

Draft Regulations laid before Parliament under section 201(2) of the Representation of the People Act 1983, for approval by resolution of each House of Parliament.

DRAFT STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2003 No.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE

Representation of the People (Form of
Canvass) (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2003

Made - - - - 2003
Coming into force - - 2003

Whereas the Secretary of State has consulted the Electoral Commission in accordance with section 7(1) and (2)(e) of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000(1) about these Regulations;

And whereas a draft of these Regulations has been approved by resolution of each House of Parliament:

Now, therefore, the Secretary of State, in exercise of the powers conferred on him by sections 10(4), 53 and 201(1) and (3) of, and paragraph 10(2) of Schedule 2 to, the Representation of the People Act 1983(2), having regard to the definition of “prescribed” in section 202(1) of that Act, hereby makes the following Regulations:

Citation, commencement and extent

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Representation of the People (Form of Canvass) (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2003 and shall come into force on the expiry of 14 days beginning with the day on which they are made.

(2) These Regulations extend to Northern Ireland only.

Revocation

2. Regulation 4 of, and Schedule 2 to, the Representation of the People (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Regulations 2002(3) are hereby revoked.

(1) 2000 c. 41.

(2) 1983 c. 2; section 10 was substituted by Schedule 1 to the Representation of the People Act 2000 (c. 2), section 201(3) was inserted by Schedule 1 to that Act and paragraph 10 of Schedule 2 was substituted by section 9 of that Act.

(3) S.I. 2002/1873.

Prescribed forms

3.—(1) The form in Part 1 of the Schedule to these Regulations is hereby prescribed for the purposes of section 10(4) of the Representation of the People Act 1983 (form of annual canvass).

(2) The form of words in Part 2 of the Schedule to these Regulations is hereby specified for the purposes of paragraph 10(2) of Schedule 2 to the Representation of the People Act 1983 (provisions which may be contained in regulations as to registration etc.).

Amendment of provision about applications

4. In regulation 26(6) of the Representation of the People (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2001⁽⁴⁾ for “Part II of Schedule 2 to the Representation of the People (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) (Regulations 2002” substitute “Part 2 of the Schedule to the Representation of the People (Form of Canvass) (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2003”.

Northern Ireland Office
2003

One of Her Majesty’s Principal Secretaries of
State

(4) S.I. 2001/400; regulation 26(6) was inserted by regulation 10(7) of S.I. 2002/1873.

SCHEDULE

Form of Canvass and Form of Words about the Two Versions of the Register

PART 1

Form prescribed for the purposes of section 10(4) of the Representation of the People Act 1983 (as substituted by Schedule 1 to the Representation of the People Act 2000)

ELECTORAL REGISTRATION FORM

IMPORTANT: Please read the accompanying notes before completing this form
Please complete in **BLACK INK** and **CAPITAL** letters

You are required by law to complete an annual electoral registration form

WARD 2601

ENO 121

1. Personal details (Please check and amend as necessary)

Surname

Forename(s)

Full postal address

Townland (if applicable) Postcode

This form will not be accepted unless all relevant sections are fully completed and the form is signed. The information which you provide must relate to where you will be or were living on **15 October 2003**. You are required to provide personal information and should ensure that it is not given to any person other than an authorised employee of the Electoral Office.

1a. Daytime tel No. (optional)

2. Change of surname (if you have changed your surname within the past two years, please give your previous surname)

3. Previous address (if you have lived elsewhere in the past year please give your previous address(es) below.)

4. Other residences (Please state any other address in the United Kingdom where you are or have applied to be registered to vote eg family home, holiday home, mid-week lodgings)

5. Nationality (see note D1)

6. Date of birth (DD/MM/YYYY)

You can register as an elector provided you were born on or before 30 November 1986

7. National insurance number NB please refer to Note D2 for details of where you may find your national insurance number

If you have never had a NI number you must sign the statement below I declare that I have never had a national insurance number

Signature

8. Date

9. Edited Register (Please see note D3)

Do you wish your name to be **excluded** from the 'edited' register? If so please tick box

10. Declaration- I declare that;

a) I have been resident in Northern Ireland during the whole of the 3 month period ending 15 October 2003
(If you have not been resident in Northern Ireland for this period please give details and any reasons for absences in the box below)

b) I am a British or Irish citizen, a Commonwealth citizen, a citizen of a member state of the European Union or a citizen of a state which is expected to join the European Union in 2004.

c) The information I have given on this form is true and accurate

You **MUST** sign this form at 10d unless it is not reasonably practicable for you to sign in a consistent and distinctive way because of any incapacity or because you are unable to read. If you are unable to sign the form, you must ask someone on your behalf, to state the reason below and to attest that the information given is correct.

d) SIGNATURE

(This box must be signed **PERSONALLY** by the elector
Please place signature in box below)

Signature

(e) I am unable to sign this form because:

OR

Signature of Attestor

Name of attestor

Address

Draft Legislation: This is a draft item of legislation. This draft has since been made as a UK Statutory Instrument: The Representation of the People (Form of Canvass) (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2003 No. 1942

D. ADDITIONAL NOTES ON COMPLETION OF THE FORM

D1 Section 4. Nationality

British Citizens, citizens of other Commonwealth countries or the Irish Republic are eligible to vote in all elections.

