Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

#### STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

## 2001 No. 341

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

## PART III REGISTRATION

Determination of applications and objections

## [F1Verification of information provided in an application

- **29ZA.**—(1) On receipt of an application under section 10ZC or 10ZD of the 1983 Act made [F2] otherwise than through the digital service], a registration officer must disclose the name or names, date of birth and national insurance number given under regulation [F326 or 26A] to the [F4] Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities] in such a format and through such a conduit system as the [F4] Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities] may have notified to the registration officer in writing.
- (2) Following receipt of the information from the registration officer or (in the case of an application made through the digital service) from the applicant, the [F5Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities] may disclose the information to the Secretary of State [F6for Work and Pensions].
- (3) Where information has been disclosed to the Secretary of State [F7 for Work and Pensions] under paragraph (2), the Secretary of State [F7 for Work and Pensions] may compare it against—
  - (a) the name, date of birth and national insurance number of individuals appearing in the following types of databases kept by the Secretary of State [F7 for Work and Pensions]—
    - (i) databases kept for the purposes of functions relating to social security (including such information kept on behalf of the Department for Social Development); and
    - (ii) databases relating to working tax credit, child tax credit and child benefit (being information kept on behalf of Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs); and
  - (b) any other information contained in those databases which relates to the information disclosed under paragraph (2).
- (4) The Secretary of State [F8 for Work and Pensions] may disclose the results of the comparison to the [F9 Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities].
- (5) On receipt of such results, the [F10]Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities] may disclose them to the registration officer in whose register the applicant has applied to be registered.
- (6) Where the [FIISecretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities] does so, the registration officer must take the results into account in determining the application.

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

I F<sup>12</sup>(6ZA) In relation to the registration of parliamentary electors, this regulation does not apply to an application for registration under section 10ZC of the 1983 Act made pursuant to an overseas elector's declaration.]

F13(6A) In relation to the registration of local government electors in Wales, this regulation does not apply to an application made by a person under the age of 16.]

- (7) In this regulation—
  - (a) "conduit system" has the same meaning as in paragraph 1 of Schedule 2 to the Telecommunications Act 1984:

- F1 Regs. 29ZA, 29ZB inserted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(b), 14
- **F2** Words in reg. 29ZA(1) substituted (3.3.2015) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2015 (S.I. 2015/467), regs. 1, 4
- Words in reg. 29ZA(1) substituted (3.12.2015) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2015 (S.I. 2015/1971), regs. 1, 5
- F4 Words in reg. 29ZA(1) substituted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(5) (a) (with art. 12)
- F5 Words in reg. 29ZA(2) substituted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(5) (b)(i) (with art. 12)
- F6 Words in reg. 29ZA(2) inserted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(5) (b)(ii) (with art. 12)
- F7 Words in reg. 29ZA(3) inserted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(5)(c) (with art. 12)
- F8 Words in reg. 29ZA(4) inserted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(5) (d)(i) (with art. 12)
- F9 Words in reg. 29ZA(4) substituted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(5) (d)(ii) (with art. 12)
- F10 Words in reg. 29ZA(5) substituted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(5)(e) (with art. 12)
- F11 Words in reg. 29ZA(6) substituted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(5)(e) (with art. 12)
- F12 Reg. 29ZA(6ZA) inserted (16.1.2024) by The Representation of the People (Overseas Electors etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1406), regs. 1(2), 5(10) (with Sch. 2 para. 2(b))
- F13 Reg. 29ZA(6A) inserted (1.6.2020) by Senedd and Elections (Wales) Act 2020 (anaw 1), ss. 16(6), 42(3)(a)

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F14 Reg. 29ZA(7)(b) omitted (8.12.2021) by virtue of The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(5)(f) (with art. 12)

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

C1 Regs. 29ZA, 29ZB: transfer of functions (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), arts. 1(2), 7(3)(a) (with arts. 8, 11, 12)

## $[^{\rm F15}{ m Verification}$ of information provided in an application made pursuant to an overseas elector's declaration

- **29ZAA.**—(1) This regulation applies to an application for registration under section 10ZC of the 1983 Act made pursuant to an overseas elector's declaration.
- (2) On receipt of an application made otherwise than through the digital service, a registration officer must disclose the applicant's name, relevant address, date of birth and national insurance number ("the first stage information") to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities in such format and through such an infrastructure system as the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities may have notified to the registration officer in writing.
- (3) Following receipt of the first stage information from the registration officer or (in the case of an application made through or partially completed using the digital service) from an applicant, the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities may disclose the first stage information to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions.
- (4) Where the first stage information has been disclosed to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions under paragraph (3) the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions may compare it against—
  - (a) the name, address, date of birth and national insurance number of individuals appearing in the following types of data kept by the Secretary of State—
    - (i) data kept for the purposes of functions relating to social security (including such information kept on behalf of the Department for Social Development), and
    - (ii) data relating to working tax credit, child tax credit and child benefit (being information kept on behalf of His Majesty's Revenue and Customs);
  - (b) any other information contained in such types of data which relates to the information disclosed under paragraph (3).
- (5) The Secretary of State for Work and Pensions may disclose the results of the comparison of the first stage information ("the second stage information") to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.
- (6) On receipt of the second stage information, the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities may disclose that information—
  - (a) to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, or
  - (b) to the registration officer to whom the application has been made or, as the case may be, to whom the Secretary of State has sent the application under regulation 26(11).
- (7) Paragraph (4) applies to the second stage information where it has been disclosed to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions under paragraph (6)(a) as it applies to the first stage information disclosed under paragraph (3).
- (8) The Secretary of State for Work and Pensions may disclose the results of the comparison of the second stage information ("the third stage information") to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

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- (9) On receipt of the third stage information, the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities may—
  - (a) compare the third stage information against the information provided in the application, and
  - (b) notify the registration officer to whom the application has been made or, as the case may be, to whom the Secretary of State has sent the application under regulation 26(11), as to whether the comparison in sub-paragraph (a) resulted in a match.
- (10) The registration officer must take into account any information disclosed by, or notification received from, the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities in accordance with this regulation when determining the application.
  - (11) In paragraph (2)—
    - (a) the applicant's "name" means—
      - (i) the name provided by the applicant in accordance with section 1C(1)(a) of the 1985 Act, and
      - (ii) any name provided in accordance with regulation 18(3)(a) or 26(3)(ea);
    - (b) "infrastructure system" has the meaning given in Schedule 3A to the Communications Act 2003;
    - (c) "relevant address" means the address provided by the applicant in accordance with section 1C(2)(a)(i), (3)(a)(i) or (4) of the 1985 Act.

### **Textual Amendments**

- F1 Regs. 29ZA, 29ZB inserted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(b), 14
- F15 Regs. 29ZAA, 29ZAB inserted (16.1.2024) by The Representation of the People (Overseas Electors etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1406), regs. 1(2), 5(11) (with Sch. 2 para. 2(b))

## Additional verification of information provided in an application made pursuant to an overseas elector's declaration

- **29ZAB.**—(1) This regulation applies to an application for registration under section 10ZC of the 1983 Act made pursuant to an overseas elector's declaration.
- (2) On receipt of an application made otherwise than through the digital service, a registration officer must disclose the applicant's qualification information to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities in such a format and through such an infrastructure system as the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities may have notified to the registration officer in writing.
- (3) Following receipt of the qualification information from the registration officer or (in the case of an application made through or partially completed using the digital service) from an applicant, the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities may disclose the information to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions.
- (4) Where qualification information has been disclosed to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions under paragraph (2), the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions may compare it against—
  - (a) the name, date of birth and address of individuals appearing in the following types of data kept by the Secretary of State—

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- (i) data kept for the purposes of functions relating to social security (including such information kept on behalf of the Department for Social Development), and
- (ii) data relating to working tax credit, child tax credit and child benefit (being information kept on behalf of His Majesty's Revenue and Customs);
- (b) any other information contained in such types of data which relates to the information disclosed under paragraph (2).
- (5) The Secretary of State for Work and Pensions may disclose the results of the comparison to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.
- (6) On receipt of such results, the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities may disclose them to the registration officer to whom the application has been made or, as the case may be, to whom the Secretary of State has sent the application under regulation 26(11).
- (7) Where the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities does so, the registration officer must take the results into account in determining the application.
  - (8) In this regulation—
    - "infrastructure system" has the meaning given in Schedule 3A to the Communications Act 2003;
    - "qualification information", in respect of an applicant, means—
    - (a) the applicant's full name provided in accordance with section 1C(1)(a) of the 1985 Act and regulation 26(1)(a),
    - (b) any name provided by the applicant in accordance with regulation 18(3)(a),
    - (c) the applicant's date of birth provided in accordance with regulation 26(1)(e),
    - (d) the address provided by the applicant in accordance with section 1C(2)(a)(i), (3)(a)(i) or (4) of the 1985 Act.]

#### **Textual Amendments**

- F1 Regs. 29ZA, 29ZB inserted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(b), 14
- F15 Regs. 29ZAA, 29ZAB inserted (16.1.2024) by The Representation of the People (Overseas Electors etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1406), regs. 1(2), 5(11) (with Sch. 2 para. 2(b))

## Processing of information provided in connection with an application under section 10ZC or 10ZD

- **29ZB.**—(1) If a person provides an original document under regulation 26A(4), 26B(2) to (4) or 26B(8), [F1626C(5), 26D(2), 26F(2)(a) or (4), 26G(3)(a) or 26J(3),] the registration officer must make a copy of that document and return the original document to the person who provided it.
- (2) In respect of any application under section 10ZC or 10ZD of the 1983 Act, the registration officer must retain until the application has been determined—
  - (a) the application form or, in the case of an application made through the digital service, the information contained in the application [F17 transmitted to the registration officer by the Secretary of State];
  - (b) any other information or documents provided to the registration officer in connection with the application or, in the case of original documents which are returned under paragraph (1), a copy of such documents.

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- (3) Subject to paragraph (4), the registration officer may retain the application form, information and documents in paragraph (2) after the application has been determined but, if they do so, must delete the applicant's national insurance number from the application form, information and documents in paragraph (2) by no later than the date which is 13 months from the date on which the registration officer determined the application under section 10ZC or 10ZD.
- (4) The requirement to delete the national insurance number in paragraph (3) does not apply where the application, information and documents in paragraph (2) are required for the purpose of any civil or criminal proceedings.
- (5) Information disclosed under regulation 29ZA [F18, 29ZAA or 29ZAB] may not be disclosed to any other person, except—
  - (a) for the purpose of determining the application in connection with which the information was disclosed: F19...
  - I in the case of information disclosed under regulation 29ZA [F21 or 29ZAA], for the purposes F20 (aa) of determining—
    - (i) a relevant absent voting application made by the same applicant where that information is used by the Secretary of State to complete in part the relevant absent voting application by virtue of regulation 51(7)(a),
    - (ii) an application for an absent vote made under Part 1 of Schedule 2 to the Police and Crime Commissioner Elections Order 2012 by the same applicant where that information is used by the Secretary of State to complete in part that application by virtue of paragraph 11(5A)(a) of Schedule 2 to that Order,
    - (iii) an application for absent signing made under Part 4 of the Recall of MPs Act 2015 (Recall Petition) Regulations 2016 by the same applicant where that information is used by the Secretary of State to complete in part that application by virtue of regulation 60(6A)(a) of those Regulations, or
    - (iv) an identity document application, as defined by regulation 3(1) of the Voter Identification Regulations 2022, made by the same applicant where that information is used by the Secretary of State to complete in part that application by virtue of regulation 5(2) of those Regulations, or
    - (b) for the purpose of any civil or criminal proceedings.
- (6) A person who discloses information in breach of paragraph (5) is guilty of an offence and liable—
  - (a) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, or to a fine, or to both;
  - (b) on summary conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding  $I^{F22}$  the general limit in a magistrates' court], or to a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum, or to both.
- (7) Any person who discloses information under regulation 29ZA [F23, 29ZAA or 29ZAB] must process it in accordance with any requirements as to the processing of information that may have been imposed by the [F24Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities] in writing, including requirements as to the transfer, storage, destruction and security of that information.
- (8) Any requirements, in accordance with which a person must process information, must be imposed by the [F25]Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities] before a registration officer is required to disclose that information under regulation 29ZA(1) [F26, 29ZAA(2) or 29ZAB(2)].
  - (9) "Copy" in this regulation includes an electronic copy.]

