

**Changes to legislation:** There are outstanding changes not yet made by the [legislation.gov.uk](https://www.legislation.gov.uk) editorial team to *The Representation of the People (Combination of Polls) (England and Wales) Regulations 2004*. Any changes that have already been made by the team appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Regulations)*

These Regulations apply to England and Wales. They revoke and replace the Representation of the People Regulations 1986.

The Representation of the People Regulations 1986 made provision relating to the combination of polls at parliamentary, European Parliamentary and local government elections in England and Wales. Provision for the combination of such polls is made in section 15 of the Representation of the People Act 1985 and section 36 of the Representation of the People Act 1983. The Regulations specified which returning officer would carry out specified functions that applied to each election where the polls were combined, and the polling stations that were to be used. They also made provision for the funding of returning officers carrying out such functions. The Regulations included modifications to the parliamentary election rules contained in Schedule 1 to the Representation of the People Act 1983 in the circumstances where a parliamentary election was combined with another election.

Regulations 4, 5 and 6 of these Regulations make similar provisions about the functions of returning officers and their funding, and the polling stations to be used where polls are combined. They also contain additional provision to take account of the possibility of the combination of more than two polls. In addition they include provision for the circumstances where the polls that are combined include a mayoral election or a referendum by virtue of regulations made under sections 44 and 105 or 45 and 105 of the Local Government Act 2000; namely the Local Authorities (Mayoral Elections) (England and Wales) Regulations 2002 and the Local Authorities (Conduct of Referendums) (England) Regulations 2001 respectively.

The Regulations also include, at Regulation 7 and Schedule 1, particular provisions relating to the European Parliamentary election, Greater London Authority election and other local government elections which are to be held on the same date as the European Parliamentary election in 2004. The Greater London Authority returning officer is to be the returning officer for the London European Parliamentary electoral region and he is to have a designated deputy to assist him. Provision is made for the elections to be administered by reference to local authority areas rather than parliamentary constituency areas. The issue and receipt of postal ballot papers is to be carried jointly. The Greater London Authority returning officer will be able to include information about the European Parliamentary election voting procedures in an election booklet. There is also provision for electronic counting of the votes at the European Parliamentary election if the Greater London Authority election is so counted.

Regulation 8 and Schedule 2 make provision for the combination of polls with the polls at a parliamentary election.

Regulation 9 and Schedule 3 make amendments to the forms of declaration of identity that are issued with postal ballot papers under the Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001 when polls are combined.

### Changes to legislation:

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### Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- sch 1 rev (1.1.2007) by [S.I. 2006/3278 reg 2](#)
- sch 2 am (1.1.2007) by [S.I. 2006/3278 reg 4](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 2 amendment to earlier affecting provision SI 2012/2031 Sch. 4 Pt. 2 para. 7 by [S.I. 2014/333 reg. 11](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 3(a) amendment to earlier affecting provision SI 2012/2031 Sch. 4 Pt. 2 para. 7 by [S.I. 2014/333 reg. 11](#)
- Sch. 2 applied (with modifications) by [S.I. 2012/444 Sch. 4 para. 1 Table 7](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 22 extended by [S.I. 2015/665 art. 2\(1\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 2 modification to earlier affecting provision SI 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 5 by [S.I. 2015/665 art. 2\(2\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 2 modified by [S.I. 2012/2031 reg. 81213Sch. 4 Pt. 2 para. 7\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 3(a) modified by [S.I. 2012/2031 reg. 81213Sch. 4 Pt. 2 para. 7\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 22 modified by [S.I. 2012/2031 reg. 81213Sch. 4 Pt. 2 para. 7\(2\)\(c\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 9 substituted by [S.I. 2014/920 reg. 3](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 28 substituted by [S.I. 2014/920 reg. 4](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 29 substituted by [S.I. 2014/920 reg. 5](#)
- Sch. 2 Appendix Form substituted by [S.I. 2022/1309 Sch. 1](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 28 form substituted by [S.I. 2022/1382 reg. 37\(d\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 19 word inserted by [S.I. 2022/1382 reg. 37\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 25 word omitted by [S.I. 2022/1382 reg. 37\(c\)\(i\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 28 words deleted by [S.I. 2007/1025 reg. 3](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 2 words inserted by [S.I. 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 9\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 2 words inserted by [S.I. 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 9\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 2 words inserted by [S.I. 2017/67 Sch. 4 para. 2\(6\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 2 words inserted by [S.I. 2017/67 Sch. 4 para. 2\(6\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 6 words inserted by [S.I. 2022/1382 reg. 37\(a\)\(ii\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 25 words inserted by [S.I. 2022/1382 reg. 37\(c\)\(ii\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 2 words inserted by [S.I. 2024/131 reg. 16\(6\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 2 words inserted by [S.I. 2024/131 reg. 16\(6\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 2 words omitted by [S.I. 2022/885 reg. 3\(5\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 2 words omitted by [S.I. 2022/885 reg. 3\(5\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 2 words substituted by [S.I. 2014/920 reg. 2\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 2 words substituted by [S.I. 2014/920 reg. 2\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 3(a) words substituted by [S.I. 2014/920 reg. 2\(3\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 22 words substituted by [S.I. 2014/920 reg. 2\(7\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 22 words substituted by [S.I. 2015/654 reg. 2](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 6 words substituted by [S.I. 2022/1382 reg. 37\(a\)\(i\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 9 words substituted by [S.I. 2023/1225 reg. 4](#)
- sch 3 rev (1.1.2007) by [S.I. 2006/3278 reg 2](#)
- Regulations savings for effects of SI 2014/920 regs. 2-6 by [S.I. 2014/921 art. 3](#)
- reg. 2 amendment to earlier affecting provision SI 2012/2031 Sch. 4 Pt. 2 para. 2 by [S.I. 2014/333 reg. 11](#)
- reg. 2 applied (with modifications) by [S.I. 2012/444 Sch. 4 para. 1 Table 7](#)
- reg. 2 modification to earlier affecting provision SI 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 2 by [S.I. 2015/665 art. 2\(2\)](#)
- reg. 2 modified by [S.I. 2012/2031 reg. 81213Sch. 4 Pt. 2 para. 2](#)
- reg. 2 words inserted by [S.I. 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 2\(4\)\(a\)](#)
- reg. 2 words inserted by [S.I. 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 2\(4\)\(b\)](#)
- reg. 2 words inserted by [S.I. 2017/67 Sch. 4 para. 2\(2\)\(a\)](#)

