

Candidates and Agents Briefing

UK PARLIAMENTARY GENERAL ELECTION

EDINBURGH

**EAST, NORTH AND LEITH, SOUTH,
SOUTH WEST & WEST
CONSTITUENCIES**



- **Overview of the election:**
what do you need to know to take part?

Purpose of the briefing

- General Background
- Timetables and key dates
- The Campaign
- Polling, postal voting and the count
- Integrity

Purpose of the briefing

- You are **key stakeholders**
- You provide **scrutiny of** polling and the count
 - Transparency
 - Trust
 - Interests of the voter
- To **scrutinise** you must understand
 - Processes
 - What happens, where and when
- Give confidence to the voter



Who's who Roles and responsibilities



Andrew Kerr – Returning Officer

- The **Returning Officer (RO)** is the person responsible for running the election. The RO is **Andrew Kerr**,
 - Also Chief Executive of the City of Edinburgh Council
- The **Electoral Registration Officer (ERO)** is responsible for maintaining the register of electors and absent voters' lists. The ERO is **Graeme Strachan**
 - Contact details will be given at the end
- **The Electoral Commission**
 - Campaign spending, guidance, regulation, reporting
- **Others**
 - Police Scotland
 - Royal Mail etc
- **Candidates and Agents**

Key dates

Publication of Notice of Election	8 November 2019
Nominations commence	10am on the day after publication of Notice of Election 11 November 2019
Close of nominations and notice of appointment of election agents	4pm on 14 November 2019
Publication of statement of persons nominated, including notice of poll and situation of polling stations	5pm on 14 November

Key dates

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Key dates

Deadline for applications to register to vote	26 November ✓
Deadline for new postal vote applications/ changes to existing postal or proxy vote arrangements	5pm on 26 November ✓
Deadline for applications for new proxy votes	5pm on 4 December
Appointment of polling and counting agents	5 December
Polling day	12 December – 7am to 10pm

Key dates

Deadline to apply to vote by proxy on grounds of medical emergency or if unexpectedly called away because of employment or service	5pm on 12 December
Replacement for lost/spoilt postal votes ends	5pm on 12 December
Delivery of return as to election expenses	17 January 2020 (assuming result is declared on 13 December) + 35 calendar days from result
Deadline for sending postal vote identifier rejection notices	11 March 2020

Election Notices

- Notice of Election – **8 November**
- Notice of Poll – **14 November**
- Statement of Persons Nominated/ Situation of Polling Stations – **14 November**
- Election Agents Appointed – **14 November**

Election agent

- Responsible for the proper management of your election campaign; particularly its financial management.
- Notification of appointment must have reached the RO by **4pm on 14 November.**
- You will have become your own agent by default if none was appointed.



Other agents

- Other agents can be appointed to attend postal vote openings, polling stations and the count on your behalf:



- You must give notice in writing of any people appointed as polling and counting agents by **5 December**. We have provided forms.
- The appointment of postal voting agents attending a particular opening session must be made before the start of each session. We will give at least 48 hours' notice sent by email to candidates and agents. (*email was sent 19 November*)

Free candidate mailing

- All candidates who are validly nominated are entitled to send one election communication, free of charge, to electors across the constituency.
- It must include matters relating to the election only.
- You can choose to send either:
 - one unaddressed election communication of up to 60 grams to every postal address, or
 - one election communication of up to 60 grams addressed to each elector
- contact Royal Mail to make arrangements



Access to electoral register / absent voting lists

- Access by candidates – once you **officially** became a candidate:
 - earliest, on **6 November** if you, or others, have declared yourself a candidate on or before this date
 - after **6 November**, once you or others have declared yourself a candidate or you submit your nomination papers, whichever is earliest
- Make written request to the ERO – forms are in the Nomination Pack

Access to electoral register / absent voting lists

- Only use data for permitted purposes

- to complete the nomination form
- to help you campaign
- to check that donations/loans are permissible

REGISTER OF ELECTORS.

QUALIFYING PERIOD ENDED 15th JANUARY, 1980.

Third Ward C.O.

JURIS OF PERTH

Perth Parish.

