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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2023 No. 1233**

**REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE**

**The Overseas Electors, Postal Vote Handling  
and Secrecy (Amendment) Rules 2023**

*Made - - - - 20th November 2023*

*Laid before Parliament 21st November 2023*

*Coming into force in accordance with rule 1(2)*

The Secretary of State makes the following Rules in exercise of the powers conferred by paragraph 18 of Schedule 12 to the Local Government Act 1972<sup>(1)</sup>, section 36(1), (2) and (2A) of the Representation of the People Act 1983<sup>(2)</sup> and section 5(3) and (4) of the House of Lords Act 1999<sup>(3)</sup>.

The Secretary of State has consulted the Electoral Commission regarding the amendments made by these Rules in accordance with section 7(1) and (2)(d) of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000<sup>(4)</sup>.

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- (1) 1972 c. 70. Paragraph 18 was amended by paragraph 14 of Schedule 8 to the Representation of the People Act 1983 (c. 2). It is prospectively amended by section 42 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 (c. 2) from a date and time to be appointed.
- (2) 1983 c. 2. Section 36(1) was amended by section 13(2) of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 (asc 1). Section 36(2A) was inserted by paragraph 4(2) of Schedule 3 to the Greater London Authority Act 1999 (c. 29).
- (3) 1999 c. 34.
- (4) 2000 c. 41. Section 7(2)(d) was amended by paragraph 11 of Schedule 2 to the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.