

SCHEDULE 4

ISSUE AND RECEIPT OF POSTAL BALLOT PAPERS

Receipt of postal ballot papers

Checking of lists kept under paragraph 23

24.—(1) Where the constituency returning officer receives a valid postal voting statement without the postal ballot paper (or papers or, as the case may be, all of the papers) to which it relates, he shall from time to time prior to the close of the poll, check the list kept under paragraph 23(2) to see whether the number (or numbers) of a postal ballot paper to which the statement relates is (or are) entered in that list.

(2) Where the constituency returning officer receives a postal ballot paper without the postal voting statement relating to it, he may, at any time prior to the close of the poll, check the list kept under paragraph 23(3) to see whether the number of that ballot paper is entered in that list.

(3) The constituency returning officer shall conduct the checks described in sub paragraphs (1) and (2) as soon as practicable after the receipt of packets from every polling station in the constituency or, as the case may be, electoral area under rule 53 of the Scottish Parliamentary Election Rules.

(4) Where the ballot paper number in the list matches the number of a valid postal voting statement or, as the case may be, a postal ballot paper, the constituency returning officer shall retrieve the relevant statement or paper.

(5) The constituency returning officer shall then take the appropriate steps under this Schedule as though any document earlier marked “provisionally rejected” had not been so marked and shall amend the document accordingly.