

Supporting UK
Parliamentary elections

The
Electoral
Commission



Dealing with doubtful
ballot papers in GB

Translations and other formats

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1 Introduction

1.1 This booklet is designed to assist (Acting) Returning Officers in adjudicating doubtful ballot papers at UK Parliamentary elections.

This booklet should also be read in conjunction with our general guidance on managing the verification and count contained in Part E of our guidance for (Acting) Returning Officers.

1.2 The (Acting) Returning Officer may delegate the final decision on adjudication to one or more deputies, but this should be done explicitly in writing.

1.3 Because the (Acting) Returning Officer discharges a statutory function in adjudicating doubtful votes, the (Acting) Returning Officer or authorised Deputy (Acting) Returning Officer, and not any other staff employed by the (Acting) Returning Officer 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 Great Britain.

1.5 This 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 UK Parliamentary elections

1.7 (Acting) Returning Officers should not wait until towards the end before starting the adjudication process; this should be carried out regularly throughout the count 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.¹ All other ballot papers must be counted.

1.9 A statement must be prepared showing the number of ballot papers rejected under each of the following headings:²

- want of official mark
- voting for more than one candidate
- writing or mark by which the voter could be identified
- unmarked or void for uncertainty

1 Rule 47(3), Schedule 1, Representation of the People Act 1983.

2 Rule 47(4), Schedule 1, Representation of the People Act 1983.

2 Legislation

The election rules

The relevant rules in Schedule 1 of the Representation of the People Act 1983 and are as follows:

Rejected ballot papers

Rule 47 – (1) Any ballot paper –

- (a) which does not bear the official mark, or
- (b) on which votes are given for more than one candidate, or
- (c) on which anything is written or marked by which the voter can be identified except the printed number and other unique identifying mark on the back, or
- (d) which is unmarked or void for uncertainty,

shall, subject to the provisions of the next following paragraph, be void and not counted.

(2) A ballot paper on which the vote is marked –

- (a) elsewhere than in the proper place, or
- (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 that the vote shall be for one or other of the candidates clearly appears, and the way the paper is marked does not itself identify the voter and it is not shown that he can be identified by it.

(3) The returning officer 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 any objection is made by a counting agent to his decision.

(4) The returning officer shall draw up a statement showing the number of ballot papers rejected under the several heads of –

- (a) want of official mark;
- (b) voting for more than one candidate;
- (c) writing or mark by which voter could be identified; and
- (d) unmarked or void for uncertainty.

Decisions on ballot papers

Rule 48 – The decision of the (Acting) Returning Officer on any question arising in respect of a ballot paper is final, but may be subject to review on an election petition.

3 Principles of adjudication

3.1 Any doubtful ballot papers should be placed in a tray for the supervisor to take to the (Acting) Returning Officer 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.

3.2 The (Acting) Returning Officer may only reject a ballot paper on the following grounds:

- it does not contain an official mark
- a vote for more than one candidate has been given
- it contains a mark or writing by which the voter can be identified

3.3 A ballot paper must not be rejected because the vote is:³

- 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.

3.4 Therefore, the following ballot papers will need to be passed to the (Acting) Returning Officer for adjudication:

- those that appear to have no official mark (not the unique identifying 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

3 Rule 47(2), Schedule 1, Representation of the People Act 1983.

3.5 In addition, in order to help maintain the integrity of the election, the following ballot papers should be passed to the (Acting) Returning Officer 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)

3.6 In the case of ballot papers that appear to have been altered, (Acting) Returning Officers may consider packaging them separately in case of later challenge or investigation.

Want of official mark

3.7 Absence of the official mark must lead to an automatic rejection. The (Acting) Returning Officer has no discretion.

3.8 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.⁴ As long as it is clear that the ballot paper has been stamped by polling station staff or postal vote issuing 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.

