

Changes to legislation: Representation of the People Act 1983, Cross Heading: Sealing up of ballot papers is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 25 June 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 1

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Parliamentary election rules modified (N.I.) (*prosp.*) by Representation of the People Act 1985 (c. 50, SIF 42), s. 10, **Sch. 1 paras. 8–23**
- C1** Paras. 3–7 of Pt. II of Sch. 1 to Representation of the People Act 1985 (c. 50, SIF 42) have effect (N.I.) (*prosp.*) by virtue of s. 10 of, and Sch. 1 para. 2 to, that Act as additional rules in Sch. 1 to this Act
- C1** Sch. 1 applied with modifications (S.) by S.I. 1986/2213, **Rules 2, 5**
Sch. 1 applied (with modifications) (E.W.S.) (28.4.1999) by 1985 c. 50, s. 15(1)(2) (as applied (with modifications) (28.4.1999) by S.I. 1999/1214, reg. 8, **Sch. 3**) (which S.I. was revoked (23.3.2004) by S.I. 2004/293, **reg. 126**)
- C1** Sch. 1 modified (E.W.) by S.I. 1986/1081, **regs. 2, 97, 98, 100** (which S.I. was revoked (23.3.2004) by S.I. 2004/294, **reg. 3**)
- C1** Sch. 1 extended (with modifications) (N.I.) (4.5.1996) by S.I. 1996/1220, **art. 6(1)-(4)**
- C1** Sch. 1 modified (N.I.) (10.4.2001) by Elections Act 2001 (c. 7), s. 4, **Sch.** (as amended (16.12.2010) by S.I. 2010/2977, arts. 2(2), 6; (15.9.2014) by S.I. 2014/1116, arts. 1(1), 9; and (4.4.2024) by S.I. 2024/382, art. 1(2), **Sch. 5** (with art. 1(3)))
- C1** Sch. 1 modified (S.) by The Representation of the People (Scotland) Regulations 1986 (S.I. 1986/1111), regs. 2, **95, 96, 98** (as amended (16.1.2023) by The Voter Identification Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/1382), regs. 1(3), **36** (with reg. 1(6)(7)))
- C1** Sch. 1 modified (E.W.) (23.3.2004) by The Representation of the People (Combination of Polls) (England and Wales) Regulations 2004 (S.I. 2004/294), reg. 8, **Sch. 2** (as amended (22.5.2014) by S.I. 2014/920, regs. 1(1), **2(7)**, 3-6; (7.5.2015) by S.I. 2015/654, regs. 1(1), **2**); (16.1.2023) by The Voter Identification Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/1382), regs. 1(3), **37** (with reg. 1(6)(7)) and (with effect in accordance with reg. 1(2) of the amending S.I.) by The Representation of the People (Postal Vote Handling and Secrecy) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1225), **reg. 4**)

PART V

DISPOSAL OF DOCUMENTS

Sealing up of ballot papers

- 54 (1) On the completion of the counting at a contested election the returning officer shall seal up in separate packets the counted and rejected ballot papers.
- [^{F1}(2) The returning officer shall not open the sealed packets of—
- (a) tendered ballot papers,
 - [^{F2}(aa) tendered postal ballot papers,]
 - (b) the completed corresponding number lists,
 - [^{F3}(ba) in the case of an election held in England and Wales or Scotland, the completed ballot paper refusal list,]

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- (c) certificates as to employment on duty on the day of the poll, or
- (d) marked copies of the register of electors (including any marked copy notices issued under section 13B(3B) or (3D) of this Act) and lists of proxies.]

[^{F4}(3) This rule applies in relation to Northern Ireland as if the reference in paragraph (2) (d) to section 13B(3B) or (3D) were a reference to section 13BA(9).]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Sch. 1 rule 54(2) substituted (1.1.2007 for E.W.S. and 1.7.2008 for N.I.) by [Electoral Administration Act 2006 \(c. 22\)](#), [ss. 31\(5\), 77](#); [S.I. 2006/3412](#), [art. 3](#), [Sch. 1 para. 14\(o\)](#) (subject to transitional provisions in [art. 6](#), [Sch. 2](#)); [S.I. 2008/1316](#), [arts. 2, 4](#)
- F2** Sch. 1 rule 54(2)(aa) inserted (15.9.2014) by [The Anonymous Registration \(Northern Ireland\) Order 2014 \(S.I. 2014/1116\)](#), [arts. 1\(1\), 3\(10\)](#)
- F3** Sch. 1 rule 54(2)(ba) inserted (E.W.S.) (16.1.2023) by [Elections Act 2022 \(c. 37\)](#), [s. 67\(1\)](#), [Sch. 1 para. 27](#); [S.I. 2022/1401](#), [reg. 2\(d\)\(xiii\)](#) (with [reg. 3\(1\)](#))
- F4** Sch. 1 rule 54(3) inserted (14.5.2008) by [Northern Ireland \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 2006 \(c. 33\)](#), [ss. 30\(1\), 31](#), [Sch. 4 para. 6\(10\)](#); [S.I. 2008/1318](#), [art. 2](#)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Sch. 1 rules 54–57, 60 applied with modifications (N.I.) by [S.I. 1986/2250](#), [regs. 2, 3, 5](#), [Sch. 1 Pt. I](#)
- C2** Sch. 1 rules 54–57, 60 applied with modifications (E.W.S.) by [S.I. 1986/2209](#), [regs. 2, 3, 5\(1\)\(6\)–\(8\)](#), [Sch. 1 Pt. I](#)
- C3** Sch. 1 rule 54 applied (with modifications) (N.I.) (4.5.1996) by [S.I. 1996/1220](#), [art. 3\(1\)\(b\)\(5\)–\(8\)](#), [Sch. 1](#)
Sch. 1 rule 54 applied (with modifications) (N.I.) (25.4.1998) by [S.I. 1998/1126](#), [art. 6](#), [Sch. 2](#)
- C4** Sch. 1 rule 54 applied (with modifications) (31.7.1997) by [1997 c. 61](#), [s. 3](#), [Sch. 3 para. 13](#) Table 2
Sch. 1 rule 54 applied (with modifications) (1.8.2001) by [S.I. 2001/2599](#), [art. 3](#), [Sch. 1](#) (as substituted (10.2.2009) by [S.I. 2009/256](#), [arts. 1\(2\), 3](#), [Sch. 1](#))