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#### **Textual Amendments**

- F1 Regs. 29ZA, 29ZB inserted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(b), 14
- F16 Words in reg. 29ZB(1) inserted (16.1.2024) by The Representation of the People (Overseas Electors etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1406), regs. 1(2), 5(12)(a) (with Sch. 2 para. 2(b))
- F17 Words in reg. 29ZB(2)(a) inserted (31.10.2023) by The Representation of the People (Postal and Proxy Voting etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1147), regs. 1(2), 4(3)(a)
- F18 Words in reg. 29ZB(5) inserted (16.1.2024) by The Representation of the People (Overseas Electors etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1406), regs. 1(2), 5(12)(b)(i) (with Sch. 2 para. 2(b))
- Word in reg. 29ZB(5) omitted (31.10.2023) by virtue of The Representation of the People (Postal and Proxy Voting etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1147), regs. 1(2), 4(3)(b)(i)
- F20 Reg. 29ZB(5)(aa) inserted (31.10.2023) by The Representation of the People (Postal and Proxy Voting etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1147), regs. 1(2), 4(3)(b)(ii)
- F21 Words in reg. 29ZB(5)(aa) inserted (16.1.2024) by The Representation of the People (Overseas Electors etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1406), regs. 1(2), 5(12)(b)(ii) (with Sch. 2 para. 2(b))
- **F22** Words in reg. 29ZB(6)(b) substituted (7.2.2023 at 12.00 p.m.) by The Judicial Review and Courts Act 2022 (Magistrates' Court Sentencing Powers) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/149), regs. 1(2), 2(2), **Sch. Pt. 2** Table
- F23 Words in reg. 29ZB(7) inserted (16.1.2024) by The Representation of the People (Overseas Electors etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1406), regs. 1(2), 5(12)(c) (with Sch. 2 para. 2(b))
- F24 Words in reg. 29ZB(7) substituted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(6) (with art. 12)
- F25 Words in reg. 29ZB(8) substituted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(6) (with art. 12)
- F26 Words in reg. 29ZB(8) inserted (16.1.2024) by The Representation of the People (Overseas Electors etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1406), regs. 1(2), 5(12)(d) (with Sch. 2 para. 2(b))

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

C1 Regs. 29ZA, 29ZB: transfer of functions (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), arts. 1(2), 7(3)(a) (with arts. 8, 11, 12)

### Procedure for determining applications for registration and objections without a hearing

- **29.**—(1) A registration officer shall discharge his functions of determining [F27] an application under section 10ZC(1)(a) or 10ZD(1)(a) of the 1983 Act or considering an objection under section 10ZC(2), 10ZD(2) or 10ZE(5)(a) of that Act] in accordance with this regulation and regulations 30 [F28] to 31A] below.
  - I<sup>F29</sup>(2) The registration officer must keep separate lists of—
    - (a) applications for registration;
    - (b) objections made before the person against whom the objection is made is entered in the register;
    - (c) objections made after the person against whom the objection is made is entered in the register.

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- (2A) On receipt of an application the registration officer must enter the name [F30] and nationality] of the applicant and the address claimed as his qualifying address in the list he keeps in pursuance of paragraph (2)(a).
- (2B) Paragraph (2A) does not apply to an application accompanied by an application for an anonymous entry.
- [F31(2BA)] Where an application for registration has been made and that application is successful, the registration officer must give confirmation in writing to the applicant of that fact, before either—
  - (a) publication of the revised register to which the applicant will be added under section 13(1) of the 1983 Act; or
  - (b) issue of a notice of alteration under section 13A(2) of that Act specifying that the applicant's name will be added to the register,

whichever is appropriate.

- (2BB) Where confirmation is given under paragraph (2BA) in relation to an application for registration made in response to an invitation to register under section 9E(1) of the 1983 Act [F32 or made in pursuance of an overseas elector's declaration], the registration officer must give that confirmation either—
  - (a) by delivering it to the applicant, leaving it at the applicant's address or sending it to the applicant's address by post; or
  - (b) by electronic means.
- (2BC) Where confirmation is given under paragraph (2BA) in relation to an application for registration made other than in response to an invitation to register under section 9E(1) of the 1983 Act [F33] or in pursuance of an overseas elector's declaration]—
  - (a) the registration officer must give confirmation by delivering it to the applicant, by leaving it at their address or by sending it to them by post; and
  - (b) the confirmation must give the registration officer's contact details and must request that any person who receives that confirmation inform the registration officer if the applicant is not resident at the address in respect of which the application was made.
  - (2BD) A confirmation given under paragraph (2BA) must—
    - (a) contain the date on which the applicant's name will be published in the revised register under section 13(1) or in a notice of alteration under section 13A(2) of the 1983 Act; and
    - (b) where—
      - (i) the registration officer has information that the applicant is registered in respect of a different address from the one in respect of which they have applied to be registered; and
      - (ii) in their application for registration, the applicant has identified that address as being an address at which they have ceased to reside in accordance with regulation 26(1) (c);

inform the applicant that their entry relating to that address will be removed from the register under section 10ZE(2) of the 1983 Act.

- (2BE) In the case of an application to register in pursuance of a service declaration, or an overseas elector's declaration, the address to be used for the purposes of paragraph (2BB)(a) or (2BC)(a), is the address the applicant has given under regulation 26(4)(a) or  $[^{F34}26(5)(zb)]$ , as appropriate.
  - (2BF) The Electoral Commission must—
    - (a) design the forms of confirmation to be used under paragraph (2BA);
    - (b) obtain the approval of the [F35]Secretary of State] to the forms; and

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- (c) then make them available to registration officers.]
- [F36(2BG)] Before giving the approval referred to in paragraph (2BF)(b), the [F37Secretary of State] must consult the Welsh Ministers.]
- (2C) On receipt of an objection made before the person against whom the objection is made is entered in the register, the registration officer must enter—
  - (a) in the list he keeps in pursuance of paragraph (2)(b), the name and qualifying address of the objector together with the particulars referred to in paragraph (2A), and
  - (b) in the list he keeps in pursuance of paragraph (2)(a), the particulars of the objection.
- (2D) On receipt of any other objection, the registration officer must enter the name and qualifying address of the objector together with the particulars referred to in paragraph (2A) in the list he keeps in pursuance of paragraph (2)(c).]
- (3) The registration officer may ask for further information and take no further action until such information is supplied, if he is of opinion that the particulars given in the application or objection are insufficient.
- (4) [F38 Subject to paragraph (4A),] the registration officer may allow an application without a hearing provided that no objection is made within [F39 the period of five days beginning with the day following] the entry of the application in the list of applications.
- [<sup>F40</sup>(4A) In the case of an application for registration accompanied by an application for an anonymous entry, the registration officer may allow the former application without a hearing at any time.]
- (5) The registration officer may disallow an objection if he is of opinion that the objector is not entitled to object <sup>F41</sup>...; and he shall so inform the objector.
- [<sup>F42</sup>(5A) The registration officer may disallow an objection without a hearing if he is of the opinion that the objection is clearly without merit.
- (5B) Where the registration officer disallows an objection under paragraph (5A), he must send to the objector a notice stating that the application has been disallowed on that basis and the grounds for his opinion.
- (5C) An objector may require the objection to be heard by giving notice to the registration officer within three days from the date of the notice given under paragraph (5B).
- (5D) A notification under paragraph (5C) is not to prevent the application to which the objection relates from being allowed.]
- (6) The registration officer may send to the applicant or objector a notice stating his opinion that an application or objection cannot be allowed because—
  - (a) the matter has been concluded by the decision of a court, or
  - (b) the particulars given in the application or objection do not entitle the applicant or objector to succeed.
- (7) In cases to which paragraph (6) applies, the registration officer shall state the grounds for his opinion and that he intends to disallow the application or objection unless that person gives the registration officer notice within three days from the date of the registration officer's notice that he requires the application or objection to be heard; and if he receives no such notice within that time, he may disallow the application or objection.
- [<sup>F43</sup>(8) In this regulation, "qualifying address" includes the address specified in an overseas elector's declaration in accordance with [<sup>F44</sup>section 1C(2)(a)(i), (3)(a)(i) or (4)] of the 1985 Act.]

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

#### **Textual Amendments**

- F27 Words in reg. 29(1) substituted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(b), 15(a)
- **F28** Words in reg. 29(1) substituted (1.1.2007) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/2910), regs. 1(1), **9(2)**
- F29 Reg. 29(2)-(2D) substituted for reg. 29(2) (1.1.2007) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/2910), regs. 1(1), 9(3)
- **F30** Words in reg. 29(2A) inserted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(b), 15(b)
- F31 Reg. 29(2BA)-(2BF) substituted for reg. 29(2BA)-(2BE) (3.12.2015) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2015 (S.I. 2015/1971), regs. 1, 6(1) (with reg. 6(2))
- F32 Words in reg. 29(2BB) inserted (16.1.2024) by The Representation of the People (Overseas Electors etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1406), regs. 1(2), 5(13)(a) (with Sch. 2 para. 2(b))
- F33 Words in reg. 29(2BC) inserted (16.1.2024) by The Representation of the People (Overseas Electors etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1406), regs. 1(2), 5(13)(b) (with Sch. 2 para. 2(b))
- F34 Word in reg. 29(2BE) substituted (16.1.2024) by The Representation of the People (Overseas Electors etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1406), regs. 1(2), 5(13)(c) (with Sch. 2 para. 2(b))
- Words in reg. 29(2BF)(b) substituted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(7)
  (a) (with art. 12)
- **F36** Reg. 29(2BG) inserted (24.5.2018) by The Welsh Ministers (Transfer of Functions) Order 2018 (S.I. 2018/644), art. 1(1), **Sch. 2 para. 3(4)**
- F37 Words in reg. 29(2BG) substituted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(7) (b) (with art. 12)
- F38 Words in reg. 29(4) inserted (1.1.2007) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/2910), regs. 1(1), 9(4)
- **F39** Words in reg. 29(4) substituted (1.1.2007) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/2910), regs. 1(1), **9(5)**
- F40 Reg. 29(4A) inserted (1.1.2007) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/2910), regs. 1(1), 9(6)
- **F41** Words in reg. 29(5) omitted (1.1.2007) by virtue of The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/2910), regs. 1(1), 9(7)
- **F42** Reg. 29(5A)-(5D) inserted (1.1.2007) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/2910), regs. 1(1), **9(8)**
- **F43** Reg. 29(8) inserted (1.1.2007) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/2910), regs. 1(1), **9(9)**
- **F44** Words in reg. 29(8) substituted (16.1.2024) by The Representation of the People (Overseas Electors etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1406), regs. 1(2), **5(13)(d)** (with Sch. 2 para. 2(b))

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

Reg. 29(4) excluded (28.2.2014) by S.I. 2013/3197, art. 4A (as inserted by The Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 (Transitional Provisions) (Amendment) Order 2014 (S.I. 2014/449), arts. 1, 4)

### **Commencement Information**

II Reg. 29 in force at 16.2.2001, see reg. 1(1)

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

#### **Notice of hearing**

- **30.**—(1) The registration officer shall, unless he allows or disallows the application or objection under regulation 29 above, send a notice—
  - (a) in the case of an application, to the person making the application, and
  - (b) in the case of an objection, to the objector and the person objected to, stating—
    - (i) the time and place at which he proposes to hear the application or objection;
    - (ii) the name and address of the objector and the grounds of the objection (in the case of a notice sent to a person objected to).
- (2) The time fixed for the hearing of an application or objection shall not be earlier than the third day or later than the seventh day after the date of the notice referred to in paragraph (1) above.

#### **Commencement Information**

**I2** Reg. 30 in force at 16.2.2001, see **reg. 1(1)** 

## Hearing of applications and objections

- **31.**—(1) The persons entitled to appear and be heard are as follows—
  - (a) on an application, the applicant;
  - (b) on an objection, the objector and the person objected to;
  - (c) on an application or an objection, any other person who appears to the registration officer to be interested.
- (2) The right to appear and be heard includes the right to make written representations.
- (3) Any person entitled to appear and be heard may do so either in person or by any other person on his behalf.
- (4) The registration officer may, at the request of any person entitled to appear and be heard or, if he thinks fit, without such a request, require that the evidence tendered by any person shall be given on oath and may administer the oath for the purpose.

#### **Commencement Information**

I3 Reg. 31 in force at 16.2.2001, see reg. 1(1)

## [F45Objections relating to applications that have been allowed, but before alterations to register have taken effect

- **31A.**—(1) This regulation applies where—
  - (a) an application for registration has been allowed (whether without or following a hearing), and
  - (b) either-
    - (i) an objection is later made to that application, or
    - (ii) an objector whose objection in respect of that application has been disallowed in pursuance of regulation 29(5A) notifies the registration officer, in accordance with regulation 29(5C), that he requires the objection to be heard, and

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

- (c) no alteration to the register has yet taken effect in respect of that application by virtue of section 13(5), 13A(2) [<sup>F46</sup>,13AB(2)] or 13B(3) of the 1983 Act.
- (2) Where the registration officer—
  - (a) is able to determine the objection before the alteration to the register is due to take effect, and
  - (b) allows the objection,

the application is to be treated as if it had been disallowed.

- (3) Where the registration officer is not able to determine the objection before the alteration to the register is due to take effect, the objection is to be treated as if it was made after the person against whom it is made is entered in the register.
- (4) Where paragraph (3) applies, the registration officer must transfer the entry relating to the objection from the list he keeps in pursuance of paragraph (2)(b) of regulation 29 to the list he keeps in pursuance of paragraph (2)(c) of that regulation.]

#### **Textual Amendments**

- F45 Reg. 31A inserted (1.1.2007) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/2910), regs. 1(1), 10
- **F46** Word in reg. 31A(1)(c) inserted (6.4.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(4), 42; S.I. 2014/414, art. 3(b)

## [F47Other determinations by registration officer of entitlement to registration

- **31B.**—(1) A registration officer must discharge the functions specified in paragraph (2) in accordance with regulations 31C to [F4831FZA].
  - [F49(2)] The functions specified in this paragraph are—
    - (a) determining, under the following provisions, whether a person was entitled to be registered—
      - (i) sections 7(3)(aa), 7A(3)(aa), 7C(2)(aa), 10ZE(1)(a) and 15(2)(aa) of the 1983 Act, and
      - (ii) [F50] section 1D(4)(a)] of the 1985 Act;
    - (b) determining, under the following provisions, whether a person was registered or their entry has been altered as a result of an application made by another person—
      - (i) sections 7(3)(ab), 7A(3)(ab), 7C(2)(ab), 10ZE(1)(c) and 15(2)(ab) of the 1983 Act; and
      - (ii) [F51] section 1D(4)(b)] of the 1985 Act;
    - (c) determining under section 10ZE(1)(b) of the 1983 Act whether a person has ceased to be resident at the address or has otherwise ceased to satisfy the conditions for registration set out in section 4 of the 1983 Act.]