⁴ Cirencester case, *Lawson v. Chester-Master* (1893) 4 O'M & H 194 and Newington case, *Lewis v. Shepperdson* (1948) 2 All ER 503.

Voting for more than one candidate

3.9 This is a matter for the (Acting) Returning Officer's judgement.

3.10 Additional marks must not lead to a rejection if it is clear that those marks were not intended as a vote.⁵

3.11 A paper on which each of the candidates are marked 1, 2, 3, 4 etc. instead of with a cross (see example 25-A) should not be rejected on the grounds of voting for more than one candidate. It is reasonable to conclude that in ranking the candidates 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 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 with a cross must be allowed as a good vote for the candidate or party against which the number 1 is marked.

Writing or mark by which the voter can be identified

3.12 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

3.13 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).

5 *Woodward v. Sarsons* (1875), LR 10, CP74 and *Cirencester case* (1893).

Writing or mark which, of itself, identifies the voter

3.14 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

3.15 The (Acting) Returning Officer is not required to investigate the matter or require evidence to be produced to identify the writing or mark, but the (Acting) Returning Officer should consider any evidence that is given to them at the time.

3.16 Where there is doubt about the identity of the person who marked the ballot paper, (Acting) Returning Officers should allow rather than reject the ballot paper.

Unmarked ballot papers

3.17 Unmarked ballot papers should be rejected.

3.18 A ballot paper marked by means other than a pencil should not be rejected simply because of that.

3.19 Marks other than a cross, however faint, may still be valid.

Decisions of the (Acting) Returning Officer

3.20 The decision of the (Acting) Returning Officer is final, subject only to review on election petition.⁶

Void for uncertainty

3.21 Establishing voter intention is crucial when determining doubtful ballot papers.

3.22 The key phrase in the Rules is: 'A ballot paper [...] shall not [...] be deemed to be void if an intention that the vote shall be for one of the candidates **clearly** appears'.⁷

3.23 Each ballot paper should be considered on its own merits and decisions should be taken on a case-by-case basis.

3.24 The key question an (Acting) Returning Officer should ask is whether the voter has, on the face of the paper, indicated a reasonably clear intention to vote for a candidate.

6 Rule 48, Schedule 1, Representation of the People Act 1983.

7 Rule 47(2), Schedule 1, Representation of the People Act 1983.

4 Summary

4.1 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, (Acting) Returning Officers 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 is clearly apparent

5 Examples

5.1 The examples provided here are based on previous case law or taken from the specific rules for UK Parliamentary elections. Ultimately, the decision on any particular ballot paper, including the question as to whether an intention to vote for a particular candidate clearly appears, rests with the (Acting) Returning Officer. References are to the UK Parliamentary election rules contained in Schedule 1, Representation of the People Act 1983 (as amended).







Case law references

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

Abbreviation	Full reference
Berwick-upon-Tweed case	Berwick-upon-Tweed case [1880] 3 O'M&H 178
Buckrose case	Buckrose case, <i>Sykes v. McArthur</i> [1886] 5 O'M&H 110
Cirencester case	<i>Lawson v. Chester Master</i> [1893]
Cornwell v Marshall	<i>Cornwell v. Marshall</i> [1977] 75 LGR 676 DC
Eley v Durant	<i>Eley v. Durant</i> [1900] 4SJ 430
Levers v Morris	<i>Levers v. Morris</i> [1971] 3 All ER QBD
Rowe v Cox	<i>Rowe v. Cox</i> [2001] QBD, Case M/294/01
Ruffle v Rogers	<i>Ruffle v. Rogers</i> [1982] QB 1220
South Newington case	South Newington case, <i>Lewis v. Shepperdson</i> [1948] 2 All ER 503
West Bromwich case	West Bromwich case, <i>Hazel v. Viscount Lewisham</i> [1911] 6 O'M&H 256
Woodward v Sarsons	<i>Woodward v. Sarsons</i> [1875] LR10 CP 733


Allowed votes

The following are suggested examples of allowed votes.

