

1972 No. 1264 (N.I. 13)

NORTHERN IRELAND

The Electoral Law (Northern Ireland) Order 1972

Laid before Parliament in draft

Made - - - - 14th August 1972

Coming into Operation 15th August 1972

ARRANGEMENT OF ORDER

Article

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SCHEDULES

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At the Court at Balmoral, the 14th day of August 1972

Present,

The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council

Whereas a draft of this Order has been approved by a resolution of each House of Parliament:

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 1(3) of the Northern Ireland (Temporary Provisions) Act 1972(a), and of all other powers enabling Her in that behalf, is pleased, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, as follows:—

Title and commencement

1. This Order may be cited as the Electoral Law (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 and shall come into operation on the day after the day on which it is made.

Interpretation and temporary provision

2.—(1) The Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954(b) shall apply to Article 1 and the following provisions of this Order as it applies to an Act of the Parliament of Northern Ireland.

(2) In this Order "the principal Act" means the Electoral Law Act (Northern Ireland) 1962(c) and this Order shall be construed as one with that Act.

(3) So long as section 1 of the Northern Ireland (Temporary Provisions) Act 1972 has effect—

(a) subsection (1)(a) of that section applies to all functions which are conferred by this Order on the Governor or any Minister of Northern Ireland;

(b) paragraph 4(5) of the Schedule to that Act applies to any order or regulations which under this Order are subject to affirmative resolution.

Election and term of office of members of district councils

3.—(1) The year 1972 and every fourth year thereafter shall be a local election year and members elected to a district council at a local general election in any year shall come into office on the day next after the election day in that year and shall retire together on the day next after the election day in the next succeeding local election year and accordingly for sections 11 and 12 of the principal Act there shall be substituted the following sections:—

" Election and term of office of members of district councils.

11.—(1) The year 1972 and every fourth year thereafter shall be a local election year and in each local election year the election day as respects any district council shall be the day on which the poll is or would have been taken in any contested election for that council not being an election to fill a casual vacancy.

(2) The members of a district council—

(a) shall be elected in every local election year;

(b) shall come into office on the day next after the election day;

(c) shall retire together on the day next after the election day in the next succeeding local election year.

(3) If an election in any ward is countermanded under Rule 13 of the Local Election Rules because of the death of a candi-

(a) 1972 c. 22.

(b) 1954 c. 33 (N.I.).

(c) 1962 c. 14 (N.I.).

date, or the poll in any polling station is adjourned under Rule 30 of the said Rules, the provisions of subsection (2) relating to the retirement of members shall have effect as if the election had not been countermanded or the poll adjourned but had been proceeded with and completed.

(4) A vacancy (in this Act referred to as a "casual vacancy") caused in a district council—

- (a) by the death or resignation or disqualification (whether by virtue of this Act or otherwise) of a member ; or
- (b) by the non-acceptance of office by a person elected or declared to have been elected a member or by his office becoming vacant under section 7 (2) of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 1972(a) or being declared vacant under section 10 of that Act by reason of his failure to attend meetings of the council ; or
- (c) by the determination by an election court that a person's election as a member was void, where no other person is declared elected in his stead ;

shall, if it occurs in any local election year on or after the first day of January and before or on election day, be deemed to have been caused by the expiry of the normal term of office and accordingly shall be filled on the election day in that year and in any other case shall be filled in accordance with the Local Election Rules.

(5) A casual vacancy shall be deemed to have occurred—

- (a) if it is a vacancy to which subsection (4) (a) or (b) applies, when and so soon as the Chief Electoral Officer is satisfied that the vacancy exists ;
- (b) if it is a vacancy to which subsection (4) (c) applies, on the date of the determination ;

and it shall be the duty of the clerk of a district council within seven days of any matter concerning a casual vacancy coming to his knowledge to report it to the Chief Electoral Officer.

(6) A person elected to fill a casual vacancy occurring in a district council shall hold office for the remainder of the term of the member whom he has succeeded.

(7) Nothing in this section shall affect the right under any enactment relating to local government of the chairman or vice-chairman of a local authority to continue in office until his successor becomes entitled to act.

(8) Section 13 shall not apply to district councils or their members.

Retirement of members of existing local authorities. **12.** All members of a local authority in existence at the coming into operation of Article 3 of the Electoral Law (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 shall retire together on 1st April 1973."

(2) For Rules 1 (1) and 2 of Schedule 5 to the principal Act (Time-table for local elections and computation of time) in their application to district councils there shall be substituted the Rules contained in Schedule 1 to this Order.

(a) 1972 c. 9 (N.I.).

Special provisions as to the local general elections to be held in 1972

4.—(1) In this Article—

“district electoral area” means such an area constituted under this Article ;

“transferable vote” means a vote—

(a) capable of being given so as to indicate the voter’s preference for the candidates in order ; and

(b) capable of being transferred to the next choice when the vote is not required to give a prior choice the necessary quota of votes or when, owing to the deficiency in the number of votes given for a prior choice, that choice is eliminated from the list of candidates.

(2) At local general elections to district councils to be held in the year 1972 (in this Article referred to as the “1972 local elections”), any contested election in a district electoral area constituted in accordance with the following provisions of this Article shall be according to the principle of proportional representation, each elector having one transferable vote.

(3) For the purposes of the 1972 local elections, each local government district shall be divided into district electoral areas constituted by grouping together not less than four nor more than eight wards, being wards into which that local government district is divided by order under section 4 of the Local Government (Boundaries) Act (Northern Ireland) 1971(a).

(4) The Chief Electoral Officer shall make and publish proposals regarding district electoral areas and the wards which those areas are to contain and in doing so shall regard five, six or seven, as being the desirable number of wards in any district electoral area unless the total number of wards in a district or geographical considerations make another number more suitable for any particular district electoral area.

(5) Objections to the proposals under paragraph (4) may be made to the Chief Electoral Officer within the period of twenty-eight days from the day on which the proposals are first published.

(6) The Chief Electoral Officer shall consider all objections made within the period specified in paragraph (5) and shall then submit final proposals to the Secretary of State and the Secretary of State shall by regulations prescribe, in accordance with those final proposals, the district electoral areas for each local government district.

(7) The district electoral areas prescribed under paragraph (6) shall be the district electoral areas for the purposes of the 1972 local elections.

(8) Candidates at the 1972 local elections shall be nominated and elected for district electoral areas and the number of councillors to be elected in a district electoral area to the district council of the district containing that area shall be the same as the number of wards contained in that area and accordingly in section 1(1)(a)(i) of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 1972 for the word “and” there shall be substituted—

“or

(ia) elected for district electoral areas in the district in accordance with Article 4 of the Electoral Law (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 ; and”.

(9) A candidate at the 1972 local elections shall not forfeit his deposit if the number of votes credited to him at any stage of the counting of the votes

(a) 1971 c. 9 (N.I.).

exceeds one-quarter of the quota needed to elect him and section 61(2) of the principal Act shall have effect accordingly.