- reg. 2 words inserted by S.I. 2017/67 Sch. 4 para. 2(2)(b)
- reg. 2(1) words inserted by S.I. 2024/131 reg. 16(2)(a)
- reg. 2(1) words inserted by S.I. 2024/131 reg. 16(2)(b)
- reg. 2(1) words omitted by S.I. 2022/885 reg. 3(2)
- reg. 2(1) words substituted by S.I. 2014/920 reg. 2(2)(a)
- reg. 2(1) words substituted by S.I. 2014/920 reg. 2(2)(b)
- reg. 2(2) words substituted by S.I. 2014/920 reg. 2(3)
- reg. 4 applied (with modifications) by S.I. 2012/444 Sch. 4 para. 1 Table 7
- reg. 4 excluded by 2011 c. 1 Sch. 5 para. 3(3)
- reg. 4 excluded by 2011 c. 1 Sch. 5 para. 16
- reg. 4 modification to earlier affecting provision SI 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 5 by S.I. 2015/665 art. 2(2)
- reg. 4(1)(a) words omitted by S.I. 2022/885 reg. 3(3)(a)
- reg. 4(1)(a) words substituted by S.I. 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 5(2)
- reg. 4(1)(a) words substituted by S.I. 2017/67 Sch. 4 para. 2(3)(a)
- reg. 4(1)(a) words substituted by S.I. 2024/131 reg. 16(3)(a)
- reg. 4(2)(a) words omitted by S.I. 2022/885 reg. 3(3)(a)
- reg. 4(2)(a) words substituted by S.I. 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 5(2)
- reg. 4(2)(a) words substituted by S.I. 2017/67 Sch. 4 para. 2(3)(a)
- reg. 4(2)(a) words substituted by S.I. 2024/131 reg. 16(3)(a)
- reg. 4(3)(a) words omitted by S.I. 2022/885 reg. 3(3)(a)
- reg. 4(3)(a) words substituted by S.I. 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 5(2)
- reg. 4(3)(a) words substituted by S.I. 2017/67 Sch. 4 para. 2(3)(a)
- reg. 4(3)(a) words substituted by S.I. 2024/131 reg. 16(3)(a)
- reg. 4(4)(a) words omitted by S.I. 2022/885 reg. 3(3)(a)
- reg. 4(4)(a) words substituted by S.I. 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 5(2)
- reg. 4(4)(a) words substituted by S.I. 2017/67 Sch. 4 para. 2(3)(a)
- reg. 4(4)(a) words substituted by S.I. 2024/131 reg. 16(3)(a)
- reg. 4(5)(a) words omitted by S.I. 2022/885 reg. 3(3)(a)
- reg. 4(5)(a) words substituted by S.I. 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 5(3)
- reg. 4(5)(a) words substituted by S.I. 2017/67 Sch. 4 para. 2(3)(a)
- reg. 4(5)(a) words substituted by S.I. 2024/131 reg. 16(3)(a)
- reg. 4(6)(a) words omitted by S.I. 2022/885 reg. 3(3)(a)
- reg. 4(6)(a) words substituted by S.I. 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 5(3)
- reg. 4(6)(a) words substituted by S.I. 2017/67 Sch. 4 para. 2(3)(a)
- reg. 4(6)(a) words substituted by S.I. 2024/131 reg. 16(3)(a)
- reg. 4(7) substituted by S.I. 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 5(4)
- reg. 4(7)(a) words omitted by S.I. 2022/885 reg. 3(3)(a)
- reg. 4(7)(a) words substituted by S.I. 2017/67 Sch. 4 para. 2(3)(a)
- reg. 4(7)(a) words substituted by S.I. 2024/131 reg. 16(3)(a)
- reg. 4(8) modified by S.I. 2012/2031 reg. 81213Sch. 4 Pt. 2 para. 3
- reg. 4(8) words substituted by S.I. 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 5(6)
- reg. 4(8)(a) words omitted by S.I. 2022/885 reg. 3(3)(c)
- reg. 4(9) word substituted by S.I. 2022/885 reg. 3(3)(d)
- reg. 4(9) words substituted by S.I. 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 5(7)
- reg. 4(9) words substituted by S.I. 2017/67 Sch. 4 para. 2(3)(c)(i)
- reg. 4(9)(a) words inserted by S.I. 2017/67 Sch. 4 para. 2(3)(c)(ii)
- reg. 4(9)(a) words substituted by S.I. 2024/131 reg. 16(3)(b)
- reg. 4(10) words inserted by 2021 asc 1 Sch. 2 para. 17(2)(b)
- reg. 4(10) words inserted by S.I. 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 5(8)(a)
- reg. 4(10) words inserted by S.I. 2017/67 Sch. 4 para. 2(3)(e)
- reg. 4(10) words inserted by S.I. 2024/131 reg. 16(3)(c)(i)
- reg. 4(10) words inserted by S.I. 2024/131 reg. 16(3)(c)(ii)
- reg. 4(10) words omitted by 2021 asc 1 Sch. 2 para. 17(2)(a)
- reg. 4(10) words substituted by S.I. 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 5(8)(b)
- reg. 4(10) words substituted by S.I. 2014/920 reg. 2(4)
- reg. 4(11)(a) omitted by S.I. 2022/885 reg. 3(3)(e)
- reg 5 am (1.1.2007) by S.I. 2006/3278 reg 3