Election of the Member of Parliament for the <i>[insert name of constituency]</i> constituency		
Vote for only one candidate by putting a cross  in the box next to your choice		
BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown AT34 6CY Pelican Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown AT33 5XZ League of Line Dancers		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown AT12 E34 Independent		<input type="checkbox"/>
GREY, Earl (address in the Anytown Constituency) Mad Hatter's Tea Party		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown AT12 7HT The Forest Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown AT98 7RK Alternative Power Forum		<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Election of the Member of Parliament for the *[insert name of constituency]* constituency

Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross  in the box next to your choice

BARBER, Ali

5 Anytown Close, Anytown AT34 6CY



Pelican Party

BOOTS, Dusty

63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown AT33 5XZ



League of Line Dancers

CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary

9 Seymour Court, Anytown AT12 E34

Independent

GREY, Earl

(address in the Anytown Constituency)



Mad Hatter's Tea Party

HOOD, Robin

64 Purple Road, Anytown AT12 7HT



The Forest Party

MILLER, Windy

7 Daisy Drive, Anytown AT98 7RK



Alternative Power Forum

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

Election of the Member of Parliament for the *[insert name of constituency]* constituency

Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross  in the box next to your choice

BARBER, Ali

5 Anytown Close, Anytown AT34 6CY



Pelican Party

BOOTS, Dusty

63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown AT33 5XZ



League of Line Dancers

CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary

9 Seymour Court, Anytown AT12 E34

Independent

GREY, Earl

(address in the Anytown Constituency)



Mad Hatter's Tea Party

HOOD, Robin

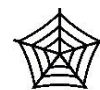
64 Purple Road, Anytown AT12 7HT



The Forest Party

MILLER, Windy


7 Daisy Drive, Anytown AT98 7RK



Alternative Power Forum

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

Election of the Member of Parliament for the [insert name of constituency] constituency

Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross  in the box next to your choice

BARBER, Ali

5 Anytown Close, Anytown AT34 6CY



Pelican Party

BOOTS, Dusty

63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown AT33 5XZ



League of Line Dancers

CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary

9 Seymour Court, Anytown AT12 E34

Independent

GREY, Earl

(address in the Anytown Constituency)



Mad Hatter's Tea Party

HOOD, Robin

64 Purple Road, Anytown AT12 7HT



The Forest Party

Hood
The Forest
Party!







MILLER, Windy

7 Daisy Drive, Anytown AT98 7RK



Alternative Power Forum

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

Election of the Member of Parliament for the <i>[insert name of constituency]</i> constituency		
Vote for only one candidate by putting a cross  in the box next to your choice		
BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown AT34 6CY Pelican Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown AT33 5XZ League of Line Dancers		<input type="checkbox"/>
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown AT12 E34 Independent		<input type="checkbox"/>
GREY, Earl (address in the Anytown Constituency) Mad Hatter's Tea Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown AT12 7HT The Forest Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown AT98 7RK Alternative Power Forum		<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Election of the Member of Parliament for the [insert name of constituency] constituency

Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross  in the box next to your choice

BARBER, Ali

5 Anytown Close, Anytown AT34 6CY



Pelican Party

BOOTS, Dusty

63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown AT33 5XZ



League of Line Dancers

CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary

9 Seymour Court, Anytown AT12 E34

Independent

GREY, Earl

(address in the Anytown Constituency)



Mad Hatter's Tea Party

HOOD, Robin

64 Purple Road, Anytown AT12 7HT



The Forest Party

MILLER, Windy


7 Daisy Drive, Anytown AT98 7RK



Alternative Power Forum

Allow for Clover – Rule 47(2)(b).