(10) Sections 39 to 47 and 49 to 52 of the principal Act (limitation of expenses of candidates) as amended by Article 13 shall have effect in relation to the 1972 local elections as if those elections were parliamentary elections and not elections to any district council and as if the reference to parliamentary electors in section 42(1) of the principal Act as so amended were a reference to local electors.

(11) For the purposes of the 1972 local elections—

(a) in section 11(3) of the principal Act as substituted by Article 3, for the word “ward” there shall be substituted the words “district electoral area”; the words “under Rule 13 of the Local Election Rules” shall be omitted and for the words “Rule 30 of the said Rules” there shall be substituted the words “regulations made under Article 4(12) of the Electoral Law (Northern Ireland) Order 1972”;

(b) in section 130, in the definitions of “current”, “election” and “local election” after the word “ward” there shall be inserted the words “or district electoral area”;

(c) Schedule 5 shall not apply;

(d) in Schedule 10, in Forms 2 to 4, after the word “ward” there shall be inserted the words “or district electoral area” and Forms 13, 15, 16 and 17 shall not apply.

(12) The Secretary of State may by regulations—

(a) prescribe the time-table and rules in accordance with which the 1972 local elections shall be conducted and the method of voting and transferring and counting votes at those elections;

(b) provide that each candidate elected for a district electoral area is to be allocated to a particular ward within that area for the purpose of filling a casual vacancy if that candidate should cease to be a member of the council and the method of making the allocation or make such other provision as may be necessary for the filling of such a vacancy;

(c) make such provision whether by the amendment of the Electoral Law Acts (Northern Ireland) 1962 to 1971(a) or this Order or any other enactment or otherwise as may be necessary in consequence of the provisions of this Article.

(13) The Ministry may whether by notices in newspapers and periodicals or otherwise give information and guidance regarding elections conducted according to the principle of proportional representation.

Casual vacancies in existing local authorities

5. A casual vacancy occurring on or after the coming into operation of this Article in a local authority which is in existence at the making of this Order shall remain unfilled until the retirement of the members of that local authority on 1st April 1973 and accordingly after section 13 (6) of the principal Act there shall be added the following subsection:—

“(7) This section and Rule 50 of Schedule 5 shall not apply to a vacancy occurring on or after the coming into operation of Article 5 of the Electoral Law (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 in a local authority to which this section applies and accordingly any such vacancy shall remain unfilled until the members of that local authority retire on 1st April 1973.”.

(a) 1962 c. 14 (N.I.); 1968 c. 20 (N.I.); 1969 c. 26 (N.I.); 1971 c. 4 (N.I.).

Chief Electoral Officer and persons to assist him

6.—(1) For section 14 of the principal Act there shall be substituted the following sections :—

“Appoint-
ment of
Chief
Electoral
Officer.

14.—(1) There shall be appointed a Chief Electoral Officer for Northern Ireland (in this Act referred to as the “Chief Electoral Officer”) who shall carry out the functions conferred on him by or under this Act and by or under any other statutory provision for the time being in force.

(2) The Chief Electoral Officer shall be appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Minister and shall hold his office during good behaviour so, however that—

(a) he may, at his own request, be relieved of office by the Governor ;

(b) he may be removed from office by the Governor upon an address presented by both Houses of Parliament or where at any time when Parliament is not sitting the Governor, on the advice of the Minister, is satisfied that he is incapable of performing his duties.

(3) In the Part substituted by section 10 of, and Schedule 3 to, the House of Commons Disqualification Act 1957(a) for Part III of Schedule 1 to that Act (which substituted Part specifies certain offices the holders of which are disqualified for membership of the Senate and the House of Commons of Northern Ireland) the following entry shall be inserted at the appropriate point in alphabetical order :

The Chief Electoral Officer for Northern Ireland.

(4) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), the Chief Electoral Officer shall be responsible for—

(a) the administration and implementation of the provisions of the Electoral Law Acts (Northern Ireland) 1962 to 1971 and the Electoral Law (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 ;

(b) the preparation and publication of annual lists and registers of parliamentary and local government electors and of corrupt and illegal practices lists ;

(c) the conduct of all elections to the Parliament of Northern Ireland and to district councils ;

(d) the preparation of polling station schemes, the maintenance of election equipment and generally all administrative matters preliminary to or consequent on an election ;

and shall each year as soon as possible after the publication of the register of electors in that year make a report to the Minister of his proceedings under this Act and the Minister shall lay the report before Parliament.

(5) Any acts required or authorised to be done by or with respect to the Chief Electoral Officer may, in the event of his absence from Northern Ireland or his incapacity to act or of a vacancy, be done by or with respect to a person temporarily appointed for the purpose by the Governor on the recommendation of the Minister.

(a) 1957 c. 20.

(6) There shall be paid to the Chief Electoral Officer and to a person appointed under subsection (5) such remuneration and to or in respect of the service of a person who has been a Chief Electoral Officer such pension, allowances and gratuities by way of superannuation as may be determined by an Order in Council made under this subsection but the Governor shall not be recommended to make any such Order in Council until a draft thereof has been laid before Parliament and approved by a resolution of each House of Parliament.

(7) The remuneration payable to a holder of the office of Chief Electoral Officer shall be abated by the amount of any pension payable to him in respect of any public office in the United Kingdom or elsewhere to which he had previously been appointed or elected; but any such abatement shall be disregarded in computing that remuneration for the purposes of any pension, allowances or gratuities by way of superannuation payable pursuant to an Order in Council made under subsection (6).

(8) Any remuneration and any pension, allowances and gratuities by way of superannuation payable under subsection (6) shall be charged on and issued out of the Consolidated Fund.

Appoint-
ment of
persons to
assist Chief
Electoral
Officer.

14A.—(1) The Chief Electoral Officer, with the approval of the Ministry of Finance as to numbers and conditions of service, may appoint such persons, in addition to the persons specified in Article 9(2) of the Electoral Law (Northern Ireland) Order 1972, to assist him as may be agreed between him and the Ministry.

(2) Without in any way diminishing his responsibility and without prejudice to Rule 30 of Schedule 4 and Rule 22 of Schedule 5, the Chief Electoral Officer may delegate any of his functions to persons appointed under subsection (1) or specified in Article 9(2) of the Electoral Law (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 and such persons may, under the supervision of the Chief Electoral Officer, perform those functions on behalf of the Chief Electoral Officer.

(3) It shall be a duty of an officer of a district council to perform such functions as the Chief Electoral Officer may, with the approval of the Ministry of Development, appoint him to perform.

(4) There may be paid, out of moneys hereafter appropriated for the purpose of meeting such expenses, to persons appointed under subsection (1) such remuneration and to, or in respect of the service of, such persons such pensions, allowances and gratuities by way of superannuation and to or in respect of persons appointed under subsection (3) such sums as the Ministry, with the approval of the Ministry of Finance, may determine.

Travelling
and
subsistence
allowances.