## **Textual Amendments**

F47 Regs. 31B-31F inserted (1.1.2007) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/2910), regs. 1(1), 11

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

- Word in reg. 31B(1) substituted (3.12.2015) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2015 (S.I. 2015/1971), regs. 1, 7(1) (with reg. 7(3))
- **F49** Reg. 31B(2) substituted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(b), 16
- F50 Words in reg. 31B(2)(a)(ii) substituted (16.1.2024) by The Representation of the People (Overseas Electors etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1406), regs. 1(2), 5(14)(a)
- F51 Words in reg. 31B(2)(b)(ii) substituted (16.1.2024) by The Representation of the People (Overseas Electors etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1406), regs. 1(2), 5(14)(b)

## [F52]Summary procedure for determining in specified circumstances person has ceased to satisfy conditions for registration

- **31C.**—(1) In any of the circumstances specified in paragraph (2) the registration officer may make a determination under section 10ZE of the 1983 Act in respect of an elector without following the procedure set out in regulations 31D to [F5331FZA].
  - (2) The circumstances specified in this paragraph are where F54...—
    - (a) the registration officer has received information either through the digital service or from another registration officer that—
      - (i) the elector has made an application under section 10ZC or 10ZD of the 1983 Act in respect of an address which is different from the one in respect of which they are registered; and
      - (ii) in that application the elector has in accordance with regulation 26(1)(c) identified the address in respect of which they are registered as being an address at which they have ceased to reside; and

the relevant registration officer has determined that the person should be entered on the register maintained by that officer; or

- (b) the registration officer—
  - (i) has information from at least two sources that support such a determination;
  - (ii) has been provided with a death certificate in respect of the elector; or
  - (iii) has been notified by the registrar of births and deaths that the elector has died [F55; or]
- [F56(c)] the registration officer has not received the information referred to in paragraph (2)(b)(ii) or (iii) but—
  - (i) has determined that the elector has died after inspecting records kept by—
    - (aa) the council by which the registration officer was appointed,
    - (bb) where the council by which the registration officer was appointed is a council for a district in a county for which there is a county council, that county council, or
    - (cc) a person providing services to, or authorised to exercise any function of, the council referred to in (aa) or (bb);
  - (ii) has received information from the spouse, civil partner, parent, grandparent, brother, sister, child or grandchild of the elector, which allows the registration officer to determine that the elector has died;
  - (iii) has received information as a result of the annual canvass required by section 9D of the 1983 Act, which allows the registration officer to determine that the elector has died; or

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- (iv) has received information from a person managing a care home service registered under Part 2 of the Care Standards Act 2000 where the elector was resident, which allows the registration officer to determine that the elector has died.
- (2A) The information referred to in paragraph (2)(c)(ii) and (iv) may be provided in person, by telephone or in writing and must include—
  - (a) the full name and address of the elector who has died;
  - (b) the full name and address of the person providing the information and, in case of information received under paragraph (2)(c)(ii), that person's relationship to the elector; and
  - (c) a statement that the person providing the information is aware of the penalty for providing false information to a registration officer.
- (2B) Where the information referred to in paragraph (2)(c)(ii) and (iv) has been provided in person or by telephone by virtue of paragraph (2A), the registration officer must record that information in writing or in data form.]
- (3) In this regulation "elector" means a person who is duly entered in a register in respect of an address.]

#### **Textual Amendments**

- F47 Regs. 31B-31F inserted (1.1.2007) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/2910), regs. 1(1), 11
- **F52** Reg. 31C substituted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(b), 17
- F53 Word in reg. 31C(1) substituted (3.12.2015) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2015 (S.I. 2015/1971), regs. 1, 7(1) (with reg. 7(3))
- **F54** Word in reg. 31C(2) omitted (1.7.2018) by virtue of The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. 2018/312), regs. 1(3), **5(a)**
- Word in reg. 31C(2)(b) inserted (1.7.2018) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. 2018/312), regs. 1(3), **5(b)**
- F56 Reg. 31C(2)(c)(2A)(2B) inserted (1.7.2018) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. 2018/312), regs. 1(3), 5(c)

#### Procedure for reviewing entitlement to registration

- **31D.**—(1) A registration officer [F57must], for the purposes of making a determination of the nature specified in regulation 31B(2), conduct a review in respect of a person entered in the register.
- (2) Where the registration officer is not satisfied that the subject of the review is entitled to be registered, he must—
  - (a) send to that person such notice, of a kind specified in paragraph (4), as he considers appropriate, and
  - (b) enter the review in the list kept in pursuance of regulation 31E.
  - (3) Paragraph (2)(b) does not apply where the subject of a review has an anonymous entry.
- F58(3A) In relation to the registration of local government electors in Wales, paragraph (2)(b) does not apply where the subject of the review is under the age of 16.]
  - (4) A notice is specified for the purposes of this paragraph if it—

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

- (a) states that the registration officer is of the opinion that the subject of the review [F59 is or was not entitled to be registered, or has an entry in the register which results from or was altered as the result of an application made by another person,] and the grounds for his opinion,
- (b) states the reason for the review and requires the subject of the review to provide such further information as might be specified in the notice or requires him to make a declaration under regulation 24 [F60] or 24A,] or both, or
- (c) states the reason for the review and that the registration officer intends to conduct a hearing of it.
- <sup>F61</sup>(4A) A notice specified for the purposes of paragraph (4)(a) must also state that—
  - (a) where the subject of the review does not notify the registration officer within 14 days beginning with the date of the notice that the subject of the review requires the review to be heard, the registration officer may determine the review and remove the subject's entry from the register;
  - (b) the subject of the review would not be entitled to a right of appeal against the registration officer's determination in the circumstances described in sub-paragraph (a); and
  - (c) after 14 days beginning with the date of the notice, the subject of the review can contact the registration officer to find out if the registration officer has removed the subject's entry from the register.]
  - (5) Where—
    - (a) the registration officer sends to the subject of the review a notice in the form specified in paragraph (4)(a), and
    - (b) that person does not, within 14 days beginning with the date of that notice, notify the registration officer that he requires the review to be heard,

the registration officer may determine without a hearing that the subject of the review was not entitled to be registered [<sup>F62</sup>, that the subject of the review was registered and their entry has been altered as the result of an application made by another person,] or, as the case may be, [<sup>F63</sup>that the subject of the review] has ceased to satisfy the conditions for registration set out in section 4 of the 1983 Act.

- (6) Paragraph (7) applies where—
  - (a) the registration officer sends to the subject of the review a notice in the form specified in paragraph (4)(b), and
  - (b) that person does not respond to the registration officer's satisfaction, or at all, within the period of 28 days beginning with the date of that notice.
- [F64(7)] The registration officer may send a notice to the subject of the review which states that—
  - (a) the registration officer is not satisfied that the subject of the review is or was entitled to be registered, or that the subject's entry in the register does not result from or has not been altered as the result of an application made by another person, and the grounds for the registration officer's opinion;
  - (b) if within 14 days beginning with the date of the notice, the subject of the review does not require the review to be heard, the registration officer may determine the review and remove the subject's entry from the register;
  - (c) the subject of the review would not be entitled to a right of appeal against the registration officer's determination in the circumstances described in sub-paragraph (b); and

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- (d) after 14 days beginning with the date of the notice, the subject of the review can contact the registration officer to find out if the registration officer has removed the subject's entry from the register.]
- (8) Where—
  - (a) the registration officer sends to the subject of the review a notice in pursuance of paragraph (7), and
  - (b) the subject of the review does not, within the period of 14 days beginning with the date of that notice, notify the registration officer that he requires the review to be heard,

the registration officer may determine without a hearing that the subject of the review was not entitled to be registered [F65], that the subject of the review was registered and their entry has been altered as the result of an application made by another person,] or, as the case may be, [F66 that the subject of the review] has ceased to satisfy the conditions for registration set out in section 4 of the 1983 Act.

- (9) In making a determination under paragraph (5) or (8), the registration officer must take into account any written representations made to him by the subject of the review and may take into account the written representations of any other person who appears to him to be interested.
  - (10) In this regulation and regulations 31E and 31F—
- "review" must be construed in accordance with paragraph (1);
- "the subject of the review" means the person in respect of whom the review is conducted.

- F47 Regs. 31B-31F inserted (1.1.2007) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/2910), regs. 1(1), 11
- Word in reg. 31D(1) substituted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(b), 18(2)
- F58 Reg. 31D(3A) inserted (1.6.2020) by Senedd and Elections (Wales) Act 2020 (anaw 1), ss. 17(2), 42(3)
- **F59** Words in reg. 31D(4)(a) substituted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(b), **18(3)**
- **F60** Words in reg. 31D(4)(b) inserted (16.1.2024) by The Representation of the People (Overseas Electors etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1406), regs. 1(2), 5(15) (with Sch. 2 para. 2(b))
- **F61** Reg. 31D(4A) inserted (1.7.2018) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. 2018/312), regs. 1(3), **6(a)**
- **F62** Words in reg. 31D(5) inserted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(b), 18(4)(a)
- **F63** Words in reg. 31D(5) inserted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(b), 18(4)(b)
- **F64** Reg. 31D(7) substituted (1.7.2018) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. 2018/312), regs. 1(3), **6(b)**
- **F65** Words in reg. 31D(8) inserted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(b), 18(6)(a)
- **F66** Words in reg. 31D(8) inserted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(b), 18(6)(b)

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#### List of reviews

- **31E.**—(1) The registration officer must keep a list of reviews.
- (2) The list must contain, in relation to each review, the following particulars—
  - (a) the full name of the subject of the review,
  - (b) his electoral number,
  - (c) his qualifying address, and
  - (d) the reason for the review.
- (3) The list must be made available for inspection at the registration officer's office.
- (4) This regulation does not apply to any review where the subject of the review has an anonymous entry.
- <sup>F67</sup>(5) In relation to the registration of local government electors in Wales, this regulation does not apply to any review where the subject of the review is under the age of 16.]

#### **Textual Amendments**

**F47** Regs. 31B-31F inserted (1.1.2007) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/2910), regs. 1(1), **11** 

**F67** Reg. 31E(5) inserted (1.6.2020) by Senedd and Elections (Wales) Act 2020 (anaw 1), **ss. 17(3)**, 42(3) (a)

#### Hearings of reviews

- **31F.**—(1) Where the registration officer determines that a hearing of the review should be conducted, the notice given under regulation 31D(4)(c) must also state the time and place at which he proposes to hear the review.
- (2) Where the subject of the review requires the review to be heard, the registration officer must send to that person a notice stating the time and place at which he proposes to hear the review.
- (3) The time fixed for the hearing must not be earlier than the third day after the date of the notice in which that time is stated.
  - (4) The persons entitled to appear and be heard are—
    - (a) the subject of the review;
    - (b) any other person who appears to the registration officer to be interested.
- (5) Paragraphs (2) to (4) of regulation 31 apply to the hearing of a review as they apply to the hearing of an application for registration or objection.
- (6) The registration officer may determine that the subject of the review was not entitled to be registered [F68, that the subject of the review was registered and their entry has been altered as the result of an application made by another person,] or, as the case may be, [F69 that the subject of the review] has ceased to satisfy the conditions for registration set out in section 4 of the 1983 Act, despite the failure of that person (or any other person entitled to appear and be heard) to attend.
- (7) In making a determination under paragraph (6), the registration officer must take into account any written representations made to him by the subject of the review and may take into account the written representations of any other person who appears to him to be interested.]

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

#### **Textual Amendments**

- F47 Regs. 31B-31F inserted (1.1.2007) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/2910), regs. 1(1), 11
- **F68** Words in reg. 31F(6) inserted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(b), 19(a)
- **F69** Words in reg. 31F(6) inserted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(b), 19(b)

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

- C3 Reg. 31F(2)-(7) applied (7.5.2024) by The Representation of the People (Franchise Amendment and Eligibility Review) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1150), regs. 1(2), 12(3), 21(3) (with reg. 5(5))
- C4 Reg. 31F(2)-(7) applied (with modifications) (7.5.2024) by S.I. 2012/1917, Sch. A1 para. 3 (as inserted by The Representation of the People (Franchise Amendment and Eligibility Review) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1150), reg. 1(2), Sch. 1)

### [F70] Notification of outcome of reviews

- **31FZA.**—(1) Where the registration officer is required to send to the subject of the review a notice under regulation 31D(2) and the subject of the review has required the review to be heard or has made representations to the registration officer, the registration officer must notify the subject of the review in writing of its outcome and when doing so—
  - (a) state whether there is a right of appeal under section 56(1)(azd) or (aa) of the 1983 Act;
  - (b) specify the time within which any notice of appeal under that section must be given (in accordance with regulation 32(2)); and
  - (c) provide such other information about the appeal that the registration officer considers necessary.
- (2) Where the registration officer is required to send to the subject of the review a notice under regulation 31D(2) and the subject of the review has not required that the review be heard, or has not made any representations to the registration officer, the registration officer may notify the subject of the review of its outcome and when doing so state that there is no right of appeal of that decision.]

#### **Textual Amendments**

F70 Reg. 31FZA substituted (1.7.2018) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. 2018/312), regs. 1(3), 7

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

- C5 Reg. 31FZA(1) applied (with modifications) (7.5.2024) by The Representation of the People (Franchise Amendment and Eligibility Review) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1150), regs. 1(2), 12(3), 21(3) (with reg. 5(5))
- C6 Reg. 31FZA(1) applied (with modifications) (7.5.2024) by S.I. 2012/1917, Sch. A1 para. 3 (as inserted by The Representation of the People (Franchise Amendment and Eligibility Review) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1150), reg. 1(2), Sch. 1)

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

## [F71Determinations of entitlement to remain registered during the annual canvass

#### 31FA.—I

F<sup>72</sup>(1)] If a registration officer is required by section 10ZE(5)(b) of the 1983 Act to consider making a determination under section 10ZE(1) of that Act as a result of information received in response to the canvass conducted under section 9D of that Act, the registration officer must so far as reasonably practicable take any relevant steps under regulations 31D to [F<sup>73</sup>31FZA] so as to enable the relevant determination to be made [F<sup>74</sup>, and the subject of the review to be notified of the determination,] before the registration officer publishes a revised version of the register under section 13(1)(a) of the 1983 Act.]

