



Scottish Independence Referendum Act 2013

2013 asp 14

SCOTTISH INDEPENDENCE REFERENDUM ACT 2013

Referendum

- 1 Referendum on Scottish independence

Franchise

- 2 Those who are entitled to vote
- 3 Declarations of local connection and service declarations: further provision

Voting etc.

- 4 Provision about voting etc.

Conduct

- 5 Chief Counting Officer
- 6 Other counting officers
- 7 Functions of the Chief Counting Officer and other counting officers
- 8 Correction of procedural errors
- 9 Expenses of counting officers
- 10 Conduct rules

Campaign

- 11 Campaign rules
- 12 Monitoring and securing compliance with the campaign rules
- 13 Inspection of Electoral Commission's registers etc.
- 14 Campaign rules: general offences
- 15 Campaign offences: summary proceedings
- 16 Duty of court to report convictions to the Electoral Commission

Referendum agents

- 17 Referendum agents

Observers

- 18 Attendance of Electoral Commission at proceedings and observation of working practices
- 19 Accredited observers: individuals
- 20 Accredited observers: organisations
- 21 Attendance and conduct of accredited observers
- 22 Code of practice on attendance of observers

Information, guidance, advice and encouragement

- 23 Information for voters
- 24 Guidance
- 25 Advice
- 26 Encouraging participation

Report on referendum

- 27 Report on the conduct of the referendum

Electoral Commission: administrative provision

- 28 Reimbursement of Commission's costs
- 29 Estimates of expenditure
- 30 Maladministration

Offences

- 31 Offences
- 32 Offences by bodies corporate etc.

Power to make supplementary etc. provision and modifications

- 33 Power to make supplementary etc. provision and modifications

Legal proceedings

- 34 Restriction on legal challenge to referendum result

Final provisions

- 35 Interpretation
- 36 Commencement
- 37 Short title

SCHEDULE 1 — Form of ballot paper**SCHEDULE 2 — Further provision about voting in the referendum****PART 1 — MANNER OF VOTING**

- 1 Manner of voting
- 2 Existing absent voters

- 3 Applications for absent vote
- 4 Absent voters lists
- 5 Proxies
- 6 Voting as proxy
- 7 Requirements as to applications
- 8 Additional requirements as to certain applications to vote by proxy
- 9 Grant or refusal of applications
- 10 Forms
- 11 Personal identifiers record
- 12 Marked lists for polling stations
- 13 Appeals
- PART 2 — REGISTRATION
- 14 Effect of register
- 15 Effect of misdescription
- 16 Carrying out of registration functions
- 17 Alterations in the register of electors
- 18 Preparation of the Polling List
- 19 The cut-off date
- PART 3 — POSTAL VOTING: ISSUE AND RECEIPT OF BALLOT PAPERS
- 20 Persons entitled to be present at issue and receipt of postal ballot papers
- 21 Notification of requirement of secrecy
- 22 Time when postal ballot papers are to be issued
- 23 Issue of postal ballot papers
- 24 Refusal to issue postal ballot paper
- 25 Envelopes
- 26 Sealing up of completed corresponding number lists and security of special lists
- 27 Payment of postage on postal ballot papers
- 28 Spoilt postal ballot papers
- 29 Lost postal ballot papers
- 30 Superseded postal ballot papers
- 31 Notice of opening of postal ballot paper envelopes
- 32 Boxes and receptacles
- 33 Receipt of covering envelopes and collection of postal votes
- 34 Opening of postal voters box
- 35 Opening of covering envelopes
- 36 Confirmation of receipt of postal voting statement
- 37 Procedure in relation to postal voting statements
- 38 Procedure in relation to postal voting statements: personal identifier verification
- 39 Postal voting statements: additional personal identifier verification
- 40 Opening of ballot paper envelopes
- 41 Retrieval of cancelled postal ballot papers
- 42 Lists of provisionally rejected postal ballot papers
- 43 Checking of lists kept under paragraph 42
- 44 Sealing of receptacles
- 45 Forwarding of documents
- 46 Power of Chief Counting Officer to prescribe
- 47 Interpretation of Part
- PART 4 — SUPPLY OF POLLING LIST ETC.
- 48 Supply of free copy of Polling List etc. to counting officers
- 49 Supply of free copy of Polling List etc. to Electoral Commission

- 50 Supply of free copy of edited Polling List etc. to designated organisations
- 51 Supply of free copy of register of local government electors etc. to permitted participants
- 52 Supply of data
- 53 General restriction on use of registration documents and information contained in them
- 54 Offence in relation to disclosure of registration documents
- 55 Destruction of copies of the Polling List etc.
- PART 5 — SUPPLY OF MARKED POLLING LIST ETC.
- 56 Supply of marked Polling List etc. to designated organisations
- 57 Fee for supply of marked Polling List etc.