14B. There may be paid, out of moneys hereafter appropriated for the purpose of meeting such expenses, to the Chief Electoral Officer travelling and subsistence allowances at such rates as the Ministry, with the approval of the Ministry of Finance, may determine and to persons appointed, or to whom functions are delegated, under section 14A travelling and subsistence allowances at the rates for the time being applicable to travelling and subsistence allowances payable to persons employed in the civil service of Northern Ireland.”

(2) Nothing in this Article shall affect any provision of the principal Act in its application to local elections held before the coming into operation of Article 5 nor, except so far as it relates to registers of electors and polling station schemes, to parliamentary elections held before 1st April 1973.

Registration of electors

7.—(1) One register of electors containing the names of all electors in Northern Ireland shall be published in the year 1973 and in each subsequent year instead of the registers which would, if this Order had not been made, have been published in that year and each such register and the electors lists from which it is derived shall be divided into such parts and arranged in such manner as may be prescribed by regulations made by the Ministry and shall indicate the constituency and ward in which each elector is entitled to vote and the names of electors contained therein shall be shown in such order as may be prescribed.

(2) Where the Chief Electoral Officer considers it necessary for the purposes of any local election, he may re-arrange and publish any register in force.

(3) Claims and objections with respect to electors lists prepared for the purposes of the register of electors to be published in the year 1973 and in each subsequent year shall be heard and determined by the Chief Electoral Officer.

(4) The Chief Electoral Officer shall be responsible for the preparation and publication of the register of electors to be published in the year 1973 and in each subsequent year and for all matters preliminary to such preparation including the preparation and publication of the lists of electors from which such registers are derived.

(5) As soon as possible after the boundaries of local government districts and wards are determined under the Local Government (Boundaries) Act (Northern Ireland) 1971, the Chief Electoral Officer shall make any re-arrangement of the registers of electors published in the year 1972 necessitated by the re-organisation of those boundaries and shall publish the registers as so re-arranged.

(6) Registers re-arranged and published under paragraph (2) or (5) shall be the registers in force for the purposes of all elections to district councils held during the currency of that register but the registers in the form in which they were before such re-arrangement shall be the registers to be used for all parliamentary elections held during the currency of the registers.

(7) All expenses properly incurred in connection with the registration of electors shall be paid out of moneys hereafter appropriated for the purpose of meeting such expenses and there shall be paid into the Exchequer by each district council such proportion (if any) of those expenses as the Ministry with the concurrence of the Ministry of Finance may, by regulations subject to affirmative resolution, prescribe.

Description of candidate in nomination paper and on ballot paper

8.—(1) In Rule 6 of Schedule 4 to the principal Act (which relates to the nomination of candidates at parliamentary elections)—

(a) in paragraph (2) (contents of nomination paper) before the words “description of the candidate” there shall be inserted the words “(if desired) a ” ; and

(b) in paragraph (3) for the words “The description shall not refer to the political activities of the candidate” there shall be substituted the words “The description, if any, shall not exceed six words in length” ; and

(c) paragraph (4) (which authorises a returning officer to shorten or replace a description if it is unduly long) shall be omitted ;
and in Rule 15 (2) (b) of Schedule 4 to the principal Act (particulars to be contained in published statements of parliamentary candidates nominated and, by Rule 20 (2) of that Schedule, in ballot papers) after the word "description" there shall be inserted the words ", if any,".

(2) In Rule 17 (2) (a) of Schedule 5 to the principal Act (contents of ballot papers at local elections) after the word "description" there shall be inserted the words ", if any," and for paragraph 4 of the Instructions for filling up nomination paper contained in Form 15 in Schedule 10 to the principal Act there shall be substituted the following paragraph :—

"4. In column 4 the description of the candidate must not exceed six words and need not refer to his rank, profession or calling so long as, with the other particulars of the candidate, it is sufficient to identify him."

Conduct of elections

9.—(1) The Chief Electoral Officer shall be the returning officer for all elections to district councils and for all elections held on or after 1st April 1973 to the Parliament of Northern Ireland.

(2) The clerk of a district council shall be the deputy returning officer for elections to that council held on or after 1st April 1973 and shall perform, on behalf of the Chief Electoral Officer, such functions in relation to those elections as shall be delegated to him by the Chief Electoral Officer.

(3) All expenses properly incurred in relation to the holding prior to 1st April 1973 of an election to a district council shall be paid out of moneys hereafter appropriated for the purpose of meeting such expenses and shall at such time after 1st April 1973 as the Ministry may determine be repaid by the council to the Exchequer to such extent (if any) as the Ministry with the approval of the Ministry of Finance determines.

Deposits by candidates at local elections

10. The deposit to be made by a candidate at an election to a district council shall be £15 and accordingly for section 60 (3) (b) of the principal Act in its application to elections to district councils there shall be substituted—

"(b) for a local election be £15".

Period for delivery of nomination papers

11. The period during which nomination papers for candidates at parliamentary and local elections may be delivered to the returning officer shall be between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. and accordingly in the second and third columns of Proceeding 3 of Rule 1 of Schedule 4 to the principal Act for the words from "such period" to "afternoon of" there shall be substituted the words "the period between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. on".

Determination of validity of nomination papers at local elections

12. Rule 9 (5) (c) of Schedule 5 to the principal Act (which provides that the returning officer at a local election shall determine a nomination paper to be valid if, inter alia, it is not apparent from the particulars of the candidate set out in the nomination form that he is ineligible for nomination) shall cease to have effect.

Limitation of election expenses of candidates at local elections

13.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), sections 39 to 52 of the principal Act (which relate to the expenses of a candidate at a parliamentary election and to the limitation of those expenses) shall apply in relation to an election to

a district council in like manner as they apply in relation to a parliamentary election and accordingly for the words "a parliamentary election" wherever they occur in those sections there shall be substituted the words "an election".

(2) Sections 39 to 52 of the principal Act shall be further amended as follows:—

- (a) for section 40 (1) there shall be substituted the following subsection—

“(1) The candidate at an election may pay any personal expenses (as defined by this Act) incurred by him on account of or in connection with or incidental to the election but the amount which a candidate at a parliamentary election may so pay shall not exceed £100 and any further personal expenses so incurred by him shall be paid by his election agent.”;
- (b) section 41 (4) shall cease to have effect;
- (c) in section 42 (1) for the words from "is an amount" there shall be substituted the words "for a candidate at a parliamentary election is an amount equal to two-and-a-half new pence for each parliamentary elector on the current register, for a candidate at an election to the Council of the City of Belfast is £300 and for a candidate at an election to any other district council is £100";
- (d) in section 42 (2) after the words "maximum amount" there shall be inserted the words "for a candidate at a parliamentary election";
- (e) after section 48 (2) there shall be inserted the following subsection:—

“(2A) In the application of subsections (1) and (2) to a candidate at a local election—

 - (a) the reference to sitting and voting in the House of Commons as a member for a constituency for which the election was held shall be taken as a reference to sitting or voting in the district council for the district for which the election was held; and
 - (b) fifty pounds shall be substituted for one hundred pounds and, instead of civil proceedings for a penalty, summary proceedings may be instituted in a court of summary jurisdiction and the person charged shall be liable, on conviction, to a fine of an amount not exceeding the amount of the penalty which would be recoverable in civil proceedings”.

