STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2004 No. 1056

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE

The European Parliamentary Elections (Returning Officers) Order 2004

Made - - - -	*14th March 2004*
Coming into force - -	*in accordance with article 1*

The Secretary of State, in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by section 6(2)(b) and (3)(b) of the European Parliamentary Elections Act 2002(**a**), after consultation with the Electoral Commission in accordance with section 7(2)(b) of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000(**b**), hereby makes the following Order:

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the European Parliamentary Elections (Returning Officers) Order 2004 and shall come into force on the day after that on which it is made.

(2) In this Order a reference to an electoral region or a constituency is a reference to that region or constituency as it is for the time being.

Revocation

2. The European Parliamentary Elections (Returning Officers) Order 2003(**c**) is hereby revoked.

Returning Officers in England (including the combined region)

3. The returning officer at a European Parliamentary election for the electoral region in England (including the combined region(**d**)) specified in the left-hand column of the Schedule to this Order shall be the person who is the acting returning officer at a parliamentary election for the constituency specified in the right hand-hand column of the Schedule.

Returning Officer for Scotland

4. The returning officer at a European Parliamentary election for the electoral region of Scotland shall be the person who is the returning officer at a parliamentary election for the Edinburgh South constituency.

(**a**) 2002 c.24; section 6(2) was amended by section 20(2) of the European Parliament (Representation) Act 2003 (c.7).
(**b**) 2000 c. 41.
(**c**) S.I. 2003/3362.
(**d**) By virtue of the European Parliamentary Elections (Combined Region and Campaign Expenditure) (United Kingdom and Gibraltar) Order 2004, the South West electoral region was combined with Gibraltar to form the combined region.

Returning Officer for Wales

5. The returning officer at a European Parliamentary election for the electoral region of Wales shall be the person who is the acting returning officer at a parliamentary election for the Preseli Pembrokeshire constituency.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Constitutional Affairs

Christopher Leslie
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Department for Constitutional Affairs

14th March 2004

SCHEDULE

Article 3

RETURNING OFFICERS FOR ELECTORAL REGIONS IN ENGLAND (INCLUDING THE COMBINED REGION)

Name of electoral region	*Name of constituency*
East Midlands	Northampton North
Eastern	Huntingdon
North East	Sunderland North
North West	Manchester Central
South East	Henley
South West	Poole
West Midlands	Birmingham Edgbaston
Yorkshire and Humber	Leeds Central

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order revokes and replaces the previous Order, the European Parliamentary Elections (Returning Officers) Order 2003, which appointed returning officers for the electoral regions in England, Wales and Scotland. The main difference between this Order and the previous Order is that this Order extends to Gibraltar and expressly clarifies that the returning officer for the South West region is the person who was the returning officer for that region before it was combined with Gibraltar under the European Parliamentary Elections (Combined Region and Campaign Expenditure) (United Kingdom and Gibraltar) Order 2004. Article 3 of, and the Schedule to, the Order designate returning officers at European Parliamentary elections for electoral regions in England (including the combined region), other than London. The returning officer for London is to be appointed separately. Articles 4 and 5 designate the returning officer for such elections for the electoral regions of Scotland and Wales. Article 5 includes a minor correction for article 5 of the previous Order.

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