
DRAFT STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2016 No.

The Recall of MPs Act 2015 (Recall Petition) Regulations 2016

PART 5

ISSUE AND RECEIPT OF POSTAL SIGNING SHEETS

CHAPTER 1

General

Interpretation of Part 5

82. For the purposes of this Part—

“covering envelope” and “signing sheet envelope” have the meaning given by regulation 91 (envelopes);

“postal signer” means an elector or proxy who is entitled to sign the petition by post;

“postal signers’ ballot box” and “postal ballot box” have the meaning given by regulation 101 (postal ballot boxes and receptacles);

“postal signing pack” means for England and Wales and Scotland, the documents referred to in regulation 85(1)(a); and for Northern Ireland, the documents referred to in regulation 85(1)(b) (postal signing packs);

“receptacle for signing sheet envelopes” and other references to specified receptacles, means the receptacles referred to in regulation 101 (postal ballot boxes and receptacles);

“spoilt postal signing sheet” for England and Wales and Scotland, has the meaning given by regulation 94; and for Northern Ireland has the meaning given by regulation 95 (spoilt postal signing sheets);

“valid declaration of identity” means a declaration of identity which satisfies the conditions in regulation 105 (procedure in relation to declaration of identity);

“valid postal petition statement” means a postal petition statement which, in accordance with regulation 107 (procedure in relation to postal petition statements), the petition officer is satisfied has been duly completed.

Form of postal petition statement: England and Wales and Scotland

83. The form of the postal petition statement to be used in England and Wales and Scotland for the purposes of a petition must be in the form of Form K in Schedule 2.

Form of declaration of identity: Northern Ireland

84. The form of the declaration of identity to be used in Northern Ireland for the purposes of a petition must be in the form of Form M in Schedule 2.

Postal signing packs

- 85.**—(1) The petition officer must issue to a person entitled to sign a petition by post—
- (a) for a petition in England and Wales or Scotland—
 - (i) a postal signing sheet,
 - (ii) a postal petition statement, and
 - (iii) envelopes for their return which comply with regulation 91 (envelopes);
 - (b) for a petition in Northern Ireland—
 - (i) a postal signing sheet,
 - (ii) a declaration of identity, and
 - (iii) envelopes for their return which comply with regulation 91 (envelopes).
- (2) The petition officer must also issue to such persons such information as the officer thinks appropriate about how to obtain—
- (a) translations into languages other than English of any directions to, or guidance for, signers sent with a postal signing sheet;
 - (b) a translation into Braille of such directions or guidance;
 - (c) graphical representations of such directions or guidance;
 - (d) the directions or guidance in any other form (including any audible form).
- (3) The petition officer must ensure that the return of the postal signing sheet and postal petition statement or declaration of identity (as the case may be) is free of charge to the postal signer.

Time when postal signing packs are to be issued

- 86.** A petition officer must issue the postal signing packs as soon as reasonably practicable and, in any event—
- (a) between one and three working days before the designated day⁽¹⁾;
 - (b) on the tenth and twentieth working day after the designated day; and
 - (c) by the eighth working day before the last day of the signing period.

(1) See section 7(1) of the Act; “designated day” means the day from which the petition is made available for signing.