Hours of polling

14. The hours of polling at a parliamentary or local election shall be between 7 o'clock in the morning and 10 o'clock in the evening and accordingly in the second and third columns of Proceeding 8 in Rule 1 of Schedule 4 to the principal Act for the words "half-past eight" where they first occur there shall be substituted the words "7 o'clock" and for the words "half-past eight" where they secondly occur there shall be substituted the words "10 o'clock" and in paragraph (3) of Rule 1 of Schedule 5 to the principal Act for the words "half-past eight" where they first occur there shall be substituted "7" and for the words "half-past eight" where they secondly occur there shall be substituted "10".

Registration expenses for register published in February 1972

15. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 21 of the principal Act, registration expenses as defined in that section and incurred in connection with the register of electors published in February 1972 shall be paid out of moneys hereafter appropriated for the purpose of meeting such expenses.

Amendment of Electoral Law Acts

16.—(1) The principal Act shall be amended in the manner specified in Schedule 2.

(2) The Ministry may by order subject to affirmative resolution make any further amendments of the Electoral Law Acts (Northern Ireland) 1962 to 1971 which it considers necessary being amendments consequent on the provisions of this Order or on the re-organisation of local government.

(3) The amendments made by paragraph (1) and Schedule 2 or by an order under paragraph (2) shall have effect for the purposes of—

- (a) the register of electors to be published in the year 1973 and in each subsequent year and the electors lists from which such registers are derived ;
- (b) all elections to district councils and all matters relating to district councils and their members ;
- (c) all elections to the Parliament of Northern Ireland held on or after 1st April 1973 ; and
- (d) all matters incidental to the preparation and publication of such lists and registers and the holding of such elections ;

but a polling station scheme approved under section 65 of the principal Act as amended by this Order shall be used for the purposes of any parliamentary election held after the date of its publication.

Financial provision

17. Any increase attributable to this Order in the sums which under the principal Act are to be defrayed out of the Consolidated Fund shall be so defrayed and any increase attributable to this Order in the sums which under the principal Act are to be defrayed out of moneys provided by Parliament shall be defrayed in like manner as those sums.

Repeals

18. The provisions of the principal Act specified in Schedule 3 are hereby repealed to the extent specified in that Schedule

W. G. Agnew

RULES TO BE SUBSTITUTED FOR RULES 1 (1) AND 2 OF SCHEDULE 5
TO THE PRINCIPAL ACT IN THEIR APPLICATION TO DISTRICT COUNCILS

1. For Rule 1 (1) there shall be substituted the following:—

1. *Time-table for local elections.* (1) The proceedings at elections to district councils shall be conducted in accordance with the following table:—

Proceeding (1)	Time fixed or allowed at	
	local general elections held in the year 1976 and each subsequent local election year (2)	elections for the filling of casual vacancies (3)
1. Publication of notice of election.	Not later than the last Wednesday in the month of April.	Not later than seven days before the nomination day.
2. Delivery of nomination papers and lodgment of deposit under section 60.	Subject to Rule 10, during the period between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. on the first Wednesday in the month of May.	Subject to Rule 10, during the period between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. on such day, not later than twenty-one days after the date of the occurrence of the vacancy, as the returning officer shall fix.
3. Delivery of notice of withdrawal of candidature.	Not later than three o'clock in the afternoon of the day next following the nomination day.	Not later than three o'clock in the afternoon of the day next following the nomination day.
4. The making of objections to nomination papers.	Within the time specified in paragraph (11) of Rule 9.	Within the time specified in paragraph (11) of Rule 9.
5. Notices to candidates: (a) of valid nomination; (b) of invalid nomination.	As soon as practicable after the expiration of the time allowed for withdrawal, and not in any event later than noon on the third day after the nomination day.	As soon as practicable after the expiration of the time allowed for withdrawal, and not in any event later than noon on the third day after the nomination day.
6. Publication of statement of candidates validly nominated.		
7. Notice of poll.	Not later than the Friday next preceding the polling day.	Not later than the fifth day before the polling day.
8. Polling.	The third Wednesday in the month of May.	The fourteenth day after the nomination day.

2. For Rule 2 there shall be substituted the following paragraph:—

“2. *Computation of time.* In the computation of any period of time for the purposes of Rule 1, a Sunday or public holiday shall be disregarded and shall not be treated as a day for the purpose of any proceedings up to the completion of the poll, nor shall the returning officer be obliged to proceed with the count on such a day.”

AMENDMENTS OF PRINCIPAL ACT

Any reference to registration officer, returning officer or electoral officer shall be construed as a reference to the Chief Electoral Officer.

- Section 2A The words “ of parliamentary ” where they first occur and the words “ or a register of parliamentary and local electors ” shall cease to have effect.
- Section 10 In subsection (3) the words “ of the constituency to which it relates ” shall be omitted and for the words “ returning officers ” there shall be substituted the words “ the returning officer ” and in subsection (4) for the words “ returning officers ” where they twice occur there shall be substituted the words “ the returning officer ” and for the word “ each ” there shall be substituted the word “ the ”.
- Section 15 In subsection (1) for the words from “ Each ” to “ as such ” there shall be substituted the words “ The Chief Electoral Officer ”; in subsection (2) for the words “ each electoral officer ” there shall be substituted the words “ the Chief Electoral Officer ” and the words from “ in the year ” to “ thereafter ”, from “ and within ” to “ Ministry ” and from “ within the ” shall cease to have effect.
- Sections 16 to 20 Shall cease to have effect.
- Section 21 Subsections (1), (3) and (4) shall cease to have effect; in subsection (8) for the words “ Each electoral officer ” there shall be substituted the words “ The Chief Electoral Officer ” and for subsection (9) there shall be substituted the following subsections:—
- “ (9) All expenses properly incurred in connection with the registration of electors shall be paid out of moneys hereafter appropriated for the purpose of meeting such expenses and each district council shall pay into the Exchequer such proportion (if any) of those expenses as the Ministry, with the concurrence of the Ministry of Finance, may by regulations subject to affirmative resolution, prescribe.
- (10) Any sums payable by a district council under subsection (9) shall be paid in such manner and at such times as regulations under that subsection prescribe and may be recovered from the council by the Ministry as a debt due to it.”.
- Section 22 In subsection (1) the words from the beginning to “ prescribe ” shall cease to have effect, for the words “ as aforesaid ” there shall be substituted the words “ as otherwise provided in this Act ”; in subsection (2) the words from “ together ” to “ subsection (1) ” shall cease to have effect; in subsection (3) for the words “ an electoral officer ” there shall be substituted the words “ the Chief Electoral Officer or a person to whom the duties of returning officer at a parliamentary election are delegated ”.
- Section 23 For subsection (1) there shall be substituted the following subsection:—
- “ (1) The expenses of the Chief Electoral Officer as returning officer at a local election, the expenses and remuneration of a deputy returning officer at such an election and the remuneration

payable to persons employed in connection with such an election shall not exceed the amounts provided by a scale framed by the Ministry and approved by the Ministry of Finance.”;

subsection (2) shall cease to have effect; in subsection (3) after the words “ local election ” there shall be inserted the words “ held on or after 1st April 1973 ”, for the words from “ where ” there shall be substituted the words “ and all expenses properly incurred in relation to the holding of an election to a district council prior to 1st April 1973 shall be paid out of moneys hereafter appropriated for the purpose of meeting such expenses and shall at such time after 1st April 1973 as the Ministry may determine be repaid by the council to the Exchequer to such extent (if any) as the Ministry with the approval of the Ministry of Finance determines ”; subsection (5) shall cease to have effect.