Election of the Member of Parliament for the *[insert name of constituency]* constituency

Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross  in the box next to your choice

BARBER, Ali

5 Anytown Close, Anytown AT34 6CY



Pelican Party



BOOTS, Dusty

63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown AT33 5XZ



League of Line Dancers



CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary

9 Seymour Court, Anytown AT12 E34

Independent



GREY, Earl

(address in the Anytown Constituency)



Mad Hatter's Tea Party



HOOD, Robin

64 Purple Road, Anytown AT12 7HT



The Forest Party



MILLER, Windy

7 Daisy Drive, Anytown AT98 7RK




Alternative Power Forum



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

Election of the Member of Parliament for the *[insert name of constituency]* constituency

Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross  in the box next to your choice

BARBER, Ali

5 Anytown Close, Anytown AT34 6CY



Pelican Party

BOOTS, Dusty

63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown AT33 5XZ



League of Line Dancers

CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary

9 Seymour Court, Anytown AT12 E34

Independent

GREY, Earl

(address in the Anytown Constituency)

 **Yes**

Mad Hatter's Tea Party

HOOD, Robin

64 Purple Road, Anytown AT12 7HT



The Forest Party







MILLER, Windy

7 Daisy Drive, Anytown AT98 7RK









Alternative Power Forum







Allow for Grey – Rule 47(2)(b).

Election of the Member of Parliament for the <i>[insert name of constituency]</i> constituency		
Vote for only one candidate by putting a cross  in the box next to your choice		
BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown AT34 6CY Pelican Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown AT33 5XZ League of Line Dancers		<input type="checkbox"/>
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown AT12 E34 Independent		<input type="checkbox"/>
GREY, Earl (address in the Anytown Constituency) Mad Hatter's Tea Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown AT12 7HT The Forest Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown AT98 7RK Alternative Power Forum		<input type="checkbox"/>

Allow for Miller – Rule 47(a) and (b).







Election of the Member of Parliament for the <i>[insert name of constituency]</i> constituency		
Vote for only one candidate by putting a cross  in the box next to your choice		
BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown AT34 6CY Pelican Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown AT33 5XZ League of Line Dancers		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown AT12 E34 Independent		<input type="checkbox"/>
GREY, Earl (address in the Anytown Constituency) Mad Hatter's Tea Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown AT12 7HT The Forest Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown AT98 7RK Alternative Power Forum		<input type="checkbox"/>

Allow for Boots – Rule 47(2)(b).







Election of the Member of Parliament for the <i>[insert name of constituency]</i> constituency		
Vote for only one candidate by putting a cross  in the box next to your choice		
BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown AT34 6CY Pelican Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown AT33 5XZ League of Line Dancers		<input type="checkbox"/>
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown AT12 E34 Independent		<input type="checkbox"/>
GREY, Earl (address in the Anytown Constituency) Mad Hatter's Tea Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown AT12 7HT The Forest Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown AT98 7RK Alternative Power Forum		<input type="checkbox"/>

ELECT BARBER







Allow for Barber – *Ruffle v. Rogers* and Rule 47(2)(a) and (b) [provided there is no other candidate by the name of Barber].

Election of the Member of Parliament for the <i>[insert name of constituency]</i> constituency		
Vote for only one candidate by putting a cross  in the box next to your choice		
BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown AT34 6CY Pelican Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown AT33 5XZ League of Line Dancers		<input type="checkbox"/>
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown AT12 E34 Independent		<input type="checkbox"/>
GREY, Earl (address in the Anytown Constituency) Mad Hatter's Tea Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown AT12 7HT The Forest Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown AT98 7RK Alternative Power Forum		<input type="checkbox"/>

Allow for Miller – Rule 47(2)(a) and (b).


Election of the Member of Parliament for the <i>[insert name of constituency]</i> constituency		
Vote for only one candidate by putting a cross  in the box next to your choice		
BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown AT34 6CY Pelican Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown AT33 5XZ League of Line Dancers		<input type="checkbox"/>
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown AT12 E34 Independent		<input type="checkbox"/>
GREY, Earl (address in the Anytown Constituency) Mad Hatter's Tea Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown AT12 7HT The Forest Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown AT98 7RK Alternative Power Forum		<input type="checkbox"/>

Allow for Barber – *Levers v. Morris* and Rule 47(2)(a).

