substitute “regulations 99, 105, 107 or 111, with copies of the full register”;	5
	(b) at the end insert – “The reference to a person entitled to be supplied in accordance with regulation 105 with copies of the full register does not include a person mentioned in regulation 105(1)(b).”	10
	In paragraph (2) –	
(a) for the words from “regulation 102” to “particular election” substitute “regulation 105(1)(a) or (c) applies before the referendum”;	15	
(b) for “that election” substitute “the referendum”.		
	In paragraph (6)(b), for “regulations 99, 102, 104, 105, 106, 107 or 111” substitute “regulations 99, 105, 107 and 111”.	20
Regulation 117 (inspection of documents open to public inspection)	In paragraph (1)(b), for “an election” substitute “the referendum”.	25
Regulation 118 (conditions on the use, supply and disclosure of documents open to public inspection)	In paragraph (2) omit “either” and at the end insert “or any purpose in connection with the referendum”.	
Regulation 119 (fees relating to the supply of marked registers and lists)		30
In Schedule 3, Form N	For the heading substitute “REFERENDUM ON THE VOTING SYSTEM FOR PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS”.	35
	For “constituency” substitute “voting area”.	
	For “returning officer” (in each place) substitute “counting officer”.	

SCHEDULE 5

Section 4

CONTROL OF LOANS ETC TO PERMITTED PARTICIPANTS

The Schedule referred to in section 4(1) is as follows –

“SCHEDULE 15A

CONTROL OF LOANS ETC TO PERMITTED PARTICIPANTS

5

PART 1

INTRODUCTORY

Operation of Schedule

- 1 (1) This Schedule has effect in relation to the referendum under section 1 of the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2010 for controlling regulated transactions entered into by permitted participants that either are not registered parties or are minor parties. 10
- (2) The following provisions have effect for the purposes of this Schedule. 15
- (3) In accordance with sub-paragraph (1), “permitted participant” does not include a permitted participant which is a registered party other than a minor party.
- (4) “Regulated transaction” has the meaning given by paragraph 2.
- (5) In relation to transactions entered into by a permitted participant other than a designated organisation, the reference in paragraph 4(2) to a permissible donor falling within section 54(2) does not include a registered party. 20
- In this sub-paragraph “designated organisation” has the meaning given by section 110(5). 25

Regulated transactions

- 2 (1) An agreement between a permitted participant and another person by which the other person makes a loan of money to the permitted participant is a regulated transaction if the use condition is satisfied. 30
- (2) An agreement between a permitted participant and another person by which the other person provides a credit facility to the permitted participant is a regulated transaction if the use condition is satisfied.
- (3) Where— 35
 - (a) a permitted participant and another person (A) enter into a regulated transaction of a description mentioned in sub-paragraph (1) or (2), or a transaction under which any property, services or facilities are provided for the use or

-
- benefit of the permitted participant (including the services of any person),
- (b) A also enters into an arrangement whereby another person (B) gives any form of security (whether real or personal) for a sum owed to A by the permitted participant under the transaction mentioned in paragraph (a), and 5
- (c) the use condition is satisfied,
the arrangement is a regulated transaction.
- (4) An agreement or arrangement is also a regulated transaction if – 10
- (a) the terms of the agreement or arrangement as first entered into do not constitute a regulated transaction by virtue of sub-paragraph (1), (2) or (3), but
- (b) the terms are subsequently varied in such a way that the agreement or arrangement becomes a regulated transaction. 15
- (5) The use condition is that the permitted participant intends at the time of entering into a transaction mentioned in sub-paragraph (1), (2) or (3)(a) to use any money or benefit obtained in consequence of the transaction for meeting referendum expenses incurred by or on behalf of the permitted participant. 20
- (6) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (5), it is immaterial that only part of the money or benefit is intended to be used for meeting referendum expenses incurred by or on behalf of the permitted participant.
- (7) References in sub-paragraphs (1) and (2) to a permitted participant include references to an officer, member, trustee or agent of the permitted participant if that person makes the agreement as such. 25
- (8) References in sub-paragraph (3) to a permitted participant include references to an officer, member, trustee or agent of the permitted participant if the property, services or facilities are provided to that person as such, or the sum is owed by that person as such. 30
- (9) A reference to a connected transaction is a reference to the transaction mentioned in sub-paragraph (3)(b).
- (10) In this paragraph a reference to anything being done by or in relation to a permitted participant or a person includes a reference to its being done directly or indirectly through a third person. 35
- (11) A credit facility is an agreement whereby a permitted participant is enabled to receive from time to time from another party to the agreement a loan of money not exceeding such amount (taking account of any repayments made by the permitted participant) as is specified in or determined in accordance with the agreement. 40
- (12) An agreement or arrangement is not a regulated transaction –
- (a) to the extent that a payment made in pursuance of the agreement or arrangement falls, by virtue of paragraph 9 of Schedule 15, to be included in a return under section 120, or 45
- (b) if its value is not more than £500.