- Section 25 In subsection (1) for the words from “ any officer ” to “ applies ” there shall be substituted the words “ a person appointed under section 14A or to a deputy returning officer at a local election ” and subsections (2) and (3) shall cease to have effect.
- Section 26 Shall cease to have effect.
- Section 28 In subsection (1) for the words from the beginning to the word “ Belfast ” there shall be substituted the words “ Registers of electors ”; subsection (2) shall cease to have effect; in subsection (3) for the words from the beginning to “ 1971 ” there shall be substituted the words “ One register of electors containing the names of all electors in Northern Ireland shall be published in every year commencing with the year 1973 ”; in subsection (6) the words “ In relation to parliamentary elections ” shall be omitted and in subsection (7) the words from the beginning to “ but ” shall cease to have effect.
- Section 29 Subsection (5) shall cease to have effect.
- Section 32 In subsection (1) the words from “ for each ” to “ Belfast ” shall be omitted and in paragraph (a) the words from “ in the register ” to “ borough ” shall cease to have effect; in subsection (4) the words “ and the revising officer ” shall be omitted and in subsections (5) and (6) for the words “ revising officer ” there shall be substituted the words “ Chief Electoral Officer ”.
- Section 36 In subsection (2) the words from “ or in ” to “ or area ” and the words from “ or within ” shall cease to have effect.
- Section 37 In subsection (4) the words from “ or in ” to “ thereto ” shall cease to have effect.
- Section 57 In subsection (4) for the word “ Ministry ” there shall be substituted the words “ Chief Electoral Officer ”; in subsection (5), for the word “ Ministry ” where it twice occurs there shall be substituted the words “ Chief Electoral Officer ”, for the word “ it ” there shall be substituted the word “ he ”, for the word “ triennial ” there shall be substituted the words “ local general ” and the words from “ in the council ” shall be omitted.
- Section 62 In subsection (1), in paragraph (a) the words “ electoral division or ” and paragraph (b) and the preceding “ or ” shall be omitted.
- Section 63 The words “ for a parliamentary election ” shall be omitted, for the words “ the election ” there shall be substituted the words “ a

- parliamentary election ” and for paragraphs (a) and (b) there shall be substituted the words “ is within the constituency for which the election is held or within the area of a district council which wholly or partly contains the constituency ”.
- Section 64 The words “ for a local election ” shall be omitted and for the words “ the election ” there shall be substituted the words “ a local election ” and paragraphs (b) and (c) and the preceding “ or ” shall be omitted.
- Section 65 After subsection (1) there shall be inserted the following subsection:—
- “ (1A) The Chief Electoral Officer shall in the year 1972 and every fourth year thereafter prepare in accordance with the provisions of this section a draft scheme providing for the location of a polling station or polling stations in each polling district (as defined in this Act) and shall publish the draft scheme in accordance with electoral regulations under subsection (4). ”;
- in subsection (2), for the words “ Ministry on receiving a scheme ” there shall be substituted the words “ Chief Electoral Officer ”; for the word “ it ” where it first occurs there shall be substituted the word “ he ”, before the words “ scheme or ” there shall be inserted the word “ draft ” and for the words “ the Ministry shall ” there shall be substituted the words “ the Chief Electoral Officer shall ”; for subsection (3) there shall be substituted the following subsection:—
- “ (3) The Chief Electoral Officer shall consider any objections or proposals made in relation to the draft scheme and shall then approve the scheme with or without modifications (which may include additions or exceptions). ”;
- in subsection (4), in paragraph (a), the words “ by electoral officers ” shall be omitted and in paragraph (c) for the words “ submitted for approval ” there shall be substituted the word “ approved ”; in subsection (5) after the words “ a scheme ” where they first occur and after the words “ a new scheme ” there shall be inserted the words “ approved under subsection (3) ” and the words from “ and a scheme published ” to the end shall cease to have effect. For subsection (6) there shall be substituted the following subsection:—
- “ (6) The Chief Electoral Officer may for the purpose of any particular election omit from or add to the polling stations designated in a polling station scheme such station or stations as he considers necessary. ”.
- Section 72 In subsection (3) (c) for the words “ county borough ” there shall be substituted the word “ City ”.
- Section 79 In subsection (2) for the words from “ any ” where it occurs for the second time to “ complains ” there shall be substituted the words “ , if the petition complains of his conduct, the Chief Electoral Officer ” and in subsection (4) the words “ town clerk, secretary or ” shall be omitted.
- Section 81 In subsection (6) the words “ town clerk, secretary or ” shall be omitted.
- Section 82 In subsection (2) the words “ town clerk, secretary or ” shall be omitted.
- Section 83 In subsection (3) the words “ town clerk, secretary or ” shall be omitted.
- Section 92 In subsection (3) for the words “ council of any county or county borough ” there shall be substituted the words “ district council ”, paragraph (a) shall be omitted and in paragraph (b) for the words “ the council of a county borough ” there shall be substituted the words “ a district council ”.

