# Dealing with doubtful ballot papers

Supporting the Senedd Cymru election

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## 1 Introduction

1.1 This booklet is designed to assist Constituency Returning Officers (CROs) in adjudicating doubtful ballot papers at Senedd Cymru election.

This booklet should also be read in conjunction with our general guidance on managing the verification and count which can be found on our website.

- 1.2 The CRO may delegate the final decision on adjudication to one or more deputies, but this should be done explicitly in writing.
- 1.3 Because the CRO discharges a statutory function in adjudicating doubtful votes, the CRO or your authorised Deputy CRO, and not any other staff employed by the CRO at the count, should carry out this function.
- 1.4 One of the aims of this booklet is to help to ensure consistency of approach across Wales.
- 1.5 The booklet is based on existing doubtful ballot paper guidance for other elections, which has been developed in consultation with representatives from across the electoral community, including members of the Elections, Referendums and Registration Working Group. The Electoral Commission is grateful for their assistance throughout this process.
- 1.6 When undertaking the adjudication of ballot papers it is important to ensure that the process is carried out in full view of all candidates and agents present at the count, as well as in the presence of any Commission representatives and accredited observers in attendance.

# Managing the adjudication at Senedd Cymru elections

- 1.7 CROs should not wait until towards the end before starting the adjudication process; this should be carried out regularly throughout the count process in clear view of those entitled to be present.
- 1.8 Those ballot papers that have been rejected should be stamped with the word 'rejected' and placed in the appropriate package. All other ballot papers must be counted.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Rule 58(4), Schedule 5, The National Assembly for Wales (Representation of the People) Order 2007.

- 1.9 A statement must be prepared showing the number of ballot papers rejected under each of the following headings:<sup>2</sup>
- want of official mark
- giving more than one vote
- writing or mark by which the voter could be identified
- unmarked or void for uncertainty

<sup>2</sup> Rule 58(5), Schedule 5, The National Assembly for Wales (Representation of the People) Order 2007.

# 2 Principles of adjudication

- 2.1 Any doubtful ballot papers should be placed in a tray for the supervisor to take to the CRO for adjudication. The whole of the ballot paper needs to be considered when adjudicating doubtful votes and the front of the ballot papers should be carefully checked for any marks, in case the voter has made any marks outside of the voting boxes.
- 2.2 The CRO may only reject a ballot paper on the following grounds:
- want of official mark
- those giving of more than one vote
- those where the voter's intention is uncertain
- having any writing or mark by which the voter can be identified
- 2.3 A ballot paper must not be rejected because the vote is
- not marked in the proper place
- marked other than by a cross
- marked by more than one mark,

if an intention to give a vote for not more than one candidate clearly appears on the ballot paper.

- 2.4 Therefore, the following ballot papers will need to be passed to the CRO for adjudication:
- those that appear to have no official mark
- those appearing to contain more than one vote
- those with any writing or mark by which the voter may be identified
- those where there is no mark or uncertainty as to the vote
- 2.5 In addition, in order to help maintain the integrity of the election, the following ballot papers should be passed to the CRO for further consideration:
- any paper torn or damaged in any way
- any paper with anything unusual about it (for example, any paper that appears to have been altered, either with a clearly different writing instrument or with correction fluid).
- 2.6 In the case of ballot papers that appear to have been altered, CROs may consider packaging them separately in case of later challenge of investigation.
- 2.7 At a regional election, a ballot paper on which a vote is marked for a particular party list candidate on the party list of a registered political party shall, if otherwise valid, be treated as a vote for that party, whether or not there is also a vote marked for that party (see example on page 30).

#### Want of official mark

- 2.8 Absence of the official mark must lead to an automatic rejection. The CRO has no discretion in this regard.
- 2.9 However, where instead of a pre-printed official mark a stamping instrument has been used, a partial piercing or embossing of the ballot paper should not in itself result in a rejection.<sup>3</sup> As long as it is clear that the ballot paper has been stamped by polling station staff, the fact that not all the pins have stamped through the ballot paper or that the perforation is not wholly on the paper is immaterial.

### Ballot papers with more than one mark

- 2.10 This is a matter for the CRO's judgement.
- 2.11 Additional marks must not lead to a rejection if it is clear that those marks were not intended as a vote.<sup>4</sup>
- 2.12 A paper on which each of the candidates, or parties on the regional ballot paper, is marked 1, 2, 3, 4 etc instead of with a cross should not be rejected on the grounds of voting for more than one registered party or candidate. It is reasonable to conclude that in ranking the candidates / parties the voter is putting them into order of preference and a ballot paper marked in this way should therefore be accepted as a valid vote for the candidate / party against which the number 1 is marked. This position is consistent with the position set out in the legislation for Scottish Parliamentary elections which states that a paper marked 1,2,3 etc instead of a cross must be allowed as a good vote for the candidate against which the number 1 is marked.

#### Writing or mark by which voter can be identified

- 2.13 There are two aspects to this:
- either any writing or mark on the ballot paper which, of itself, identifies the voter, or
- the voter can be identified by such writing or mark
- 2.14 It is important to bear in mind that the legislation states that the voter **can be,** not may be or might possibly be, identified (which does not include the ballot paper number and unique identifying mark on the back of the ballot paper).

#### Writing or mark which, of itself, identifies the voter

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Cirencester case, Lawson v. Chester-Master (1893) 4 O'M & H 194 and Newington case, Lewis v. Shepperdson (1948) 2 All ER 503.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Woodward v Sarsons (1875), LR 10, CP74 and Cirencester case (1893).

- 2.15 A ballot paper should be rejected if:
- the electoral number of the voter written on the ballot paper unequivocally identifies the voter
- it may reasonably be held to bear the name (or signature) or unique address of the voter on its front.

# The voter can be indirectly identified by any writing or mark on the ballot paper

- 2.16 The CRO is not required to investigate the matter or require evidence to be produced to identify the writing or mark. But the CRO should consider any evidence that is given to them at the time.
- 2.17 Where there is doubt about the identity of the person who marked the ballot paper, the CRO should allow rather than reject the ballot paper.

#### Unmarked ballot papers

- 2.18 Unmarked ballot papers should be rejected, even if a mark on the back of the ballot paper shows through on the front.
- 2.19 A ballot paper marked by means other than a ballot pencil should not be rejected simply because of that.
- 2.20 Marks other than a cross, however faint, may still be valid.

