
DRAFT STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2008 No.

The Representation of the People
(Northern Ireland) Regulations 2008

PART 5

ISSUE AND RECEIPT OF POSTAL BALLOT PAPERS

Receipt of Postal Ballot Papers

Opening of postal voters' ballot box

85.—(1) Each postal voters' ballot box shall be opened by the returning officer in the presence of the agents.

(2) So long as the returning officer ensures that there is at least one sealed postal voters' ballot box for the reception of covering envelopes up to the time of the close of the poll, the other postal voters' ballot boxes may previously be opened by him.

(3) The last postal voters' ballot box and the postal ballot box shall be opened at the counting of the votes under rule 45(1) of the elections rules.

(1) Rule 45 was amended by Schedule 4 to the [1985 Act \(c.50\)](#), Schedule 6 to the [2000 Act \(c.2\)](#), section 3(4)(c) of the [2002 Act \(c.13\)](#) and Schedule 1 to the [2006 Act \(c.22\)](#).