STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1983 No. 606

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE

The Parliamentary Writs (Northern Ireland) Order 1983

Laid before Parliament in draft

Made - - - - -	20*th April* 1983
Coming into Operation	20*th April* 1983

At the Court at Windsor Castle, the 20th day of April 1983

Present,

The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council

Whereas a draft of this Order has been laid before Parliament for forty days (computed in accordance with section 7(1) of the Statutory Instruments Act 1946**(a)**) and neither House of Parliament has resolved that the instrument be not submitted to Her Majesty;

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, in exercise of the powers conferred upon Her by rule 3 of the parliamentary elections rules in Schedule 1 to the Representation of the People Act 1983**(b)**, is pleased, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, as follows:—

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Parliamentary Writs (Northern Ireland) Order 1983 and shall come into operation forthwith.

(2) This Order shall extend only to Northern Ireland.

2.—(1) As soon as may be after the issue of the writ for a parliamentary election, the Clerk of the Crown for Northern Ireland shall cause a package containing the writ and the other items set out in paragraph (2) below to be conveyed by a messenger appointed by the Secretary of State to the Chief Electoral Officer for Northern Ireland (who is the returning officer for each constituency in Northern Ireland) at the address given by that Officer to the Clerk of the Crown for Northern Ireland and recorded by him.

(a) 1946 c. 36.

(b) 1983 c. 2.

(2) The package referred to in paragraph (1) above shall contain, in addition to the writ—

(*a*) a cover to be used for the return of the writ, and

(*b*) a form of receipt for the writ to be signed by the person to whom it is delivered.

3.—(1) The messenger referred to in Article 2 above shall deliver the writ as required by that Article; but delivery of the writ to a person found in and for the time being in charge of the place which is recorded as being the address of the office of the Chief Electoral Officer shall be as good as delivery to that Officer.

(2) The person to whom the writ is delivered in accordance with paragraph (1) above shall sign the receipt referred to in Article 2(2)(*b*) above and shall hand it to the messenger who delivered the writ.

(3) That messenger shall as soon as practicable deliver the receipt to the Clerk of the Crown for Northern Ireland.

4. The Parliamentary Writs (Northern Ireland) Order 1944**(a)** is hereby revoked.

N. E. Leigh,
Clerk of the Privy Council.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(*This Note is not part of the Order.*)

This Order makes fresh provision for the manner in which writs for parliamentary elections in Northern Ireland are to be conveyed to the returning officer for those elections. Under section 26 of the Representation of the People Act 1983, the Chief Electoral Officer for Northern Ireland is the returning officer for each constituency in Northern Ireland. Articles 2 and 3 provide that the writ is to be conveyed by a messenger appointed by the Secretary of State and delivered to the Chief Electoral Officer or to a person found in and for the time being in charge of the place recorded as being the office of that Officer.

(a) S.R. & O. 1944/750.

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