

*Status: Point in time view as at 01/02/1991.*

**Changes to legislation:** Representation of the People Act 1983, Paragraph 26 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 30 May 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)

## 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1985 c. 50, s. 15(1)(2) (as applied (with modifications) (28.4.1999) by S.I. 1999/1214, reg. 8, **Sch. 3**) (which S.I. was revoked (23.3.2004) by S.I. 2004/293, **reg. 126**)
- C1 Sch. 1 modified (E.W.) by S.I. 1986/1081, **regs. 2, 97, 98, 100** (which S.I. was revoked (23.3.2004) by S.I. 2004/294, **reg. 3**)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 modified (S.) by S.I. 1986/1111, **regs. 2, 95, 96, 98(1)**  
Sch. 1 modified (10.4.2001) by 2001 c. 7, s. 4, **Sch. para. 1**  
Sch. 1 modified (E.W.) (23.3.2004) by The Representation of People (Combination of Polls) (England and Wales) Regulations 2004 (S.I. 2004/294), **reg. 8, Sch. 2**
- C1 Sch. 1 extended (with modifications) (N.I.) (4.5.1996) by S.I. 1996/1220, **art. 6(1)-(4)**

### PART III

#### CONTESTED ELECTIONS

##### ACTION TO BE TAKEN BEFORE THE POLL

##### *Appointment of presiding officers and clerks*

- 26 (1) The returning officer shall appoint and pay a presiding officer to attend at each polling station and such clerks as may be necessary for the purposes of the election, but he shall not appoint any person who has been employed by or on behalf of a candidate in or about the election.
- (2) The returning officer may, if he thinks fit, preside at a polling station and the provisions of these rules relating to a presiding officer shall apply to a returning officer so presiding with the necessary modifications as to things to be done by the returning officer to the presiding officer or by the presiding officer to the returning officer.
- (3) A presiding officer may do, by the clerks appointed to assist him, any act (including the asking of questions) which he is required or authorised by these rules to do at a polling station except order the arrest, exclusion or removal of any person from the

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polling station [<sup>F1</sup>or refuse to deliver a ballot paper under paragraph (1C) of rule 37 (including that paragraph as applied by rule 38, 39 or 40)].

#### Textual Amendments

**F1** Words inserted (N.I.) by Elections (Northern Ireland) Act 1985 (c. 2, SIF 42), s. 2(2)

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Sch. 1 rule 26 applied with modifications (N.I.) by S.I. 1986/2250, regs. 2, 3, 5, **Sch. 1 Pt. I**
- C2** Sch. 1 rule 26 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 26 applied (with modifications) (N.I.) (4.5.1996) by S.I. 1996/1220, art. 3(1)(b)(5)-(8), **Sch. 1**  
Sch. 1 rule 26 applied (with modifications) (N.I.) (25.4.1998) by S.I. 1998/1126, art. 6, **Sch. 2**
- C4** Sch. 1 rule 26 applied (with modifications) (31.7.1997) by 1997 c. 61, s. 3, **Sch. 3 para. 13** Table 2  
Sch. 1 rule 26 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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