



# Scottish Independence Referendum Act 2013

2013 asp 14

*Information, guidance, advice and encouragement*

## **23 Information for voters**

The Electoral Commission must take such steps as they consider appropriate to promote public awareness and understanding in Scotland about—

- (a) the referendum,
- (b) the referendum question, and
- (c) voting in the referendum.

## **24 Guidance**

- (1) The Electoral Commission may issue guidance to the Chief Counting Officer about the exercise of the Chief Counting Officer's functions under this Act.
- (2) The Chief Counting Officer may issue guidance to counting officers and registration officers about the exercise of their respective functions under this Act.
- (3) The Electoral Commission may, with the consent of the Chief Counting Officer, issue guidance to counting officers about the exercise of their functions under this Act.
- (4) The Electoral Commission may issue guidance to permitted participants and persons who may become permitted participants about the provisions set out in schedule 4 to this Act.
- (5) Guidance issued under subsection (4) must include information on what may constitute a common plan or other arrangement for the purposes of paragraph 20 of schedule 4.

## **25 Advice**

The Electoral Commission may, if asked to do so by any person, provide the person with advice about—

- (a) the application of this Act,

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*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).*

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- (b) any other matter relating to the referendum.

## **26 Encouraging participation**

- (1) The Chief Counting Officer must take whatever steps the Chief Counting Officer considers appropriate to—
  - (a) encourage participation in the referendum, and
  - (b) facilitate co-operation among officers taking steps under this section.
- (2) A counting officer must take whatever steps the counting officer considers appropriate to encourage participation in the referendum in the local government area for which the officer is appointed.