



# Representation of the People Act 1983

## 1983 CHAPTER 2

### PART I

#### PARLIAMENTARY AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FRANCHISE AND ITS EXERCISE

##### *Place and manner of voting at parliamentary elections*

#### **[<sup>F1</sup>18B** Polling places at parliamentary elections

- (1) A polling place is to be designated for each polling district in a constituency.
- (2) But subsection (1) does not apply if the size or other circumstances of a polling district are such that the situation of the polling stations does not materially affect the convenience of the electors or any body of them.
- (3) A relevant authority must—
  - (a) designate the polling places for the polling districts in its area, and
  - (b) keep the polling places in its area under review.
- (4) The following rules apply—
  - (a) the authority must seek to ensure that all electors in a constituency in its area have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances;
  - (b) the authority must seek to ensure that so far as is reasonable and practicable every polling place for which it is responsible is accessible to electors who are disabled;
  - (c) the authority must have regard to the accessibility to disabled persons of potential polling stations in any place which it is considering designating as a polling place or the designation of which as a polling place it is reviewing;
  - (d) the polling place for a polling district must be an area in the district, unless special circumstances make it desirable to designate an area wholly or partly outside the district;

*Status: Point in time view as at 26/03/2024.*

*Changes to legislation: Representation of the People Act 1983, Section 18B is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 02 October 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)*

- (e) the polling place for a polling district must be small enough to indicate to electors in different parts of the district how they will be able to reach the polling station.
- (5) If no polling place is designated for a polling district the polling district is to be taken to be the polling place.]

#### **Textual Amendments**

- F1** Ss. 18A-18E substituted (1.1.2007 for E.W.S. and 1.7.2008 for N.I.) for s. 18 by [Electoral Administration Act 2006 \(c. 22\)](#), **ss. 16(1), 77**; [S.I. 2006/3412](#), **art. 3**, Sch. 1 para. 14(c) (subject to transitional provisions in [art. 6](#), Sch. 2); [S.I. 2008/1316](#), **arts 2, 4**

#### **Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

- C1** S. 18B applied (with modifications) by [The Northern Ireland Assembly \(Elections\) Order 2001 \(S.I. 2001/2599\)](#), **art. 3**, **Sch. 1** (as substituted (10.2.2009) by [S.I. 2009/256](#), arts. 1(2), 3, Sch. 1; and as amended (30.7.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1610](#), arts. 1(2), 2)

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