SCHEDULE 3 — Conduct rules

- 1 Publication of notice of the referendum
- 2 Hours of polling
- 3 The ballot
- 4 Printing of ballot papers
- 5 The corresponding number list
- 6 Security marking
- 7 Use of schools and public rooms for polling and counting votes
- 8 Postal ballot papers
- 9 Provision of polling stations
- 10 Appointment of presiding officers and clerks
- 11 Issue of poll cards
- 12 Loan of equipment for referendum
- 13 Equipment of polling stations
- 14 Appointment of polling and counting agents
- 15 Admission to polling station
- 16 Notification of requirement of secrecy
- 17 Keeping of order in polling station
- 18 Sealing of ballot boxes
- 19 Questions to be put to voters
- 20 Challenge of voter
- 21 Voting procedure
- 22 Votes marked by presiding officer
- 23 Voting by persons with disabilities
- 24 Tendered ballot papers
- 25 Spoilt ballot papers
- 26 Correction of errors on polling day
- 27 Adjournment of poll in case of riot
- 28 Procedure on close of poll
- 29 Attendance at counting of votes
- 30 The count
- 31 Rejected ballot papers
- 32 Counting the votes
- 33 Decisions on ballot papers
- 34 Re-counts
- 35 Declaration of result
- 36 Sealing up of ballot papers
- 37 Delivery of papers
- 38 Retention and public inspection of papers
- 39 Retention and public inspection of certifications

- 40 Orders for production of documents
- 41 Power of Chief Counting Officer to prescribe

SCHEDULE 4 — Campaign rules

PART 1 — INTERPRETATION

- 1 Interpretation of schedule

PART 2 — PERMITTED PARTICIPANTS AND DESIGNATED ORGANISATIONS

- 2 Permitted participants
- 3 Further provision about declarations under paragraph 2
- 4 Further provision about responsible persons
- 5 Register of declarations under paragraph 2
- 6 Designated organisations
- 7 Applications for designation under paragraph 6
- 8 Designated organisation's right to use rooms for holding public meetings
- 9 Supplementary provisions about use of rooms for public meetings

PART 3 — REFERENDUM EXPENSES

- 10 Referendum expenses
- 11 Expenses qualifying where incurred for referendum purposes
- 12 Notional referendum expenses
- 13 Restriction on incurring referendum expenses
- 14 Restriction on payments in respect of referendum expenses
- 15 Restriction on making claims in respect of referendum expenses
- 16 Disputed claims
- 17 Rights of creditors
- 18 General restriction on referendum expenses
- 19 Special restrictions on referendum expenses by permitted participants
- 20 Referendum expenses incurred as part of common plan
- 21 Returns as to referendum expenses
- 22 Auditor's report on return
- 23 Delivery of returns to Electoral Commission
- 24 Declaration of responsible person as to return under paragraph 21
- 25 Public inspection of returns under paragraph 21

PART 4 — PUBLICATIONS

- 26 Restriction on publication etc. of promotional material by central and local government etc.
- 27 Details to appear on referendum material
- 28 Display of advertisements

PART 5 — CONTROL OF DONATIONS

- 29 Operation and interpretation of this Part
- 30 Donations: general rules
- 31 Sponsorship
- 32 Payments etc. not to be regarded as donations
- 33 Value of donations
- 34 Prohibition on accepting donations from impermissible donors
- 35 Acceptance or return of donations
- 36 Return of donation where donor unidentifiable
- 37 Forfeiture of donations made by impermissible or unidentifiable donors
- 38 Evasion of restrictions on donations
- 39 Statement of relevant donations
- 40 Donations from permissible donors
- 41 Donations from impermissible or unidentifiable donors
- 42 Donation reports during referendum period