- Section 111 In subsection (2), after the word “conferred” there shall be inserted the words “or delegated”; in subsection (3) for the words from the beginning to “applies” there shall be substituted the words “The Chief Electoral Officer or any person to whom functions are delegated by him under this Act.”
- Section 130 In subsection (1)—
before the definition of “Clerk of the Crown” there shall be inserted—
“ “Chief Electoral Officer” means the Chief Electoral Officer for Northern Ireland appointed under section 14 and, in relation to any function, includes a person to whom that function is delegated under section 14A (2) of this Act or Article 9 (2) of the Electoral Law (Northern Ireland) Order 1972; ”;
in the definition of “corporate office” the words “alderman” and “town commissioner” shall be omitted; in the definition of “current” for the words “ward or electoral division” there shall be substituted the words “or ward”; in the definition of “election” the words “or electoral division” shall be omitted; after the definition of “general election” there shall be inserted—
“ “local general election” means a local election held in a local election year not being an election to fill a casual vacancy; ”;
for the definition of “local authority” there shall be substituted the following definition:—
“ “local authority” means a district council; ”;
in the definitions of “local election” and “local elector” the words “or electoral division” shall be omitted. After the definition of “Speaker” there shall be inserted the following definition:—
“ “statutory provision” has the meaning assigned to it by section 1 (f) of the Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954; ”;
the definitions of “synchronised elections” and “triennial elections” shall be omitted.
- Subsection (2) shall cease to have effect.
- Schedule 2 In paragraph 2 of Part VI for the words “county borough” there shall be substituted the word “City” and in paragraph 3 of Part VI for the words “district electoral division” there shall be substituted the word “ward”.
- Schedule 3 In Rule 1 (1), in Proceeding 3, in Column (1), the words from “by deputy electoral officers” and Proceeding 4 shall be omitted.
In Rule 3, in paragraph (2) the words “within the area for which he is electoral officer” shall be omitted.
Rules 4 and 5 shall be omitted.
In Rule 8, in paragraph (1) for the words “furnished under Rules 4 and 5” there shall be substituted the words “of electors” and in paragraph (2) the words “furnished under Rule 4 or Rule 5” shall be omitted.
In Rule 9, in paragraph (1) the words from “for each” to “Belfast” shall be omitted, in paragraph (2) the words from the beginning to “county” shall be omitted and for the words “district electoral division” there shall be substituted the word “ward”, paragraph (3) shall be omitted, in paragraph (5) (d) the words “if the district is divided into wards” and “such” shall be omitted.
In Rule 11, for the words “any electoral officer” there shall be substituted the words “the Chief Electoral Officer”.

In Rule 12, in paragraph (2), in sub-paragraph (b) (i) for the words "revision courts" there shall be substituted the words "hearings of claims and objections" and in sub-paragraph (b) (ii) for the words "courts are to sit" there shall be substituted the words "hearings are to be held".

In Rule 13, in paragraph (1) the words "(subject to paragraph (4) of this Rule)" shall be omitted and in sub-paragraphs (c) and (d) for the words "a county or county borough" there shall be substituted the words "a constituency or local government electoral area" and for the words "that county or county borough" there shall be substituted the words "that constituency or area" and paragraph (4) shall cease to have effect.

For Rules 14 to 16 there shall be substituted the following Rules:—

" 14. Entry and preliminary disposal of claims and objections.

(1) The Chief Electoral Officer shall keep separate lists of claims and objections and shall, on receipt of a claim or objection, forthwith enter in the appropriate list the name and qualifying address of the claimant or the person in respect of whom the objection is made.

(2) If the Chief Electoral Officer is of opinion—

(a) that the particulars given in a claim or objection are insufficient, he may ask for further information and take no further action until such information is supplied;

(b) that a claim may be allowed without a hearing, he may allow the claim, provided that no objection is made thereto, and shall so inform the person making the claim;

(c) that the objector is not entitled to object, he may disallow the objection and shall so inform the objector;

(d) that a claim or objection cannot be allowed because—

(i) the matter has been concluded by the decision of a court, or

(ii) the particulars given in a claim or objection do not entitle the claimant or objector to succeed,

he may send to the person making the claim or objection a notice stating his opinion and the grounds thereof and that he intends to disallow the claim or objection unless that person gives him notice within three days from the date of the first-mentioned notice that he requires the claim or objection to be heard, and, if he receives no such notice within the said time, he may disallow the claim or objection.

(3) The Chief Electoral Officer shall, unless he allows or disallows the claim or objection under paragraph (2), send a notice, in the case of a claim, to the person making the claim and, in the case of an objection, to the objector and the person objected to, stating the time and place at which he proposes to hear the claim or objection; and the notice sent to a person objected to shall also state the name and address of the objector and the grounds of the objection.

(4) The time fixed for the hearing of a claim or objection shall not be earlier than the third day after the date of the notice referred to in paragraph (3).

(5) The Chief Electoral Officer shall make available for inspection at his office till completion of the hearing of claims and objections the lists of claims and objections together with the time and place at which he proposes to hear any claim or objection.

15. *Hearing of claims and objections.* (1) On the hearing of a claim, the person making the claim and any person who has duly made an objection and, on the hearing of an objection, the objector and the person objected to and, on the hearing of either, any other person who appears to the Chief Electoral Officer to be interested shall be entitled to appear and be heard.

(2) The right to appear and be heard includes the right to make written representations.

(3) Any person entitled to appear and be heard may do so either in person or by any other person on his behalf.

(4) The Chief Electoral Officer may, at the request of any person entitled to appear and be heard or, if he thinks fit, without such a request, require that the evidence tendered by any person shall be given on oath and may administer an oath for the purpose.

(5) The consideration of claims and objections shall be completed before the fourth day of February.

16. *Corrections to the electors lists.* (1) Any alteration to the electors lists which is required—

(a) to carry out the Chief Electoral Officer's decision with respect to any claim or objection,

(b) to correct any clerical error,

(c) to correct any misnomer or inaccurate description,

(d) to delete the name of any person who the Chief Electoral Officer is satisfied is dead,

shall be made by the Chief Electoral Officer.

(2) Where it appears to the Chief Electoral Officer that it is necessary to make any alteration (other than an alteration under paragraph (1)) to the electors lists in order to ensure that no person shall be incorrectly registered, or registered more than once, or otherwise registered when not entitled, he shall send to the person affected by the alteration a notice stating the proposed alteration and shall give him an opportunity within five days from the date of such notice of selecting the qualifying address in respect of which he is to be registered or of objecting to the alteration and, if necessary, of appearing and being heard in accordance with the provisions of Rule 15.

(3) After the said five days the Chief Electoral Officer shall make such alteration (if any) as seems to him to be necessary.”.

In Rules 17, 18 and 19 for any reference to the revising officer there shall be substituted a reference to the Chief Electoral Officer.

In Rule 20 (1) the words “ whether or not divided into wards ” shall be omitted.

In Rule 21 (1) for the words from “ county ” to “ division ” there shall be substituted the words “ local government district ”.

In Rule 24 (3) for the word “ canvasser ” where it twice occurs there shall be substituted the word “ person ”, for the words “ Rule 4 ” there shall be substituted the words “ this Act ” and the words from “ (or,” to “ deputy electoral officer) ” shall be omitted.

Schedule 4

Rule 4 shall cease to have effect.

In Rule 11, for the words from “ such period ” to “ appoint under ” there shall be substituted the words “ the period specified in ”.

In Rule 22 (1) the words from “ for the county ” to “ situated ” shall be omitted and for the words from “ for that ” to “ qualification) ” there shall be substituted the words “ otherwise than by virtue of a service qualification ”.

In Rule 37 (3) for the word “ Ministry ” there shall be substituted the words “ Chief Electoral Officer ” and for the word “ it ” there shall be substituted the word “ him ”.

Schedule 5

Rule 5 shall cease to have effect.

In Rule 8, for the words from “ such period ” to “ appoint under ” there shall be substituted the words “ the period specified in ”.

In Rule 9, in paragraph (1) the words “ subject to paragraph (2) ” and paragraph (2) shall be omitted.

In Rule 12 (2), for the words from “ triennial ” to “ vacancies ” there shall be substituted the words “ local general election, more than one candidate stands validly nominated ”.