Valuation of regulated transaction

- 3 (1) The value of a regulated transaction which is a loan is the value of the total amount to be lent under the loan agreement.
- (2) The value of a regulated transaction which is a credit facility is the maximum amount which may be borrowed under the agreement for the facility. 5
- (3) The value of a regulated transaction which is an arrangement by which any form of security is given is the contingent liability under the security provided.
- (4) For the purposes of sub-paragraphs (1) and (2), no account is to be taken of the effect of any provision contained in a loan agreement or an agreement for a credit facility at the time it is entered into which enables outstanding interest to be added to any sum for the time being owed in respect of the loan or credit facility, whether or not any such interest has been so added. 10 15

PART 2

CONTROLS ON REGULATED TRANSACTIONS

Authorised participants

- 4 (1) A permitted participant must not –
- (a) be a party to a regulated transaction to which any of the other parties is not an authorised participant; 20
- (b) derive a benefit in consequence of a connected transaction if any of the parties to that transaction is not an authorised participant.
- (2) In this Schedule, an authorised participant is a person who is a permissible donor falling within section 54(2). 25
- (3) An individual or body treated by virtue of section 71Z1 as an authorised participant for the purposes of section 71H(3) is also an authorised participant for the purposes of this Schedule in its application to a regulated transaction to which a party registered in the Northern Ireland register is a party. 30

Regulated transaction involving unauthorised participant

- 5 (1) This paragraph applies if a permitted participant is a party to a regulated transaction to which another party is not an authorised participant. 35
- (2) The transaction is void.
- (3) Despite sub-paragraph (2) –
- (a) any money received by the permitted participant by virtue of the transaction must be repaid by the responsible person to the person from whom it was received, along with interest at the rate referred to in section 71I(3)(a); 40
- (b) the person from whom it was received is entitled to recover the money, along with such interest.

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- (4) If—
- (a) the money is not (for whatever reason) repaid as mentioned in sub-paragraph (3)(a), or
 - (b) the person entitled to recover the money refuses or fails to do so, 5
- the Commission may apply to the court to make such order as it thinks fit to restore (so far as is possible) the parties to the transaction to the position they would have been in if the transaction had not been entered into.
- (5) An order under sub-paragraph (4) may in particular— 10
- (a) where the transaction is a loan or credit facility, require that any amount owed by the permitted participant be repaid (and that no further sums be advanced under it);
 - (b) where any form of security is given for a sum owed under the transaction, require that security to be discharged. 15
- (6) In the case of a regulated transaction where a party other than a permitted participant—
- (a) at the time the permitted participant enters into the transaction, is an authorised participant, but
 - (b) subsequently, for whatever reason, ceases to be an authorised participant, 20
- the transaction is void and sub-paragraphs (3) to (5) apply with effect from the time when the other party ceased to be an authorised participant.
- Guarantees and securities: unauthorised participant* 25
- 6 (1) This paragraph applies if—
- (a) a permitted participant and another person (A) enter into a transaction of a description mentioned in paragraph 2(3)(a),
 - (b) A is party to a regulated transaction of a description mentioned in paragraph 2(3)(b) (“the connected transaction”) with another person (B), and 30
 - (c) B is not an authorised participant.
- (2) Paragraph 5(2) to (5) applies to the transaction mentioned in sub-paragraph (1)(a). 35
- (3) The connected transaction is void.
- (4) Sub-paragraph (5) applies if (but only if) A is unable to recover from the permitted participant or the responsible person the whole of the money mentioned in paragraph 5(3)(a) (as applied by sub-paragraph (2) above), along with such interest as is there mentioned. 40
- (5) Despite sub-paragraph (3), A is entitled to recover from B any part of that money (and such interest) that is not recovered from the permitted participant or the responsible person.
- (6) Sub-paragraph (5) does not entitle A to recover more than the contingent liability under the security provided by virtue of the connected transaction. 45

- (7) In the case of a connected transaction where B—
- (a) at the time A enters into the transaction, is an authorised participant, but
 - (b) subsequently, for whatever reason, ceases to be an authorised participant,
- sub-paragraphs (2) to (6) apply with effect from the time when B ceased to be an authorised participant. 5
- (8) If the transaction mentioned in paragraph 2(3)(a) is not a regulated transaction of a description mentioned in paragraph 2(1) or (2), references in this paragraph and paragraph 5(2) to (5) (as applied by sub-paragraph (2) above) to the repayment or recovery of money are to be construed as references to (as the case may be) —
- (a) the return or recovery of any property provided under the transaction,
 - (b) to the extent that such property is incapable of being returned or recovered or its market value has diminished since the time the transaction was entered into, the repayment or recovery of the market value at that time, or
 - (c) the market value (at that time) of any facilities or services provided under the transaction. 10 15 20

Transfer to unauthorised participant invalid

- 7 If an authorised participant purports to transfer the participant's interest in a regulated transaction to a person who is not an authorised participant the purported transfer is of no effect.