Citizens of the current Member States of the European Union and those that are expected to become members of the Union in 2004 are eligible to register and will be registered as local government electors only (with the exception of citizens of the Commonwealth countries Cyprus and Malta who can vote in all elections). All citizens of the following states can apply for inclusion in the 2003 Register of Electors

Austria	Finland	Ireland	Poland
Belgium	France	Latvia	Portugal
Cyprus	Germany	Lithuania	Slovakia
Czech Republic	Greece	Luxembourg	Slovenia
Denmark	Hungary	Malta	Spain
Estonia	Italy	Netherlands	Sweden

D2 Section 7. The National Insurance number

Anyone who has paid tax or claimed benefit in the UK has a national insurance number. If you are unsure of your national insurance number you will be able to get it from one of the following documents:

- the payslip you receive from your employer;
- benefit/pension details received from the Social Security Agency;
- your national insurance number card;
- your tax return/correspondence from the Inland Revenue

D3 Section 9. The two versions of the Electoral Register.

The Electoral Office maintain two versions of the Electoral Register – the full Register and the edited Register.

Please state on your registration form if you wish your name and address to be excluded from the edited register

The full Register

The full register lists everyone who is entitled to vote and includes their address. You can check that your name has been included by calling at any of the Area Electoral Offices (addresses shown above) or at District Council Offices. Only certain people and organisations are allowed copies of the full Register and can only use it for specified purposes. The main use of the full register is for elections and referendums, but it can also be used for other purposes such as the prevention and detection of crime and for checking your identity when you have applied for credit. Details of others who can have copies of the full register and what they can use it for are given in the Representation of the People (Northern Ireland)(Amendment) Regulations 2002 (SI2002 No.1873). It is a criminal offence not to comply with the Regulations. For example, it is a criminal offence either to pass the full register on to anyone or to use it for any purpose, except as allowed by the Regulations. These Regulations are available on the internet at www.legislation.hmso.gov.uk/stat.htm or you can buy a copy from the Stationery Office Ltd.

The edited Register

The edited Register leaves out the names and addresses of people who have asked for them to be excluded from that version of the register. The edited register can be bought by anyone who asks for a copy and they may use it for any purpose.

E. How to return the form

Please ensure that this form is returned to an authorised employee of the Electoral Office Northern Ireland. The canvasser who delivered this form will return to your household within the next 14 days to collect the completed form(s). The Canvasser will wear an identity badge and also carry a letter of authorisation from the Electoral Office. If on their next visit the canvasser is unable to make contact with anyone at your residence, a Freepost envelope will be left to enable you to make your return direct to the Electoral Office by post. If any eligible electors in your household are temporarily absent, their form should be forwarded to them immediately and they should be asked to complete and return it direct to the Electoral Office. **ALL FORMS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE ELECTORAL OFFICE BY WEDNESDAY 22nd OCTOBER 2003.**

Electoral Identity Card

All electors in Northern Ireland are required to produce one of the following items of photographic identification prior to voting

- a British or Irish passport (or an EU passport at Local Elections) OR
- a driving licence or provisional driving licence OR
- a Senior Smartpass issued under the Northern Ireland Concessionary fares scheme OR
- an electoral identity card

If you do not have an electoral identity card but wish to apply for one, which will be issued free of charge, you should contact the local Area Electoral Office at the address shown above and request an application form.

PART 2

Form of words about the two versions of the register

The two versions of the Electoral register

The Electoral Office maintain two versions of the Electoral Register—the full Register and the edited Register.

Please say in your registration form if you wish your name and address to be excluded from the edited register.

The full Register

The full register lists everyone who is entitled to vote and includes their address. You can check that your name has been included by calling at any of the Area Electoral Offices or at District Council Offices. Only certain people and organisations are allowed copies of the full Register and they can only use it for specified purposes. The main use of the full register is for elections and referendums, but it can also be used for other purposes such as the prevention and detection of crime and for checking your identity when you have applied for credit. Details of others who can have copies of the full register and what they can use it for are given in the Representation of the People (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Regulations 2002 ([S.I. 2002 No. 1873](#)). It is a criminal offence not to comply with the Regulations. For example, it is a criminal offence either to pass the full register on to anyone or to use it for any purpose, except as allowed by the Regulations. These Regulations are available on the internet at www.legislation.hmso.gov.uk/stat.htm or you can buy a copy from the Stationery Office Ltd.

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

Under section 10 of the Representation of the People Act 1983 (as substituted by Schedule 1 to the Representation of the People Act 2000) the electoral registration officer is required to conduct an annual canvass (by reference to residence on 15th October in that year) to ascertain the persons who are entitled to be or remain registered as parliamentary or local government electors. These Regulations prescribe a form for the purposes of that canvass.

In addition, regulation 3 and Part 2 of the Schedule to the Regulations specify a new form of words to be included in notes to the registration form (or to be sent to an applicant for registration who applies otherwise than on the prescribed form), relating to the two forms of register (the full register and the edited register) and the possibility of applying to be excluded from the edited register.