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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2001 No. 341**

**REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE**

The Representation of the People  
(England and Wales) Regulations 2001

Made - - - - 9th February 2001

Coming into force 16th February 2001

THE REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE  
(ENGLAND AND WALES) REGULATIONS 2001

PART I

GENERAL, INTERPRETATION AND MISCELLANEOUS

1. Citation, commencement and extent
2. Revocations
3. Interpretation
4. Forms
5. Communication of applications, notices etc.
6. Electronic signatures and related certificates
7. Copies of documents
8. Time
9. Official poll card at parliamentary elections
10. Return and declaration of election expenses
11. Interference with notices etc.
12. Device referred to in rule 29(3A) (b) of parliamentary elections rules
13. Registration of European Parliamentary overseas electors

PART II

SERVICE AND OVERSEAS ELECTORS' DECLARATIONS

*Service declarations*

14. Qualification for Crown servant
15. Contents of service declaration
16. Transmission of service declaration
17. Notification by registration officer in respect of service declarations

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#### *Overseas electors' declarations*

18. Contents of overseas elector's declaration
19. Certain declarants to supply copy of birth certificates
20. Attestation of certain overseas electors' declarations
21. Transmission of overseas elector's declaration
22. Notification about registration as overseas elector

### PART III

## REGISTRATION

#### *Information about electors*

23. Power to require information
24. Evidence as to age and nationality
25. Reminders to electors registered pursuant to a declaration
26. Applications for registration
27. Objections to registration
28. Inspection of applications and objections

#### *Determination of applications and objections*

29. Procedure for determining applications for registration and objections without a hearing
30. Notice of hearing
31. Hearing of applications and objections
32. Registration appeals
33. Circumstances when the power in section 10A(5)(b) of the 1983 Act applies
34. Retaining entries in register
35. Registration officer's right to inspect certain records
36. Notices in connection with registration
37. Notice by registration officer of a change of address

#### *The register*

38. Separate part of a register for each parliamentary polling district
39. Different letter for each parliamentary polling district
40. Qualifying addresses which are not included in the register
41. Order of names
42. Marking of names
43. Publication of register
44. Information about register
45. Preparation and publication of list of overseas electors
46. Supply of free copies of register and list of overseas electors otherwise than on request
47. Supply of free copies of register and list of overseas electors on request
48. Sale of register and list of overseas electors
49. Supply of register and list of overseas electors in data form

### PART IV

## ABSENT VOTERS

50. Interpretation of Part IV
51. General requirements for applications for an absent vote

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- 51A Additional provision concerning the requirement that an application for an absent vote must be signed by the applicant
- 51B Additional requirements for applications for ballot papers to be sent to different address from that shown in the record kept under paragraph 3(4) or 7(6) of Schedule 4
- 52. Additional requirements for applications for the appointment of a proxy
- 53. Additional requirements for applications for a proxy vote for a definite or indefinite period on grounds of physical incapacity or blindness
- 54. Additional requirements for applications for a proxy vote for a definite or indefinite period based on occupation, service, employment or attendance on a course
- 55. Additional requirements for applications for a proxy vote in respect of a particular election
- 56. Closing date for applications
- 57. Grant or refusal of applications
- 58. Notice of appeal
- 59. Cancellation of proxy appointment
- 60. Inquiries by registration officer
- 61. Records and lists kept under Schedule 4
- 62. Marked register for polling stations
- 63. Certificate of employment at a parliamentary election

#### PART V

#### ISSUE AND RECEIPT OF POSTAL BALLOT PAPERS

- 64. Interpretation of Part V

##### *Issue of Postal Ballot Papers*

- 65. Combination of polls
- 66. Form of declaration of identity
- 67. Persons entitled to be present at proceedings on issue of postal ballot papers
- 68. Persons entitled to be present at proceedings on receipt of postal ballot papers
- 69. Agents of candidates who may attend proceedings on receipt of postal ballot papers
- 70. Notification of requirement of secrecy
- 71. Time when postal ballot papers are to be issued
- 72. Procedure on issue of postal ballot paper
- 73. Refusal to issue postal ballot paper
- 74. Envelopes
- 75. Sealing up of counterfoils and security of special lists
- 76. Delivery of postal ballot papers
- 77. Spoilt postal ballot papers
- 78. Lost postal ballot papers

##### *Receipt of Postal Ballot Papers*

- 79. Alternative means of returning postal ballot paper or declaration of identity
- 80. Notice of opening of postal ballot paper envelopes
- 81. Postal ballot boxes and receptacles
- 82. Receipt of covering envelope
- 83. Opening of postal voters' ballot box
- 84. Opening of covering envelopes

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85. Procedure in relation to declarations of identity
86. Opening of ballot paper envelopes
87. Lists of rejected postal ballot papers
88. Checking of lists kept under regulation 87
89. Sealing of receptacles
90. Abandoned poll
91. Forwarding of documents

## PART VI

### SUPPLY OF REGISTER ETC

#### *Interpretation and edited register*

92. Interpretation and application of Part VI etc
93. Edited version of register

#### *General restrictions*

94. Restrictions on supply of full register and disclosure of information from it by the registration officer and his staff
95. Restrictions on use of the full register supplied under section 3 of the Juries Act 1974 or information contained in it
96. Restriction on use of the full register, or information contained in it, supplied in accordance with enactments or obtained otherwise

#### *Supply on publication and specific restrictions*

97. Supply of free copy of full register to the British Library and restrictions on use
- 97A. Supply of free copy of full register to the National Library of Wales and restrictions on use
- 97B. Supply of free copy of full register to the National Library of Scotland
98. Supply of free copy of full register for electoral purposes and restrictions on use
99. Supply of free copy of full register etc to Office for National Statistics and restrictions on use
100. Supply of free copy of full register etc to Electoral Commission and restrictions on use
101. Supply of free copy of full register etc to certain Commissions and restrictions on use

#### *Supply on request and specific restrictions*

102. Supply of full register etc under regulations 103 to 109: general provisions
103. Supply of full register etc to elected representatives for electoral purposes and restrictions on use
104. Supply of full register to holders of relevant elective offices and candidates
105. Supply of full register etc to local constituency parties and restrictions on use
106. Supply of full register etc to registered political parties etc and restrictions on use
107. Supply of full register etc to certain councils and restrictions on use
108. Supply of full register etc to certain candidates and restrictions on use
109. Supply of full register etc to police forces and other agencies, and restrictions on use

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- 109A Supply of full register to public libraries and local authority archives service, and restrictions on use

*Sale of edited anhd full registers and specified restrictions*

110. Sale of edited register  
111. Sale of full register etc: restrictions on supply, charges, etc  
112. Sale of full register etc: general provisions  
113. Sale of full register to government departments and other bodies  
114. Sale of full register to credit reference agencies

*Offences*

115. Offences in respect of contravention of Part VI regulations  
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SCHEDULE 1 — ENABLING POWERS

SCHEDULE 2 — REVOCATIONS

SCHEDULE 3 — FORMS

SCHEDULE 4 — APPLICATION WITH MODIFICATIONS OF PROVISIONS  
OF THE 1983 AND 1985 ACTS FOR REGISTRATION OF  
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY OVERSEAS ELECTORS

SCHEDULE 4A —

Explanatory Note

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