Offences 25

- 8 (1) An individual who is a permitted participant commits an offence if—
- (a) the individual enters into a regulated transaction of a description mentioned in paragraph 2(1) or (2) to which another party is not an authorised participant, and
 - (b) the individual knew or ought reasonably to have known of the matters mentioned in paragraph (a). 30
- (2) A permitted participant that is not an individual commits an offence if—
- (a) it enters into a regulated transaction of a description mentioned in paragraph 2(1) or (2) to which another party is not an authorised participant, and
 - (b) an officer of the permitted participant knew or ought reasonably to have known of the matters mentioned in paragraph (a). 35 40
- (3) A person who is the responsible person in relation to a permitted participant that is not an individual commits an offence if—
- (a) the permitted participant enters into a regulated transaction of a description mentioned in paragraph 2(1) or (2) to which another party is not an authorised participant, and 45

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- (b) the person knew or ought reasonably to have known of the matters mentioned in paragraph (a).
- (4) An individual who is a permitted participant commits an offence if –
- (a) the individual enters into a regulated transaction of a description mentioned in paragraph 2(1) or (2) to which another party is not an authorised participant, 5
- (b) the individual neither knew nor ought reasonably to have known that the other party is not an authorised participant, and 10
- (c) as soon as practicable after knowledge of the matters mentioned in paragraph (a) comes to the individual he fails to take all reasonable steps to repay any money which the individual has received by virtue of the transaction.
- (5) A permitted participant that is not an individual commits an offence if – 15
- (a) it enters into a regulated transaction of a description mentioned in paragraph 2(1) or (2) to which another party is not an authorised participant,
- (b) no officer of the permitted participant knew or ought reasonably to have known that the other party is not an authorised participant, and 20
- (c) as soon as practicable after knowledge of the matters mentioned in paragraph (a) comes to the responsible person he fails to take all reasonable steps to repay any money which the permitted participant has received by virtue of the transaction. 25
- (6) A person who is the responsible person in relation to a permitted participant that is not an individual commits an offence if –
- (a) the permitted participant enters into a regulated transaction of a description mentioned in paragraph 2(1) or (2) to which another party is not an authorised participant, 30
- (b) sub-paragraph (3)(b) does not apply to the person, and
- (c) as soon as practicable after knowledge of the matters mentioned in paragraph (a) comes to the person he fails to take all reasonable steps to repay any money which the permitted participant has received by virtue of the transaction. 35
- (7) An individual who is a permitted participant commits an offence if – 40
- (a) the individual benefits from or falls to benefit in consequence of a connected transaction to which any of the parties is not an authorised participant, and
- (b) the individual knew or ought reasonably to have known of the matters mentioned in paragraph (a). 45
- (8) A permitted participant that is not an individual commits an offence if –

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- (a) it benefits from or falls to benefit in consequence of a connected transaction to which any of the parties is not an authorised participant, and
- (b) an officer of the permitted participant knew or ought reasonably to have known of the matters mentioned in paragraph (a). 5
- (9) A person who is the responsible person in relation to a permitted participant that is not an individual commits an offence if –
- (a) the permitted participant benefits from or falls to benefit in consequence of a connected transaction to which any of the parties is not an authorised participant, and 10
- (b) the person knew or ought reasonably to have known of the matters mentioned in paragraph (a).
- (10) An individual who is a permitted participant commits an offence if – 15
- (a) the individual is a party to a transaction of a description mentioned in paragraph 2(3)(a),
- (b) the individual benefits from or falls to benefit in consequence of a connected transaction to which any of the parties is not an authorised participant, 20
- (c) the individual neither knew nor ought reasonably to have known of the matters mentioned in paragraphs (a) and (b), and
- (d) as soon as practicable after knowledge of the matters mentioned in paragraphs (a) and (b) comes to the individual he fails to take all reasonable steps to pay to any person who has provided the individual with any benefit in consequence of the connected transaction the value of the benefit. 25
- (11) A permitted participant that is not an individual commits an offence if – 30
- (a) it is a party to a transaction of a description mentioned in paragraph 2(3)(a),
- (b) it benefits from or falls to benefit in consequence of a connected transaction to which any of the parties is not an authorised participant, 35
- (c) no officer of the permitted participant knew or ought reasonably to have known of the matters mentioned in paragraphs (a) and (b), and
- (d) as soon as practicable after knowledge of the matters mentioned in paragraphs (a) and (b) comes to the responsible person he fails to take all reasonable steps to pay to any person who has provided the permitted participant with any benefit in consequence of the connected transaction the value of the benefit. 40
- (12) A person who is the responsible person in relation to a permitted participant that is not an individual commits an offence if –
- (a) the permitted participant is a party to a transaction of a description mentioned in paragraph 2(3)(a), 45