- 43 Declaration of responsible person as to donation reports under paragraph 42
- 44 Public inspection of donation reports under paragraph 42
- PART 6 — CONTROL OF LOANS AND CREDIT
- 45 Operation of Part
- 46 Regulated transactions
- 47 Valuation of regulated transaction
- 48 Authorised participants
- 49 Regulated transaction involving unauthorised participant
- 50 Guarantees and securities: unauthorised participant
- 51 Transfer to unauthorised participant invalid
- 52 Offences
- 53 Penalties
- 54 Statement of regulated transactions
- 55 Identity of authorised participants
- 56 Identity of unauthorised participants
- 57 Details of transaction
- 58 Changes
- 59 Total value of non-recordable transactions
- 60 Transaction reports during referendum period
- 61 Declaration of responsible person as to transaction reports under paragraph 60
- 62 Public inspection of transaction reports under paragraph 60
- 63 Non-disclosure with intent to conceal
- 64 Proceedings under paragraphs 49 and 63
- 65 Interpretation

SCHEDULE 5 — Campaign rules: investigatory powers of the Electoral Commission

- 1 Power to require disclosure
- 2 Inspection warrants
- 3 Powers in relation to suspected offences or contraventions
- 4 Court order for delivery of documents or provision of information etc.
- 5 (1) This paragraph applies where the Electoral Commission have given...
- 6 Retention of documents delivered under paragraph 4
- 7 Power to make copies and records
- 8 Authorisation to be in writing
- 9 Documents in electronic form
- 10 Legal professional privilege
- 11 Admissibility of statements
- 12 Offences
- 13 Guidance by Commission
- 14 Information about use of investigatory powers in Commission's report
- 15 Interpretation

SCHEDULE 6 — Campaign rules: civil sanctions

PART 1 — FIXED MONETARY PENALTIES

- 1 Imposition of fixed monetary penalties
- 2 Representations and appeals etc.
- 3 Information to be included in notices under paragraph 2
- 4 Late payment
- 5 Fixed monetary penalties: criminal proceedings and conviction

PART 2 — DISCRETIONARY REQUIREMENTS

- 6 Imposition of discretionary requirements
- 7 Representations and appeals etc.
- 8 Information to be included in notices under paragraph 7
- 9 Discretionary requirements: criminal conviction
- 10 Compliance and restoration certificates
- 11 Failure to comply with discretionary requirements
- 12 Late payment

PART 3 — STOP NOTICES

- 13 Imposition of stop notices
- 14 Information to be included in stop notices
- 15 Completion certificates
- 16 Appeals etc.
- 17 Failure to comply with stop notice

PART 4 — ENFORCEMENT UNDERTAKINGS

- 18 (1) This paragraph applies where— (a) the Electoral Commission have...
- 19 Enforcement undertakings: further provision
- 20 Compliance certificate
- 21 Appeals

PART 5 — GENERAL AND SUPPLEMENTAL

- 22 Combination of sanctions
- 23 Withdrawal or variation of notice
- 24 Use of statements made compulsorily
- 25 Unincorporated associations
- 26 Guidance as to enforcement
- 27 Recovery of penalties etc.
- 28 Payment of penalties etc into Scottish Consolidated Fund
- 29 Reports on use of civil sanctions
- 30 Disclosure of information
- 31 Powers of sheriff

PART 6 — INTERPRETATION

- 32 In this schedule— “completion certificate” has the meaning given in...

PART 7 — LISTED CAMPAIGN OFFENCES

SCHEDULE 7 — Offences

- 1 Personation
- 2 Other voting offences
- 3 Imitation poll cards
- 4 Offences relating to applications for postal and proxy votes
- 5 Breach of official duty
- 6 Tampering with ballot papers etc.
- 7 Requirement of secrecy
- 8 Prohibition on publication of exit polls
- 9 Payments to voters for exhibition of referendum notices
- 10 Treating
- 11 Undue influence
- 12 Bribery
- 13 Disturbances at public meetings
- 14 Illegal canvassing by police officers
- 15 Prosecutions for corrupt practices
- 16 Prosecutions for illegal practices
- 17 Conviction of illegal practice on charge of corrupt practice etc.

- 18 Incapacity to hold public or judicial office in Scotland
- 19 Prohibition of paid canvassers
- 20 Providing money for illegal purposes
- 21 Prosecutions for illegal employment or illegal payment

SCHEDULE 8 — Interpretation