

SCHEDULE 3

Combined Authority Mayoral Election (Combination of Polls) Rules

PART 5

Further provision: more than two candidates

The count of second preference votes

55.—(1) If directed by the combined authority returning officer in accordance with rule 58, the returning officer must, at the time and place notified to the counting agents, count the number of second preference votes for each of the candidates remaining in the contest given by voters who did not give their first preference vote to any of those candidates.

(2) A ballot paper which is not otherwise void and on which not more than one second preference vote is marked shall be valid as respects that vote and shall be counted accordingly if, but only if, a valid first preference vote has also been marked.

(3) Rules 49(2) to (5), 50(4) to (7), 51 (except paragraph (3)) and 53 (except the words “the votes, or as the case may be,” in both paragraphs where they appear) shall apply in relation to the count of second preference votes as they apply in relation to the count of first preference votes as if references to first preference votes were references to second preference votes.

(4) The returning officer shall not be required to re-examine any decision taken under rule 52.