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

- Act Representation of the People Acts amended by [1985 c. 50 Sch. 1 para. 24](#)
- Act power to amend conferred by [2009 c. 12 s. 34\(3\)\(b\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Ss. 30-34 repealed (10.6.2014 for E.W., 15.9.2014 for N.I., 19.9.2014 for S.) by Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 (c. 6), s. 27(1), Sch. 4 para. 24(b) (with Sch. 5); S.I. 2014/414, art. 5(m); S.I. 2014/2439, art. 2(l))
- Blanket amendment words substituted by [S.I. 2011/1043 art. 34](#)

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 9(2A) inserted by [2021 asc 1 s. 18\(2\)](#)
- s. 9E(1A) inserted by [2021 asc 1 s. 18\(4\)](#)
- s. 9ZA inserted by [2021 asc 1 s. 18\(3\)](#)
- s. 10(4C)(4D) inserted by [2009 c. 12 s. 33\(3\)\(e\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Ss. 30-34 repealed (10.6.2014 for E.W., 15.9.2014 for N.I., 19.9.2014 for S.) by Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 (c. 6), s. 27(1), Sch. 4 para. 24(b) (with Sch. 5); S.I. 2014/414, art. 5(m); S.I. 2014/2439, art. 2(l))
- s. 10A(1C)(1D) inserted by [2009 c. 12 s. 33\(5\)\(d\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Ss. 30-34 repealed (10.6.2014 for E.W., 15.9.2014 for N.I., 19.9.2014 for S.) by Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 (c. 6), s. 27(1), Sch. 4 para. 24(b) (with Sch. 5); S.I. 2014/414, art. 5(m); S.I. 2014/2439, art. 2(l))
- s. 10ZE(2A) inserted by [2021 asc 1 s. 18\(5\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 10ZE(4A) inserted by [2021 asc 1 s. 18\(5\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 10ZE(5A)-(5C) inserted by [2021 asc 1 s. 18\(5\)\(d\)](#)
- s. 13A(1)(zc) inserted by [2021 asc 1 s. 18\(6\)](#)
- s. 13A(2C)(2D) inserted by [2009 c. 12 s. 33\(6\)\(d\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Ss. 30-34 repealed (10.6.2014 for E.W., 15.9.2014 for N.I., 19.9.2014 for S.) by Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 (c. 6), s. 27(1), Sch. 4 para. 24(b) (with Sch. 5); S.I. 2014/414, art. 5(m); S.I. 2014/2439, art. 2(l))
- s. 56(1)(azaa) inserted by [2021 asc 1 s. 18\(9\)](#)
- s. 63(3)(ba) inserted by [2006 c. 22 s. 7](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 7 repealed (2.4.2013) without ever being in force by 2013 c. 6, s. 23; S.I. 2013/702, art. 3(e))
- s. 81(4A)(4B) inserted by [2006 asp 14 s. 19\(2\)](#)
- s. 113(7)(b)(c) inserted by [2011 c. 1 Sch. 10 para. 15\(b\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 10 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(b))
- s. 114(4) inserted by [2011 c. 1 Sch. 10 para. 16](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 10 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(b))
- s. 115(3) inserted by [2011 c. 1 Sch. 10 para. 17](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 10 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(b))
- s. 139(6A) inserted by [2011 c. 1 Sch. 10 para. 19\(2\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 10 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(b))