[F75(2) This regulation does not apply where under regulation 31C(2)(c)(iii) a registration officer has received information as a result of the annual canvass which allows the registration officer to determine that the elector has died.]

#### **Textual Amendments**

- F71 Reg. 31FA inserted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(b), **20**
- F72 Reg. 31FA renumbered as reg. 31FA(1) (1.7.2018) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. 2018/312), regs. 1(3), 8(a)
- F73 Word in reg. 31FA substituted (3.12.2015) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2015 (S.I. 2015/1971), regs. 1, 8(a)
- F74 Words in reg. 31FA inserted (3.12.2015) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2015 (S.I. 2015/1971), regs. 1, 8(b)
- F75 Reg. 31FA(2) inserted (1.7.2018) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. 2018/312), regs. 1(3), 8(b)

## [F76 Anonymous registration: applications and declarations

- **31G.**—(1) An application for an anonymous entry must state—
  - (a) the applicant's full name,
  - (b) the address given in accordance with regulation 26(1)(b),
  - (c) the reason for the application, and
  - (d) the date of the application.
- (2) The application must be in writing and signed by the applicant.
- (3) The application must be accompanied by evidence of the nature prescribed in regulation 31I or 31J.
- (4) Where the evidence mentioned in paragraph (3) relates not to the applicant, but to another person of the same household as the applicant, the application must be accompanied by evidence that that person is of that household.
  - (5) The application must be accompanied by a declaration made by the applicant that—
    - (a) the particulars given in accordance with paragraph (1) are true,
    - (b) so far as he is aware, the evidence provided in pursuance of paragraph (3) is genuine, and
    - (c) where paragraph (4) applies—
      - (i) the person to whom the evidence relates is a person of the same household of the applicant, and
      - (ii) so far as he is aware, the evidence provided in pursuance of paragraph (4) is genuine.

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

- (6) The application may give an address to which the registration officer must send correspondence, other than the address given in accordance with paragraph (1)(b).
- F<sup>77</sup>(7) Where an application for an anonymous entry is made by a person who is, or who has applied to be, registered as an elector in pursuance of an overseas elector's declaration, this regulation applies as if—
  - (a) in paragraph (1)—
    - (i) the reference in sub-paragraph (b) to regulation 26(1)(b) were a reference to section 1C(2)(a)(i), (3)(a)(i) or (4) of the 1985 Act;
    - (ii) after sub-paragraph (b) there were inserted—
      - "(ba) the address given in accordance with regulation 18(4) or 22B(1);";
  - (b) paragraph (6) were omitted.]

#### **Textual Amendments**

- F76 Regs. 31G-31J inserted (1.1.2007) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/2910), regs. 1(1), 12
- F77 Reg. 31G(7) inserted (16.1.2024) by The Representation of the People (Overseas Electors etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1406), regs. 1(2), 5(16) (with Sch. 2 para. 2(b))

#### Anonymous registration: determination of applications by registration officer

- 31H.—(1) Paragraph (2) applies where—
  - (a) the registration officer determines that the applicant for an anonymous entry is entitled to be registered, and
  - (b) the application for an anonymous entry is made in accordance with regulation 31G(1), (2) and (5).
- (2) The registration officer must determine that the safety test is satisfied (and accordingly allow the application for an anonymous entry) where he is satisfied—
  - (a) that the evidence provided in support of the application in pursuance of regulation 31G(3) constitutes evidence of the nature prescribed in regulation 31I or 31J, and
  - (b) in the case of an application where regulation 31G(4) applies, that the evidence provided in pursuance of that paragraph establishes that the person in question is a person of the same household as the applicant.

## **Textual Amendments**

F76 Regs. 31G-31J inserted (1.1.2007) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/2910), regs. 1(1), 12

### Anonymous registration: evidence consisting of relevant court orders or injunctions

- **31I.**—(1) Evidence which meets the following conditions is prescribed for the purposes of regulations 31G(3) and 31H(2)(a).
  - (2) The first condition is that the evidence is, or is a copy of, a relevant order or injunction.
  - (3) A relevant order or injunction is—

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

- (a) an injunction for the purpose of restraining a person from pursuing any conduct which amounts to harassment granted in proceedings under section 3 of the Protection from Harassment Act 1997;
- (b) an injunction granted under section 3A(2) of the Protection from Harassment Act 1997(1);
- (c) a restraining order made under section 5(1) of the Protection from Harassment Act 1997(2)[F78] or section 360 of the Sentencing Code];
- (d) a restraining order on acquittal made under section 5A(1) of the Protection from Harassment Act 1997(3);
- [F<sup>79</sup>(e) a non-harassment order, interdict or interim interdict made under section 8 or 8A of the Protection from Harassment Act 1997;]
  - (f) a non-harassment order made under section 234A(2) of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995(4);
  - (g) a non-molestation order made under section 42(2) of the Family Law Act 1996(5);
- [ an injunction for the purpose of restraining a person from pursuing any conduct which amounts to harassment granted in proceedings under article 5 of the Protection from Harassment (Northern Ireland) Order 1997;
  - (i) a restraining order made under article 7 of the Protection from Harassment (Northern Ireland) Order 1997;
  - (j) a restraining order on acquittal made under article 7A(1) of the Protection from Harassment (Northern Ireland) Order 1997;
  - (k) a non-molestation order made under article 20(2) of the Family Homes and Domestic Violence (Northern Ireland) Order 1998];
- [ a matrimonial interdict within the meaning of section 14 of the Matrimonial Homes  $^{F81}$ (1) (Family Protection) (Scotland) Act 1981;
- (m) a domestic interdict within the meaning of section 18A of the Matrimonial Homes (Family Protection) (Scotland) Act 1981;
- (n) a relevant interdict within the meaning of section 113 of the Civil Partnership Act 2004;
- (o) an interdict that has been determined to be a domestic abuse interdict within the meaning of section 3 of the Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2011;
- (p) any interdict with an attached power of arrest made under section 1 of the Protection from Abuse (Scotland) Act 2001;
- (q) a forced marriage protection order or interim forced marriage protection order made under any of the following provisions—
  - (i) Part 4A of the Family Law Act 1996;
  - (ii) section 2 of, and paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 to, the Forced Marriage (Civil Protection) Act 2007;
  - (iii) section 1 of the Forced Marriage etc. (Protection and Jurisdiction) (Scotland) Act 2011; and
  - (iv) section 5 of the Forced Marriage etc. (Protection and Jurisdiction) (Scotland) Act 2011];

<sup>(1)</sup> Section 2 was substituted by Schedule 2 to the 2000 Act.

<sup>(2)</sup> Section 56(1)(a) was amended by Schedule 1 to the 2000 Act.

<sup>(3)</sup> Section 10A was substituted by Schedule 1 to the 2000 Act.

<sup>(4)</sup> Section 4 was substituted by section 1(2) of the 2000 Act.

<sup>(5)</sup> Sections 7 and 7A were substituted and inserted by sections 4 and 5 of the 2000 Act.

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

- [ a domestic violence protection order made under section 28 of the Crime and Security F82(r) Act 2010 or section 97 of, and paragraph 5 of Schedule 7 to, the Justice Act (Northern Ireland) 2015;
  - (s) a female genital mutilation protection order made under section 5A of, and paragraphs 1 or 18 of Schedule 2 to, the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003.]
- (4) The second condition is that the relevant order or injunction is made for the protection, or otherwise for the benefit, of—
  - (a) the applicant for an anonymous entry, or
  - (b) another person of the same household as him.
- (5) The third condition is that the relevant order or injunction is in force on the day on which the application for an anonymous entry is made.

#### **Textual Amendments**

- F76 Regs. 31G-31J inserted (1.1.2007) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/2910), regs. 1(1), 12
- F78 Words in reg. 31I(3)(c) inserted (1.12.2020) by Sentencing Act 2020 (c. 17), s. 416(1), Sch. 24 para. 329 (with Sch. 27); S.I. 2020/1236, reg. 2
- F79 Reg. 31I(3)(e) substituted (19.12.2013) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(2)(b), 21(1)(a)
- F80 Reg. 31I(3)(h)-(k) inserted (17.3.2009) by The Representation of the People (Amendment) Regulations 2009 (S.I. 2009/725), regs. 1(1), 6
- **F81** Reg. 31I(3)(I)-(q) inserted (19.12.2013) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(2)(b), 21(1)(b)
- F82 Reg. 31I(3)(r)(s) inserted (7.3.2018) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. 2018/312), regs. 1(2), 9

#### Anonymous registration: evidence by attestation

- **31J.**—(1) An attestation within the meaning of this regulation is prescribed for the purposes of regulations 31G(3) and 31H(2)(a).
  - (2) The attestation must—
    - (a) certify that the safety of the applicant, or of another named person of the same household as him, would be at risk if the register contained the name of the applicant or his qualifying address,
    - (b) state the date on which it is made, and
    - (c) be in writing and signed by a qualifying officer.
- F83(2A) Where the applicant is or has applied to be registered in pursuance of an overseas elector's declaration, the reference in paragraph (2)(a) to the applicant's qualifying address includes a reference to the address provided by the applicant in accordance with regulation 18(4) or 22B(1).]
- (3) The attestation must state the period for which it has effect, being a period of between one and five years beginning with the date on which the attestation is made.
  - (4) Qualifying officer means—
    - (a) [F84a police officer of or above the rank of [F85inspector]] of any police force in England and Wales;

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

- (b) [F86a police officer of or above the rank of [F87inspector]] of [F88the Police Service of Scotland];
- (c) [F89a police officer of or above the rank of [F90inspector]] of the Police Service of Northern Ireland;
- (d) the Director General of the Security Service;
- (e) the Director General of the Serious Organised Crime Agency;
- [F91(f)] any director of adult social services in England within the meaning of section 6(A1) of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970;
  - (g) any director of children's services in England within the meaning of section 18 of the Children Act 2004;
  - (h) any director of social services in Wales within the meaning of [F92 section 144 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014];
  - (i) any chief social work officer in Scotland within the meaning of section 3 of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968;
  - (j) any director of social services of a Health and Social Services Board established under article 16 of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972;
  - (k) any executive director of social work of a Health and Social Services Trust established under article 10 of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1991];
    - [ any registered medical practitioner;
- F93(1)
- (m) any registered nurse or midwife;
- (n) any person who manages a refuge.]
- <sup>F94</sup>(5) In this regulation "refuge" means accommodation together with a planned programme of therapeutic and practical support for victims of, or those at risk of, domestic abuse or violence.]
- <sup>F95</sup>(6) In relation to the registration of local government electors in Wales, where the applicant is under the age of 16 on the date on which the application is made—
  - (a) "qualifying officer" also includes a person authorised in writing for the purposes of this regulation by an officer referred to in paragraph (4)(h), and
  - (b) where the attestation is signed by a person so authorised, the attestation must be accompanied by a copy of the person's authorisation.]]

- F76 Regs. 31G-31J inserted (1.1.2007) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/2910), regs. 1(1), 12
- F83 Reg. 31J(2A) inserted (16.1.2024) by The Representation of the People (Overseas Electors etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1406), regs. 1(2), 5(17) (with Sch. 2 para. 2(b))
- F84 Words in reg. 31J(4)(a) substituted (17.3.2009) by The Representation of the People (Amendment) Regulations 2009 (S.I. 2009/725), regs. 1(1), 7(a)
- Word in reg. 31J(4)(a) substituted (7.3.2018) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. 2018/312), regs. 1(2), 10(a)
- **F86** Words in reg. 31J(4)(b) substituted (17.3.2009) by The Representation of the People (Amendment) Regulations 2009 (S.I. 2009/725), regs. 1(1), **7(b)**

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

- Word in reg. 31J(4)(b) substituted (7.3.2018) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. 2018/312), regs. 1(2), 10(a)
- **F88** Words in reg. 31J(4)(b) substituted (19.12.2013) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(2)(b), 21(2)
- F89 Words in reg. 31J(4)(c) substituted (17.3.2009) by The Representation of the People (Amendment) Regulations 2009 (S.I. 2009/725), regs. 1(1), 7(c)
- **F90** Word in reg. 31J(4)(c) substituted (7.3.2018) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. 2018/312), regs. 1(2), **10(a)**
- F91 Reg. 31J(4)(f)-(k) substituted for reg. 31J(4)(f)-(h) (17.3.2009) by The Representation of the People (Amendment) Regulations 2009 (S.I. 2009/725), regs. 1(1), 7(d)
- **F92** Words in reg. 31J(4)(h) substituted (6.4.2016) by The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (Consequential Amendments) (Secondary Legislation) Regulations 2016 (S.I. 2016/211), reg. 1(2), **Sch. 3 para. 35**
- F93 Reg. 31J(4)(l)-(n) inserted (7.3.2018) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. 2018/312), regs. 1(2), 10(b)
- **F94** Reg. 31J(5) inserted (7.3.2018) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. 2018/312), regs. 1(2), 11
- F95 Reg. 31J(6) inserted (1.6.2020) by Senedd and Elections (Wales) Act 2020 (anaw 1), ss. 18, 42(3)(a)

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

C7 Reg. 31J modified (1.1.2007) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/2910), regs. 1(1), 67(2)

#### Registration appeals

- **32.**— $[^{F96}(1)]$  This regulation makes provision in connection with the right of appeal under section 56(1)(a), (aza), (azb), (azc), (azd), (aa) and (ab) of the 1983 Act.]
  - (2) A person desiring to appeal must—
    - (a) give notice of appeal to the registration officer and to the opposite party (if any) when the decision is given, or within 14 days thereafter, and
    - (b) specify the grounds of appeal.
- (3) The registration officer shall forward any such notice to the appropriate county court in accordance with rules of court together, in each case, with—
  - (a) a statement of the material facts which in his opinion have been established in the case, and
  - (b) his decision upon the whole case and on any point which may be specified as a ground of appeal.
- (4) Where it appears to the registration officer that any notices of appeal given to him are based on similar grounds, he shall inform the appropriate county court of this to enable the court (if it thinks fit) to consolidate the appeals or select a case as a test case.

