

Scottish Independence Referendum Act 2013

Referendum

1 Referendum on Scottish independence

- (1) A referendum is to be held in Scotland on a question about the independence of Scotland.
- (2) The question is—
 - "Should Scotland be an independent country?".
- (3) The ballot paper to be used for the purpose of the referendum is to be printed—
 - (a) in the form set out in schedule 1, and
 - (b) according to the directions set out in that schedule.
- (4) The date on which the poll at the referendum is to be held is 18 September 2014, unless before then an order is made under subsection (6).
- (5) Subsection (6) applies if the Scottish Ministers are satisfied—
 - (a) that it is impossible or impracticable for the poll at the referendum to be held on 18 September 2014, or
 - (b) that it cannot be conducted properly if held on that date.
- (6) The Scottish Ministers may by order appoint a later day (being no later than 31 December 2014) as the day on which the poll at the referendum is to be held.
- (7) An order under subsection (6)—
 - (a) may include supplementary or consequential provision,
 - (b) may modify any enactment (including this Act), and
 - (c) is subject to the affirmative procedure.