- s. 165(3A) inserted by [2011 c. 1 Sch. 10 para. 20](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 10 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(b))
- s. 201(2B) inserted by [2009 c. 12 s. 33\(9\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Ss. 30-34 repealed (10.6.2014 for E.W., 15.9.2014 for N.I., 19.9.2014 for S.) by Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 (c. 6), s. 27(1), Sch. 4 para. 24(b) (with Sch. 5); S.I. 2014/414, art. 5(m); S.I. 2014/2439, art. 2(l))
- Sch. 1 rule 37A inserted by [2011 c. 1 s. 9\(1\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 9 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(a))
- Sch. 1 rule 45A45B inserted by [2011 c. 1 s. 9\(2\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 9 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(a))
- Sch. 1 rule 46(3) inserted by [2011 c. 1 Sch. 10 para. 5\(3\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 10 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(b))
- Sch. 1 rule 47(3A)(3B) inserted by [2011 c. 1 Sch. 10 para. 6\(4\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 10 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(b))
- Sch. 1 rule 40(1B)(a) repealed by [2006 c. 22 Sch. 2](#)
- Sch. 1 rule 18 substituted by [2011 c. 1 Sch. 10 para. 2](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 10 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(b))
- Sch. 1 rule 47(4)(d) substituted by [2011 c. 1 Sch. 10 para. 6\(5\)\(b\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 10 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(b))
- Sch. 1 rule 61(2)(c) substituted by [2011 c. 1 Sch. 10 para. 10\(3\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 10 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(b))
- Sch. 1 rule 62 substituted by [2011 c. 1 Sch. 10 para. 11\(1\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 10 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(b))
- Sch. 1 rule 47(1)(aa)(b) substituted for Sch. 1 rule 47(1)(b) by [2011 c. 1 Sch. 10 para. 6\(2\)\(a\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 10 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(b))
- Sch. 1 rule 47(2)-(2E) substituted for Sch. 1 rule 47(2) by [2011 c. 1 Sch. 10 para. 6\(3\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 10 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(b))
- Sch. 1 rule 47(4)(aa)(b) substituted for Sch. 1 rule 47(4)(b) by [2011 c. 1 Sch. 10 para. 6\(5\)\(a\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 10 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(b))
- Sch. 1 rule 4949A substituted for Sch. 1 rule 49 by [2011 c. 1 Sch. 10 para. 7](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 10 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(b))
- Sch. 1 rule 50(1)(a)(aa)(ab)(b)(c) substituted for Sch. 1 rule 50(1)(a)-(c) by [2011 c. 1 Sch. 10 para. 8](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 10 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(b))
- Sch. 1 rule 61(2)(a)(aa) substituted for Sch. 1 rule 61(2)(a) by [2011 c. 1 Sch. 10 para. 10\(2\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 10 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(b))
- Sch. 1 rule 46(1)(1A) substituted for rule 46(1) by [2011 c. 1 Sch. 10 para. 5\(1\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 10 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(b))
- Sch. 1 rule 46(2) words inserted by [2011 c. 1 Sch. 10 para. 5\(2\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 10 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(b))

- Sch. 1 rule 47 heading words inserted by [2011 c. 1 Sch. 10 para. 6\(1\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). Sch. 10 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(b))
- Sch. 1 rule 29(5) words substituted by [2011 c. 1 Sch. 10 para. 3](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). Sch. 10 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(b))
- Sch. 1 rule 44(5) words substituted by [2011 c. 1 Sch. 10 para. 4](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). Sch. 10 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(b))
- Sch. 1 rule 47(1) words substituted by [2011 c. 1 Sch. 10 para. 6\(2\)\(c\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). Sch. 10 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(b))
- Sch. 1 rule 47(1)(d) words substituted by [2011 c. 1 Sch. 10 para. 6\(2\)\(b\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). Sch. 10 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(b))
- Sch. 1 rule 53(4) words substituted by [2011 c. 1 Sch. 10 para. 9](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). Sch. 10 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(b))
- Sch. 1 rule 61(1) words substituted by [2011 c. 1 Sch. 10 para. 10\(1\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). Sch. 10 repealed (8.7.2011) without ever being in force by S.I. 2011/1702, arts. 1, 2(b))
- Sch. 2 para. 1(4ZA)-(4ZC) inserted by [2009 c. 12 s. 33\(10\)\(a\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). Ss. 30-34 repealed (10.6.2014 for E.W., 15.9.2014 for N.I., 19.9.2014 for S.) by Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 (c. 6), s. 27(1), Sch. 4 para. 24(b) (with Sch. 5); S.I. 2014/414, art. 5(m); S.I. 2014/2439, art. 2(l))
- Sch. 2 para. 1(6A) inserted by [2009 c. 12 s. 33\(10\)\(e\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). Ss. 30-34 repealed (10.6.2014 for E.W., 15.9.2014 for N.I., 19.9.2014 for S.) by Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 (c. 6), s. 27(1), Sch. 4 para. 24(b) (with Sch. 5); S.I. 2014/414, art. 5(m); S.I. 2014/2439, art. 2(l))
- Sch. 2 para. 5C inserted by [2022 c. 37 Sch. 4 para. 5](#)