- reg. 5 applied (with modifications) by S.I. 2012/444 Sch. 4 para. 1 Table 7
- reg. 5 modification to earlier affecting provision SI 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 5 by S.I. 2015/665 art. 2(2)
- reg. 5 modified by 2011 c. 1 Sch. 5 para. 3(1)(2)
- reg. 5 modified by 2011 c. 1 Sch. 5 para. 3(2)
- reg. 5 modified by S.I. 2012/2031 reg. 81213 Sch. 4 Pt. 2 para. 4
- reg. 5(1)(b) omitted by S.I. 2022/885 reg. 3(4)
- reg. 5(1)(c) words inserted by 2021 asc 1 Sch. 2 para. 17(3)(a)
- reg. 5(1)(d) words inserted by S.I. 2014/920 reg. 2(5)(a)
- reg. 5(1)(e) word substituted by S.I. 2014/920 reg. 2(5)(b)
- reg. 5(3)(a) omitted by S.I. 2022/885 reg. 3(4)
- reg. 5(3)(a) word omitted by S.I. 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 6(3)(a)
- reg. 5(3)(b) word omitted by S.I. 2017/67 Sch. 4 para. 2(4)(b)(i)
- reg. 5(3)(b) words substituted by S.I. 2014/920 reg. 2(5)(c)
- reg. 6 applied (with modifications) by S.I. 2012/444 Sch. 4 para. 1 Table 7
- reg. 6 modification to earlier affecting provision SI 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 5 by S.I. 2015/665 art. 2(2)
- reg. 6 modified by S.I. 2012/2031 reg. 81213 Sch. 4 Pt. 2 para. 5
- reg. 6(1)(c) words inserted by 2021 asc 1 Sch. 2 para. 17(4)(a)(i)
- reg. 6(1)(c) words inserted by 2021 asc 1 Sch. 2 para. 17(4)(a)(iii)
- reg. 6(1)(c) words inserted by 2021 asc 1 Sch. 2 para. 17(4)(a)(iv)
- reg. 6(1)(c) words omitted by 2021 asc 1 Sch. 2 para. 17(4)(a)(ii)
- reg. 6(2) words inserted by 2021 asc 1 Sch. 2 para. 17(4)(b)
- reg. 6(4) word omitted by 2021 asc 1 Sch. 2 para. 17(4)(c)(i)
- reg. 6(4) words inserted by 2021 asc 1 Sch. 2 para. 17(4)(c)(ii)
- reg. 6(4) words substituted by S.I. 2022/263 Sch. 4 para. 2
- reg. 6(5)(a) omitted by S.I. 2022/885 reg. 3(4)
- reg. 6(5)(a) word omitted by S.I. 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 7(a)
- reg. 6(5)(b) words substituted by S.I. 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 7(c)
- reg 7 rev (1.1.2007) by S.I. 2006/3278 reg 2
- reg. 8 applied (with modifications) by S.I. 2012/444 Sch. 4 para. 1 Table 7
- reg. 8 modification to earlier affecting provision SI 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 5 by S.I. 2015/665 art. 2(2)
- reg. 8 modified by S.I. 2012/2031 reg. 81213 Sch. 4 Pt. 2 para. 6
- reg. 8(1)(b) words substituted by S.I. 2014/920 reg. 2(6)
- reg 9 rev (1.1.2007) by S.I. 2006/3278 reg 2