-
- (b) the permitted participant benefits from or falls to benefit in consequence of a connected transaction to which any of the parties is not an authorised participant,
- (c) sub-paragraph (9)(b) does not apply to the person, and
- (d) as soon as practicable after knowledge of the matters mentioned in paragraphs (a) and (b) comes to the person he fails to take all reasonable steps to pay to any person who has provided the permitted participant with any benefit in consequence of the connected transaction the value of the benefit. 5
- (13) A person commits an offence if the person –
- (a) knowingly enters into, or
- (b) knowingly does any act in furtherance of, any arrangement which facilitates or is likely to facilitate, whether by means of concealment or disguise or otherwise, the participation by a permitted participant in a regulated transaction with a person other than an authorised participant. 10
- (14) It is a defence for a person charged with an offence under sub-paragraph (3) to prove that the person took all reasonable steps to prevent the permitted participant entering into the transaction. 15
- (15) It is a defence for a person charged with an offence under sub-paragraph (9) to prove that the person took all reasonable steps to prevent the permitted participant benefiting in consequence of the connected transaction. 20
- (16) A reference to a permitted participant entering into a regulated transaction includes a reference to any circumstances in which the terms of a regulated transaction are varied so as to increase the amount of money to which the permitted participant is entitled in consequence of the transaction. 25
- (17) A reference to a permitted participant entering into a transaction to which another party is not an authorised participant includes a reference to any circumstances in which another party to the transaction who is an authorised participant ceases (for whatever reason) to be an authorised participant. 30
- Penalties* 35
- 9 (1) A person guilty of an offence under sub-paragraph (1), (2), (4), (7), (8) or (10) of paragraph 8 is liable –
- (a) on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum;
- (b) on conviction on indictment, to a fine. 40
- (2) A person guilty of an offence under sub-paragraph (3), (5), (6), (9), (11), (12) or (13) of paragraph 8 is liable –
- (a) on summary conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum;
- (b) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to a fine. 45

- (3) In the application of sub-paragraph (2)(a) –
- (a) in England and Wales, in relation to an offence committed before the commencement of section 154(1) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003, or
 - (b) in Northern Ireland,
- the reference to 12 months is to be read as a reference to 6 months. 5

PART 3

REPORTING OF REGULATED TRANSACTIONS

Statement of regulated transactions

- 10 (1) The responsible person in relation to a permitted participant must include in any return required to be prepared under section 120 a statement of regulated transactions entered into by the permitted participant. 10
- (2) The statement must comply with paragraphs 11 to 15.
- (3) For the purposes of those paragraphs a regulated transaction is a recordable transaction – 15
- (a) if the value of the transaction is more than £7,500, or
 - (b) if the aggregate value of it and any other relevant benefit or benefits is more than that amount.
- In paragraph (b) “relevant benefit” means any relevant donation (within the meaning of Schedule 15) or regulated transaction made by, or entered into with, the person with whom the regulated transaction was entered into. 20

Identity of authorised participants

- 11 The statement must record, in relation to each recordable transaction to which an authorised participant was a party, the information about the authorised participant which is, in connection with transactions entered into by political parties, required to be recorded in transaction reports by virtue of paragraph 2 of Schedule 6A. 25
- 30

Identity of unauthorised participants

- 12 The statement must record, in relation to each recordable transaction to which a person other than an authorised participant was a party – 35
- (a) the name and address of the person;
 - (b) the date when, and the manner in which, the transaction was dealt with in accordance with sub-paragraphs (3) to (5) of paragraph 5 or those sub-paragraphs as applied by paragraph 5(6) or 6(2).

Details of transaction 40

- 13 (1) The statement must record, in relation to each recordable transaction, the information about the transaction which is, in

connection with transactions entered into by political parties, required to be recorded in transaction reports by virtue of paragraph 5(2), (3) and (4) of Schedule 6A (read with any necessary modifications).

- (2) The statement must record, in relation to each recordable transaction of a description mentioned in paragraph 2(1) or (2) above, the information about the transaction which is, in connection with transactions entered into by political parties, required to be recorded in transaction reports by virtue of paragraph 6 of Schedule 6A. 5
10
- (3) The statement must record, in relation to each recordable transaction of a description mentioned in paragraph 2(3)(a) above, the information about the transaction which is, in connection with transactions entered into by political parties, required to be recorded in transaction reports by virtue of paragraph 7(2)(b), (3) and (4) of Schedule 6A. 15

Changes

- 14 (1) Where another authorised participant has become a party to a regulated transaction (whether in place of or in addition to any existing participant), or there has been any other change in any of the information that is required by paragraphs 11 to 13 to be included in the statement, the statement must record— 20
- (a) the information as it was both before and after the change;
- (b) the date of the change.
- (2) Where a recordable transaction has come to an end, the statement must— 25
- (a) record that fact;
- (b) record the date when it happened;
- (c) in the case of a loan, state how the loan has come to an end.
- (3) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (2), a loan comes to an end if— 30
- (a) the whole debt (or all the remaining debt) is repaid;
- (b) the creditor releases the whole debt.