Election of the Member of Parliament for the [insert name of constituency] constituency	
Vote for only one candidate by putting a cross  in the box next to your choice	
BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown AT34 6CY Pelican Party	 <input type="checkbox"/>
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown AT33 5XZ League of Mad Scientists	 <input type="checkbox"/>
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown AT12 E34 Independent	<input type="checkbox"/>
GREY, Earl (address in the Anytown Constituency) Mad Hatter's Tea Party	 <input type="checkbox"/>
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown AT12 7HT The Forest Party	 <input type="checkbox"/>
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown AT98 7RK Alternative Power Forum	 <input type="checkbox"/>

Allow for Clover – *Levers v. Morris* and Rule 47(2)(b). See also *Schofield's Election Law*, Volume 5, Appendix E, E20, (Shaw & Sons, 2008 as updated by supplement issue no.1).

Election of the Member of Parliament for the [insert name of constituency] constituency

Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross  in the box next to your choice

BARBER, Ali

5 Anytown Close, Anytown AT34 6CY

Pelican Party



BOOTS, Dusty

63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown AT33 5XZ

League of Line Dancers



CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary

9 Seymour Court, Anytown AT12 E34

Independent

GREY, Earl

(address in the Anytown Constituency)

Mad Hatter's Tea Party



HOOD, Robin

64 Purple Road, Anytown AT12 7HT

The Forest Party








MILLER, Windy

7 Daisy Drive, Anytown AT98 7RK

Alternative Power Forum








Allow for Boots – *Levers v. Morris* and Rule 47(2)(b). See also *Schofield's Election Law*, Volume 5, Appendix E, E20, (Shaw & Sons, 2008 as updated by supplement issue no.1).

Election of the Member of Parliament for the <i>[insert name of constituency]</i> constituency		
Vote for only one candidate by putting a cross <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in the box next to your choice		
BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown AT34 6CY Pelican Party		<input type="text" value="2"/>
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown AT33 5XZ League of Line Dancers		<input type="text" value="1"/>
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown AT12 E34 Independent		<input type="text" value="4"/>
GREY, Earl (address in the Anytown Constituency) Mad Hatter's Tea Party		<input type="text" value="3"/>
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown AT12 7HT The Forest Party		<input type="text" value="5"/>
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown AT98 7RK Alternative Power Forum		<input type="text" value="6"/>







Allow for Boots – vote marked otherwise than by means of a cross.
 Rule 47(2)(b).

Rejected votes

The following are suggested examples of rejected votes.


Election of the Member of Parliament for the <i>[insert name of constituency]</i> constituency		
Vote for only one candidate by putting a cross <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in the box next to your choice		
BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown AT34 6CY Pelican Party		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown AT33 5XZ League of Line Dancers		<input type="checkbox"/>
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown AT12 E34 Independent		<input type="checkbox"/>
GREY, Earl (address in the Anytown Constituency) Mad Hatter's Tea Party		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown AT12 7HT The Forest Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown AT98 7RK Alternative Power Forum		<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Election of the Member of Parliament for the <i>[insert name of constituency]</i> constituency		
Vote for only one candidate by putting a cross  in the box next to your choice		
BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown AT34 6CY Pelican Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown AT33 5XZ League of Line Dancers		<input type="checkbox"/>
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown AT12 E34 Independent		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GREY, Earl (address in the Anytown Constituency) Mad Hatter's Tea Party		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown AT12 7HT The Forest Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown AT98 7RK Alternative Power Forum		<input type="checkbox"/>

Reject – voter’s intention uncertain. Buckrose case and Rule 47(1)(d).

