Executive Note

The Representation of the People (Postal Voting for Local Government Elections) (Scotland) Regulations 2007 (S.S.I 2007/263)

The above instrument is laid in exercise of the powers conferred by section **51(3)(c) of and Schedule 2** to the **Representation of the People Act 1983**. The instrument is subject to affirmative resolution procedure.

Policy Objectives

The purpose of the instrument is to provide for revised procedures on the issue and receipt of postal ballot papers for local government elections and revoke and replace the Scottish Local Government elections regulations 2002 ("the 2002 regulations"). The rules differ from the 2002 regulations by introducing changes to the procedures for postal voting introduced by the Representation of the People (Scotland) Regulations 2006 made in March 2006 for Scottish Parliamentary elections and changes being introduced for postal voting at other UK elections as a result of the Electoral Administration Act 2006.

Consultation

The following bodies have been consulted on a draft of the instrument:

Association of Electoral Administrators
Convention of Scottish Local Authorities
Society of Local Authority Lawyers and Administrators
Society of Local Authority Chief Executives and Senior Managers
The Electoral Commission
The Scotland Office

Financial Effects

Local authorities are responsible for meeting the cost of local government elections from within their overall budget. The instrument has no financial effects on the Scottish Executive or on business.

Scottish Executive Finance and Central Services Department
January 2007