#### Decisions on ballot papers

2.21 The decision of the CRO is final, but may be subject to review on an election petition.

#### Void for uncertainty

- 2.22 Establishing voter intention is crucial when determining doubtful ballot papers.
- 2.23 The key phrase in the Rules is: 'A ballot paper [...] shall not [...] be deemed to be void if an intention how the vote is to be given **clearly** appears.'
- 2.24 Each ballot paper should be considered on its own merits and decisions should be taken on a case-by-case basis.
- 2.25 The key question you should ask is whether the voter has, on the face of the paper, indicated a reasonably clear intention to vote for a candidate or party.

# 3 Summary

- 3.1 The principles to be applied are set out above. In practical terms, the general approach can be summarised as follows:
- always be clear and consistent
- take time to ensure that a considered decision is given in every case
- determine whether the intention of the voter clearly appears on the ballot paper. As part of this, CROs will need to:
  - consider the whole of the ballot paper
  - consider whether the way a ballot paper has been marked means that a vote for one candidate or party is clearly apparent

# 4 Examples

- 4.1 The examples provided here under 'allowed' and 'rejected' headings are based on previous case law or taken from the specific rules for the elections. Ultimately, the decision on any particular ballot paper, including the question as to whether an intention to vote for a particular candidate or party appears, rests with the CRO.
- 4.2 To avoid repetition, most of the examples provided in this booklet are of the constituency ballot paper only. The same principles apply to regional ballot papers and the examples should be read across to any regional doubtful ballot papers you may need to adjudicate. There are, however, a number of regional doubtful examples that have been included in the booklet that relate to markings against the names on a party list.

#### Case law references

4.3 Abbreviated case law references have been used throughout this booklet. The following table lists the full case law references.

Abbreviation	Full reference
Abbicviation	i un i cici ci icc

Berwick-upon-Tweed case Berwick-upon-Tweed case [1880] 30'M&H 178

Buckrose case Buckrose case, Sykes v. McArthur[1886] 5 O'M&H 110

Cirencester case Lawson v. Chester Master [1893]

Cornwell v Marshall Cornwell v. Marshall [1977] 75 LGR 676 DC

Eley v Durant Eley v. Durant [1900] 4SJ 430

Levers v Morris Levers v. Morris [1971] 3 All ER QBD

Rowe v Cox Rowe v. Cox [2001] QBD, Case M/294/01

Ruffle v Rogers Ruffle v. Rogers [1982] QB 1220

South Newington case South Newington case, Lewis v. Shepperdson [1948] 2

All ER 503

West Bromwich case West Bromwich case, Hazel v. Viscount Lewisham

[1911] 6 O'M&H 256

Woodward v Sarsons Woodward v. Sarsons [1875] LR10 CP 733

# Constituency ballot paper: Allowed votes

The following are suggested examples of allowed votes.

Senedd Cymru election Ballot paper to elect the Member of the Senedd for theconstituency	Etholiad Senedd Cymru Papur pleidleisio i ethol Aelod o'r Senedd ar gyfer etholaeth
Vote <b>for only one candidate</b> by putting a cross <b>X</b> in the box next to your choice	Pleidleisiwch ar gyfer un ymgeisydd yn unig trwy roi croes  Y yn y blwch wrth ochr eich dewis
Candidate A - Ymgeisydd A Party A - Plaid A	
Candidate B - Ymgeisydd B Party B - Plaid B	
Candidate C - Ymgeisydd C Party C - Plaid C	
Candidate D - Ymgeisydd D Party D - Plaid D	
Candidate E - Ymgeisydd E Independent / Annibynnol	
Candidate F - Ymgeisydd F Independent / Annibynnol	
Candidate G - Ymgeisydd G Independent / Annibynnol	

Allow for candidate A – Berwick-upon-Tweed case and Rule 58(2)(a).

Senedd Cymru election Ballot paper to elect the Member of the Senedd for the	Etholiad Senedd Cymru Papur pleidleisio i ethol Aelod o'r Senedd ar gyfer etholaeth	
Vote <b>for only one candidate</b> by putting a cross <b>X</b> in the box next to your choice	Pleidleisiwch ar gyfer un ymgeisydd yn unig trwy roi croes Y yn y blwch wrth ochr eich dewis	
Candidate A - Ymgeisyd Party A - Plaid A	d A → 🙀	
Candidate B - Ymgeisydd B Party B - Plaid B  Candidate C - Ymgeisydd C Party C - Plaid C		
		Candidate D - Ymgeisydd D Party D - Plaid D
Candidate E - Ymgeisydd E Independent / Annibynnol		
Candidate F - Ymgeisyd Independent / Annibynnol	Candidate F - Ymgeisydd F Independent / Annibynnol	
Candidate G - Ymgeisydd G Independent / Annibynnol		

Allow for Candidate G – Cirencester case, *Eley v Durant* and Rule 58(2)(c).

	Senedd Cymru election Ballot paper to elect the Member of the Senedd for the	Etholiad Senedd Cymru Papur pleidleisio i ethol Aelod o'r Senedd ar gyfer etholaeth
	Vote <b>for only one candidate</b> by putting a cross <b>X</b> in the box next to your choice	Pleidleisiwch ar gyfer un ymgeisydd yn unig trwy roi croes  Y yn y blwch wrth ochr eich dewis
	<b>Candidate A - Ymgeisyd</b> Party A - Plaid A	d A → □
	Candidate B - Ymgeisydd B Party B - Plaid B  Candidate C - Ymgeisydd C Party C - Plaid C	
	Candidate D - Ymgeisyd Party D - Plaid D	d D
	Candidate E - Ymgeisydd E Independent / Annibynnol	
	Candidate F - Ymgeisydd F Independent / Annibynnol	
	Candidate G - Ymgeisydd G Independent / Annibynnol	

Allow for Candidate F - Rule 58(2)(a).

	Senedd Cymru election Ballot paper to elect the Member of the Senedd for the	Etholiad Senedd Cymru Papur pleidleisio i ethol Aelod o'r Senedd ar gyfer etholaeth
	Vote <b>for only one candidate</b> by putting a cross <b>✗</b> in the box next to your choice	Pleidleisiwch ar gyfer un ymgeisydd yn unig trwy roi croes  Y yn y blwch wrth ochr eich dewis
	Candidate A - Ymgeisydd A Party A - Plaid A	
	Candidate B - Ymgeisydd B Party B - Plaid B  Candidate C - Ymgeisydd C Party C - Plaid C	
	Candidate D - Ymgeisydd D Party D - Plaid D	
	Candidate E - Ymgeisydd E Independent / Annibynnol	
	Candidate F - Ymgeisydd F Independent / Annibynnol	
	Candidate G - Ymgeisydd G Independent / Annibynnol	

Allow for Candidate B – Rule 58(2)(a).