**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Instrument associated Parts and Chapters:**

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Instrument (including any effects on those provisions):

- Sch. 2 para. 29(1) Sch. 2 para. 29 renumbered as Sch. 2 para. 29(1) by S.I. 2022/1309 reg. 5(2)(a)
- Sch. 2 para. 24A extended by S.I. 2015/665 art. 2(1)
- Sch. 2 para. 24A inserted by S.I. 2015/654 reg. 3
- Sch. 2 para. 29(2) inserted by S.I. 2022/1309 reg. 5(2)(c)
- Sch. 2 para. 12(2)(aa)(ab) inserted by S.I. 2023/1147 reg. 13
- Sch. 2 para. 29(1) words substituted by S.I. 2022/1309 reg. 5(2)(b)
- Sch. 2 Appendix inserted by S.I. 2014/920 reg. 6 Sch.
- reg. 4(7A) inserted by S.I. 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 5(5)
- reg. 4(7A) omitted by S.I. 2022/885 reg. 3(3)(b)
- reg. 4(7B) inserted by S.I. 2017/67 Sch. 4 para. 2(3)(b)
- reg. 4(7B) omitted by S.I. 2022/885 reg. 3(3)(b)
- reg. 4(10)(d) words inserted by S.I. 2017/67 Sch. 4 para. 2(3)(d)
- reg. 4(11)(c) inserted by S.I. 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 5(9)
- reg. 4(11)(d) inserted by S.I. 2017/67 Sch. 4 para. 2(3)(f)

- reg. 4(11)(e) inserted by S.I. 2024/131 reg. 16(3)(d)
- reg. 5(1)(f) inserted by S.I. 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 6(2)
- reg. 5(1)(g) inserted by S.I. 2017/67 Sch. 4 para. 2(4)(a)
- reg. 5(1)(h) inserted by S.I. 2024/131 reg. 16(4)(a)
- reg. 5(1)(ca) inserted by 2021 asc 1 Sch. 2 para. 17(3)(b)
- reg. 5(3)(c) and word inserted by S.I. 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 6(3)(b)
- reg. 5(3)(c) word omitted by S.I. 2024/131 reg. 16(4)(b)(i)
- reg. 5(3)(d) and word inserted by S.I. 2017/67 Sch. 4 para. 2(4)(b)(ii)
- reg. 5(3)(e) and word inserted by S.I. 2024/131 reg. 16(4)(b)(ii)
- reg. 6(5)(ab) inserted by S.I. 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 7(b)
- reg. 8(a) word omitted by S.I. 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 8(a)
- reg. 8(c) and word inserted by S.I. 2012/1917 Sch. 4 para. 8(b)
- reg. 8(c) words substituted by S.I. 2017/67 Sch. 4 para. 2(5)
- reg. 8(1)(c) words substituted by S.I. 2024/131 reg. 16(5)