

SCHEDULE 4 CAMPAIGN RULES

PART 4

PUBLICATIONS

Restriction on publication etc. of promotional material by central and local government etc.

- 26 (1) This paragraph applies to any material which—
- (a) provides general information about the referendum,
 - (b) deals with any of the issues raised by the referendum question,
 - (c) puts any arguments for or against any outcome, or
 - (d) is designed to encourage voting at the referendum.
- (2) Subject to sub-paragraph (3), no material to which this paragraph applies is to be published during the relevant period by or on behalf of—
- (a) the Scottish Ministers or any other part of the Scottish Administration,
 - (b) the SPCB, or
 - (c) any Scottish public authority with mixed functions or no reserved functions (within the meaning of the Scotland Act 1998).
- (3) Sub-paragraph (2) does not apply to—
- (a) material made available to persons in response to specific requests for information or to persons specifically seeking access to it,
 - (b) material published—
 - (i) in a report of a committee, the Business Bulletin or the Official Report of the Scottish Parliament, in accordance with the Parliament’s Standing Orders,
 - (ii) on the Scottish Parliament official website, or
 - (iii) in relation to any meeting, debate, discussion or other Parliamentary event authorised by the SPCB and held in accordance with the SPCB’s rules and policies applicable during the relevant period,
 - (c) anything done by or on behalf of—
 - (i) a designated organisation,
 - (ii) the Electoral Commission, or
 - (iii) the Chief Counting Officer or any other counting officer, or
 - (d) the publication of information relating to the holding of the poll.
- (4) In this paragraph—
- “publish” means make available to the public at large, or any section of the public, in whatever form and by whatever means (and “publication” is to be construed accordingly),
- “the relevant period” means the period of 28 days ending with the date of the referendum.