House No.	Number of Electors and Elector.	Name, Surname of Elector.	House No.	Number of Electors and Elector.	Name, Surname of Elector.
ABROTH STREET (Continued).					
95	9	Robertson, Mrs Lillian A.	154	175	F Dunningham, Thomas Jun.
96	9	Robertson, Alexander S.	155	176	F Dunningham, Alexander.
97	9	Robertson, Mrs Mary C.	156	177	F Scott, Mrs Jessie.
98	9	Young, Archibald S.	157	178	F Johnson, Mrs Lillian.
99	9	Stewart, William.	158	179	F Johnson, Charles.
100	9	Stewart, Mrs Elizabeth.	159	180	F Chilias, David S.
101	9	Stewart, Robert.	160	181	F Chilias, Mrs Maggie.
102	9	Stewart, James.	161	182	F Hall, John.
103	9	Stewart, Alexander.	162	183	F Dunningham, John A.
104	9	Stewart, Mrs Margaret.	163	184	F Dunningham, Mrs Jessie.
105	10	Stewart, Mrs Catherine.	164	185	F McLean, Mrs Jessie.
106	10	Stewart, William S.	165	186	F McLean, David S.
107	21	Stewart, James.	166	187	F Ross, Isabella.
108	21	Ferguson, Mrs Mary S.	167	188	F Baptist, James.
DOUGLAS TERRACE					
109	1	McLaren, Mrs Susan.	168	189	F Hall, George S.
110	1	McLaren, James.	169	190	F Hall, Mrs Margaret.
111	1	Macpherson, Alexander.	170	191	F McLaren, David.
112	1	Macpherson, Mrs Isabella J.	171	192	F McLaren, Mrs John.
113	1	Hobbs, Mrs Charlotte.	172	193	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
114	1	Patterson, Mrs Mary.	173	194	F Scott, Charles.
115	1	Patterson, George.	174	195	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
116	1	Halliday, Edward S.	175	196	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
117	1	Johnston, David.	176	197	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
BREADALBANE TERRACE					
118	1	Porteous, William.	177	198	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
119	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	178	199	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
120	1	Porteous, James.	179	200	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
121	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	180	201	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
122	1	Porteous, John.	181	202	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
123	1	Porteous, Mrs Jessie.	182	203	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
124	1	Porteous, Andrew.	183	204	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
125	1	Ferguson, James S.	184	205	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
126	1	Porteous, William.	185	206	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
127	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	186	207	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
128	1	Porteous, James.	187	208	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
129	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	188	209	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
130	1	Porteous, John.	189	210	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
131	1	Porteous, Mrs Jessie.	190	211	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
132	1	Porteous, Andrew.	191	212	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
133	1	Ferguson, James S.	192	213	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
134	1	Porteous, William.	193	214	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
135	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	194	215	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
136	1	Porteous, James.	195	216	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
137	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	196	217	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
138	1	Porteous, John.	197	218	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
139	1	Porteous, Mrs Jessie.	198	219	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
140	1	Porteous, Andrew.	199	220	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
141	1	Ferguson, James S.	200	221	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
142	1	Porteous, William.	201	222	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
143	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	202	223	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
144	1	Porteous, James.	203	224	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
145	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	204	225	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
146	1	Porteous, John.	205	226	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
147	1	Porteous, Mrs Jessie.	206	227	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
148	1	Porteous, Andrew.	207	228	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
149	1	Ferguson, James S.	208	229	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
150	1	Porteous, William.	209	230	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
151	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	210	231	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
152	1	Porteous, James.	211	232	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
153	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	212	233	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
154	1	Porteous, John.	213	234	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
155	1	Porteous, Mrs Jessie.	214	235	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
156	1	Porteous, Andrew.	215	236	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
157	1	Ferguson, James S.	216	237	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
158	1	Porteous, William.	217	238	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
159	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	218	239	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
160	1	Porteous, James.	219	240	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
161	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	220	241	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
162	1	Porteous, John.	221	242	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
163	1	Porteous, Mrs Jessie.	222	243	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
164	1	Porteous, Andrew.	223	244	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
165	1	Ferguson, James S.	224	245	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
166	1	Porteous, William.	225	246	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
167	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	226	247	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
168	1	Porteous, James.	227	248	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
169	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	228	249	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
170	1	Porteous, John.	229	250	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
171	1	Porteous, Mrs Jessie.	230	251	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
172	1	Porteous, Andrew.	231	252	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
173	1	Ferguson, James S.	232	253	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
174	1	Porteous, William.	233	254	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
175	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	234	255	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
176	1	Porteous, James.	235	256	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
177	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	236	257	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
178	1	Porteous, John.	237	258	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
179	1	Porteous, Mrs Jessie.	238	259	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
180	1	Porteous, Andrew.	239	260	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
181	1	Ferguson, James S.	240	261	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
182	1	Porteous, William.	241	262	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
183	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	242	263	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
184	1	Porteous, James.	243	264	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
185	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	244	265	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
186	1	Porteous, John.	245	266	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
187	1	Porteous, Mrs Jessie.	246	267	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
188	1	Porteous, Andrew.	247	268	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
189	1	Ferguson, James S.	248	269	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
190	1	Porteous, William.	249	270	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
191	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	250	271	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
192	1	Porteous, James.	251	272	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
193	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	252	273	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
194	1	Porteous, John.	253	274	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
195	1	Porteous, Mrs Jessie.	254	275	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
196	1	Porteous, Andrew.	255	276	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
197	1	Ferguson, James S.	256	277	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
198	1	Porteous, William.	257	278	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
199	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	258	279	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
200	1	Porteous, James.	259	280	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
201	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	260	281	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