	Senedd Cymru election Ballot paper to elect the Member of the Senedd for the	Etholiad Senedd Cymru Papur pleidleisio i ethol Aelod o'r Senedd ar gyfer etholaeth	
	Vote <b>for only one candidate</b> by putting a cross <b>X</b> in the box next to your choice	Pleidleisiwch ar gyfer un ymgeisydd yn unig trwy roi croes  Y yn y blwch wrth ochr eich dewis	
	Candidate A - Ymgeisyd Party A - Plaid A	d A	
	Candidate B - Ymgeisydd B Party B - Plaid B  Candidate C - Ymgeisydd C Party C - Plaid C		
	Candidate D - Ymgeisydd D Party D - Plaid D		
	Candidate E - Ymgeisydd E Independent / Annibynnol		
	Candidate F - Ymgeisydd F Independent / Annibynnol		
	Candidate G - Ymgeisydd G Independent / Appibynnol		

Allow for Candidate G - Rule 58(2)(a) and (b).

Senedd Cymru election Ballot paper to elect the Member of the Senedd for the	Etholiad Senedd Cymru Papur pleidleisio i ethol Aelod o'r Senedd ar gyfer etholaeth
Vote <b>for only one candidate</b> by putting a cross <b>X</b> in the box next to your choice	Pleidleisiwch ar gyfer un ymgeisydd yn unig trwy roi croes  X yn y blwch wrth ochr eich dewis
Candidate A - Ymgeisyd Party A - Plaid A	
Candidate B - Ymgeisyd Party B - Plaid B	d B
Candidate C - Ymgeisydd C Party C - Plaid C	
Candidate D - Ymgeisyd Party D - Plaid D	
Candidate E - Ymgeisydd Independent / Annibynnol	
Candidate F - Ymgeisyd Independent / Annibynnol	
Candidate G - Ymgeisydd G Independent / Annibynnol	

Allow for Candidate A – Ruffle and Rogers and Rule 58(2)(a) and (b) [provided there is no other candidate by the name of A].

Senedd Cymru e Ballot paper to ele Member of the Se for thecons  Vote for only one can putting a cross I in the to your choice	ect the Pa Ae eth tituency Indidate by Indidate by Indidate by Indidate by Indidate India	holiad Senedd Cy pur pleidleisio i eth lod o'r Senedd ar g holaeth	gyfer 
Candidate A - N Party A - Plaid A		<b>\</b>	2
	Candidate B - Ymgeisydd B Party B - Plaid B		4
Candidate C - \ Party C - Plaid (			
Candidate D - Ymgeisydd D Party D - Plaid D		3	
	Candidate E - Ymgeisydd E Independent / Annibynnol		6
	Candidate F - Ymgeisydd F Independent / Annibynnol		5
Candidate G - \ Independent / A			1

Allow for Candidate C – Rule 58(2)(b).

	Senedd Cymru election Ballot paper to elect the Member of the Senedd for the	Etholiad Senedd Cymru Papur pleidleisio i ethol Aelod o'r Senedd ar gyfer etholaeth
	Vote <b>for only one candidate</b> by putting a cross <b>✗</b> in the box next to your choice	Pleidleisiwch ar gyfer un ymgeisydd yn unig trwy roi croes  Y yn y blwch wrth ochr eich dewis
	Candidate A - Ymgeisyd Party A - Plaid A	d A
	Candidate B - Ymgeisydd B Party B - Plaid B  Candidate C - Ymgeisydd C Party C - Plaid C	
	Candidate D - Ymgeisyd Party D - Plaid D	d D
	Candidate E - Ymgeisydd E Independent / Annibynnol	
	Candidate F - Ymgeisydd F Independent / Annibynnol	
	Candidate G - Ymgeisydd G Independent / Annibynnol	

Allow for Candidate B – *Levers v Morris* and Rule 58(2)(b). See also Schofield's Election Law, Volume 5, Appendix E, E20 (Shaw and Sons, 2008 as update by supplement issue no.1).

# Rejected votes

The following are suggested examples of rejected votes.

B M fo	Genedd Cymru election Ballot paper to elect the Member of the Senedd or the	Etholiad Senedd Cymru Papur pleidleisio i ethol Aelod o'r Senedd ar gyfer etholaeth
p	vote <b>for only one candidate</b> by butting a cross <b>X</b> in the box next by your choice	Pleidleisiwch ar gyfer un ymgeisydd yn unig trwy roi croes  X yn y blwch wrth ochr eich dewis
	Candidate A - Ymgeisyd Party A - Plaid A	d A → 🔀
	Candidate B - Ymgeisydd B Party B - Plaid B  Candidate C - Ymgeisydd C Party C - Plaid C	
	<b>Candidate D - Ymgeisyd</b> Party D - Plaid D	d D Yes
	Candidate E - Ymgeisydd E Independent / Annibynnol	
	Candidate F - Ymgeisydd F Independent / Annibynnol	
	Candidate G - Ymgeisydd G Independent / Annibynnol	

Reject – more than one vote given. Rule 58(1)(b).

E N f	Senedd Cymru election Ballot paper to elect the Member of the Senedd for the	Etholiad Senedd Cymru Papur pleidleisio i ethol Aelod o'r Senedd ar gyfer etholaeth
þ	Vote <b>for only one candidate</b> by putting a cross <b>X</b> in the box next o your choice	Pleidleisiwch ar gyfer un ymgeisydd yn unig trwy roi croes  X yn y blwch wrth ochr eich dewis
	<b>Candidate A - Ymgeisyd</b> Party A - Plaid A	d A
	Candidate B - Ymgeisydd B Party B - Plaid B  Candidate C - Ymgeisydd C Party C - Plaid C	
	Candidate D - Ymgeisydd D Party D - Plaid D	
	Candidate E - Ymgeisydd E F Brown Independent / Annibynnol 11 Poppy Drive	
	Candidate F - Ymgeisydd F Independent / Annibynnol	
	Candidate G - Ymgeisydd G Independent / Annibynnol	

Reject – voter can be identified. *Woodward v Sarsons*, South Newington Case, and Rule 58(1)(c).