#### **Textual Amendments**

**F96** Reg. 32(1) substituted (9.12.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 2014 (S.I. 2014/3161), regs. 1, 6

#### **Commencement Information**

**I4** Reg. 32 in force at 16.2.2001, see **reg. 1(1)** 

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

## [F97Annual canvass: register of local government electors in Wales]

#### **Textual Amendments**

- F97 Reg. 32ZA heading substituted (31.12.2019) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/1451), regs. 1(3), 9(a)
- **F98** Reg. 32ZA revoked (22.1.2020) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, **10**

## Steps to be taken by a registration officer where no information in response to an annual canvass form is received in respect of a particular address

#### **Textual Amendments**

**F99** Reg. 32ZB revoked (22.1.2020) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 11

## [F100]F101Annual canvass

- **32ZBA.**—(1) Before conducting the annual canvass required by section 9D(1) of the 1983 Act, each registration officer must comply with paragraph (1) of regulation 32ZBB in respect of a register F102
- (2) Each registration officer must conduct the annual canvass in respect of a residential address in the area for which they are responsible in accordance with regulation 32ZBD, for the purposes of a register <sup>F103</sup>....
- (3) The obligation in paragraph (2) does not apply in a case described in paragraph (4) or (5) (but see paragraph (6)).
  - (4) The first case is where—
    - (a) having taken into account the information described in paragraph (7), the registration officer—
      - (i) is satisfied that it is not necessary to remove a person registered at the address from [F104a register]; and
      - (ii) has no reason to believe that any addition may be required to F105... a register in respect of the address; and
    - (b) having proceeded to conduct the annual canvass in accordance with regulation 32ZBE—
      - (i) the registration officer remains satisfied as to the matters in sub-paragraph (a); or
      - (ii) in circumstances where the registration officer has reason to believe that—
        - (aa) it may be necessary to remove a person registered at that address from [F106a register]; or
        - (bb) a person who resides at the address may be entitled to be added to such a register,

the registration officer is aware of that person's name.

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

- (5) The second case is where—
  - (a) the address is in respect of a property to which regulation 32ZBF(2) applies;
  - (b) the registration officer has—
    - (i) identified a responsible person in respect of that property within the meaning of regulation 32ZBF(8); and
    - (ii) attempted to make contact with the responsible person in accordance with regulation 32ZBF(5) [F107 or (5A)]; and
  - (c) the responsible person has, within a reasonable time of the registration officer making that attempt, communicated the information described in regulation 32ZBF(5)(a) to (c) to the officer.
- (6) Where any of the information described in paragraph (7) or taken into account in accordance with paragraph (8) indicates that only persons under the age of 18 are registered at an address <sup>F108</sup>..., the registration officer must conduct the annual canvass in respect of that address in accordance with regulation 32ZBD.
  - (7) The information in this paragraph is—
    - (a) the results of the data comparison described in regulation 32ZBB, where disclosed to the registration officer by the [F109]Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities] in accordance with paragraph (6) of that regulation; and
    - (b) any information which the registration officer may hold following the determination of an application under section 10ZC(1) or 10ZD(1) of the 1983 Act in respect of a person—
      - (i) whose name has not yet been published in a notice of alteration under section 13A(2) of that Act; or
      - (ii) excluded from the data comparison described in regulation 32ZBB by virtue of paragraph (7) of that regulation.
- (8) In determining whether either of the cases described in paragraphs (4) or (5) is made out, the registration officer may take into account any other information which the officer may hold in writing or in data form for the purposes of the officer's registration duties <sup>F110</sup>... or any information which that officer may inspect for those purposes.

- **F100** Regs. 32ZA-32ZI inserted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(c), **22** (as amended by S.I. 2014/1234, regs. 1(1), 4)
- **F101** Regs. 32ZBA-32ZBG inserted (31.12.2019) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/1451), regs. 1(3), 11
- **F102** Words in reg. 32ZBA(1) omitted (22.1.2020) by virtue of The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, **12(a)**
- **F103** Words in reg. 32ZBA(2) omitted (22.1.2020) by virtue of The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, **12(b)**
- **F104** Words in reg. 32ZBA(4)(a)(i) substituted (22.1.2020) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, **12(c)(i)**
- F105 Word in reg. 32ZBA(4)(a)(ii) omitted (22.1.2020) by virtue of The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 12(c)(ii)
- **F106** Words in reg. 32ZBA(4)(b)(ii)(aa) substituted (22.1.2020) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, **12(c)(iii)**
- **F107** Words in reg. 32ZBA(5)(b)(ii) inserted (22.1.2020) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, **12(d)**

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

- **F108** Words in reg. 32ZBA(6) omitted (22.1.2020) by virtue of The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, **12(e)**
- F109 Words in reg. 32ZBA(7)(a) substituted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(8) (with art. 12)
- F110 Words in reg. 32ZBA(8) omitted (22.1.2020) by virtue of The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 12(f)

#### Annual canvass data matching

- **32ZBB.**—(1) Subject to paragraphs (7) and (8), each registration officer must disclose to the [FIII] Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities] the matching data in respect of each person aged 16 or over who is registered in a register FII2..., maintained by that registration officer.
- (2) The matching data must be disclosed in such format and through such an infrastructure system as the [FII3]Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities] may have notified to the registration officer in writing.
- (3) Following receipt of the matching data from the registration officer, the [F114]Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities] may disclose that data to the Secretary of State [F115] for Work and Pensions].
- (4) Where matching data has been disclosed to the Secretary of State [F116 for Work and Pensions] under paragraph (3), the Secretary of State [F116 for Work and Pensions] may compare it against information appearing in the following types of database kept by the Secretary of State [F116 for Work and Pensions]—
  - (a) databases kept for the purposes of functions relating to social security (including such information kept on behalf of the Department for Communities (Northern Ireland)); and
  - (b) databases relating to working tax credit, child tax credit and child benefit (being information kept on behalf of Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs).
- (5) The Secretary of State [F117 for Work and Pensions] may disclose the results of the data comparison to the [F118 Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities].
- (6) On receipt of such results, the [F119]Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities] may disclose them to the registration officer in whose register the person concerned is registered.
  - (7) Where—
    - (a) a registration officer has successfully determined a person's application under section 10ZC(1) or 10ZD(1) of the 1983 Act at any time during the 90 day period ending with the day before the day on which the registration officer proposes to commence disclosure of matching data in accordance with paragraph (1); and
    - (b) that person's entry on the register has been published in a notice of alteration under section 13A(2) of the 1983 Act,

the registration officer may disclose matching data for that person to the  $[^{F120}$ Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities] but is not required to do so.

- (8) Where a person falls within the scope of section 9D(6) of the 1983 Act the registration officer must not disclose that person's matching data under paragraph (1).
  - (9) In this regulation—

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

"infrastructure system" has the meaning given in Schedule 3A to the Communications Act 2003;

"matching data" means—

- (a) a person's full name;
- (b) where held by the registration officer, a person's date of birth;
- (c) the address, including postcode, of the property at which a person is registered;
- (d) where held by the registration officer, the unique property reference number of the property at which a person is registered; and
- (e) any other information held by the registration officer which relates to a person's entry on the register and which the [F121]Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities] may have specified in writing.

F122

- **F100** Regs. 32ZA-32ZI inserted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(c), **22** (as amended by S.I. 2014/1234, regs. 1(1), 4)
- **F101** Regs. 32ZBA-32ZBG inserted (31.12.2019) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/1451), regs. 1(3), **11**
- F111 Words in reg. 32ZBB(1) substituted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(9) (a) (with art. 12)
- **F112** Words in reg. 32ZBB(1) omitted (22.1.2020) by virtue of The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, **13**
- F113 Words in reg. 32ZBB(2) substituted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(9) (a) (with art. 12)
- F114 Words in reg. 32ZBB(3) substituted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(9) (b)(i) (with art. 12)
- F115 Words in reg. 32ZBB(3) inserted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(9) (b)(ii) (with art. 12)
- F116 Words in reg. 32ZBB(4) inserted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(9)(c) (with art. 12)
- F117 Words in reg. 32ZBB(5) inserted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(9) (d)(i) (with art. 12)
- F118 Words in reg. 32ZBB(5) substituted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(9) (d)(ii) (with art. 12)
- F119 Words in reg. 32ZBB(6) substituted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(9)(e) (with art. 12)
- F120 Words in reg. 32ZBB(7) substituted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(9)(e) (with art. 12)

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

- F121 Words in reg. 32ZBB(9) substituted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(9)(f) (i) (with art. 12)
- F122 Words in reg. 32ZBB(9) omitted (8.12.2021) by virtue of The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(9)(f)(ii) (with art. 12)

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

C8 Regs. 32ZBB, 32ZBC: transfer of functions (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), arts. 1(2), 7(3)(a) (with arts. 8, 11, 12)

## Processing of information in connection with annual canvass data matching

- **32ZBC.**—(1) Information disclosed under regulation 32ZBB may not be disclosed to any other person, except—
  - (a) so that it may be taken into account by a registration officer for the purposes of determining whether the annual canvass may be conducted otherwise than in accordance with regulation 32ZBD F123...;
  - (b) for the purpose of any civil or criminal proceedings.
- (2) A person who discloses information in breach of paragraph (1) is guilty of an offence and liable—
  - (a) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, or to a fine, or to both;
  - (b) on summary conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding [F124the general limit in a magistrates' court], or to a fine, or both.
- (3) Any person who processes information under regulation 32ZBB must do so in accordance with any requirements as to the processing of information that may have been imposed by the [F125] Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities], including requirements as to the transfer, storage, destruction and security of that information.
- (4) Where a registration officer processes the results of the data matching for the purposes of determining whether the officer may conduct the annual canvass required by section 9D(1) of the 1983 Act otherwise than in accordance with regulation 32ZBD, the officer must do so in accordance with any requirements as to the processing of information that may have been imposed by the [F126Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities] in relation to the register of parliamentary electors in England or Wales and the register of local government electors in England.
- (5) Where the [F127]Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities] imposes requirements as to processing under paragraph (3) or (4), such requirements must be imposed before a registration officer is required to disclose that information under regulation 32ZBB.

- **F100** Regs. 32ZA-32ZI inserted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(c), 22 (as amended by S.I. 2014/1234, regs. 1(1), 4)
- **F101** Regs. 32ZBA-32ZBG inserted (31.12.2019) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/1451), regs. 1(3), **11**
- **F123** Words in reg. 32ZBC(1)(a) omitted (22.1.2020) by virtue of The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, **14**

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

- F124 Words in reg. 32ZBC(2)(b) substituted (7.2.2023 at 12.00 p.m.) by The Judicial Review and Courts Act 2022 (Magistrates' Court Sentencing Powers) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/149), regs. 1(2), 2(2), Sch. Pt. 2 Table
- F125 Words in reg. 32ZBC(3) substituted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(10) (with art. 12)
- F126 Words in reg. 32ZBC(4) substituted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(10) (with art. 12)
- F127 Words in reg. 32ZBC(5) substituted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(10) (with art. 12)

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

C8 Regs. 32ZBB, 32ZBC: transfer of functions (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), arts. 1(2), 7(3)(a) (with arts. 8, 11, 12)

## Annual canvass for properties where it may be necessary to make any addition to, or deletion from, an electoral register and steps to be taken where no response is received

- **32ZBD.**—(1) A registration officer must attempt to make contact with a person who is, or may be eligible to be, registered, in a register <sup>F128</sup>... at a residential address in the area for which the officer is responsible by–
  - (a) sending a paper communication to the address, or
  - (b) visiting the address in order to obtain the information required by the canvass form.
- (2) If no information in response is received within a reasonable time following an attempt to make contact with a person under paragraph (1), the registration officer must make a further attempt to make contact with at least one person at the address in order to obtain the information required by the canvass form.
- (3) If no information in response is received within a reasonable time following an attempt to make contact with at least one person under paragraph (2), the registration officer must make a further attempt to make contact with at least one person at the address in order to obtain the information required by the canvass form.
- (4) Subject to paragraphs (6) to (9) a registration officer may comply with the requirements in paragraphs (2) and (3) by any of the following means—
  - (a) by sending a paper communication to the address;
  - (b) where the registration officer holds a telephone number for one or more persons aged 18 or over who are registered in the register of parliamentary electors in England or Wales, or the register of local government electors in England, at the address, and whom the registration officer believes are resident at that address, by means of a telephone call to each of those persons;
  - [ where the registration officer holds a telephone number for one or more persons aged 16 or over who are registered in the register of local government electors in Wales, at the address, and whom the registration officer believes are resident at that address, by means of a telephone call to each of those persons;]
    - (c) where the registration officer holds relevant contact details for one or more persons aged 18 or over who are registered in the register of parliamentary electors in England or Wales, or the register of local government electors in England, at the address, and whom the

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registration officer believes are resident at that address, by sending a communication by electronic means to each of those persons; <sup>F130</sup>...

