

Timetable for a UK Parliamentary by-election in Great Britain

The days which are disregarded in calculating the timetable are Saturday, Sunday, bank holidays and any day appointed for public thanksgiving or mourning.

Please be aware that the timetable may change in the event of days being appointed for public thanksgiving or mourning.

Event	Working days before poll
Receipt of writ	The day after the issue of the warrant for the writ ¹ (The writ is taken to be received the day after the issue of the warrant for the writ even in the event that the physical delivery of the writ is delayed)
Publication of notice of election	By 4pm on the second day after the writ is taken to have been received ²
Delivery of nomination papers	Between the hours of 10am and 4pm, from the day after the publication of the notice of election until 4pm on a day to be fixed by the (Acting) Returning Officer (will not be earlier than the third day after the publication of notice of election and not later than the seventh day after the day the writ is taken to have been received) ³
Deadline for withdrawals of nomination	4pm on the last day for the delivery of nomination papers ⁴

Event	Working days before poll
<p>Making objections to nomination papers</p> <p>(Except for objections on the grounds that an individual candidate may be disqualified under the Representation of the People Act 1981 – see Commission guidance)</p>	<p>On the last day for delivery of nomination papers (10am to 5pm), subject to the following⁵:</p> <p>Between 10am and 12 noon objections can be made to all delivered nominations</p> <p>Between 12 noon and 5pm objections can only be made to nominations delivered after 4pm on the day before the deadline for the delivery of nomination papers</p>
<p>Deadline for the notification of appointment of election agent</p>	<p>4pm on the last day for delivery of nomination papers⁶</p>
<p>Publication of statement of persons nominated, including notice of poll and situation of polling stations</p>	<p>If no objections: by 5pm on the last day for delivery of nomination papers⁷</p> <p>If objection(s) are made: Not before objection(s) are disposed of but not later than 4pm on the day after the deadline for the receipt of nomination papers⁸</p>
<p>Publication of first interim election notice of alteration</p>	<p>The last day for delivery of nomination papers⁹</p>
<p>Deadline for receiving applications for registration</p>	<p>12 days¹⁰</p>
<p>Deadline for receiving new postal vote¹¹ and postal proxy applications¹², and for changes to existing postal or proxy votes¹³</p>	<p>11 days (5pm)</p>
<p>Deadline for receiving new applications to vote by proxy (not postal proxy or emergency proxies)¹⁴</p>	<p>6 days (5pm)</p>
<p>Publication of second interim election notice of alteration</p>	<p>On any day after the first interim publication date and before the publication date of the final election notice of alteration¹⁵</p>
<p>Publication of final election notice of alteration</p>	<p>5 days¹⁶</p>

Event	Working days before poll
Deadline for notification of appointment of polling and counting agents	5 days ¹⁷
First date that electors can apply for a replacement for lost postal votes	4 days ¹⁸
Polling day	0 (7am to 10pm) Not earlier than the 17th, nor later than the 19th day after the last day for the delivery of nominations ¹⁹
Last time for re-issue of spoilt or lost postal votes	0 (5pm) ²⁰
Deadline for emergency proxy applications	0 (5pm) ²¹
Last time to alter the register due to clerical error or court appeal	0 (9pm) ²²
After the declaration of result	
Event	Deadline
Delivery of return as to election expenses	Within 35 calendar days after the date the election result is declared ²³
Deadline for sending postal vote identifier rejection notices	Within the period of three months beginning with the date of the poll ²⁴

- ¹ Rule 1 Timetable Sch 1 RPA 1983 and RPA 1983 s 28 (3A)
- ² Rule 1 Timetable Sch 1 RPA 1983
- ³ Rule 1 Timetable Sch 1 RPA 1983
- ⁴ Rule 1 Timetable Sch 1 RPA 1983
- ⁵ Rule 1 Timetable Sch 1 RPA 1983
- ⁶ Section 67 of the RPA 1983
- ⁷ Rule 1 Timetable Sch 1 RPA 1983
- ⁸ Rule 1 Timetable Sch 1 RPA 1983
- ⁹ Section 13AB(5) RPA 1983
- ¹⁰ Section 13B(2) and (3) and 13A(1) RPA 1983 and regulation 29(4) RPR 2001.
- ¹¹ Paragraph 3(1) of Schedule 4 RPA 2000 and regulation 56(1) RPR 2001
- ¹² Paragraph 7(4) of Schedule 4 RPA 2000 and regulation 56(1) RPR 2001
- ¹³ Paragraph 3(5)(a), 3(6), (7), 4(3), 6(10), 7(7) and 7(9)(a) of Schedule 4 RPA 2000 and regulation 56(1), (4) and (5) RPR 2001
- ¹⁴ Paragraphs 3(2) and 4(2) of Schedule 4 RPA 2000 and regulation 56(2) and (3) RPR 2001
- ¹⁵ Section 13AB(6) and 13B(5) RPA 1983
- ¹⁶ Section 13B(3) and (5) RPA 1983
- ¹⁷ Rule 30(3) Sch 1 RPA 1983
- ¹⁸ Regulation 78 and 8(2) and (3) RPR 2001.
- ¹⁹ Rule 1 Timetable Sch1 RPA 1983
- ²⁰ Reg 77(3) and 78(3) RPR 2001
- ²¹ Regulation 56(3A) RPR 2001.
- ²² Section 13A(3A) and (3C) RPA 1983 and regulation 36(3) RPR 2001
- ²³ Section 81(1) RPA 1983
- ²⁴ Regulation 61C of the Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001