

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally made). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.

Schedules

Schedule 7

Regulation 13(8)(b)

Assembly elections: form of declaration of identity (combined polls)

Front of Declaration

(for use when an Assembly poll is combined with another poll)

Declaration of Identity	[Space for barcode]
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Northern Ireland Assembly Election for [insert name of constituency]
Date of election [day] [date] [month] [year]

To be returned with the [insert colour of ballot paper] coloured ballot paper.

Important – you must fill in and return this declaration of identity with your completed ballot paper for it to be counted. Please read the instructions on the back of this form carefully and use a black pen.

*Name _____ Ballot paper number _____

* Returning Officer to omit name where sent to an anonymous elector

(!) Check that the number on the back of your ballot paper matches the number shown above. If these do not match, call us **immediately** on (insert helpline number).

I am the person the ballot paper numbered above was sent to.

My Date of Birth is:

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Day		Month		Year	

***My Signature is:**

*Returning Officer to omit where elector has been granted a waiver.

We will check this information against our records for security.

It is an offence to vote using a ballot paper that was not sent for your use or interfere with another voter's ballot paper. It is an offence to vote more than once at the same election (unless you are appointed as a proxy).

The voter has signed this declaration in my presence.

Witness signature _____

The witness must be aged 18 or over and satisfied to the best of their knowledge and belief as to the identity of the voter.

Please turn over

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Back of declaration



Instructions for voting by post

Please read through carefully. If you need help, please call us on [insert helpline number].

1. For your vote to be counted, you must fill in this declaration of identity, in the presence of a witness, and return it with your ballot paper for the **Assembly election**. You must do this even if you have already signed a similar declaration of identity for another election to be held on the same day.
2. Make sure you have filled in all the information on this declaration of identity, including the date of birth *[and signature] box and that your witness has signed it. **Returning Officer to indicate where the elector has been granted a waiver and that a signature is not required.*
3. On the ballot paper number the candidates in order of preference, putting:
 "1" against your first choice.
 "2" against your second choice, and so on.
4. You should not put the same number against more than one candidate.
5. You may number as many or as few candidates as you wish
6. Put the ballot paper in the smaller envelope marked "A" and seal it. Then put the envelope marked "A", together with this declaration of identity, in the larger envelope marked "B".
7. We must receive your postal vote in the envelope provided by **10pm on [day] [date of poll]**.
8. If you miss the post, you can hand in your postal vote and/or the postal vote for up to 5 others (including any others for whom you are voting for as proxy) to a person authorised to receive postal votes at the Electoral Office.
9. If you hand in this postal vote and declaration of identity at the Electoral Office you will need to complete a form for them to be accepted.
10. If you are a political campaigner - you can only hand in your own postal vote plus the votes of up to 5 family members or people for whom you provide regular care (including any such persons for whom you are voting as proxy).
11. Do not put any postal votes in the letter box of the Electoral Office as they will not be counted.
12. If you would rather vote in person at a polling station or ask someone else to vote on your behalf (if you are not already an appointed proxy) you must cancel your postal vote before 5pm on [day/date of deadline]. If you decide to cancel and vote in person, you will need to bring a form of accepted photographic identification. If a person is voting on your behalf as proxy they need to bring their own identification.
13. Once you have handed in your postal vote for this election, it cannot be cancelled.



Getting Help

- If you need help to vote, you can ask someone you know or get independent advice by calling the helpline. The person helping you must not tell anyone how you voted.
- Please call the helpline if you need information in another format or language.
- If you make a mistake on your ballot paper you can get a replacement. You must call us immediately. **We can only issue a replacement before 5pm on [day] [date] [month] if you return all of your postal voting documents to be cancelled before that time.**

Electoral fraud is a crime. Whether you vote in person at a polling station or using a postal vote, it is an offence for someone to try to find out who you are voting for while you are about to mark, are marking or have just marked your ballot paper, or to then reveal that information.

[Insert helpline and other contact details including website]

Electoral fraud is a crime. Issued by the Chief Electoral Officer.