- [ where the registration officer holds relevant contact details for one or more persons aged 16 or over who are registered in the register of local government electors in Wales, at the address, and whom the registration officer believes are resident at that address, by sending a communication by electronic means to each of those persons; or]
  - (d) by visiting the address.
- (5) Where a registration officer has complied with the requirements in paragraphs (1) and (2) but has not done so in either case by sending the canvass form to the address, and the registration officer is required to comply with paragraph (3), the registration officer must do so by sending that form to the address.
- (6) Where a registration officer has complied with the requirement in paragraph (2) other than by sending a paper communication to the address or by visiting the address, and the registration officer is required to comply with paragraph (3), the registration officer must do so by sending a paper communication to the address or visiting the address but, where paragraph (5) applies, the registration officer must instead do so by sending the canvass form to that address.
- (7) Where no information has been received in response to an attempt to make contact with a person under paragraph (3), and a registration officer has not already made an attempt to contact a person at that address by means of a telephone call or calls under paragraph (4)(b) or by visiting the address, the officer must make an attempt by one or other of these means in order to obtain the information required by the canvass form.
- (8) A registration officer complies with the requirements in paragraphs (2), (3) or (7) by means of a telephone call or calls under paragraph (4)(b) without having to make a telephone call to each of the persons to whom that sub-paragraph relates, where—
  - (a) one of the persons to whom that sub-paragraph relates has provided the information required by the canvass form; or
  - (b) an identical telephone number is held in respect of all persons to whom that sub-paragraph relates.
- (9) Where a registration officer complies with the requirements in paragraphs (1), (2) or (3) by sending a canvass form—
  - (a) before sending the form the registration officer must if practicable print on the form—
    - (i) any information required by the canvass form which the officer already holds in respect of each person who is registered at the address <sup>F132</sup>... with the exception of persons registered as mentioned in section 9D(6) of the 1983 Act;
    - (ii) the full name and nationality of each person whose application to be registered at the address in a register of parliamentary electors in England or Wales, or a register of local government electors in England, under section 10ZC(1) or 10ZD(1) of the 1983 Act has been successfully determined, where the date on which the applicant's name will be published in a notice of alteration under section 13A(2) of the 1983 Act is after the date on which the form will be sent, with the exception of persons registered as mentioned in section 9D(6) of the 1983 Act; F133...
    - (iii) an indication as to whether any person who is registered at that address is aged 76 or over; and
    - [ the full name, date of birth and nationality of each person whose application to be  $^{\text{F134}}(\text{iv})$  registered at the address in a register of local government electors in Wales, under section 10ZC(1) or 10ZD(1) of the 1983 Act has been successfully determined, where the date on which the applicant's name will be published in a notice of alteration under section 13A(2) of the 1983 Act is after the date on which the form

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will be sent, with the exception of persons registered as mentioned in section 9D(6) of the 1983 Act; and

- (b) the form must be accompanied by a pre-addressed reply envelope, the postage of which has been pre-paid.
- F135(9A) In relation to a register of local government electors in Wales, the registration officer must not, under paragraph 9, print on the form the date of birth of any person aged under 16.]
  - (10) In this regulation—
    - "canvass form" means the canvass form designed by the Electoral Commission under regulation 32ZBG(1)(a)(ii);
    - "paper communication" means—
    - (a) the canvass form, or
    - (b) the canvass communication B designed by the Electoral Commission under regulation 32ZBG(1)(a)(iii).

#### **Textual Amendments**

- **F100** Regs. 32ZA-32ZI inserted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(c), 22 (as amended by S.I. 2014/1234, regs. 1(1), 4)
- **F101** Regs. 32ZBA-32ZBG inserted (31.12.2019) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/1451), regs. 1(3), **11**
- **F128** Words in reg. 32ZBD(1) omitted (22.1.2020) by virtue of The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, **15(a)**
- F129 Reg. 32ZBD(4)(ba) inserted (22.1.2020) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 15(b)(i)
- **F130** Word in reg. 32ZBD(4)(c) omitted (22.1.2020) by virtue of The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, **15(b)(ii)**
- F131 Reg. 32ZBD(4)(ca) inserted (22.1.2020) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 15(b)(iii)
- F132 Words in reg. 32ZBD(9)(a)(i) omitted (22.1.2020) by virtue of The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 15(c)(i)
- F133 Word in reg. 32ZBD(9)(a)(ii) omitted (22.1.2020) by virtue of The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 15(c)(ii)
- F134 Reg. 32ZBD(9)(a)(iv) inserted (22.1.2020) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 15(c)(iii)
- F135 Reg. 32ZBD(9A) inserted (22.1.2020) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 15(d)

# Annual canvass for properties where the registration officer is satisfied that it is not necessary to make any deletion from an electoral register and has no reason to believe that any additions to an electoral register may be required

- **32ZBE.**—(1) Paragraph (2) applies where, having taken into account the information described in regulation 32ZBA(7), a registration officer—
  - (a) is satisfied that it is not necessary to remove a person registered at a residential address in the area for which they are responsible from a register <sup>F136</sup>...; and
  - (b) has no reason to believe that any addition may be required to a register F137... in respect of the address.

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

- (2) The registration officer may proceed to conduct the annual canvass for a register <sup>F138</sup>... by complying with the requirements of paragraphs (3) to (6) (but see paragraph (7)).
  - (3) A registration officer must send either of the following—
    - (a) a canvass communication A to the address; or

[F139(b) where—

- (i) the registration officer holds relevant contact details for one or more persons aged 18 or over who are registered at the address in a register of parliamentary electors in England or Wales, or a register of local government electors in England; or
- (ii) the registration officer holds relevant contact details for one or more persons aged 16 or over who are registered at the address in a register of local government electors in Wales,

a communication by electronic means to each of those persons.]

- (4) Any communication sent under paragraph [F140(3)(b)(i)] must require the recipient to—
  - (a) confirm to the registration officer whether the information it contains in respect of persons who are registered at the address in a register of parliamentary electors in England or Wales, or a register of local government electors in England, with the exception of persons falling within section 9D(6) of the 1983 Act, is complete and accurate; and
  - (b) provide to the registration officer, except where it is already included in the communication, the full name and nationality of each person aged 16 or over who is residing at the address and who is eligible to be registered in a register of parliamentary electors in England or Wales, or a register of local government electors in England, including an indication as to whether any of those persons is aged 76 or over.
- I
  F141(4A) Any communication sent under paragraph 3(b)(ii) must require the recipient to—
  - (a) confirm to the registration officer whether the information it contains in respect of persons who are registered at the address in a register of local government electors in Wales, with the exception of persons falling within section 9D(6) of the 1983 Act, is complete and accurate;
  - (b) provide to the registration officer, except where it is already included in the communication, the full name and nationality of each person aged 14 or over who is residing at the address and who is eligible to be registered in a register of local government electors in Wales, including an indication as to whether any of those persons is aged 76 or over; and
  - (c) provide to the registration officer the date of birth of each person aged 14 or 15 who is residing at the address and who is eligible to be registered in a register of local government electors in Wales.]
  - (5) In circumstances where a registration officer—
    - (a) does not hold relevant contact details for one or more persons aged 18 or over who are registered at the address in a register of parliamentary electors in England or Wales, or a register of local government electors in England; or
    - (b) has sent a communication by electronic means under paragraph [F142(3)(b)(i)] to one or more persons in respect of the address and has not, within a reasonable time of sending the communication, received the required information from at least one person in respect of the address.

the registration officer must send a canvass communication A to the address.

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

- F143(5A) In circumstances where a registration officer for a register of local government electors in Wales—
  - (a) does not hold relevant contact details for one or more persons aged 16 or over who are registered at the address; or
  - (b) has sent a communication by electronic means under paragraph (3)(b)(ii) to one or more persons in respect of the address and has not, within a reasonable time of sending the communication, received the required information from at least one person in respect of the address.

the registration officer must send a canvass communication A to the address.]

- (6) The registration officer must, before sending a canvass communication A, print the following information on the communication—
  - (a) the full name and nationality of each person—
    - (i) who is registered at the address <sup>F144</sup>... with the exception of persons registered as mentioned in section 9D(6) of the 1983 Act; or
    - (ii) whose application to be registered at the address F145..., under section 10ZC(1) or 10ZD(1) of the 1983 Act has been successfully determined, where the date on which the applicant's name will be published in a notice of alteration under section 13A(2) of the 1983 Act is after the date on which the communication will be sent, with the exception of persons registered as mentioned in section 9D(6) of the 1983 Act; and
  - (b) if practicable, an indication as to whether any of those persons is aged 76 or over.
- (7) If, after complying with the requirements of paragraphs (3) to (6), a registration officer has reason to believe—
  - (a) that it may be necessary to remove a person registered at that address from a register F146...; or
- (b) that a person who resides at the address may be entitled to be registered <sup>F147</sup>..., but is not aware of that person's name, the officer must conduct the annual canvass in accordance with regulation 32ZBD in respect of the address.
- (8) In this regulation, "canvass communication A" means a document in the form designed by the Electoral Commission under regulation 32ZBG(1)(a)(i).

- **F100** Regs. 32ZA-32ZI inserted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(c), **22** (as amended by S.I. 2014/1234, regs. 1(1), 4)
- **F101** Regs. 32ZBA-32ZBG inserted (31.12.2019) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/1451), regs. 1(3), 11
- **F136** Words in reg. 32ZBE(1)(a) omitted (22.1.2020) by virtue of The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, **16(a)**
- F137 Words in reg. 32ZBE(1)(b) omitted (22.1.2020) by virtue of The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 16(a)
- F138 Words in reg. 32ZBE(2) omitted (22.1.2020) by virtue of The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 16(b)
- **F139** Reg. 32ZBE(3)(b) substituted (22.1.2020) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, **16(c)**
- **F140** Word in reg. 32ZBE(4) substituted (22.1.2020) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, **16(d)**

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

- F141 Reg. 32ZBE(4A) inserted (22.1.2020) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 16(e)
- **F142** Word in reg. 32ZBE(5)(b) substituted (22.1.2020) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, **16(f)**
- F143 Reg. 32ZBE(5A) inserted (22.1.2020) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 16(g)
- **F144** Words in reg. 32ZBE(6)(a)(i) omitted (22.1.2020) by virtue of The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, **16(h)(i)**
- F145 Words in reg. 32ZBE(6)(a)(ii) omitted (22.1.2020) by virtue of The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 16(h)(ii)
- **F146** Words in reg. 32ZBE(7)(a) omitted (22.1.2020) by virtue of The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, **16(i)(i)**
- F147 Words in reg. 32ZBE(7)(b) omitted (22.1.2020) by virtue of The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 16(i)(ii)

#### Annual canvass in respect of particular types of property

- **32ZBF.**—(1) Paragraph (4) applies where a registration officer has identified a responsible person in respect of a property to which paragraph (2) applies in the area for which the officer is responsible.
  - (2) Subject to paragraph (3), this paragraph applies to—
    - (a) a care home registered under Part 2 of the Care Standards Act 2000;
    - (b) a property at which is situated a care home service regulated under the Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016, unless that service is provided wholly or mainly to persons under the age of 18;
    - (c) a house in multiple occupation within the meaning of section 254 of the Housing Act 2004;
    - (d) a building occupied by students within the meaning of paragraph 4 of Schedule 14 to the Housing Act 2004;
    - (e) a hostel, being a building in which is provided, for persons generally or for a class or classes of persons—
      - residential accommodation otherwise than in separate and self-contained premises;
         and
      - (ii) either board or facilities for the preparation of food adequate to the needs of those persons, or both; and
    - (f) a property—
      - (i) at which persons reside who together do not form a single household; or
      - (ii) in respect of which a registration officer has made an attempt to deliver a document in the previous 18 months but has been unable to do so; and

in respect of which a registration officer reasonably believes that conducting the annual canvass in accordance with this regulation is more likely to fulfil its purpose under section 9D(2) of the 1983 Act than if conducted in accordance with any other part of these Regulations.

- (3) Paragraph (2)(f) does not apply to a building containing two or more flats which are occupied or intended to be occupied wholly or mainly for residential purposes.
- (4) The registration officer may proceed to conduct the annual canvass for that property  $^{\text{F148}}$ ..., by complying with paragraph (5) [ $^{\text{F149}}$ or (5A)] (but see paragraph (7)).

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

- (5) The registration officer must attempt to make contact with the responsible person and must request the following information in respect of each person aged 16 or over who is residing at that property and is eligible to be registered in a register of parliamentary electors in England or Wales, or a register of local government electors in England—
  - (a) full name;
  - (b) nationality;
  - (c) an indication as to whether the person in question is aged 76 or over.
- F150(5A) The registration officer for a register of local government electors in Wales must attempt to make contact with the responsible person and must request the following information in respect of each person aged 14 or over who is residing at that property and is eligible to be registered in a register of local government electors in Wales—
  - (a) full name;
  - (b) date of birth;
  - (c) nationality;
  - (d) an indication as to whether that person is aged 76 or over.]
- (6) A registration officer may comply with paragraph (5) [F151 or (5A)] by any means the registration officer thinks appropriate, including—
  - (a) by sending a paper communication;
  - (b) by visiting the property;
  - (c) by telephone;
  - (d) by electronic means.
- (7) If, after complying with the requirements of paragraph (5) [F152] or (5A)], the registration officer does not receive the information requested within a reasonable time of having made the attempt to contact the responsible person the registration officer must conduct the annual canvass in respect of that property in accordance with regulation 32ZBD.
- (8) For the purposes of this regulation "responsible person" means any person who lawfully holds or has access to, and may lawfully disclose to the registration officer, any of the information in paragraph (5) [ $^{F153}$ or (5A)] in relation to the residents of a property to which paragraph (2) applies.