Total value of non-recordable transactions

- 15 The statement must record the total value of any regulated transactions that are not recordable transactions. 35

PART 4

SUPPLEMENTAL

Non-disclosure with intent to conceal

- 16 (1) This paragraph applies where, on an application made by the Commission, the court is satisfied that any failure to comply with a requirement of Part 3 of this Schedule in relation to— 40
- (a) any transaction entered into by the permitted participant, or

-
- (b) any change made to a transaction to which the permitted participant is a party,
was attributable to an intention on the part of any person to conceal the existence or true value of the transaction.
- (2) The court may make such order as it thinks fit to restore (so far as is possible) the parties to the transaction to the position they would have been in if the transaction had not been entered into. 5
- (3) An order under this paragraph may in particular –
- (a) where the transaction is a loan or credit facility, require that any amount owed by the permitted participant be repaid (and that no further sums be advanced under it); 10
- (b) where any form of security is given for a sum owed under the transaction, or the transaction is an arrangement by which any form of security is given, require that the security be discharged. 15

Proceedings under paragraphs 5 and 16

- 17 (1) This paragraph has effect in relation to proceedings on an application under paragraph 5(4) or 16.
- (2) The court is –
- (a) in England and Wales, the county court; 20
- (b) in Northern Ireland, the county court.
In Scotland, the court is the sheriff and the proceedings are civil proceedings.
- (3) The standard of proof is that applicable to civil proceedings.
- (4) An order may be made whether or not proceedings are brought against any person for an offence under paragraph 8 or section 123. 25
- (5) An appeal against an order made by the sheriff may be made to the Court of Session.
- (6) Rules of court in any part of the United Kingdom may make provision – 30
- (a) with respect to applications or appeals from proceedings on such applications;
- (b) for the giving of notice of such applications or appeals to persons affected; 35
- (c) for the joinder, or in Scotland sisting, of such persons as parties;
- (d) generally with respect to procedure in such applications or appeals.
- (7) Sub-paragraph (6) does not affect any existing power to make rules. 40

Interpretation

- 18 (1) In this Schedule –

-
- “authorised participant” is to be construed in accordance with paragraph 4 (and see paragraph 1(5));
- “connected transaction” has the meaning given by paragraph 2(9);
- “credit facility” has the meaning given by paragraph 2(11); 5
- “permitted participant” is to be construed in accordance with paragraph 1;
- “regulated transaction” is to be construed in accordance with paragraph 2.
- (2) For the purposes of any provision relating to the reporting of transactions, anything required to be done by a permitted participant in consequence of its being a party to a regulated transaction must also be done by it, if it is a party to a transaction of a description mentioned in paragraph 2(3)(a), as if it were a party to the connected transaction.” 10
15

SCHEDULE 6

Section 7

THE ALTERNATIVE VOTE SYSTEM: FURTHER AMENDMENTS

PART 1

AMENDMENTS OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS RULES

- 1 Schedule 1 to the 1983 Act (parliamentary elections rules) is amended as follows. 20
- 2 For rule 18 (poll to be taken by ballot) there is substituted –
- “18 The votes at the poll shall be given by ballot in accordance with rule 37A below, the result shall be ascertained in accordance with rule 45A below and the successful candidate shall be declared to have been elected.” 25
- 3 In rule 29 (equipment of polling stations), in paragraph (5), for the words after “the notice” there is substituted –
- “Remember – use 1, 2, 3 etc at this election – this is an election using the alternative vote system. 30
- Put the number 1 next to the name of the candidate who is your first choice (or your only choice, if you want to vote for only one candidate).
- You can also put the number 2 next to your second choice, 3 next to your third choice, and so on.
- You can mark as few or as many choices (up to the number of candidates) as you wish. 35
- Do not use the same number more than once.
- Put no other mark on the ballot paper, or your vote may not be counted.”

- 4 In rule 44 (attendance at counting of votes), in paragraph (5), for “the candidate for whom the vote is given” there is substituted “the candidates to whom votes are allocated under rule 45A below”.
- 5 (1) In rule 46 (re-count), for paragraph (1) there is substituted –
- “(1) At the time when any stage of the counting or re-counting of the votes is completed, a candidate or candidate’s election agent who is then present may request the returning officer to have the votes re-counted or again re-counted in respect of any or all of the stages so far completed. 5
- (1A) The returning officer may refuse to comply with a request under paragraph (1) above if in the officer’s opinion it is unreasonable.” 10
- (2) In paragraph (2) of that rule, after “on the completion of” there is inserted “any stage of”.
- (3) After that paragraph there is inserted –
- “(3) At any time before the declaration of the result, the returning officer may, if the officer thinks fit, have the votes re-counted or again re-counted in respect of any or all of the stages.” 15
- 6 (1) In rule 47 (rejected ballot papers), in the heading there is inserted at the end “and invalid markings”.
- (2) In paragraph (1) of that rule – 20
- (a) for sub-paragraph (b) there is substituted –
- “(aa) on which the number 1 has not been marked against the name of any of the candidates, or
- (b) on which the number 1 has been marked against the name of more than one candidate, or”, 25
- (b) in sub-paragraph (d), for “void for uncertainty” there is substituted “is marked in a way that does not indicate a clear choice as to the voter’s first (or only) preference”;
- (c) for the words after that sub-paragraph there is substituted “shall, subject to the following provisions, be rejected as void and not counted at any stage.” 30
- (3) For paragraph (2) of that rule there is substituted –
- “(2) A ballot paper on which a number is marked elsewhere than in a proper place shall not be deemed to be void for that reason alone.
- (2A) If a ballot paper is marked with the same number (other than the number 1) against the name of more than one candidate, that number (each time it appears) and any numbers after the repeated numbers shall be ignored for the purposes of rule 45A above. 35
- (2B) If –
- (a) one or more preferences are validly marked on a ballot paper, and 40
- (b) other marks are made on the paper which do not indicate a clear intention as to the voter’s next preference,
- those other marks shall be ignored for the purposes of rule 45A above. 45

