SCHEDULE 1

SCOTTISH LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS RULES
RULES FOR CONDUCT OF A SCOTTISH LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION WHERE
THE POLL IS NOT TAKEN TOGETHER WITH THE POLL AT ANOTHER ELECTION

PART III

CONTESTED ELECTIONS

Counting of votes

Rejected ballot papers

43.—(1) Any ballot paper–

(a) which does not bear a unique identifying mark in a form that is capable of being read by electronic means;

(b) on which the figure "1" standing alone is not placed so as to indicate a first preference for some candidate;

(c) on which the figure "1" standing alone indicating a first preference is set opposite the name of more than one candidate;

(d) on which anything is written or marked by which the voter can be identified except the printed number and other unique identifying mark on the back; or

(e) which is unmarked or void for uncertainty,

shall, subject to paragraph (2), be void and not counted.

(2) A ballot paper on which the vote is marked–

(a) elsewhere than in the proper place;

(b) otherwise than by means of a figure indicating a first or subsequent preference; or

(c) by more than one mark,

shall not for such reason be deemed to be void by reason only of indicating a preference by the use of words (or any other mark) instead of figures, if in the opinion of the returning officer the word or mark clearly indicates a preference or preferences, and the way the paper is marked does not itself identify the voter and it is not shown that such voter can be identified by it.

(3) The returning officer shall endorse the word "rejected" on any ballot paper which under this rule is not to be counted, and shall add to the endorsement the words "rejection objected to" if any objection is made by a counting agent to such decision.

(4) The returning officer shall draw up a statement showing the number of ballot papers rejected under each of sub paragraphs (a) to (e) of paragraph (1).