202	1	Porteous, John.	261	282	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
203	1	Porteous, Mrs Jessie.	262	283	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
204	1	Porteous, Andrew.	263	284	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
205	1	Ferguson, James S.	264	285	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
206	1	Porteous, William.	265	286	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
207	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	266	287	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
208	1	Porteous, James.	267	288	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
209	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	268	289	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
210	1	Porteous, John.	269	290	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
211	1	Porteous, Mrs Jessie.	270	291	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
212	1	Porteous, Andrew.	271	292	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
213	1	Ferguson, James S.	272	293	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
214	1	Porteous, William.	273	294	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
215	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	274	295	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
216	1	Porteous, James.	275	296	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
217	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	276	297	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
218	1	Porteous, John.	277	298	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
219	1	Porteous, Mrs Jessie.	278	299	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
220	1	Porteous, Andrew.	279	300	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
221	1	Ferguson, James S.	280	301	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
222	1	Porteous, William.	281	302	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
223	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	282	303	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
224	1	Porteous, James.	283	304	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
225	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	284	305	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
226	1	Porteous, John.	285	306	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
227	1	Porteous, Mrs Jessie.	286	307	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
228	1	Porteous, Andrew.	287	308	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
229	1	Ferguson, James S.	288	309	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
230	1	Porteous, William.	289	310	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
231	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	290	311	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
232	1	Porteous, James.	291	312	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
233	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	292	313	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
234	1	Porteous, John.	293	314	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
235	1	Porteous, Mrs Jessie.	294	315	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
236	1	Porteous, Andrew.	295	316	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
237	1	Ferguson, James S.	296	317	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
238	1	Porteous, William.	297	318	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
239	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	298	319	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
240	1	Porteous, James.	299	320	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
241	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	300	321	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
242	1	Porteous, John.	301	322	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
243	1	Porteous, Mrs Jessie.	302	323	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
244	1	Porteous, Andrew.	303	324	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
245	1	Ferguson, James S.	304	325	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
246	1	Porteous, William.	305	326	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
247	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	306	327	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
248	1	Porteous, James.	307	328	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
249	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	308	329	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
250	1	Porteous, John.	309	330	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
251	1	Porteous, Mrs Jessie.	310	331	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
252	1	Porteous, Andrew.	311	332	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
253	1	Ferguson, James S.	312	333	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
254	1	Porteous, William.	313	334	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
255	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	314	335	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
256	1	Porteous, James.	315	336	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
257	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	316	337	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
258	1	Porteous, John.	317	338	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
259	1	Porteous, Mrs Jessie.	318	339	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
260	1	Porteous, Andrew.	319	340	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
261	1	Ferguson, James S.	320	341	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
262	1	Porteous, William.	321	342	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
263	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	322	343	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
264	1	Porteous, James.	323	344	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
265	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	324	345	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
266	1	Porteous, John.	325	346	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
267	1	Porteous, Mrs Jessie.	326	347	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
268	1	Porteous, Andrew.	327	348	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
269	1	Ferguson, James S.	328	349	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
270	1	Porteous, William.	329	350	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
271	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	330	351	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
272	1	Porteous, James.	331	352	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
273	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	332	353	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
274	1	Porteous, John.	333	354	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
275	1	Porteous, Mrs Jessie.	334	355	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
276	1	Porteous, Andrew.	335	356	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
277	1	Ferguson, James S.	336	357	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
278	1	Porteous, William.	337	358	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
279	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	338	359	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
280	1	Porteous, James.	339	360	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
281	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	340	361	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
282	1	Porteous, John.	341	362	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
283	1	Porteous, Mrs Jessie.	342	363	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
284	1	Porteous, Andrew.	343	364	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
285	1	Ferguson, James S.	344	365	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
286	1	Porteous, William.	345	366	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
287	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	346	367	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
288	1	Porteous, James.	347	368	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
289	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	348	369	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
290	1	Porteous, John.	349	370	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
291	1	Porteous, Mrs Jessie.	350	371	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
292	1	Porteous, Andrew.	351	372	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
293	1	Ferguson, James S.	352	373	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
294	1	Porteous, William.	353	374	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
295	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	354	375	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
296	1	Porteous, James.	355	376	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
297	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	356	377	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
298	1	Porteous, John.	357	378	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
299	1	Porteous, Mrs Jessie.	358	379	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
300	1	Porteous, Andrew.	359	380	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
301	1	Ferguson, James S.	360	381	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
302	1	Porteous, William.	361	382	F Scott, Mrs Lillian.
303	1	Porteous, Mrs Elizabeth.	362	383	F Scott, Mrs L