For Rule 14 there shall be substituted the following Rule:—

“ 14. *Where only one or no candidate is nominated for a ward.*

(1) If after the expiration of the time fixed for withdrawals at a local general election, only one candidate stands validly nominated for a ward, that candidate shall be declared elected and the returning officer shall, in the prescribed form, notify him accordingly.

(2) If after the expiration of the time fixed for withdrawals at a local general election no candidate stands validly nominated for a ward, the vacancy in that ward shall be deemed to be a casual vacancy within the meaning of section 11 (4) occurring on the day following the election day.”.

In Rule 17 paragraph (4) (a) (i) and in paragraph (4) (a) (ii) the word “ other ”, paragraph (4) (b) (i) and in paragraph (4) (b) (ii) the word “ other ” shall be omitted.

In Rule 21, paragraph (2) shall cease to have effect; in paragraph (3) the words from “ and may ” to “ synchronised election ” the words from “ for each such ” to “ single election ” where they twice occur and paragraph (5) shall cease to have effect.

Rule 22 (8) and (9) shall be omitted.

In Rule 25, paragraph (b) shall be omitted.

In Rule 30 (3) for the word “ Ministry ” there shall be substituted the words “ Chief Electoral Officer ” and for the word “ it ” there shall be substituted the word “ him ”.

In Rule 31, in paragraph (3) (a) the words “ (i) where only one vacancy is to be filled ”, and from “ or ” shall be omitted.

In Rule 32 (2) (c) for the words from “ any number ” to “ vacancies ” there shall be substituted the words “ more than one candidate ”.

In Rule 34 (3), the words “ electoral division or ” shall be omitted.

In Rule 35 in paragraph (1) (a) (i) for the words from “ county ” to “ ward] ” there shall be substituted the word “ ward ”, in paragraph (1) (a) (ii) for the words from “ of county ” there shall be substituted the words “ in this or any other local government district? ”; paragraph (1) (a) (iii) shall cease to have effect; in paragraph (1) (b) (ii) for the words from “ of county ” there shall be substituted the words “ in this or any other local government district? ”; paragraph (1) (b) (iii) shall cease to have effect.

In Rule 41, paragraph (1) (b) and (c) and in paragraph (1) (d) the words " Subject to sub-paragraph (c) " shall cease to have effect.

In Rule 42 in paragraph (3) the words from " or received " to " that paragraph " and the words " subject to that sub-paragraph " shall be omitted.

In Rule 43, in paragraph (7) the words " where only one election is being held " and paragraph (8) shall cease to have effect.

In Rule 45, in paragraph (1) (b) for the words from " a number " there shall be substituted the words " more than one candidate ", in paragraph (2) (i) the words " or particular candidates, as the case may be " shall be omitted and in paragraph (7)(b) for the words from " a number " there shall be substituted the words " more than one candidate ".

In Rule 46, in paragraph (1), in sub-paragraph (a) the words " Where only one vacancy is to be filled " and sub-paragraph (b) shall cease to have effect and in sub-paragraph (c) for the words from " any two or more successful candidates " to " elected " there shall be substituted the words " two or more candidates each having the highest number of votes, the successful candidate ", the words " or candidates " shall be omitted and for the words from " such " there shall be substituted the words " one more vote ".

In Rule 50, in the title the words " *of councillors of county boroughs and boroughs* " shall be omitted; in paragraphs (1) and (2) for the words " county borough or borough " there shall be substituted the words " district council " and in paragraph (2) (ii) the words from " as if " shall be omitted; in paragraph (3) for the word " triennial " there shall be substituted the words " local general ".

In Rule 51, in the title for the words from " *among* " there shall be substituted the words " *reported under Rule 50 (2) (ii)* "; in paragraph (1) for the words from " other than " to " or borough " there shall be substituted the words " reported under Rule 50 (2) (ii) ".

In Rule 52 in paragraph (4) (b) (ii) for the words " triennial election " there shall be substituted the words " local general election ".

Schedule 8 In paragraph 6 in sub-paragraph (1), the words from " and if " shall be omitted, in sub-paragraph (2) the words " town clerk, secretary or " where they twice occur shall be omitted.

In paragraph 9 (4) the words " division or " and " or to synchronised elections " shall be omitted.

Schedule 9 In paragraph 11 (d) the words " (whether synchronised or not) " shall be omitted.

Paragraph 31 (3) shall cease to have effect.

Schedule 10 In Forms 2, 3 and 4 after the word " constituency " there shall be inserted " or ward of district ".

Form 12 shall be omitted.

In Form 13 in the title, for the words from " *county* " there shall be substituted the words " *district council elections* ", for the words " County Borough/Borough " there shall be substituted the word " District " and the words " Aldermen and " shall be omitted; in the italicised note following the title for the word " triennial " there shall be substituted the words " local general " and the words from " the references " shall be omitted; in paragraph 1

the words "aldermen and" and the square brackets around the words "all wards of" shall be omitted, for the words "county borough/borough" there shall be substituted the words "district council"; for paragraph 2 there shall be substituted the following paragraph—

"2. One councillor is to be elected for each ward.";

in the second paragraph 1, the square brackets around "the . . . ward of" shall be omitted and for the words from "county" there shall be substituted the word "district"; in paragraph 5 for the words from the beginning to "elected" there shall be substituted the words "If more than one candidate stands validly nominated for any ward".

Form 14 shall be omitted.

In Form 15 the words from "County/" to "Rural" and the words "Electoral Division" wherever they occur shall be omitted; after the words "Election of" insert the word "councillor" and delete the side note; the word "alderman" where it twice occurs shall be omitted; in the Instructions on back of nomination paper, in paragraph 5 for the word "passing" there shall be substituted the word "making"; for "Act (Northern Ireland) 1962" there shall be substituted "(Northern Ireland) Order 1972"; for the words from "section 28" there shall be substituted the words "section 3 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 1972, as follows:—

- (a) *he has attained the age of 21 years; and*
- (b) *he is a British subject or person to whom section 121 of the Electoral Law Act (Northern Ireland) 1962 applies; and*
- (c) *either—*
 - (i) *he is a local elector for the district of the council for which he is being nominated as a candidate; or*
 - (ii) *he has, during the whole of the twelve months immediately preceding the day on which he is nominated as a candidate for a council, occupied as owner or tenant any land in the district of that council or resided in that district; or*
 - (iii) *his principal or only place of work during the twelve months immediately preceding the day on which he is nominated as a candidate has been in the district of the council for which he is being nominated.)";*

in paragraph 6 the words "county/district electoral division or" where they occur three times shall be omitted and in sub-paragraph (2) for the words "nomination papers" there shall be substituted "than one nomination paper" and the words from "than" to "filled" shall be omitted; and in paragraph 7 for the words from "county" where it first occurs there shall be substituted—

"district council . . . £15".