	Senedd Cymru election Ballot paper to elect the Member of the Senedd for the	Etholiad Senedd Cymru Papur pleidleisio i ethol Aelod o'r Senedd ar gyfer etholaeth
	Vote <b>for only one candidate</b> by putting a cross <b>X</b> in the box next to your choice	Pleidleisiwch ar gyfer un ymgeisydd yn unig trwy roi croes  X yn y blwch wrth ochr eich dewis
	<b>Candidate A - Ymgeisyd</b> Party A - Plaid A	d A
	Candidate B - Ymgeisydd B Party B - Plaid B	
	Candidate C - Ymgeisyd Party C - Plaid C	d C
	<b>Candidate D - Ymgeisyd</b> Party D - Plaid D	d D
	Candidate E - Ymgeisyd Independent / Annibynnol	d E
	Candidate F - Ymgeisydd F Independent / Annibynnol	
	Candidate G - Ymgeisydd G Independent / Annibynnol	

Reject – more than one vote given. Rule 58(1)(b).

Senedd Cymru election Ballot paper to elect the Member of the Senedd for the	Etholiad Senedd Cymru Papur pleidleisio i ethol Aelod o'r Senedd ar gyfer etholaeth
Vote <b>for only one candidate</b> by putting a cross in the box next to your choice	Pleidleisiwch ar gyfe un ymgeisydd yn ung trwy roi croes  X yn y blwch with ochr eich dewis
Candidate A - Ymgeisyd Party A - Plaid A	d A
Candidate B - Ymgeisy Party B - Plaid B	d B
Candidate C - Ymgeisyd Party C - Plaid C	dc 🗱
Candidate D - Ymge/syd Party D - Plaid D	d D
Candidate E - Ymgeisyd Independent / Annibynnol	d E
Candidate - Ymgeisyd Independent / Annibynnol	d F
Cardidate G - Ymgeisyd independent / Annibynnol	d G

Reject – voter's intention uncertain. Rowe v Cox and Rule 58(1)(b).

Senedd Cymru election Ballot paper to elect the Member of the Senedd for the				
Vote <b>for only one candidate</b> by putting a cross <b>X</b> in the box next to your choice  Pleidleisiwch ar gyfer <b>un</b> ymgeisydd yn unig trwy roi croes  ▼ yn y blwch wrth ochr eich dewis				
Candidate A - Ymgeisyd Party A - Plaid A	d A → □			
Candidate B - Ymgeisydd B Party B - Plaid B				
Candidate C - Ymgeisydd C Party C - Plaid C				
Candidate D - Ymgeisyd Party D - Plaid D	d D			
Candidate E - Ymgeisydd E Independent / Annibynnol				
Candidate F - Ymgeisydo Independent / Annibynnol	d F			
Candidate G - Ymgeisydd G Independent / Annibynnol				

Reject – ballot paper unmarked. Rule 58(1)(d).

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	Senedd Cymru election Ballot paper to elect the Member of the Senedd for the	Etholiad Senedd Cymru Papur pleidleisio i ethol Aelod o'r Senedd ar gyfer etholaeth		
	Vote <b>for only one candidate</b> by putting a cross <b>X</b> in the box next to your choice	Pleidleisiwch ar gyfer un ymgeisydd yn unig trwy roi croes  X yn y blwch wrth ochr eich dewis		
	Candidate A - Ymgeisydd A Party A - Plaid A			
	Candidate B - Ymgeisyd Party B - Plaid B	d B		
	Candidate C - Ymgeisyd Party C - Plaid C	d C		
	Candidate D - Ymgeisydd D Party D - Plaid D			
	Candidate E - Ymgeisyd Independent / Annibynnol	d E		
	Candidate F - Ymgeisydd Independent / Annibynnol	d F		
	Candidate G - Ymgeisydd G Independent / Annibynnol			

Reject – voter's intention uncertain. Rule 58(1)(d).

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	Senedd Cymru election Ballot paper to elect the Member of the Senedd for the	Etholiad Senedd Cymru Papur pleidleisio i ethol Aelod o'r Senedd ar gyfer etholaeth			
	Vote <b>for only one candidate</b> by putting a cross <b>X</b> in the box next to your choice  Pleidleisiwch ar gyfer <b>un</b> ymgeisydd yn unig trwy roi croe  ymgeisydd yn unig trwy roi croe  ymgeisydd yn unig trwy roi croe  yn y blwch wrth ochr eich dew				
	<b>Candidate A - Ymgeisyd</b> Party A - Plaid A	d A →			
	Candidate B - Ymgeisydd B Party B - Plaid B				
	Candidate C - Ymgeisyd Party C - Plaid C	d C			
	Candidate D - Ymgeisyd Party D - Plaid D	d D			
	Candidate E - Ymgeisyd Independent / Annibynnol	d E			
	d F				
	Candidate G - Ymgeisydd G Independent / Annibynnol				

Reject – voter's intention uncertain. Buckrose case and Rule 58(1)(d).

Senedd Cymru election Ballot paper to elect the Member of the Senedd for the	Etholiad Senedd Cymru Papur pleidleisio i ethol Aelod o'r Senedd ar gyfer etholaeth	
Vote <b>for only one candidate</b> by putting a cross <b>X</b> in the box next to your choice	Pleidleisiwch ar gyfer un ymgeisydd yn unig trwy roi croes  yn y blwch wrth ochr eich dewis	
Candidate A - Ymgeisyd Party A - Plaid A	dd A 💠 🔀	
Candidate B - Ymgeisydd B Party B - Plaid B		
Candidate C - Ymgeisy Party C - Plaid C	dd C	
Candidate D - Ymgeisy Party D - Plaid D	dd D 🗡	
Candidate E - Ymgeisyd Independent / Annibynno		
Candidate F - Ymgeisyd Independent / Annibynno	1 11	
Candidate G - Ymgeisy Independent / Annibynno	1 11	

Reject – more than one vote given. Rule 58(1)(b).

