STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1987 No. 262

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE

The Parish and Community Meetings (Polls) (Amendment) Rules 1987

Made - - - -	*25th February 1987*
Laid before Parliament	*4th March 1987*
Coming into force	*11th March 1987*

In exercise of the powers conferred upon me by paragraph 18(5) of Part III of, and paragraph 34(5) of Part V of, Schedule 12 to the Local Government Act 1972(**a**), I hereby make the following Rules:

1.—(1) These Rules may be cited as the Parish and Community Meetings (Polls) (Amendment) Rules 1987.

(2) These Rules do not extend to Scotland or Northern Ireland.

(3) These Rules shall come into force on the fourteenth day after the day on which they were made, except for the purposes of a poll consequent on a parish or community meeting which has been demanded before that fourteenth day.

2.—(1) The rules in the Schedule to the Parish and Community Meetings (Polls) Rules 1987(**b**) shall be amended in accordance with the following paragraphs.

(2) In rule 11(5) (notices in polling stations) for the words "Vote for . . . . . candidate(s) only" there shall be substituted the words "[Vote for no more than . . . . . candidates] [Vote for one candidate only]".

(3) In the Appendix of forms, in the form of the front of the ballot paper on a question of appointment to an office for the words "VOTE FOR . . . CANDIDATE(S) ONLY" there shall be substituted the words "VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN . . . CANDIDATES".

(4) In the Appendix of forms, in the directions as to printing the ballot paper on a question of appointment to an office, for paragraph 2(a) there shall be substituted:

"(a) no word shall be printed on the face except the direction "VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN . . . . . CANDIDATES" or, where only one candidate is to be elected, "VOTE FOR ONE CANDIDATE ONLY" and the particulars of the candidates;".

(5) In the Appendix of forms, in the form of directions for the guidance of the voters in voting where the poll is on a question of appointment to an office, for the word "Vote for . . . . . candidate(s) only." in paragraph 4, there shall be substituted "[Vote for no more than . . . . . candidates.] [Vote for one candidate only.]".

(**a**) 1972 c. 70; those paragraphs were amended by paragraph 14 of Schedule 8 to the Representation of the People Act 1983 (c. 2).
(**b**) S.I. 1987/1.

Home Office
25th February 1987

Douglas Hurd
One of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Rules)

These Rules amend the Parish and Community Meetings (Polls) Rules 1987 to remove a possible ambiguity from the directions to voters as to the number of candidates for whom they may vote where the poll is on a question of appointment to an office. The original direction was "Vote for . . . . . candidate(s) only"; (the blank space being filled according to the number of vacancies to be filled). The direction was intended to indicate the maximum number of candidates for whom a voter could vote. However, a voter could also construe the direction as indicating the minimum number of candidates for whom he could vote. The substituted direction for use where more than one vacancy is to be filled ("Vote for no more than . . . . . candidates") removes this ambiguity.