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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

These Regulations amend the Representation of the People (Scotland) Regulations 2001 ([S.I. 2001/497](#)) (“2001 Regulations”), making changes to the system of individual electoral registration. Broadly they make the equivalent amendments in Scotland as were made in respect of England and Wales by the Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2016 ([S.I. 2016/694](#)).

Regulation 3 amends regulation 3(3A) of the 2001 Regulations, and regulation 8 amends regulation 32ZC of the 2001 Regulations, to enable invitations to register to be sent by email (or otherwise by electronic means). Regulations 9, 10 and 11 make consequential amendments to regulations 32ZD, 32ZE and 32ZG of the 2001 Regulations to reflect this.

Regulation 4 amends regulation 26 of the 2001 Regulations and requires the form for an application for registration to include space for an applicant to indicate whether they are the only person aged 14 or over resident at the address. Where they do, by virtue of regulation 6, which amends regulation 32ZA of the 2001 Regulations, a registration officer is not required to send an annual canvass form to that address, if the application form is received in the period of the canvass, during that canvass, or if it is received outside that period, during the following canvass. Regulation 7 makes a corresponding amendment to regulation 32ZB of the 2001 Regulations in respect of any follow-up action that would normally be required where a response to a canvass form is not received.

Regulation 5 amends the attestation requirements in regulation 26B of the 2001 Regulations. A person signing an attestation is no longer required to be registered in the same local authority area as the applicant. Instead they may be registered in any local authority area in Scotland.

Regulation 12 corrects a statutory reference in regulation 60B of the 2001 Regulations.

An impact assessment has not been prepared for this instrument as no impact on the voluntary or private sectors is foreseen. An impact assessment in respect of the individual registration scheme published in 2013 is available on gov.uk at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/individual-electoral-registration-impact-assessment> or from the Modern Registration Division, Constitution Group, Cabinet Office, 1 Horse Guards Road, London, SW1A 2HQ.