# Considerations specific to regional ballot papers – examples of allowed votes

Ballot paper to elect the Member of the Senedd for theregion  Vote only once by puting a cross  in the box next to your choice			Etholiad Senedd Cymru  Papur pleidleisio i ethol Aelod o'r Senedd ar gyfer rhanbarth			
						Pleidleisiwch <b>ur</b> yn y blwch wrth
Blog	ggs Party					
	Ali Barber		Blossom Tre		J4r	
	Dusty Boots Earl Grey		Roger Jame August Cae		<b>₩</b>	
	Robin Hood		Sierra Leon		·' <b>小</b> ''	
	Mary Contrary		Apple Orch			
Cro	mwell Party					
1.	Terry Teller	6.	Orion Belt		•	
2.	Jane Doe	7.	Anita Patel		<b>•</b> .•	
	John Smith		Blu Sapphir		••	
	Harper Graham		William Finn			
5.	Benedict Eggs	10.	Santa Valer	ntine		
Nigh	ntingale Party					
1.	Charles Bucket	6.	Basil Bush		00	
	Kris Kringle	7.	Sunny Day		$\mathbf{H}$	
	Hamish Scot Pepper Pott		Rain Storm April Showe		00	
	Susannah Salt		Winston Wo			
J.	Susainan Sait	10.	VVIIISIOII VVC	onder		
Peli	can Party					
	Michael Angelos		Victoria Line		٨	
	Suki Moon		Briana Spea		/\	
	May Day River Deep		Sandy Shor Roman Rui			
	Dallas Cowboy		Edward Cor			
ıud	or Party					
	Leif Fall		Jemima Du		4	
	William Shakes Grace Period		Lincoln Pres		*	
	Coral Reef		Satsuma Ky November F		~ \ `	
	Vincent Flowers		Wendy Mille			
Bak	er, Cupcake					
	pendent					

Allow for Bloggs party – vote marked for a particular candidate on a party list. Rule 58(3).

Senedd Cymru election			Etholiad Senedd Cymru		
Ballot paper to elect the Member of the Senedd for theregion  Vote only once by puting a cross  in the box next to your choice		Papur pleidleisio i ethol Aelod o'r Sened ar gyfer rhanbarth			
		Pleidleisiwch <b>unwaith yn unig</b> trwy roi croes yn y blwch wrth ochr eich dewis			
			•		
3log	ggs Party				
1.	Ali Barber	6. Blossom T	ree	\ <b>4</b>	
	Dusty Boots	7. Roger Jam		<b>XX</b>	
	Earl Grey	8. August Ca 9. Sierra Leoi		<sup>ኅ</sup> ሑቦ	
	Robin Hood Mary Contrary	9. Sierra Leoi 10. Apple Orch			
		To: Apple Gra			
Cro	mwell Party				
1.	Terry Teller	6. Orion Belt		•	
2.		<ol><li>Anita Patel</li></ol>		<b>A A</b>	
3.	John Smith	<ol><li>Blu Sapphi</li></ol>	re	**	
4.	Harper Graham	<ol><li>William Fin</li></ol>	n		
5.	Benedict Eggs	10. Santa Vale	ntine		L
Nigh	ntingale Party				
1	Charles Bucket	6. Basil Bush			
	Kris Kringle	7. Sunny Day		ф	
	Hamish Scot	8. Rain Storm		ф	
	Pepper Pott	9. April Show			
5.	Susannah Salt	10. Winston W			
Peli	can Party				
1	Michael Angelos	6. Victoria Lir			
	Suki Moon	7. Briana Spe		$\wedge$	
	May Day	8. Sandy Sho		$\longrightarrow$	
	River Deep	9. Roman Ru			
	Dallas Cowboy	10. Edward Co	nquerer		
ud	or Party				
1	Loif Foll	G lamaina - D	nok		
	Leif Fall William Shakes	6. Jemima Du 7. Lincoln Pre			
	Grace Period	8. Satsuma K		*	
	Coral Reef	9. November	•	•	
	Vincent Flowers	10. Wendy Mill			
Bak	er, Cupcake				
	pendent				

Allow for Tudor Party – vote marked elsewhere than in the proper place and otherwise than by means of a cross. Rule 58(2).

Se	nedd Cymru electi	on	Etholiad	Senedd Cymru		
Ballot paper to elect the Member of the Senedd for theregion				Papur pleidleisio i ethol Aelod o'r Senedd ar gyfer rhanbarth		
	e <b>only once</b> by puting a next to your choice	a cross 🗶 i	n the Pleidleisiwo	ch <b>unwaith yn unig</b> t wrth ochr eich dewis	rwy roi croes	
Blog	ggs Party					
	Ali Barber		ossom Tree	J4r		
	Dusty Boots		oger James	<b>₩</b>		
	Earl Grey Robin Hood		ugust Caesar erra Leone	′'ሉ'`		
	Mary Contrary		ople Orchard			
:ro	mwell Party					
	Terry Teller		rion Belt	.♦.		
	Jane Doe		nita Patel	<b>♦</b> <u>`</u>		
	John Smith Harper Graham		u Sapphire ′illiam Finn	▼		
	Benedict Eggs		anta Valentine			
٠.	Donodiot Eggo		anta valontino			
4.	Chades Bucket Kris Kringle namish Scot Pepper Pott Susannah Salt	8. R 9. A	unny Day am Storm oril Showers linston Wonder	$\mathbb{H}$		
Peli	can Party					
1.	Michael Angelos	6. V	ctoria Line	<b>A</b>		
	Suki Moon		riana Spears			
	May Day		andy Shore	$\longrightarrow$		
	River Deep		oman Ruin			
5.	Dallas Cowboy	10. E	dward Conquerer			
Γud	or Party					
	Leif Fall		emima Duck	<u></u>		
	William Shakes		ncoln President	*		
	Grace Period Coral Reef		atsuma Kyoto ovember Rain	~ \		
5.	Vincent Flowers		endy Miller			
	er, Cupcake					
ndep	pendent					

Allow for Nightingale party – vote for a particular candidate on a party list. Rule 58(3).