- (2C) A ballot paper on which the voter makes any mark which –
- (a) is clearly intended to indicate a particular preference for a particular candidate, but
 - (b) is not a number (or is a number written otherwise than as an arabic numeral),
- 5
- shall be treated in the same way as if the appropriate number (written as an arabic numeral) had been marked instead.
- (2D) In paragraph (2C) above a reference to a mark includes a reference to more than one mark.
- (2E) Paragraphs (2B) and (2C) above apply only if the way the paper is marked does not itself identify the voter and it is not shown that the voter can be identified by it.”
- 10
- (4) After paragraph (3) of that rule there is inserted –
- “(3A) Where –
- (a) any mark on a ballot paper is ignored by reason of paragraph (2A) or (2B) above, and
 - (b) the vote in question is not reallocated in accordance with rule 45A above, but would have been if the mark had been treated as indicating a preference for a remaining candidate,
- 15
- 20
- the returning officer shall endorse the ballot paper in question with the words “not reallocated” and an indication of the stage at which the mark was ignored.
- (3B) Where the returning officer endorses a ballot paper as mentioned in paragraph (3A), the officer shall add to the endorsement the words “decision objected to” if an objection is made by a counting agent to the decision.”
- 25
- (5) In paragraph (4) of that rule –
- (a) for sub-paragraph (b) there is substituted –
 - “(aa) not marking the number 1 against the name of any of the candidates;
 - (b) marking the number 1 against the name of more than one candidate;”;
 - (b) for sub-paragraph (d) there is substituted –
 - “(d) unmarked or marked in a way that does not indicate a clear choice as to the voter’s first (or only) preference.”
- 30
- 35
- 7 (1) For rule 49 (equality of votes), and the heading, there is substituted –
- “*Equality of votes: which candidate to be eliminated*
- 49 (1) This rule applies to determine which candidate is eliminated under rule 45A(3) above in a case where –
- (a) there are two or more candidates with fewer votes than the others but an equal number to each other, or
 - (b) there are three or more candidates, or remaining candidates, and they all have an equal number of votes to each other.
- 40
- 45

The candidates with an equal number of votes to each other are referred to in this rule as “the tied candidates”.

- (2) The candidate to be eliminated where there has been a previous elimination is –
- (a) whichever of the tied candidates was allocated the fewer or fewest votes in accordance with voters’ first preferences, or 5
 - (b) if that fails to resolve the tie, whichever of them had the fewer or fewest votes after the next stage of counting (if any), 10
- and so on.
- (3) Where there has been no previous elimination, or where there has been a previous elimination but the tie is not resolved under paragraph (2) above, the returning officer shall forthwith decide by lot which of the tied candidates is to be eliminated. 15

Equality of votes: which candidate to be elected

49A (1) This rule applies to determine which candidate is elected under rule 45A(4) or (5) above in a case where there are only two remaining candidates and they have an equal number of votes.

- (2) The candidate to be elected is – 20
- (a) whichever of the remaining candidates was allocated the more votes in accordance with voter’s first preferences, or
 - (b) if that fails to resolve the tie, whichever of them had the more votes after the next stage of counting (if any), 25
- and so on.
- (3) Where the tie is not resolved under paragraph (2) above, the returning officer shall forthwith decide by lot which of the remaining candidates is to be elected.”