GENERAL ELECTION

THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER 2019

**It's easy
to register
to vote**

gov.uk/register-to-vote



YOUR VOTE MATTERS

DON'T LOSE IT



•EDINBURGH•
THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

GENERAL ELECTION

THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER 2019

**Remember
to vote!**

edinburgh.gov.uk/elections



YOUR VOTE MATTERS

DON'T LOSE IT



•EDINBURGH•
THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

GENERAL ELECTION

THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER 2019

**Don't miss your
chance to vote
find out where,
when and how**

edinburgh.gov.uk/elections



YOUR VOTE MATTERS

DON'T LOSE IT



•EDINBURGH•
THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

GENERAL ELECTION

THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER 2019

**Changed
address lately?
You need to
re-register to
vote.**

gov.uk/register-to-vote



YOUR VOTE MATTERS

DON'T LOSE IT



•EDINBURGH•
THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

An update from the Electoral Registration Officer

Campaigning dos and don'ts

- Do use ***imprints*** on all your campaign material
- Do comply with planning rules relating to advertising hoardings and large banners
 - **No posters** affixed to street furniture
- Do not produce material that looks like a poll card
- Do not pay people to display your adverts (unless they display adverts as part of their normal business).

A Boards

- There is a special dispensation for the use of A-Boards associated with elections on polling days. The terms of use are:
 - Use only during the hours of polling – 7am-10pm;
 - Sited off the pavement whenever possible;
 - Sited so as to avoid any obstruction to pedestrians; and
 - Sited so as to avoid any obstruction to access to the polling place.



Code of conduct for campaigners

Campaigners are an essential element of a healthy democracy, but their activities should not bring into question the integrity of the electoral process

- **Electoral registration and absent vote applications:**

- Ensure forms conform fully to the requirements of electoral law
- Include the ERO's address for the return of forms
- Ensure unaltered applications are sent to ERO within **two working days**
- Make sure electors understand implications of applying for an absent vote
- Do not encourage postal ballot pack redirection
- Do not encourage electors to appoint a campaigner as proxy.

NOTE DEADLINE HAS NOW PASSED

Code of conduct for campaigners



- **Postal ballot packs:**
 - Never touch a postal ballot paper
 - Never observe electors completing their postal vote
 - Never handle or take any completed ballot paper or postal ballot packs from voters.
- **Campaigning outside polling places:**
 - You are allowed to put your messages to voters on polling day, including in public spaces outside polling places
 - Keep access to polling places and the pavements around polling places clear to allow voters to enter.

Postal Votes



- In UKPGE 2017
 - **22.7%** of electorate were postal voters
 - **84.3%** turnout of postal voters
 - **27%** of the votes we counted were postal votes
 - Very important part of election - equivalent to a whole constituency
- Confidence in the system depends on integrity of campaigners:
Code of Conduct!
- Must be seen to be fair, no question of interference

Postal Votes

**Dispatched on
27 November**

**Deadline
26 November**

**Helpline
200 2315**

- **Code of conduct** – no candidate or supporter should put themselves in a position where their honesty or integrity, or that of the candidate or party, can be questioned
- For security reasons, absent voters are required to provide signature and date of birth on applications
 - these are stored electronically and checked against the postal voting statement returned with the postal vote
- If you are considering printing your own application forms, they must contain all the legislative requirements
- It is important that any received applications are returned to the electoral registration office or postal vote packs are returned to the elections office as soon as possible to ensure adequate time for processing





