SCOTTISH STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2025 No. 106 (C. 10)

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE

The Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Act 2025 (Commencement No. 1) Regulations 2025

Made - - - -	*1st April 2025*
Laid before the Scottish Parliament	*3rd April 2025*
Coming into force - -	*14th April 2025*

The Scottish Ministers make the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by section 73 of the Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Act 2025(**a**) and all other powers enabling them to do so.

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Act 2025 (Commencement No. 1) Regulations 2025 and come into force on 14 April 2025.

(2) In these Regulations "the Act" means the Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Act 2025.

Appointed Days

2.—(1) The day appointed for the coming into force of the provisions of the Act specified in—

(a) column 1 of the table in Part 1 of the schedule is 14 April 2025,

(b) column 1 of the table in Part 2 of the schedule is 1 August 2025,

(c) column 1 of the table in Part 3 of the schedule is 1 October 2025.

(**a**) 2025 asp 4.

(2) The subject matter of those provisions is specified in column 2 of those tables.

JAMIE HEPBURN
Authorised to sign by the Scottish Ministers

St Andrew's House,
Edinburgh
1st April 2025

SCHEDULE

Regulation 2

Tables of appointed days

PART 1

Provisions coming into force on 14 April 2025

Column 1 (Provisions of the Act)	*Column 2* (Subject matter)
Sections 3, 4 and 5	Disqualification of MPs, members of the House of Lords and councillors
Section 22	Third parties capable of giving notification
Section 25	Code of practice on controls relating to third parties
Section 31	Rescheduling of by-elections
Section 34	Power of returning officer to postpone or cancel by-election
Section 35	Review of order of candidates on ballot papers used at elections
Section 39	Pilot scheme under the Scottish Local Government (Elections) Act 2002
Sections 40, 41, 42 and 43	Pilot for registration of electors
Section 44	Funding to increase democratic engagement
Section 45	Scottish Ministers' power to make provision about elections under the Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004
Section 58	Guidance regarding information to be included with certain electronic material at Scottish elections
Section 60	Scottish Ministers regulation making powers
Section 61	Consequential revocations
Sections 64, 65, 66, 67 and 68	Electoral Commission

PART 2

Provisions coming into force on 1 August 2025

Column 1 (Provisions of the Act)	*Column 2* (Subject matter)
Sections 1 and 2	Candidacy rights etc. of foreign nationals
Sections 6 and 7	Disqualifications relating to sexual offences and notification requirements
Sections 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and the schedule	Scottish disqualification orders
Sections 15, 16 and 17	Disqualification orders under the Elections Act 2022
Sections 18 and 19	Temporary relief from disqualification
Section 20	Ending the ambulatory effect of section 15 of the Scotland Act 1998
Section 21	Notional and third party expenditure: Scottish Parliament elections
Section 23	Restriction on which third parties may incur controlled expenditure
Section 24	Transitional provision: offences relating to third party expenditure
Section 26	Notional expenditure: local government elections
Sections 62 and 63	Boundaries Scotland

PART 3

Provisions coming into force on 1 October 2025

Column 1 (Provisions of the Act)	*Column 2* (Subject matter)
Section 27	Power of Presiding Officer to postpone ordinary election
Section 28	Power of Presiding Officer to schedule extraordinary general elections
Section 29	Election of new Presiding Officer: extension of period
Section 30	Choice of new First Minister after changed election date
Section 32	Power of convenor of Electoral Management Board to postpone ordinary local election
Section 33	Power of returning officer to postpone election for their area

Column 1 (Provisions of the Act)	*Column 2* (Subject matter)
Sections 36, 37 and 38	Home addresses of candidates and agents
Section 46	Access to Elected Office Fund
Section 47	Application of this Part
Section 48	Key definitions
Section 49	Further definitions relating to candidates, parties and elections
Section 50	Electronic material: conditions for application of section 52
Section 51	Purpose of the electronic material
Section 52	Requirement to include information
Section 53	Exceptions to requirement in section 52
Section 54	Offence of breaching section 52
Section 55	Individual culpability where organisation commits an offence
Section 56	Enforcement by the Electoral Commission
Section 57	Supply of information
Section 59	Electoral Commission's annual report

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations bring into force provisions of the Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Act 2025 ("the Act") on three different dates. The provisions listed in Part 1 of the schedule are brought into force on 14 April 2025. The provisions listed in Part 2 of the schedule are brought into force on 1 August 2025. The provisions listed in Part 3 of the schedule are brought into force on 1 October 2025.

The Bill for the Act received Royal Assent on 29 January 2025. Sections 72, 73 and 74 of the Act were brought into force on 30 January 2025 by section 73(1) of the Act.

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