- 8 In rule 50 (declaration of result), in paragraph (1), for sub-paragraphs (a) to (c) there is substituted – 30
- “(a) declare the number of votes obtained by each candidate (including any reallocated in accordance with rule 45A above), starting with the candidate with the fewest and proceeding in order to the candidate with the most;
 - (aa) declare which is the candidate who (in accordance with that rule) is elected; 35
 - (ab) declare the stage at which each eliminated candidate was eliminated and the stage at which the elected candidate was elected;
 - (b) return the name of the elected candidate to the Clerk of the Crown; 40
 - (c) give public notice of the name of the elected candidate, the number of rejected ballot papers under each head shown in the statement of rejected ballot papers, the number of votes allocated to each candidate in accordance with voters’ first preferences, and for each subsequent stage of counting – 45
 - (i) the name of the eliminated candidate,

-
- (ii) the number of votes reallocated to each of the remaining candidates, and
 - (iii) the number of votes of the candidate eliminated at the previous stage that were not reallocated.”
- 9 In rule 53 (return or forfeiture of candidate’s deposit), in paragraph (4), for the words after “is completed,” there is substituted “the number of first-preference votes obtained by the candidate is found to be not more than one-twentieth of the total number of first-preference votes obtained by all the candidates.” 5
- 10 (1) In rule 61 (deceased independent candidate wins), in paragraph (1), for “the majority of votes is given to the deceased candidate” there is substituted “the deceased candidate would have been elected (in accordance with rule 45A above) had he not died”. 10
- (2) In paragraph (2) of that rule, for sub-paragraph (a) there is substituted –
- “(a) declare the number of votes obtained by each candidate (including any reallocated in accordance with rule 45A above), starting with the candidate with the fewest and proceeding in order to the candidate with the most, 15
 - (aa) declare that the deceased candidate would have been elected had he not died,”. 20
- (3) For sub-paragraph (c) of that paragraph there is substituted –
- “(c) give public notice of the number of rejected ballot papers under each head shown in the statement of rejected ballot papers, the number of votes allocated to each candidate in accordance with voters’ first preferences, and for each subsequent stage of counting – 25
 - (i) the name of the candidate eliminated,
 - (ii) the number of votes reallocated to each of the remaining candidates, and
 - (iii) the number of votes of the candidate eliminated at the previous stage that were not reallocated.” 30
- 11 (1) For rule 62 (deceased independent candidate with equality of votes) there is substituted –
- “62 (1) This rule applies in relation to an election mentioned in rule 60(1) above. 35
 - (2) The reference in rule 45A(3) above to the candidate with the fewest votes, in a case where –
 - (a) there are two or more candidates with fewer votes than the others but an equal number to each other, and
 - (b) one of them is a deceased candidate, 40
- shall be taken as a reference to the deceased candidate.
- (3) The reference in rule 45A(4) or (5) above to the candidate with more votes than the other remaining candidates put together, in a case where –
 - (a) there are only two remaining candidates, 45
 - (b) those two candidates have an equal number of votes, and
 - (c) one of them is a deceased candidate,

shall be taken as a reference to the candidate other than the deceased candidate.

(4) Where paragraph (2) or (3) above applies, it applies in place of rule 49 or 49A above.”

12 (1) The Appendix of forms is amended as follows. 5

(2) In the Form of Front of Ballot Paper –

(a) for “**VOTE FOR ONE CANDIDATE ONLY**” there is substituted –

“Put the number 1 next to the name of the candidate who is your first choice (or your only choice, if you want to vote for only one candidate).

You can also put the number 2 next to your second choice, 3 next to your third choice, and so on. 10

You can mark as few or as many choices (up to the number of candidates) as you wish.

Do not use the same number more than once.”

(b) the numbers on the left-hand side are omitted, together with the vertical rule separating them from the particulars of the candidates. 15

(3) In the directions as to printing the ballot paper –

(a) in paragraph 2(a), for “the direction to vote for one candidate only” there is substituted “the directions beginning “Put the number 1 next to the name of the candidate who is your first choice” and ending “Do not use the same number more than once.””; 20

(b) in paragraph 2(b), for the words “the vertical rules separating those particulars from the numbers on the left-hand side and the spaces on the right” there is substituted “the vertical rule separating those particulars from the spaces on the right”. 25

(4) In the Guidance for Voters –

(a) for paragraph 1 there is substituted –

“1 When you are given a ballot paper go to one of the compartments.

Put the number 1 on the ballot paper in the box to the right of the name of the candidate who is your first choice (or your only choice, if you want to vote for only one candidate). 30

You can also put the number 2 in the box to the right of the name of the candidate who is your second choice, the number 3 in the box to the right of the name of the candidate who is your third choice, and so on. 35

You can mark as few or as many choices (up to the number of candidates) as you wish.

Do not use the same number more than once.”

