

SCHEDULE 2

SCOTTISH PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION RULES

PART III

CONTESTED ELECTIONS

The Poll

Procedure on close of poll

53.—(1) As soon as practicable after the close of the poll, the presiding officer shall, in the presence of the polling agents, using his own seal and the seals of such polling agents as desire to affix their seals, seal each ballot box in use at the station so as to prevent the introduction of additional ballot papers. He shall then make up into separate packets, sealed with his own seal and the seals of such polling agents as desire to affix their seals—

- (a) the unused and spoilt ballot papers placed together;
- (b) the tendered ballot papers;
- (c) the lists prepared under rule 29, including the parts which were completed in accordance with rule 46(2)(b) (together referred to in these rules as “the completed corresponding number lists”);
- (d) the certificates as to employment on duty on the day of the poll;
- (e) the marked copies of the register of electors (including any marked copy notices issued under section 13B(3B) or (3D) of the 1983 Act) and of the list of proxies;
- (f) the tendered votes list, the list of voters with disabilities assisted by companions, the list of votes marked by the presiding officer, a statement of the number of voters whose votes are so marked by the presiding officer under the heads ‘disability’ and ‘unable to read’, the list maintained under rule 51, and the declarations made by the companions of voters with disabilities;
- (g) the postal ballot papers and postal voting statements which have been returned by hand to the polling station (unless previously collected in accordance with paragraph 17(3) of Schedule 4),

and shall deliver the sealed ballot boxes and the packets, or cause them to be delivered, to the constituency returning officer to be taken charge of by him; but if the boxes and packets are not delivered by the presiding officer personally to the constituency returning officer, the arrangements for their delivery shall require the constituency returning officer’s approval.

(2) The marked copies of the register of electors and of the list of proxies shall be in one packet but shall not be in the same packet as the completed corresponding number lists or the certificates as to employment on duty on the day of the poll.

(3) The packets shall be accompanied by a statement (in these Rules referred to as “the ballot paper account”) made by the presiding officer showing the number of ballot papers entrusted to him, and accounting for them under the heads of ballot papers issued and not otherwise accounted for, unused, spoilt and tendered ballot papers; and if at a Scottish parliamentary general election the constituency ballot paper and regional ballot paper are not printed on the same sheet, a separate ballot paper account shall be made for the constituency ballot papers and the regional ballot papers.