

2023 No. 4

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE, SCOTLAND

**The Returning Officers (Parliamentary Constituencies)
(Scotland) Order 2023**

Made - - - - 30th November 2023

Coming into force in accordance with article 1(2)

The Secretary of State makes the following Order in exercise of the power conferred by section 25(1)(b) of the Representation of the People Act 1983(a).

The Secretary of State has consulted the Electoral Commission in accordance with section 7(1) and (2)(c) of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000(b).

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Returning Officers (Parliamentary Constituencies) (Scotland) Order 2023.

(2) This Order comes into force—

- (a) for the purposes of proceedings preliminary or relating to a parliamentary election to be held after the issue of a proclamation by His Majesty summoning a new Parliament, on 1st December 2023;
- (b) for all other purposes, on the issue of a proclamation by His Majesty summoning a new Parliament.

(3) References to constituencies in this Order are references to those constituencies in Scotland constituted by an Order in Council made under section 4 of the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986(c).

Designation of returning officers

2. In the case of a constituency listed in the first column of the Table in the Schedule (being a constituency in Scotland which is situated in the area of more than one local authority(d)), the returning officer for a parliamentary election is the person who under section 41(1) or (2) of the Representation of the People Act 1983 is, or may discharge the functions of, the returning officer at elections of councillors for the local authority named in the second column of that Table opposite to the name of the constituency.

(a) 1983 c. 2. Section 25(1)(b) was amended by paragraph 130(3) of Schedule 13 to the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994 (c. 39).
(b) 2000 c. 41.
(c) 1986 c. 56. Section 4 was amended by paragraph 17 of the Schedule to the Fixed-term Parliaments Act 2011 (c. 14), by section 2 of the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 2020 (c. 25) and by S.I. 2016/997, 2018/780, 2021/1265.
(d) See section 204(1) of the Representation of the People Act 1983, as amended by paragraph 130(8) of Schedule 13 to the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994, for the meaning of “local authority”.

Revocations

3. The Returning Officers (Parliamentary Constituencies) (Scotland) Order 2005 is revoked.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

Simon Hoare

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State

30th November 2023

Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

SCHEDULE

Article 2

Returning officers for those constituencies situated in more than one local government area

<i>Constituency</i>	<i>Local authority</i>
Aberdeenshire North and Moray East	Aberdeenshire Council
Alloa and Grangemouth	Clackmannanshire Council
Angus and Perthshire Glens	Angus Council
Arbroath and Broughty Ferry	Angus Council
Argyll, Bute and South Lochaber	Argyll and Bute Council
Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock	South Ayrshire Council
Bathgate and Linlithgow	West Lothian Council
Central Ayrshire	South Ayrshire Council
Cumbernauld and Kirkintilloch	North Lanarkshire Council
Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale	Dumfries and Galloway Council
Dunfermline and Dollar	Fife Council
Edinburgh East and Musselburgh	City of Edinburgh Council
Inverclyde and Renfrewshire West	Inverclyde Council
Moray West, Nairn and Strathspey	Moray Council
Motherwell, Wishaw and Carluke	North Lanarkshire Council
Orkney and Shetland	Orkney Islands Council
Paisley and Renfrewshire North	Renfrewshire Council
Stirling and Strathallan	Stirling Council
West Dunbartonshire	West Dunbartonshire Council

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order designates returning officers for constituencies in Scotland that are situated within the area of more than one local authority, as the returning officer for these constituencies is not prescribed by section 25(1)(a) of the Representation of the People Act 1983 (c. 2).

The Order is in consequence of the new parliamentary constituency boundaries in Scotland set out in the Parliamentary Constituencies Order 2023 (S.I. 2023/1230) and does not come fully into force until the next parliamentary general election is called.