(b) in paragraph 2, the words “Vote for one candidate only.” are repealed. 40

PART 2

AMENDMENTS OF OTHER PROVISIONS OF THE 1983 ACT

- 13 The 1983 Act is amended as follows.
- 14 (1) In section 66 (requirement of secrecy), in subsection (2)(b), for “the candidate for whom any vote is given on any particular ballot paper” there is substituted “how any particular ballot paper has been marked”. 5
- (2) In subsection (3)(b) and (c) of that section, for “the candidate for whom” there is substituted “how”.
- (3) In subsection (3)(d) of that section, for “the name of the candidate for whom he has or has not” there is substituted “how he has”. 10
- (4) In subsection (4)(d) of that section, for “the candidate for whom any vote is given on any particular ballot paper” there is substituted “how any particular ballot paper has been marked”.
- (5) In subsection (5) of that section, for “the candidate for whom” there is substituted “how”. 15
- (6) Subsections (7) and (8) of that section are repealed.
- (7) The amendments made by this paragraph do not apply to a local government election (within the meaning given by section 204(1) of the 1983 Act) in Scotland.
- 15 In section 113 (bribery), in subsection (7) – 20
- (a) for “this section the expression” there is substituted “this section –
- (a) the expression”;
- (b) at the end there is inserted –
- “(b) a reference to voting or refraining from voting, in the case of a parliamentary election, includes a reference to marking or refraining from marking preferences on the ballot paper; 25
- (c) a reference to the vote of any voter, in the case of a parliamentary election, includes a reference to the marking of a voter’s preferences on the ballot paper.” 30
- 16 In section 114 (treating), at the end there is inserted –
- “(4) Subsection (7)(b) of section 113 above has effect for the purposes of this section as it has effect for the purposes of that one.”
- 17 In section 115 (undue influence), at the end there is inserted –
- “(3) Subsection (7)(b) of section 113 above has effect for the purposes of this section as it has effect for the purposes of that one.” 35
- 18 (1) In section 117 (savings as to parliamentary elections), in subsection (2)(b), for “to record his vote for any particular candidate” there is substituted “to vote in any particular way”.
- (2) In subsection (2)(c) of that section, for “recording his vote for any particular candidate” there is substituted “voting in any particular way”. 40

- 19 (1) In section 139 (trial of election petition), in subsection (6) the words “the parliamentary elections rules or”, in both places, are repealed.
- (2) After that subsection there is inserted –
- “(6A) If the petition relates to an election conducted under the parliamentary elections rules and it appears that there is an equality of votes between any candidates (a “tie”) – 5
- (a) rule 49, 49A or 62 of those rules (whichever is relevant) shall apply for the purposes of the petition;
- (b) where under rule 49 or 49A the tie falls to be resolved by lot – 10
- (i) any decision made by lot by the returning officer under that rule shall, in so far as it resolves the tie, be effective also for the purposes of the petition, and
- (ii) in so far as the tie is not resolved by such a decision, the court shall resolve it by lot.”
- 20 In section 165 (avoidance of election for employing corrupt agent), after subsection (3) there is inserted – 15
- “(3A) In the case of a parliamentary election –
- (a) a vote shall be deemed in accordance with subsection (3) above to be thrown away only to the extent that it indicates a preference (whether a first preference or any other) for the person who was under the incapacity, and 20
- (b) any number on the voter’s ballot paper indicating a subsequent preference shall be treated as reduced by one.”
- 21 In section 166 (votes to be struck off for corrupt or illegal practices), in subsection (1), for the words from “election there shall” to the end there is substituted “election, then on a scrutiny – 25
- (a) there shall be disregarded any preference for the candidate (whether a first preference or any other) indicated by a voter who is proved to have been so bribed, treated or unduly influenced, and 30
- (b) any number on the voter’s ballot paper indicating a subsequent preference shall be treated as reduced by one.”
- 22 In section 199B (translations etc of certain documents), in subsection (6), for the words “in the case of a parliamentary election or” in paragraph (a) there is substituted – 35
- “in the case of a parliamentary election, must have printed the following words both at the top and immediately below the list of candidates:
- “Put the number 1 next to the name of the candidate who is your first choice (or your only choice, if you want to vote for only one candidate). 40
- You can also put the number 2 next to your second choice, 3 next to your third choice, and so on.
- You can mark as few or as many choices (up to the number of candidates) as you wish. 45
- Do not use the same number more than once.”,

<i>Short title and chapter</i>	<i>Extent of repeal</i>	
Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 (c. 56) – <i>cont.</i>	Section 8(3).	
Boundary Commissions Act 1992 (c. 55)	Section 2(3). Section 3.	5
Scotland Act 1998 (c. 46)	Section 86.	
Local Government (Wales) Act 1994 (c. 19)	In Schedule 2, paragraph 13. In Schedule 16, paragraph 80.	
Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994 (c. 39)	In Schedule 13, paragraph 150.	10
Government of Wales Act 2006 (c. 32)	Section 2(5) and (6). In section 159, in the entry for “Assembly electoral region”, the words “and Schedule 1”. Schedule 1. In Schedule 11, paragraph 1.	15

Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Bill

A

B I L L

To make provision for a referendum on the voting system for parliamentary elections and to provide for parliamentary elections to be held under the alternative vote system if a majority of those voting in the referendum are in favour of that; to make provision about the number and size of parliamentary constituencies; and for connected purposes.

*The Deputy Prime Minister
supported by
The Prime Minister,
Sir George Young,
Mr Mark Harper
and Mr David Heath.*

*Ordered, by The House of Commons,
to be Printed, 22 July 2010.*

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