Seneda Cymru election	Etholiad :	Etholiad Senedd Cymru		
Ballot paper to elect the Me Senedd for the		Papur pleidleisio i ethol Aelod o'r Senedd ar gyfer rhanbarth  Pleidleisiwch unwaith yn unig trwy roi croes yn y blwch wrth ochr eich dewis		
Vote <b>only once</b> by puting a cros box next to your choice				
Diames Banto				
Bloggs Party				
<ol> <li>Ali Barber</li> <li>Dusty Boots</li> <li>Earl Grey</li> <li>Robin Hood</li> <li>Mary Contrary</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Blossom</li> <li>Roger J.</li> <li>August G</li> <li>Sierra L.</li> <li>Apple O</li> </ol>	ames Caesar eone	*	<b>X</b>
Cromwell Party				
<ol> <li>Terry Teller</li> <li>Jane Doe</li> <li>John Smith</li> <li>Harper Graham</li> <li>Benedict Eggs</li> </ol>	6. Orion Be 7. Anita Pa 8. Blu Sap 9. William 10. Santa V	itel phire Finn	*	
Nightingale Party				
<ol> <li>Charles Bucket</li> <li>Kris Kringle</li> <li>Hamish Scot</li> <li>Pepper Pott</li> <li>Susannah Salt</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Basil Bu</li> <li>Sunny D</li> <li>Rain Sto</li> <li>April Sho</li> <li>Winston</li> </ol>	orm owers	$\mathfrak{H}$	
Pelican Party				
<ol> <li>Michael Angelos</li> <li>Suki Moon</li> <li>May Day</li> <li>River Deep</li> <li>Dallas Cowboy</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Victoria</li> <li>Briana S</li> <li>Sandy S</li> <li>Roman</li> <li>Edward</li> </ol>	Spears Shore Ruin	$\triangle$	
Tudor Party				
<ol> <li>Leif Fall</li> <li>William Shakes</li> <li>Grace Period</li> <li>Coral Reef</li> <li>Vincent Flowers</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Jemima</li> <li>Lincoln</li> <li>Satsuma</li> <li>Novemb</li> <li>Wendy I</li> </ol>	President a Kyoto er Rain	*	
<ol> <li>Grace Period</li> <li>Coral Reef</li> </ol>	Satsuma     Novemb	a Kyoto er Rain	*	

Allow for Bloggs Party – Berwick-upon-Tweed case and Rule 58(2)(a).

Senedd Cymru election	Etholiad Senedd Cymru
Ballot paper to elect the Member of the Senedd for theregion	Papur pleidleisio i ethol Aelod o'r Senedd ar gyfer rhanbarth
Vote <b>only once</b> by puting a cross  in the box next to your choice	Pleidleisiwch <b>unwaith yn unig</b> trwy roi croes yn y blwch wrth ochr eich dewis

Bloggs Party			
<ol> <li>Ali Barber</li> <li>Dusty Boots</li> <li>Earl Grey</li> <li>Robin Hood</li> <li>Mary Contrary</li> </ol>	<ul><li>6. Blossom Tree</li><li>7. Roger James</li><li>8. August Caesar</li><li>9. Sierra Leone</li><li>10. Apple Orchard</li></ul>	*	
Cromwell Party			
<ol> <li>Terry Teller</li> <li>Jane Doe</li> <li>John Smith</li> <li>Harper Graham</li> <li>Benedict Eggs</li> </ol>	<ul><li>6. Orion Belt</li><li>7. Anita Patel</li><li>8. Blu Sapphire</li><li>9. William Finn</li><li>10. Santa Valentine</li></ul>	**	
Nightingale Party			
<ol> <li>Charles Bucket</li> <li>Kris Kringle</li> <li>Hamish Scot</li> <li>Pepper Pott</li> <li>Susannah Salt</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Basil Bush</li> <li>Sunny Day</li> <li>Rain Storm</li> <li>April Showers</li> <li>Winston Wonder</li> </ol>	$\mathbb{H}$	
Pelican Party			
<ol> <li>Michael Angelos</li> <li>Suki Moon</li> <li>May Day</li> <li>River Deep</li> <li>Dallas Cowboy</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Victoria Line</li> <li>Briana Spears</li> <li>Sandy Shore</li> <li>Roman Ruin</li> <li>Edward Conquerer</li> </ol>	$\triangle$	
Tudor Party			
<ol> <li>Leif Fall</li> <li>William Shakes</li> <li>Grace Period</li> <li>Coral Reef</li> <li>Vincent Flowers</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Jemima Duck</li> <li>Lincoln President</li> <li>Satsuma Kyoto</li> <li>November Rain</li> <li>Wendy Miller</li> </ol>	*	
Baker, Cupcake			
Independent			

Allow for Baker – Cirencester case, *Eley v Durant* and Rule 58(2)(c).

#### **Senedd Cymru election Etholiad Senedd Cymru** Papur pleidleisio i ethol Aelod o'r Senedd Ballot paper to elect the Member of the Senedd for the .....region ar gyfer rhanbarth..... Vote **only once** by puting a cross **x** in the Pleidleisiwch unwaith yn unig trwy roi croes box next to your choice yn y blwch wrth ochr eich dewis **Bloggs Party** 1. Ali Barber 6. Blossom Tree 2. 3. **Dusty Boots** Roger James Earl Grey Robin Hood August Caesar Sierra Leone 5. Mary Contrary 10. Apple Orchard **Cromwell Party** Terry Teller 6. Orion Belt Jane Doe Anita Patel Blu Sapphire William Finn 3. 4. John Smith Harper Graham 5. Benedict Eggs 10. Santa Valentine **Nightingale Party** Charles Bucket 6. Basil Bush Kris Kringle Sunny Day 3. Hamish Scot Rain Storm Pepper Pott April Showers 5. Susannah Salt 10. Winston Wonder **Pelican Party** 1. Michael Angelos 6. Victoria Line Suki Moon Briana Spears May Day Sandy Shore River Deep Roman Ruin 5. Dallas Cowboy 10. Edward Conquerer **Tudor Party** Leif Fall William Shakes Jemima Duck Lincoln President Grace Period Satsuma Kyoto Coral Reef November Rain 5. Vincent Flowers 10. Wendy Miller Baker, Cupcake Independent

Allow for Nightingale Party – Rule 58(2)(b).

