
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2024 No. 99

The Representation of the People (Postal and Proxy Voting etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2024

Amendment of the Representation of the People (Postal and Proxy Voting etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2023

2.—(1) Schedule 2 to the Representation of the People (Postal and Proxy Voting etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (transitional provisions and savings)⁽¹⁾ is amended as follows.

(2) In Part 2 (provisions related to the 2001 Regulations and related to Parliamentary elections), in paragraph 4 (poll card forms for certain parliamentary elections), after sub-paragraph (2) insert—

“(3) Sub-paragraph (4) applies in respect of a parliamentary election for which—

- (a) the notice of election is published in accordance with rule 5 of Schedule 1 to the Representation of the People Act 1983⁽²⁾ on or after 31st January 2024, and
- (b) the date of poll stated in that notice is on or before 1st May 2024.

(4) Form A1 (official postal poll card (to be sent to an elector voting by post)) and Form B1 (official proxy postal poll card (to be sent to an appointed proxy voting by post)) in Schedule 3 to the 2001 Regulations apply as if, on the back of the form, for the text that begins “vote as a proxy at this election” and ends with “grandchild” there were substituted—

“(in the case of a proxy appointed on or after 31st October 2023) vote as a proxy on behalf of more than four electors, of which no more than two may be on behalf of other domestic electors (a domestic elector is one who is not an overseas or service elector)”.”

(3) In Part 3 (local authority mayoral elections), in paragraph 9 (poll card forms for certain local authority mayoral elections), after sub-paragraph (3) insert—

“(4) Sub-paragraph (5) applies in respect of an election in England for the return of an elected mayor as defined by section 9H(1) of the Local Government Act 2000⁽³⁾ for which—

- (a) the notice of election is published in accordance with rule 5 of the mayoral election rules on or after 31st January 2024, and
- (b) the date of poll stated in that notice is on or before 1st May 2024.

(5) Form 9 (official postal poll card) and Form 11 (official proxy postal poll card) in the mayoral election rules apply as if, on the back of the form, for the text that begins “vote as a proxy at this election” and ends with “grandchild” there were substituted—

“(in the case of a proxy appointed on or after 31st October 2023) vote as a proxy on behalf of more than four electors, of which no more than two may be on behalf of other domestic electors (a domestic elector is one who is not an overseas or service elector)”.”

(1) [S.I. 2023/1147](#).

(2) Rule 5 was amended by paragraph 4 of Schedule 2 and paragraph 74 of Schedule 4 to the Representation of the People Act 1985, by paragraph 10 of Schedule 6 to the Representation of the People Act 2000 (c. 2) and by section 19(3) of the Electoral Administration Act 2006 (c. 22).

(3) Section 9H was inserted by paragraph 1 of Schedule 2 to the Localism Act 2011 (c. 20).

(4) In Part 4 (referendums under Part 1A of the Local Government Act 2000), in paragraph 13 (poll card forms for certain referendums), after sub-paragraph (3) insert—

“(4) Sub-paragraph (5) applies in respect of a referendum for which—

- (a) the notice of referendum is published in accordance with rule 5 of the referendum rules on or after 31st January 2024, and
- (b) the date of poll stated in that notice is on or before 1st May 2024.

(5) The form of the Official Postal Poll Card (to be sent to a voter voting by post) and the Official Proxy Postal Poll Card (to be sent to an appointed proxy voting by post) in the referendum rules apply as if, on the back of the form, for the text that begins “vote as a proxy at the same referendum” and ends with “grandchild” there were substituted—

“(in the case of a proxy appointed on or after 31st October 2023) vote as a proxy on behalf of more than four voters, of which no more than two may be on behalf of other domestic voters (a domestic voter is one who is not an overseas or service voter)”.

(5) In Part 5 (referendums under Chapter 4ZA of Part 1 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992), in paragraph 17 (poll card forms for certain referendums), after sub-paragraph (3) insert—

“(4) Sub-paragraph (5) applies in respect of a referendum for which—

- (a) the notice of referendum is published in accordance with rule 5 of the referendum rules on or after 31st January 2024, and
- (b) the date of poll stated in that notice is on or before 1st May 2024.

(5) The form of the Official Postal Poll Card (to be sent to a voter voting by post) and the Official Proxy Postal Poll Card (to be sent to an appointed proxy voting by post) in the referendum rules apply as if, on the back of the form, for the text that begins “vote as a proxy at the same referendum” and ends with “grandchild” there were substituted—

“(in the case of a proxy appointed on or after 31st October 2023) vote as a proxy on behalf of more than four voters, of which no more than two may be on behalf of other domestic voters (a domestic voter is one who is not an overseas or service voter)”.

