Doubtful ballot papers – allowed votes

Suggested examples of allowed votes are provided here. All of these examples are based on previous case law or taken from the specific rules for this election. Ultimately the decision on any particular ballot paper rests with the (Acting) Returning Officer and it is for them to determine their own view of the application of case law.

Case references can be found in Supporting a UK Parliamentary election – Dealing with doubtful ballot papers. Other references are to the UK Parliamentary Election Rules (Schedule 1 of the Representation of the People Act 1983).

**Allow for Boots – Cirencester case, Eley v. Durant and Rule 47(2)(c).**

**Allow for Miller – Woodward v. Sarsons and Rule 47(2)(c).**

**Allow for Boots – Rule 47(2)(b) and (c).**

**Allow for Hood – Ruffle v. Rogers and Rule 47(2)(b).**

**Allow for Miller – West Bromwich case and Rule 47(2)(a).**

**Allow for Clover – Rule 47(2)(b).**

**Allow for Barber – Berwick-upon-Tweed case and Rule 47(2)(a).**

**Allow for Grey – Rule 47(2)(b).**
Doubtful ballot papers – rejected votes

Suggested examples of rejected votes are provided here. All of these examples are based on previous case law or taken from the specific rules for this election.

Ultimately the decision on any particular ballot paper rests with the (Acting) Returning Officer and it is for them to determine their own view of the application of case law.

Case references can be found in Supporting a UK Parliamentary election – Dealing with doubtful ballot papers. Other references are to the UK Parliamentary Election Rules (Schedule 1 of the Representation of the People Act 1983).

Reject – voting for more than one candidate. Rule 47(1)(b).


Reject – voter can be identified. Woodward v. Sarsons, South Newington case and Rule 47(1)(c).

Reject – voting for more than one candidate. Rule 47(1)(b).