# Considerations specific to regional ballot papers – examples of rejected votes

Ballot paper to elect the Member of the Senedd for theregion		Papur pleidleisio i ethol Aelod o'r Sened ar gyfer rhanbarth		
	e <b>only once</b> by puting a next to your choice	a cross 🗶 in the	Pleidleisiwch <b>unwaith y</b> yn y blwch wrth ochr eicl	n unig trwy roi croes a
Blog	ggs Party			
	Ali Barber	<ol><li>Blossom Tr</li></ol>		.   •
	Dusty Boots	<ol><li>Roger Jame</li></ol>		
	Earl Grey	August Cae		
	Robin Hood	<ol><li>Sierra Leor</li></ol>		
5.	Mary Contrary	10. Apple Orch	ard	
Cro	mwell Party			
1.	Terry Teller	6. Orion Belt	<b>^</b>	
	Jane Doe	<ol><li>Anita Patel</li></ol>	•X	
	John Smith	<ol><li>Blu Sapphii</li></ol>		
4.	Harper Graham	9. William Fin	า	
5.	Benedict Eggs	10. Santa Valei	ntine	
Nigl	ntingale Party			
1.	Charles Bucket	6. Basil Bush	0.0	
	Kris Kringle	7. Sunny Day	44	,
	Hamish Scot	8. Rain Storm	σt	)
	Pepper Pott	9. April Showe		
5.	Susannah Salt	10. Winston Wo	onder	
Peli	can Party			
1.	Michael Angelos	6. Victoria Lin	e A	
	Suki Moon	7. Briana Spe		
	May Day	8. Sandy Sho		7
	River Deep	9. Roman Rui		
5.	Dallas Cowboy	10. Edward Co	nquerer	
Tud	or Party			
1	Leif Fall	6. Jemima Du	ck •	
	William Shakes	7. Lincoln Pre		
	Grace Period	8. Satsuma K		[
	Coral Reef	9. November		
5.	Vincent Flowers	10. Wendy Mi <b>l</b> l	er	
Bak	er, Cupcake			
	pendent			

Etholiad Senedd Cymru

Senedd Cymru election

Reject – voting for more than one registered party or individual candidate. Rule 58(3).

Senedd Cymru election			Etholiad Senedd Cymru			
Ballot paper to elect the Member of the Senedd for theregion  Vote only once by puting a cross  in the box next to your choice				Papur pleidleisio i ethol Aelod o'r Senedd ar gyfer rhanbarth  Pleidleisiwch unwaith yn unig trwy roi croes yn y blwch wrth ochr eich dewis		
RIO	ggs Party					
	Ali Barber		Blossom Tre		74r	
	Dusty Boots		Roger Jame		<b>₩</b>	
	Earl Grey Robin Hood		August Cae Sierra Leon		<u>ገ</u> ሉነ	
	Mary Contrary		Apple Orcha			
Cro	mwell Party					
1.	Terry Teller	6.	Orion Belt		•	
2.	Jane Doe	7.	Anita Patel		<b>•</b> .•	
	John Smith		Blu Sapphir		•	
	•		William Finr			
5.	Benedict Eggs	10. Santa Valen		ntine		
Nigl	ntingale Party					
	Charles Bucket		Basil Bush		0.0	
	Kris Kringle		Sunny Day		$\blacksquare$	
	Hamish Scot		Rain Storm	arc.	00	
	Pepper Pott Susannah Salt		April Showe Winston Wo			
Peli	can Party					
1	Michael Angelos	6	Victoria Line	.X	•	
	Suki Moon	7.	Briana Spea	ars	$\wedge$	
3.	May Day	8.	Sandy Shor	е	$\longrightarrow$	
	River Deep		Roman Ruii			
5.	Dallas Cowboy	10.	Edward Cor	nquerer		
Γud	or Party					
	Leif Fall		Jemima Du		4	
	William Shakes		Lincoln Pres			
	Grace Period Coral Reef		Satsuma Ky		~	
4. 5.	Vincent Flowers		November F			
ə. —	vincent Flowers	10.	Wendy Mille	<del></del>		
	er, Cupcake					
Indep	pendent					

Reject – voting for more than one registered party or individual candidate. Rule 58(3).

Senedd Cymru election			Etholiad Senedd Cymru  Papur pleidleisio i ethol Aelod o'r Senedd ar gyfer rhanbarth  Pleidleisiwch unwaith yn unig trwy roi croes yn y blwch wrth ochr eich dewis			
Ballot paper to elect the Member of the Senedd for theregion  Vote only once by puting a cross  in the box next to your choice						
3log	ggs Party					
	Ali Barber		Blossom Tre		J4r	
	Dusty Boots Earl Grey		Roger Jame August Cae:		<b>३</b> ₩\$	
	Robin Hood		Rugusi Cae: Sierra Leone		''ተ'	
	5. Mary Contrary 10. Apple Orcha					
Cro	mwell Party					
	Terry Teller		Orion Belt	>	•	
	Jane Doe		Anita Patel	-	<b>*</b> *	
	<ol> <li>John Smith</li> <li>Harper Graham</li> <li>William Fine</li> </ol>				▼	
	5. Benedict Eggs 10. Santa Vale					
				·		
Nigh	htingale Party					
	Charles Bucket	6. E	Basil Bush		0.0	
	Kris Kringle	7. Sunny Day			$\mathbf{H}$	
	Hamish Scot Pepper Pott		Rain Storm April Showe	re	00	
	Susannah Salt		Aprii Snowe Vinston Wo			
	can Party					
	-					
	Michael Angelos Suki Moon		/ictoria Line		$\wedge$	
	May Day		Sandy Shor		$\triangle$	
	River Deep		Roman Ruir			
5.	Dallas Cowboy	10. E	10. Edward Conquerer			
Γud	or Party					
	Leif Fall		Jemima Duo		4	
	William Shakes		incoln Pres		<b>—</b>	
	Grace Period Coral Reef		Satsuma Ky November F		~	
	Vincent Flowers		November r Nendv Mi <b>l</b> le			
		10. \	y wille	'		
	er, Cupcake					
ndep	pendent					

Reject – voting for more than one registered party or individual candidate. Rule 58(3).

only once by puting a ext to your choice	cross 🗶 in the	Pleidleisiwch yn y blwch wr	unwaith yn unig t th ochr eich dewis	rwy roi croes
Ali Barber	<ol><li>Blossom T</li></ol>		74r	
			>₩≎	
			<sup>ኅ</sup> ትቦ	
5. Mary Contrary 10. Apple Orch		iaiu		
well Party				_
erry Teller	6. Orion Belt		•	
ane Doe			<b>\$</b> \_\$	
ohn Smith			<b>`◆</b> `	
·				
Benedict Eggs	10. Santa Vale	entine		
ingale Party				
Charles Bucket	6. Basil Bush	l	0.0	
Kris Kringle			Ж	
lamish Scot			சு	
Pepper Pott	•			
Susannah Sa <b>l</b> t	10. Winston W	/onder		
an Party				
/lichael Angelos	6. Victoria Lii	ne	٨	
Suki Moon			/\	
May Day				
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Dallas Cowboy	10. Edward Co	onquerer		
r Party				
eif Fall	6. Jemima D	uck		
Villiam Shakes			*	
Grace Period			~	
/incent Flowers	10. Wendy Mil	ler		
r, Cupcake		,		
ndent		F Brown		
	77 Poppy Drive			
			111	
DER / TRIGHTS II COMPS OF JASC / TR	well Party  well Party  well Party  well Party  wery Teller ane Doe ohn Smith larper Graham enedict Eggs  ingale Party  charles Bucket cris Kringle lamish Scot lepper Pott lusannah Salt  In Party  lichael Angelos luki Moon lay Day liver Deep lallas Cowboy  Party  eif Fall  villiam Shakes frace Period foral Reef fincent Flowers  c, Cupcake	Pusty Boots and Grey 8. August Ca clobin Hood 9. Sierra Leo 10. Apple Ord 10. Apple Or	Pusty Boots and Grey 8. August Caesar 10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-1	Pusty Boots ard Grey 8. August Caesar 1 Chobin Hood 9. Sierra Leone 1 10. Apple Orchard 10. Apple Orch

