

REQUIREMENT OF SECRECY: THE COUNT

Local government elections

Section 66 of the Representation of the People Act 1983 (as amended)

- (1) ...
- (2) Every person attending at the counting of the votes shall maintain and aid in maintaining the secrecy of voting and shall not:
 - (a) ascertain or attempt to ascertain at the counting of the votes the number or other unique identifying mark on the back of any ballot paper;
 - (b) communicate any information obtained at the counting of the votes as to the candidate for whom any vote is given on any particular ballot paper.
- (3) ...
- (4) ...
- (5) ...
- (6) If a person acts in contravention of this section he shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale¹ or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months.

**PLEASE SEE OVERLEAF FOR REQUIREMENT OF SECRECY – THE COUNT
FOR POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER ELECTIONS**

¹ This means an unlimited fine.

REQUIREMENT OF SECRECY: THE COUNT

Police and Crime Commissioner elections

The Police and Crime Commissioner Elections Order 2012 Article 22 (3), (4) and (8)

- (1) ...
- (2) ...
- (3) Every person attending at the verification of the ballot paper accounts or the counting of the votes must maintain and aid in maintaining the secrecy of voting and must not:
 - (a) ascertain or attempt to ascertain at the counting of the votes the number or other unique identifying mark on the back of any ballot paper;
 - (b) communicate any information obtained at the counting of the votes as to the candidate for whom any vote is given on any particular ballot paper.
- (4) No person attending at the verification of the ballot paper accounts may express to any person an opinion based on information obtained at that verification as to the likely result of the election.
- (5) ...
- (6) ...
- (7) ...
- (8) A person who acts in contravention of this article is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale² or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months.

**PLEASE SEE OVERLEAF FOR REQUIREMENT OF SECRECY – THE COUNT
FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS**

² This means an unlimited fine.