In Form 17 in paragraph 1 the words from "for" where it first occurs shall be omitted, in paragraph 2 for the words after "than" where it first occurs there shall be substituted the words "one councillor. If you vote for more than one person your vote will be wasted."; in paragraph 4 the words from "If" shall be omitted; in paragraph 6 for the words after "ballot box" there shall be substituted the words "Put your ballot paper into it" and the Note shall be omitted.

PROVISIONS OF PRINCIPAL ACT REPEALED

Section 2A	The words “ of parliamentary ” where they first occur and the words “ or a register of parliamentary and local electors ”.
Section 10	In subsection (3) the words “ of the constituency to which it relates ”.
Section 15	In subsection (2) the words from “ in the year ” to “ thereafter ”, from “ and within ” to “ Ministry ” and from “ within the ” and subsection (3).
Sections 16 to 20	
Section 21	Subsections (1), (3) and (4).
Section 22	In subsection (1) the words from the beginning to “ prescribe ”; in subsection (2) the words from “ together ” to “ subsection (1) ”.
Section 23	Subsections (2) and (5).
Section 25	Subsections (2) and (3).
Section 26	
Section 28	Subsection (2), in subsection (6) the words “ In relation to parliamentary elections ” and in subsection (7) the words from the beginning to “ but ”.
Section 29	Subsection (5).
Section 32	In subsection (1), the words from “ for each ” to “ Belfast ” and in paragraph (a) the words from “ in the register ” to “ borough ” and in subsection (4) the words “ and the revising officer ”.
Section 36	In subsection (2) the words from “ or in ” to “ or area ” and from “ or within ”.
Section 37	In subsection (4), the words from “ or in ” to “ thereto ”.
Section 57	In subsection (5), the words from “ in the council ”.
Section 62	In subsection (1), in paragraph (a) the words “ electoral division or ” and paragraph (b) and the preceding “ or ”.
Section 63	The words “ for a parliamentary election ”.
Section 64	The words “ for a local election ” and paragraphs (b) and (c) and the preceding “ or ”.
Section 65	In subsection (4), in paragraph (a) the words “ by electoral officers ”, in subsection (5) the words from “ and a scheme published ”.
Section 79	In subsection (4), the words “ town clerk, secretary or ”.
Section 81	In subsection (6), the words “ town clerk, secretary or ”.
Section 82	In subsection (2), the words “ town clerk, secretary or ”.
Section 83	In subsection (3), the words “ town clerk, secretary or ”.
Section 92	In subsection (3), paragraph (a).
Section 130	In subsection (1), in the definition of “ corporate office ” the words “ alderman ” and “ town commissioner ”; in the definition of “ election ” the words “ or electoral division ”; in the definition of “ local election ” the words “ or electoral division ”; the definitions of “ synchronised elections ” and “ triennial elections ”; and subsection (2).

- Schedule 3
- In Rule 1 (1) in Proceeding 3, in Column (1), the words from “by deputy electoral officers” and Proceeding 4.
- In Rule 3 (2), the words “within the area for which he is electoral officer”.
- Rules 4 and 5.
- In Rule 8 (2) the words “furnished under Rule 4 or Rule 5”.
- In Rule 9, in paragraph (1), the words from “for each” to “Belfast”; in paragraph (2) the words from the beginning to “county”; paragraph (3) and in paragraph (5) (d) the words “if the district is divided into wards”.
- In Rule 13, in paragraph (1), the words “(subject to paragraph (4) of this Rule)” and paragraph (4).
- In Rule 20, the words “whether or not divided into wards”.
- In Rule 24 (3), the words from “(or,” to “deputy electoral officer)”.
- Schedule 4
- Rule 4.
- In Rule 22 (1) the words from “for the county” to “situated”.
- Schedule 5
- Rule 5.
- In Rule 9 in paragraph (1) the words “subject to paragraph (2)” paragraph (2) and paragraph (5) (c).
- In Rule 17, paragraph (4) (a) (i), in paragraph 4 (a) (ii) the word “other”; paragraph (4) (b) (i) and in paragraph (4) (b) (ii) the word “other”.
- In Rule 21, paragraph (2), in paragraph (3) the words from “and may” to “synchronised elections”, from “for each such” to “single election” where they twice occur and paragraph (5).
- In Rule 22, paragraphs (8) and (9).
- In Rule 25, paragraph (b).
- In Rule 31, in paragraph (3) (a) the words “(i) where only one vacancy is to be filled” and from “or”.
- In Rule 34 (3) the words “electoral division or”.
- In Rule 35, paragraphs (1) (a) (iii) and (1) (b) (iii).
- In Rule 41, paragraph (1) (b) and (c) and in paragraph (1) (d), the words “subject to sub-paragraph (c)”.
- In Rule 42 (3), the words from “or received” to “that paragraph” and the words “subject to that sub-paragraph”.
- In Rule 43, in paragraph (7), the words “where only one election is being held” and paragraph (8).
- In Rule 45 (2) (i), the words “or particular candidates, as the case may be”.
- In Rule 46, in paragraph (1), in sub-paragraph (a) the words “Where only one vacancy is to be filled”, sub-paragraph (b) and in sub-paragraph (c) the words “or candidates”.
- In Rule 50, in the title the words “*of councillors of county boroughs and boroughs*” and in paragraph (2) (ii) the words from “as if”.
- Schedule 8
- In paragraph 6, in sub-paragraph (1), the words from “and if” and in sub-paragraph (2) the words “town clerk, secretary or” where they twice occur.
- In paragraph 9 (4) the words “division or” and “or to synchronised elections”.

- Schedule 9 In paragraph 11 (*d*) the words “ (whether synchronised or not) ”.
Paragraph 31 (3).
- Schedule 10 Form 12.
- In Form 13 the words “ ALDERMEN AND ”; in the italicised note following the title the words from “ the references ”; in paragraph 1 the words “ aldermen and ” and the square brackets around the words “ all wards of ”; in the second paragraph 1, the square brackets around “ the . . . ward of ”.
- Form 14.
- In Form 15 the words from “ County/ ” to “ Rural ”, and the words “ Electoral Division ” wherever they occur; the side note to “ Election of ” the word “ alderman ” where it twice occurs; in the Instructions on back of nomination paper, in paragraph 6 the words “ county/district electoral division or ” where they twice occur and in sub-paragraph (2) the words from “ than ” to “ filled ”.
- In Form 17, in paragraph 1 the words from “ for ” where it first occurs; in paragraph 4 the words from “ If ” and the Note.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Order.)

This Order provides for the election and terms of office of members of district councils, for the holding of the first elections to district councils according to the principle of proportional representation on the basis of transferable votes and for the appointment of a Chief Electoral Officer for Northern Ireland. It alters the period for the delivery of nomination papers and the hours of polling at parliamentary and local elections and the amount of deposits by, and the limit of expenses of, candidates and amends the provisions regarding the determination of the validity of nomination papers at local elections. The Order also provides for the payment of registration expenses in relation to the register of electors published in the year 1972 and makes amendments to the Electoral Law Act (Northern Ireland) 1962 consequent on the reorganisation of local government.