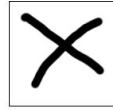
Election of the Member of Parliament for the [insert name of constituency] constituency

Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross  in the box next to your choice

BARBER, Ali

5 Anytown Close, Anytown AT34 6CY

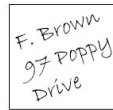
Pelican Party



BOOTS, Dusty

63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown AT33 5XZ

League of Line Dancers



CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary

9 Seymour Court, Anytown AT12 E34

Independent



GREY, Earl

(address in the Anytown Constituency)

Mad Hatter's Tea Party



HOOD, Robin

64 Purple Road, Anytown AT12 7HT

The Forest Party









MILLER, Windy

7 Daisy Drive, Anytown AT98 7RK

Alternative Power Forum



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

Election of the Member of Parliament for the <i>[insert name of constituency]</i> constituency		
Vote for only one candidate by putting a cross  in the box next to your choice		
BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown AT34 6CY Pelican Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown AT33 5XZ League of Line Dancers		<input type="checkbox"/>
BLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown AT12 E34 Independent		<input type="checkbox"/>
GREY, Earl (address in the Anytown Constituency) Mad Hatter's Tea Party		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown AT12 7HT The Forest Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown AT98 7RK Alternative Power Forum		<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Election of the Member of Parliament for the [insert name of constituency] constituency

Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross in the box next to your choice

BARBER, Ali
 5 Anytown Close, Anytown AT34 6CY
 Pelican Party

BOOTS, Dusty
 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown AT33 5XZ
 League of Line Dancers






CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
 9 Seymour Court, Anytown AT12 1B4
 Independent

GREY, Earl
 (address in the Anytown Constituency)
 Mad Hatter's Tea Party







HOOD, Robin
 64 Purple Road, Anytown AT12 7HT
 The Forest Party

MILLER, Windy
 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown AT98 7RK
 Alternative Power Forum







Reject – voter’s intention uncertain. *Rowe v. Cox* and Rule 47(1)(d).

Election of the Member of Parliament for the <i>[insert name of constituency]</i> constituency		
Vote for only one candidate by putting a cross		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
box next to your choice		
BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown AT34 6CY Pelican Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown AT33 5XZ League of Line Dancers		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown AT12 E34 Independent		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GREY, Earl (address in the Anytown Constituency) Mad Hatter's Tea Party		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown AT12 7HT The Forest Party		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown AT98 7RK Alternative Power Forum		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

Election of the Member of Parliament for the <i>[insert name of constituency]</i> constituency		
Vote for only one candidate by putting a cross  in the box next to your choice		
BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown AT34 6CY Pelican Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown AT33 5XZ League of Line Dancers		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>M. Jones AB 561</i>
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown AT12 E34 Independent		<input type="checkbox"/>
GREY, Earl (address in the Anytown Constituency) Mad Hatter's Tea Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown AT12 7HT The Forest Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown AT98 7RK Alternative Power Forum		<input type="checkbox"/>

Reject – voter can be identified. *Woodward v. Sarsons* and Rule 47(1)(c).

Election of the Member of Parliament for the <i>[insert name of constituency]</i> constituency		
Vote for only one candidate by putting a cross  in the		
BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown AT34 6CY Pelican Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown AT33 5XZ League of Line Dancers		<input type="checkbox"/>
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown AT12 E34 Independent		<input type="checkbox"/>
GREY, Earl (address in the Anytown Constituency) Mad Hatter's Tea Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown AT12 7HT The Forest Party		<input type="checkbox"/>
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown AT98 7RK Alternative Power Forum		<input type="checkbox"/> <i>None of the above</i> ✓

Reject – voter’s intention uncertain. Rule 47(1)(d).

The Electoral Commission
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We are an independent body set up by the UK Parliament. We regulate party and election finance and set standards for well-run elections. We work to support a healthy democracy, where elections and referendums are based on our principles of trust, participation, and no undue influence.

Putting voters first