Etholiad Senedd Cymru

Senedd Cymru election

Reject – voter can be identified. *Woodward v Sarsons*, South Newington Case, and Rule 58(1)(c).

#### Papur pleidleisio i ethol Aelod o'r Senedd Ballot paper to elect the Member of the ar gyfer rhanbarth..... Senedd for the .....region Vote **only once** by puting a cross 🗶 in the Pleidleisiwch unwaith yn unig trwy roi croes box next to your choice yn y blwch wrth ochr eich dewis **Bloggs Party** Ali Barber Blossom Tree Dusty Boots Earl Grey Roger James August Caesar Sierra Leone 4. Robin Hood 5. Mary Contrary 10. Apple Orchard Cromwell Party Terry Teller Jane Doe 6. Orion Belt Anita Patel John Smith Blu Sapphire Harper Graham William Finn Benedict Eggs 10. Santa Valentine **Nightingale Party** Charles Bucket 6. Basil Bush Kris Kringle Sunny Day 3. Hamish Scot Rain Storm Pepper Pott April Showers 4. 9. 5. Susannah Salt 10. Winston Wonder **Pelican Party** Michael Angelos 6. Victoria Line Briana Spears Sandy Shore Suki Moon May Day River Deep Roman Ruin 5. Dallas Cowboy 10. Edward Conquerer **Tudor Party** Leif Fall William Shakes 6. Jemima Duck Lincoln President Grace Period Satsuma Kyoto Coral Reef 9. November Rain 5. Vincent Flowers 10. Wendy Miller Baker, Cupcake Independent

**Etholiad Senedd Cymru** 

Senedd Cymru election

Reject – voter's intention uncertain. Buckrose case and Rule 58(1)(d).

Senedd Cymru election			Etholiad Senedd Cymru		
Ballot paper to elect the Member of the Senedd for theregion  Vote only once by puting a cross  in the box next to your choice			Papur pleidleisio i ethol Aelod o'r Senedd ar gyfer rhanbarth		
Blog	ggs Party				
	Ali Barber	6. Blossom Tr	.1 7 1.		
	Dusty Boots	7. Roger Jam			
	Earl Grey Robin Hood	<ol> <li>August Cae</li> <li>Sierra Leor</li> </ol>			
	Mary Contrary	10. Apple Orch			
٥.	Mary Contrary	то. дрріе Отоп	aru		
Cro	mwell Party				
1.	Terry Teller	6. Orion Belt	•		
2.	Jane Doe	7. Anita Patel	•*•		
	John Smith	<ol><li>Blu Sapphii</li></ol>			
	Harper Graham	9. William Fin			
5.	Benedict Eggs	10. Santa Vale	ıtine		
Nigl	htingale Party				
1.	Charles Bucket	6. Basil Bush	0.0		
	Kris Kringle	<ol><li>Sunny Day</li></ol>	#		
	Hamish Scot	Rain Storm	கூ		
	Pepper Pott	9. April Showe			
5.	Susannah Sa <b>l</b> t	10. Winston We	onder		
Peli	can Party				
1.	Michael Angelos	6. Victoria Lin	e <b>A</b>		
2.	Suki Moon	<ol><li>Briana Spe</li></ol>	ars /\		
	May Day	8. Sandy Sho			
	River Deep	9. Roman Rui			
5.	Dallas Cowboy	10. Edward Co	nquerer		
Tud	or Party				
1.	Leif Fall	6. Jemima Du	ck . A .		
2.	William Shakes	7. Lincoln Pre			
	Grace Period	8. Satsuma K			
	Coral Reef	9. November			
5.	Vincent Flowers	10. Wendy Mill	er		
	er, Cupcake				
Indep	pendent				
				none of	

# Annex - Legislation

## The Assembly election rules

The relevant rules on adjudicating doubtful ballot papers are contained in Schedule 5 of The National Assembly for Wales (Representation of the People) Order 2007 and are as follows:

#### Rejected ballot papers

58 (1) Any ballot paper—
(a) which does not bear the official mark;
(b) on which more than one vote is given;
(c) on which anything is written or marked by which the voter can be identified except the printed number or other unique identifying mark on the back; or
(d) which is unmarked or void for uncertainty,
shall, subject to the provisions of paragraph (2), be void and not counted.
(2) A ballot paper on which the vote is marked—
(a) elsewhere than in the proper place;
(b) otherwise than by means of a cross; or
(c) by more than one mark,
shall not for such reason be deemed to be void if an intention how the vote is to be given clearly appears, and the way the paper is marked does not of itself identify the voter and it is not shown that he can be identified by it.
(3)

(4) The CRO shall endorse the word "rejected" on any ballot paper which under this rule is not to be counted, and shall add to the endorsement the words "rejection objected to" if an objection is made by a counting agent to his decision.

At a regional election, a ballot paper on which a vote is marked for a particular party list candidate on the party list of a registered political party shall, if otherwise valid, be treated as

a vote for that party, whether or not there is also a vote marked for that party.

- (5) The CRO shall draw up a statement showing the number of ballot papers rejected under the several heads of—
- (a) want of official mark;
- (b) giving more than one vote;
- (c) writing or mark by which voter could be identified; and
- (d) unmarked or void for uncertainty.

#### **Decisions on ballot papers**

**59.** The decision of the constituency returning officer at an Assembly election on any question arising in respect of a ballot paper shall be final, but shall be subject to review on an Assembly election petition.