- **F100** Regs. 32ZA-32ZI inserted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(c), 22 (as amended by S.I. 2014/1234, regs. 1(1), 4)
- F101 Regs. 32ZBA-32ZBG inserted (31.12.2019) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/1451), regs. 1(3), 11
- F148 Words in reg. 32ZBF(4) omitted (22.1.2020) by virtue of The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 17(a)(i)
- **F149** Words in reg. 32ZBF(4) inserted (22.1.2020) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2. **17(a)(ii)**
- F150 Reg. 32ZBF(5A) inserted (22.1.2020) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 17(b)
- **F151** Words in reg. 32ZBF(6) inserted (22.1.2020) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 17(c)
- F152 Words in reg. 32ZBF(7) inserted (22.1.2020) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 17(c)

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F153 Words in reg. 32ZBF(8) inserted (22.1.2020) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 17(c)

## **Electoral Commission requirements**

**32ZBG.**—(1) The Electoral Commission must—

- (a) design the following—
  - (i) a paper canvass communication A;
  - (ii) a paper canvass form;
  - (iii) a paper canvass communication B;
- (b) obtain the approval of the [F154] Secretary of State] to the communications and the form; and
- (c) make the designs available to registration officers.
- (2) The Electoral Commission may design a version of each of the communications and the form referred to in paragraph (1)(a) for use in England and another version of each of them for use in Wales.
- (3) Before giving the approval referred to in paragraph (1)(b), in respect of any form or communication to be used in Wales, the [F155] Secretary of State] must consult the Welsh Ministers.
  - (4) The canvass communication A referred to in paragraph (1)(a)(i) must—
    - (a) include a space for the full name and nationality of each person who is registered F156... at the address to which the communication relates:
    - (b) include a space for the full name and nationality of each person whose application for registration at the address <sup>F157</sup>... under section 10ZC(1) or 10ZD(1) of the 1983 Act has been successfully determined where the date on which the applicant's name will be published in a notice of alteration under section 13A(2) of the 1983 Act is after the date on which the communication will be sent;
    - (c) where a person's personal data has been processed under regulation 32ZBB prior to the registration officer sending the communication, include a notification that such processing was carried out in accordance with any applicable requirements relating to the protection of personal data, and that any information provided in response to the communication will be processed in accordance with such requirements;
    - (d) require the occupier or, if there is no occupier, or it is not reasonably practicable for the occupier to provide the required information, the person in charge of the premises—
      - (i) to notify the registration officer responsible for the area in which the address is situated if any of the information provided in the communication is incomplete or inaccurate; and
      - (ii) to provide the registration officer with the full name and nationality of each person aged 16 or over who is eligible to be registered F158... and is residing at the address to which the communication relates, where that information is not included in the communication;
      - [ to provide the registration officer with the full name, date of birth and nationality F159(iii) of each person aged 14 or 15 who is eligible to be registered in a register of local government electors in Wales, and is residing at the address to which the communication relates, where that information is not included in the communication;]
    - (e) set out the manner in which the responses referred to in subparagraph (d) may be provided, and—

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- (i) require a named person at the address to which the communication relates to make a declaration that the information contained in such responses is true; and
- (ii) require an indication, if the person making the declaration is not resident at the address, of the capacity in which they are making it.
- (5) The canvass form referred to in paragraph (1)(a)(ii) must—
  - (a) require the recipient to provide the full name and nationality of each person aged 16 or over who is eligible to be registered <sup>F160</sup>... and is residing at the address to which the form is delivered;
  - (b) include a space for the full name and nationality of each person whose application for registration at the address <sup>F161</sup>... under section 10ZC(1) or 10ZD(1) of the 1983 Act has been successfully determined where the date on which the applicant's name will be published in a notice of alteration under section 13A(2) of the 1983 Act is after the date on which the canvass form will be sent;
  - (c) where a person's personal data has been processed prior to the registration officer sending the form, include a notification that such processing was carried out in accordance with any applicable requirements relating to the protection of personal data, and that any information provided in response to the form will be processed in accordance with such requirements;
  - (d) include space for the email address and telephone number or numbers of each person residing at the address who is entitled to be registered <sup>F162</sup>... together with an explanation that provision of this information is not mandatory;
  - (e) include a declaration that the information provided is true, to be made by a named person at the address to which the form is given and include an indication, if the person who is making the declaration is not resident at the address, of the capacity in which they are making it I<sup>F163</sup>:1
- [ require the recipient to provide the full name, date of birth and nationality of each person aged 14 or 15 who is eligible to be registered in a register of local government electors in Wales, and is residing at the address to which the form is given.]]

## **Textual Amendments**

- F100 Regs. 32ZA-32ZI inserted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(c), 22 (as amended by S.I. 2014/1234, regs. 1(1), 4)
- F101 Regs. 32ZBA-32ZBG inserted (31.12.2019) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/1451), regs. 1(3), 11
- F154 Words in reg. 32ZBG(1)(b) substituted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(11) (with art. 12)
- F155 Words in reg. 32ZBG(3) substituted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(11) (with art. 12)
- F156 Words in reg. 32ZBG(4)(a) omitted (22.1.2020) by virtue of The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 18(a)
- F157 Words in reg. 32ZBG(4)(b) omitted (22.1.2020) by virtue of The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 18(a)
- F158 Words in reg. 32ZBG(4)(d)(ii) omitted (22.1.2020) by virtue of The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 18(a)

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

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F159 Reg. 32ZBG(4)(d)(iii) inserted (22.1.2020) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 18(b)
F160 Words in reg. 32ZBG(5)(a) omitted (22.1.2020) by virtue of The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 18(c)
F161 Words in reg. 32ZBG(5)(b) omitted (22.1.2020) by virtue of The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 18(c)
F162 Words in reg. 32ZBG(5)(d) omitted (22.1.2020) by virtue of The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 18(c)
F163 Reg. 32ZBG(5)(e): semicolon substituted for full stop (22.1.2020) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 18(d)
F164 Reg. 32ZBG(5)(f) inserted (22.1.2020) by The Representation of the People (Annual Canvass) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/50), regs. 2, 18(e)
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## **Invitations to apply for registration**

- **32ZC.**—(1) The Electoral Commission must—
  - (a) design an invitation to apply for registration;
  - (b) obtain the approval of the [F165Secretary of State] to the invitation; and
  - (c) then make the invitation available to registration officers.
- <sup>F166</sup>(1A) Before giving the approval referred to in paragraph (1)(b), the [F167]Secretary of State] must consult the Welsh Ministers.]
  - (2) The invitation in paragraph (1) must include—
    - (a) the full name and address of the person to be invited;
    - (b) an explanation of how to make an application for registration; F168...
    - (c) a statement as to the circumstances in which a civil penalty may be imposed under section 9E of the 1983 Act, and the amount of the civil penalty; [F169] and [
  - [ the website address of the digital service.]

F170(d)

F171(2A) In relation to the registration of local government electors in Wales, where the person to be invited is under the age of 16, the invitation in paragraph (1) must also include an explanation of how the person's information will be held and used.]

(3) Where a registration officer is required by section 9E(1) of the 1983 Act to give a person an invitation to apply for registration—

[ the registration officer must give the invitation either—

- F172(Za) (i) by delivering it to the person, leaving it at the person's address or sending it to the person's address by post; or
  - (ii) by electronic means;]
  - (a) the registration officer must give the invitation as soon as reasonably practicable and in any event within 28 days of the conditions in section 9E(1) being satisfied;
  - (b) the invitation must be in the form designed by the Electoral Commission under paragraph (1);
  - (c) the invitation must be accompanied by an application form in the form designed by the Electoral Commission under regulation 26(3), on which the registration officer has, if practicable, printed the full name and address of the person to be invited; and

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- (d) the invitation, the application form and a pre-addressed reply envelope, return postage of which has been prepaid, must be given in an envelope on which is printed—
  - (i) a direction requesting that the envelope is not redirected if it is incorrectly addressed;
     and
  - (ii) a direction requesting that any other person who receives the envelope who is resident at the address to which the invitation is addressed inform the registration officer if the addressee is not resident at that address and the registration officer's contact details in order that they may do so.
- F173(3A) Paragraphs (3)(c) and (d) do not apply where the registration officer gives the invitation by electronic means in accordance with paragraph (3)(za)(ii).]

#### **Textual Amendments**

- **F100** Regs. 32ZA-32ZI inserted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(c), 22 (as amended by S.I. 2014/1234, regs. 1(1), 4)
- F165 Words in reg. 32ZC(1)(b) substituted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(12) (a) (with art. 12)
- **F166** Reg. 32ZC(1A) inserted (24.5.2018) by The Welsh Ministers (Transfer of Functions) Order 2018 (S.I. 2018/644), art. 1(1), Sch. 2 para. 3(6)
- F167 Words in reg. 32ZC(1A) substituted (8.12.2021) by The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 28(12) (b) (with art. 12)
- F168 Word in reg. 32ZC(2)(b) omitted (28.6.2016) by virtue of The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2016 (S.I. 2016/694), regs. 1, 8(a)(i)
- F169 Word in reg. 32ZC(2)(c) inserted (28.6.2016) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2016 (S.I. 2016/694), regs. 1, 8(a)(ii)
- F170 Reg. 32ZC(2)(d) inserted (28.6.2016) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2016 (S.I. 2016/694), regs. 1, 8(a)(iii)
- F171 Reg. 32ZC(2A) inserted (1.6.2020) by Senedd and Elections (Wales) Act 2020 (anaw 1), ss. 14(2), 42(3)(a)
- F172 Reg. 32ZC(3)(za) inserted (28.6.2016) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2016 (S.I. 2016/694), regs. 1, 8(b)
- **F173** Reg. 32ZC(3A) inserted (28.6.2016) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2016 (S.I. 2016/694), regs. 1, **8(c)**

# Steps to be taken by a registration officer to encourage a person to make an application for registration in response to an invitation to do so

- **32ZD.**—(1) If a registration officer has given a person an invitation to apply for registration under section 9E(1) of the 1983 Act and the person has not made an application to register within a reasonable time of receipt of the invitation, the registration officer must give the person a second invitation.
- (2) If no application is received in respect of the second invitation within a reasonable time of receipt of the second invitation, the registration officer must give the person a third invitation.
- (3) The registration officer may visit the address at which the first invitation was given in order to encourage the person to make an application for registration at any time and must make or have made one visit if no application has been received in response to the third invitation.

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

F174 (3A) In relation to the registration of local government electors in Wales, paragraph (3) does not require a registration officer to make, or have made, any visits in the case where the invitations were given to a person under the age of 16.]

- (4) The second and third invitations to apply for registration, if required, must be in the same form as the first invitation to apply for registration.
  - (5) Paragraphs (1) to (3) do not apply if the registration officer is satisfied that—
    - (a) the person is not entitled to be registered at the address at which the invitation or invitations to register was or were given; or
    - (b) the person is registered at a different address.
- (6) Paragraphs (1) to (3) do not apply in relation to a person whom the registration officer has reason to believe would, if registered, be registered—
  - (a) in pursuance of an application made by virtue of section 7(2) or 7A(2) of the 1983 Act;
  - (b) in pursuance of a declaration of local connection, service declaration or overseas elector's declaration; or
  - (c) with an anonymous entry.

#### **Textual Amendments**

F100 Regs. 32ZA-32ZI inserted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(c), 22 (as amended by S.I. 2014/1234, regs. 1(1), 4)

**F174** Reg. 32ZD(3A) inserted (1.6.2020) by Senedd and Elections (Wales) Act 2020 (anaw 1), **ss. 14(3)**, 42(3)(a)

# Requiring a person to make an application for registration

- **32ZE.**—(1) Where a registration officer requires a person to make an application for registration by a specified date under section 9E(4) of the 1983 Act, the registration officer must give the person notice in writing of the requirement.
  - (2) A registration officer may not require a person to apply for registration unless—
    - (a) the registration officer has taken the last of the steps required by regulation 32ZD;
    - (b) the registration officer has established that the person—
      - (i) has received an invitation to apply for registration;
      - (ii) has been informed how to make an application for registration; and
      - (iii) has been informed that the registration officer may impose a civil penalty if the person is required to make an application but does not do so; and
    - (c) the registration officer has established that the person is resident at the address at which the invitations to apply for registration were given.
  - (3) A notice under paragraph (1) must state—
    - (a) the date by which the person must make an application for registration;
    - (b) that, if the person does not make an application by that date, the registration officer may impose a civil penalty on that person;
    - (c) the amount of any such civil penalty and the rate of interest payable if the penalty is not paid on time;

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- (d) that, if the person is not entitled to be registered, they must, before the date in subparagraph (a), inform the registration officer of that fact and explain why they are not so entitled, and the person is not required to make an application for registration;
- (e) that, if the person is registered at another address, they must, before the date in subparagraph (a), inform the registration officer of that fact and provide that address, and the person is not required to make an application for registration;
- (f) that the person may make other representations before the date in sub-paragraph (a) as to why they should not be required to make an application to register by the specified date, or why a civil penalty should not be imposed if they do not do so.
- F175(3A) In relation to the registration of local government electors in Wales, the following provisions of this regulation do not apply in the case of a person who is under the age of 16—
  - (a) paragraphs (2)(b)(iii) and (3)(b) and (c);
  - (b) paragraph (3)(f), so far as requiring a notice to state that the person may make representations about why a civil penalty should not be imposed.]
- (4) The registration officer must give with the notice an application form in the form designed by the Electoral Commission under regulation 26(3) on which the registration officer has, if practicable, printed the full name and address of the person.
- (5) A registration officer must cancel a requirement to make an application for registration, and give the person concerned notice in writing of the cancellation, if—
  - (a) the registration officer is satisfied that the person is not entitled to be registered at the address at which the invitations to register were given; or
  - (b) the registration officer is satisfied that the person is registered at a different address; or
  - (c) any of the requirements in paragraph (2) has not been met.
- (6) A registration officer may cancel a requirement to make an application for registration if the registration officer considers it appropriate to do so and must give the person concerned notice in writing of the cancellation.