Postal Vote Opening

- Postal vote openings
 - *From 10am 6 December Highland Hall, Ingliston*
 - *Ballot Papers will be face down*
 - *Signature and DOB checked electronically*
 - *Secrecy Requirement*
- Each candidate may appoint agents to observe the opening of postal votes
 - Appointments must be made in writing before the opening session is due to begin
- **Lost or spoilt** can be replaced



Polling Day

7am
to
10pm

5 Constituencies

141 Polling Places

298 Polling Stations

Polling Day 12/12

- Polling stations open from 7am to 10pm.
- Election Office open **6am** to **10pm** for any queries or problems relating to the administration of the election
 - for queries relating to election finance issues, contact the Electoral Commission (*contact details shown later*)
 - Some issues may be escalated to the Police
- Voters in the polling station or in a queue outside the polling station at 10pm can apply for a ballot paper.
- Postal votes can be handed into polling places within the constituency or delivered to the City Chambers until 10pm.
- A person in a queue at a polling station at 10pm waiting to hand in postal vote can do so after 10pm.

Polling Day

Key information

- Behaviour of “tellers”
 - Dos and Don’ts!
 - Requirement for secrecy
 - Obey instructions of Presiding Officer, Returning Officer, Police Scotland
 - Candidates and Agents are responsible for managing the behaviour of their supporters
- **Selfies...not allowed to preserve secret ballot!**
- Visually impaired can use phones to “read” paper





Polling Agents



- **Guidance from Electoral Commission**
 - Canvassing / Literature
 - General Behaviour
- **Must have and wear ID in the Polling stations**
 - should also introduce themselves to the Presiding Officer and sign in.
- **No Posters on Street Furniture**
 - *Will be removed and you will be charged*
- **Problems on the day: contact Elections Office from 6am 0131 469 3126**

Counting of votes

- The count will be held in:
 - Highland Hall, Royal Highland Centre, Ingliston
- Count centre will open to candidates and agents from **9:45pm**
 - Accreditation passes needed
- Candidates, election agents, counting agents and one other person appointed by the candidate are entitled to attend



1 Counting Agent per table per
candidate = 24 each

Deadline 5 December



Elections

Edinburgh 2019

Please dress warmly for Count Hall



Highland Hall



Allocating the boxes

Spending issues

Candidate spending

- Defined as certain expenses 'used for the purposes of the candidate's election' during the regulated period
- Responsibility of **Election Agent**
- Limit on expenses: See next slide
- Must get and keep receipts (over £20)
- What you spend on activities to promote your candidacy or to criticise other candidates in the run-up to the election
 - Transparent - prove the election is not "bought"
 - Level playing field



The spending limit



Regulated period	Fixed amount	Variable amounts (per registered parliamentary elector)
Short campaign	£8,700	6p per registered parliamentary elector
		9p per registered parliamentary elector

Candidates' spending returns

- Returns due 35 calendar days after result of election
 - **17 January 2020** (assuming result is declared on 13 December)
- Returns made public by **Returning Officer**
- Sample of returns may be reviewed by the **Electoral Commission**
- Failure to submit an expenses return is a criminal offence enforceable by the police
- No spending will be reimbursed

Contacts

Contacts

- **Elections office**

City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh EH1
1YJ Tel 0131 469 3126
elections@edinburgh.gov.uk

- **Electoral registration office**

Electoral Registration Officer, 17A South
Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh Tel 0131 344
2500 enquiries@lothian-vjb.gov.uk

- **Electoral Commission (spending
and campaign)**

Scotland Office - 0131 225 0200

- **Police (101 if necessary)**

- **Inspector Bob Innes**

EdinburghOpsPlanning@scotland.pnn.police.uk
Robert.Innes@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Integrity issues



- Seriousness of Electoral Offences
 - Integrity is fundamental
- Police Scotland (SPOC)
 - Bribery
 - Treating
 - Undue Influence
 - Personation
 - False Statements
- Candidates, Agents and campaigners have critical role to ensure integrity and **confidence** in the electoral process
- All allegations of electoral fraud will be investigated robustly by the Police Scotland in consultation with RO

Questions

Questions

Elections Office **469 3126 / 529 5146**

Electoral Registration Officer **344 2500**

Thank you