(6) In Part 8 (referendums under Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990), in paragraph 30 (poll card forms for certain referendums), after sub-paragraph (5) insert—

“(6) The following apply subject to the modification in sub-paragraph (7) in respect of a referendum for which the notice of referendum is published in accordance with rule 5 of the referendum rules on or after 31st January 2024 and the date of poll stated in that notice is on or before 1st May 2024—

- (a) form 8 (official postal poll card (to be sent to a voter voting by post)) and form 10 (official proxy postal poll card (to be sent to an appointed proxy voting by post)) in Schedule 3 to the 2012 Regulations;
- (b) form 9 (official postal poll card (to be sent to a voter voting by post)) and form 11 (official proxy postal poll card (to be sent to an appointed proxy voting by post)) in Schedule 5 to the 2012 Regulations.

(7) The form applies as if, on the back of the form, for the text that begins “vote as a proxy at the same referendum” and ends with “grandchild” there were substituted—

“(in the case of a proxy appointed on or after 31st October 2023) vote as a proxy on behalf of more than four voters, of which no more than two may be on behalf of other domestic voters (a domestic voter is one who is not an overseas or service voter)”.

(7) In Part 9 (recall petitions), in paragraph 37 (official petition notice forms for certain recall petitions)—

- (a) in sub-paragraph (3) for “apply” substitute “applies”;

- (b) after sub-paragraph (3) insert—

“(3A) Form E (official petition notice for an elector who may sign the petition by post) in Part 1 of Schedule 2 to the 2016 Regulations applies in respect of a recall petition to which sub-paragraph (8) applies as if, on the second page of the notice, for the text that begins with “Sign the petition as a proxy for more than two people” and ends with “grandchild” there were substituted—

“In the case of a proxy appointed on or after 31st October 2023, sign the petition as a proxy on behalf of more than four people, of which no more than two may be on behalf of other domestic electors (a domestic elector is one who is not an overseas or service elector)”.

(3B) Form G (official petition notice for a proxy who may sign the petition by post) in Part 1 of Schedule 2 to the 2016 Regulations applies in respect of a recall petition to which sub-paragraph (8) applies as if, on the third page of the form, for the text that begins with “Sign the petition as a proxy for more than two people” and ends with “grandchild” there were substituted—

“In the case of a proxy appointed on or after 31st October 2023, sign the petition as a proxy on behalf of more than four people, of which no more than two may be on behalf of other domestic electors (a domestic elector is one who is not an overseas or service elector)”.”;

- (c) in sub-paragraph (5), for “apply” substitute “applies”;

- (d) after sub-paragraph (5) insert—

“(6) Form E (official petition notice for an elector who may sign the petition by post) in Part 3 of Schedule 2 to the 2016 Regulations applies in respect of a recall petition to which sub-paragraph (8) applies as if, on the second page of the notice, for the text that begins with “Sign the petition as a proxy for more than two people” and ends with “grandchild” there were substituted—

“In the case of a proxy appointed on or after 31st October 2023, sign the petition as a proxy on behalf of more than four people, of which no more than two may be on behalf of other domestic electors (a domestic elector is one who is not an overseas or service elector)”.

(7) Form G (official petition notice for a proxy who may sign the petition by post) in Part 3 of Schedule 2 to the 2016 Regulations applies in respect of a recall petition to which sub-paragraph (8) applies as if, on the final page of the form, for the text that begins with “Sign the petition as a proxy for more than two people” and ends with “grandchild” there were substituted—

“In the case of a proxy appointed on or after 31st October 2023, sign the petition as a proxy on behalf of more than four people, of which no more than two may be on behalf of other domestic electors (a domestic elector is one who is not an overseas or service elector)”.

- (8) This sub-paragraph applies to a recall petition for which—

- (a) the Speaker’s notice is given in accordance with section 5(1) of the Recall of MPs Act 2015 on or after 31st January 2024, and
- (b) the date for the beginning of the signing period⁽⁴⁾ for that petition is on or before 1st May 2024.”.

- (8) In Part 10 (combined authority mayoral elections), in paragraph 42 (poll card forms for certain combined authority mayoral elections), after sub-paragraph (3) insert—

“(4) Sub-paragraph (5) applies in respect of an election for the return of a mayor as provided for in an order made under Schedule 5B to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 for which—

(4) See section 9(2) of the Recall of MPs Act 2015 (c. 25) for the meaning of the “signing period”.

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- (a) the notice of election is published in accordance with rule 5 of the mayoral election rules on or after 31st January 2024, and
- (b) the date of poll stated in that notice is on or before 1st May 2024.

(5) Form 9 (official postal poll card) and Form 11 (official proxy postal poll card) in the mayoral election rules apply as if, on the back of the form, for the text that begins “vote as a proxy at this election” and ends with “grandchild” there were substituted—

“(in the case of a proxy appointed on or after 31st October 2023) vote as a proxy on behalf of more than four electors, of which no more than two may be on behalf of other domestic electors (a domestic elector is one who is not an overseas or service elector)”.