## **Textual Amendments**

**F100** Regs. 32ZA-32ZI inserted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(c), 22 (as amended by S.I. 2014/1234, regs. 1(1), 4)

**F175** Reg. 32ZE(3A) inserted (1.6.2020) by Senedd and Elections (Wales) Act 2020 (anaw 1), ss. 14(4), 42(3)(a)

# **Notice of Civil Penalty**

- **32ZF.**—(1) The amount of the civil penalty, which a registration officer may impose under section 9E(7) of the 1983 Act, is £80.
- (2) Where the registration officer imposes a civil penalty under that section, the registration officer must give the person notice in writing that the penalty has been imposed and specify the reasons for imposing it.
  - (3) The notice in paragraph (2) must state that the person must—
    - (a) within 28 days of the date of the notice, make an application to register;
    - (b) within 28 days of the date of the notice, pay the full amount of the civil penalty; or

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

- (c) within 14 days of the date of the notice, request a review of the decision to impose the civil penalty.
- (4) The notice in paragraph (2) must also state—
  - (a) the amount due;
  - (b) how to make payment;
  - (c) the rate of interest payable if the penalty is not paid on time; and
  - (d) that making an application to register within 28 days will prevent the person being liable to pay the civil penalty.

#### **Textual Amendments**

**F100** Regs. 32ZA-32ZI inserted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(c), 22 (as amended by S.I. 2014/1234, regs. 1(1), 4)

# Payment, enforcement and cancellation of civil penalty

- **32ZG.**—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), a person on whom a civil penalty is imposed under section 9E(7) of the 1983 Act must pay the amount of the penalty to the registration officer who imposed it within 28 days of the date of the notice given under regulation 32ZF(2).
- (2) If a person on whom a civil penalty is imposed requests a review under regulation 32ZH(1) or brings an appeal under regulation 32ZI(1), the 28 day period in paragraph (1) ceases to run whilst that review or appeal is being considered, and in the calculation of that period—
  - (a) the day on which the review is requested or the appeal brought shall be excluded; and
  - (b) the day on which the review or appeal is concluded shall be included.
- (3) If the person does not pay the civil penalty as required by paragraph (1) or (2), interest at 8% per annum will be charged from the date payment becomes overdue to the date of payment.
- (4) A civil penalty not paid in accordance with paragraph (1) or (2) and any interest on the civil penalty is recoverable, if the county court so orders on the application of the registration officer, as if it were payable under an order of that court.
- (5) A registration officer must cancel a civil penalty, and give the person concerned notice in writing of the cancellation, if—
  - (a) the person makes an application for registration at any time before the time for payment of the civil penalty in paragraph (1) or (2) has elapsed;
  - (b) the registration officer is satisfied that—
    - (i) the person is not entitled to be registered at the address at which the invitations to register were given; or
    - (ii) the person is registered at a different address; or
  - (c) any of the requirements in regulation 32ZE(2) has not been met.
- (6) A registration officer may cancel the civil penalty if the registration officer considers it appropriate to do so and must give the person concerned notice in writing of the cancellation.

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

#### **Textual Amendments**

F100 Regs. 32ZA-32ZI inserted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(c), 22 (as amended by S.I. 2014/1234, regs. 1(1), 4)

# Review of registration officer's decision to impose a civil penalty

- **32ZH.**—(1) A person on whom a civil penalty has been imposed may request a review of the registration officer's decision to impose the penalty.
- (2) A request under paragraph (1) must be made in writing within 14 days of the date of the notice given under regulation 32ZF(2).
- (3) Where a person requests a review of the registration officer's decision under paragraph (1), the registration officer must within 7 days of receiving the request give notice in writing to the person—
  - (a) acknowledging the request;
  - (b) informing the person that they may within 14 days of the date of the notice—
    - (i) make representations explaining why they have not made an application to register or why the civil penalty should be cancelled;
    - (ii) submit evidence in support of such representations; and
  - (c) explaining how such representations may be made and such evidence may be submitted.
- (4) The registration officer must carry out a review, and such review may not start before the earlier of—
  - (a) the end of the fourteenth day after the date of the notice sent under paragraph (3); or
  - (b) the receipt of any representations or evidence.
  - (5) Following a review under paragraph (4), the registration officer may—
    - (a) uphold the decision to issue a civil penalty; or
    - (b) cancel the civil penalty.
  - (6) The registration officer must inform the person in writing of the outcome of the review.
- (7) If the registration officer upholds the decision to impose a civil penalty, the notice must also state that the person on whom the penalty has been imposed—
  - (a) may appeal against that decision to the First-tier Tribunal, and how to make such an appeal; and
  - (b) must pay the penalty by a specified date, which shall be the date on which the 28 day period in regulation 32ZG(1) or (2) expires.

## **Textual Amendments**

**F100** Regs. 32ZA-32ZI inserted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(c), 22 (as amended by S.I. 2014/1234, regs. 1(1), 4)

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

# Appeals to the First-tier Tribunal against a notice of civil penalty

- 32ZI.—(1) If a registration officer upholds the decision to issue a civil penalty under regulation 32ZH(5)(a), the person on whom the penalty was imposed may appeal to the First-tier Tribunal.
  - (2) On an appeal under paragraph (1) the First-tier Tribunal may—
    - (a) uphold the registration officer's decision to impose the civil penalty; or
    - (b) cancel the civil penalty.]

#### **Textual Amendments**

F100 Regs. 32ZA-32ZI inserted (10.6.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(5)(c), 22 (as amended by S.I. 2014/1234, regs. 1(1), 4)

# [F176]Representations regarding clerical errors

- 32A.—(1) For the purposes of section 13B(3C) of the 1983 Act a representation may be made orally or in writing.
- (2) Where a representation is made in a polling station to a presiding officer, the presiding officer must as soon as practicable communicate that representation to the relevant registration officer.]

#### **Textual Amendments**

E177 . .

F176 Reg. 32A inserted (1.1.2007) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/2910), regs. 1(1), 24(4) (with reg. 1(2)(3)(a))

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

Reg. 32A applied (26.2.2016) by The European Union Referendum (Conduct) Regulations 2016 (S.I. 2016/219), reg. 1, Sch. 3 para. 2(e)

# Circumstances when the power in section 10A(5)(b) of the 1983 Act applies

| <b>33.</b>  |
|---|
|   |
|   |
|   |
| Textual Amendments  |
| F177 Reg. 33 omitted (1.1.2007) by virtue of The Representation of the People (England and Wales) |
| (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/2910), regs. 1(1), 14(1)                          |
| (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2000 (S.1. 2000/2910), Tegs. 1(1), 14(1)                          |
|   |
| Commencement Information  |
| I5 Reg. 33 in force at 16.2.2001, see reg. 1(1)   |

| Retaining | entries in | register |  |
|-----------|------------|----------|--|
| F17834.   |            |          |  |

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

#### **Textual Amendments**

**F178** Reg. 34 omitted (3.3.2015) by virtue of The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2015 (S.I. 2015/467), regs. 1, 7

# Registration officer's right to inspect certain records

- **35.**—(1) A registration officer is authorised to inspect, for the purpose of his registration duties, records kept (in whatever form) by—
  - (a) an authority listed in paragraph (2) below, or
  - (b) any person providing services to, or authorised to exercise any function of, any such authority.
  - (2) Those authorities are—
    - (a) the council by which he was appointed;
- [F179(aa) where the council by which he was appointed is a council for a district in a county for which there is a county council, that county council;] and
  - (b) [F180 any superintendent registrar of births, deaths and marriages, registrar of births and deaths or registrar of marriages].
  - (3) A registration officer is authorised to make copies of information contained in such records.
- [F181(4)] For the purposes of paragraph (1), a registration officer's "registration duties" do not include the officer's functions in relation to a relevant absent voting application.]

# **Textual Amendments**

- F179 Reg. 35(2)(aa) inserted (14.5.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 (S.I. 2014/1234), regs. 1(1), 2
- **F180** Words in reg. 35(2)(b) substituted (3.12.2015) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2015 (S.I. 2015/1971), regs. 1, **10**
- F181 Reg. 35(4) inserted (16.1.2024) by The Representation of the People (Overseas Electors etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1406), regs. 1(2), 5(18)

#### **Commencement Information**

**I6** Reg. 35 in force at 16.2.2001, see **reg. 1(1)** 

# [F182 Disclosure of certain local authorities' records

- **35A.**—(1) A local authority listed in paragraph (2) may disclose to a registration officer information contained in records held by that authority, for any of the purposes mentioned in paragraph 1A(1) of Schedule 2 to the 1983 Act [F183] except for the purpose of verifying information related to a person named in a relevant absent voting application].
  - (2) The authorities are—
    - (a) the authority by which the registration officer was appointed; and
    - (b) where the council by which the registration officer was appointed is a council for a district in a county for which there is a county council, that county council.

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

- (3) A disclosure under paragraph (1) may be made only in accordance with a written agreement between the authority and the registration officer regulating the processing of the information, including its transfer, storage, destruction and security.
- (4) Where an authority refuses a request by a registration officer to disclose information under paragraph (1) it must give the registration officer written reasons for its refusal.]

#### **Textual Amendments**

- **F182** Reg. 35A inserted (14.5.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 (S.I. 2014/1234), regs. 1(1), **3**
- **F183** Words in reg. 35A(1) inserted (16.1.2024) by The Representation of the People (Overseas Electors etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1406), regs. 1(2), **5(19)**

# Notices in connection with registration

- **36.**—(1) A notice under section 13(3) of the 1983 Act(6) must be published—
  - (a) not less than 14 days before the publication of the revised version of the register to which it relates;
  - (b) in a newspaper circulating in the area for which the registration officer acts, and
  - (c) by posting a copy of it at his office and in some conspicuous place or places in that area.
- (2) A notice under section 13A(2) [F184,13AB(2)][F185, ]13B(3) [F186, (3B) or (3D)][F187 or 13BC(3) or (6)] of that Act must be issued by—
  - I<sup>F188</sup>(a) making a copy of it available for inspection under supervision—
    - (i) at his office, and
    - (ii) at such places, if any, in his registration area as allow members of the public in that area reasonable facilities for that purpose;
      - (aa) supplying copies of it in accordance with Part VI of these Regulations;]
    - (b) except in a case falling within [F189 regulation 29(2BA), 31C and 31FZA] above, sending a copy of it to any person affected by its contents.
- [F190(3)] For the purposes of section 13B(3A) and (3C) of the 1983 Act the prescribed time on the day of the poll is 9pm.]
- [F191(4)] For the purposes of section 13BC(5)(a) of the 1983 Act (alteration of the registers: recall petition), the prescribed time is one hour before the end of the signing period (within the meaning of section 9(2) of the Recall of MPs Act 2015).]

## **Textual Amendments**

- **F184** Word in reg. 36(2) inserted (6.4.2014) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Description of Electoral Registers and Amendment) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/3198), regs. 1(4), 42; S.I. 2014/414, art. 3(b)
- **F185** Comma in reg. 36(2) substituted for word (4.3.2016) by The Recall of MPs Act 2015 (Recall Petition) Regulations 2016 (S.I. 2016/295), regs. 1, 152(2)(a)(i)
- **F186** Words in reg. 36(2) inserted (1.1.2007) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/2910), regs. 1(1), **25(2)** (with reg. 1(2)(3)(a))

Changes to legislation: The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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)

- **F187** Words in reg. 36(2) inserted (4.3.2016) by The Recall of MPs Act 2015 (Recall Petition) Regulations 2016 (S.I. 2016/295), regs. 1, **152(2)(a)(ii)**
- F188 Reg. 36(2)(a) substituted (16.10.2002) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2002 (S.I. 2002/1871), regs. 2(2), 9 (with reg. 2(3))
- **F189** Words in reg. 36(2)(b) substituted (3.12.2015) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2015 (S.I. 2015/1971), regs. 1, 11
- **F190** Reg. 36(3) inserted (1.1.2007) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/2910), regs. 1(1), 25(3) (with reg. 1(2)(3)(a))
- **F191** Reg. 36(4) inserted (4.3.2016) by The Recall of MPs Act 2015 (Recall Petition) Regulations 2016 (S.I. 2016/295), regs. 1, **152(2)(b)**

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

C10 Reg. 36(2)(b) excluded (7.5.2024) by S.I. 2023/1150, regs. 11(3), 12(5), 13(4), 20(3) (as inserted by The Representation of the People (Overseas Electors etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1406), regs. 1(4), 16)

#### **Commencement Information**

I7 Reg. 36 in force at 16.2.2001, see reg. 1(1)

# [F192 Communication of notices made on polling day

- **36A.**—(1) Where a notice is issued under section 13B(3B) or (3D) of the 1983 Act on the day of the poll, the registration officer must take reasonable steps to ensure that the notice comes to the attention of the relevant presiding officer.
  - (2) Such steps may include communicating the notice to the presiding officer by telephone.
- (3) Where a notice issued under section 13B(3B) or (3D) of the 1983 Act is communicated to a presiding officer by telephone, the presiding officer must make a written record of that notice.]

# **Textual Amendments**

F192 Reg. 36A inserted (1.1.2007) by The Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/2910), regs. 1(1), 26 (with reg. 1(2)(3)(a))

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

C11 Reg. 36A applied (26.2.2016) by The European Union Referendum (Conduct) Regulations 2016 (S.I. 2016/219), reg. 1, Sch. 3 para. 2(f)

# Notice by registration officer of a change of address

- **37.**—(1) This regulation applies where a registration officer receives an application for registration which includes a statement given in accordance with regulation 26(1)(c) above.
- (2) Where the address given in the statement received by the registration officer ("the new registration officer") is in an area for which another registration officer ("the former registration officer") acts, the new registration officer shall as soon as practicable notify the former registration officer that the applicant no longer resides in his area.

## **Commencement Information**

**18** Reg. 37 in force at 16.2.2001, see reg. 1(1)

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# **Status:**

Point in time view as at 21/05/2024.

# **Changes to legislation:**

The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001, Cross Heading: Determination of applications and objections is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 July 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.