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Scottish Parliamentary elections    You are in the section Home    Guidance and resources for candidates and their agents at the Scottish Parliamentary election We have issued supplementary guidance to support candidates and agents participating in polls during the coronavirus pandemic: Supporting candidates and agents - May 2021 polls - Scotland (DOC) If you have any questions, please contact your local Commission team . An overview document gives instructions on how to use this guidance and who does what at these elections: Candidate guide overview - Scottish Parliamentary election (PDF) We have produced a timetable with all of the relevant deadlines for the 6 May 2021 Scottish Parliamentary election which can be viewed here: Election timetable for Scottish Parliamentary elections (DOC) We have also produced a document for people who want to know the basics about elections, the roles of different organisations and where to find more information. Introduction to elections Access to Elected Office Fund Inclusion Scotland run an Access to Elected Office Fund Scotland that provides financial assistance to disabled candidates standing for election to help with the extra costs they may incur as a result of their disability. For more information about applying for a grant from the Access to Elected Office Fund Scotland, see Inclusion Scotland .

Part 1 Can you stand for election? This part covers: Qualifications required to stand for election Disqualifications Being nominated in more than one area Candidate guide - Scottish Parliamentary election (part 1/6) (PDF) Click here to view resources for Part 1: Can you stand for election? List of Commonwealth countries (DOC) Scottish Parliamentary Election May 2021: Political parties Contact details of Constituency Returning Officers and Regional Returning Officers - Scottish Parliamentary election

Part 2a Standing at the constituency election This part covers: Completing and submitting your nomination papers What happens after the close of nominations? Appointing your election agent and other agents Candidate guide - Scottish Parliamentary election (part 2a/6) (PDF) Click here to view resources for Part 2a: Standing at the constituency election Nomination pack - constituency - Scottish Parliamentary election (DOC) Withdrawal form - constituency - Scottish Parliamentary election (DOC) Polling agent appointment form (DOC) Postal voting agent appointment form (DOC) Counting agent appointment form (DOC)

Part 2b Standing at the regional election This part covers: Completing and submitting your nomination papers What happens after the close of nominations? Appointing your election agent and other agents Candidate guide - Scottish Parliamentary election (part 2b/6) (PDF) Click here to view resources for Part 2b: Standing at the regional election Nomination pack - region party list candidates - Scottish Parliamentary election (DOC) Nomination pack - region individual candidates - Scottish Parliamentary election (DOC) Withdrawal form - region - withdrawing a full party list - Scottish Parliamentary election Withdrawal form - region - region - candidates included on a party list - for use either by the party's NO, or by the candidates themselves- Scottish Parliamentary election (DOC) Withdrawal form - region - individual candidates not on a regional party list - Scottish Parliamentary election (DOC) Polling agent appointment form (DOC) Postal voting agent appointment form (DOC) Counting agent appointment form (DOC)

Part 3 Spending and donations This part covers: How much you can spend The activities covered by the rules Which donations you can accept How to check donations you receive What information needs to be recorded and reported Part 3: Spending and donations (PDF) Click here to view resources for Part 3: Spending and donations

Candidate Imprints at Scottish Parliamentary elections and council elections in Scotland Candidate return long campaign Scottish Parliamentary election (PDF)

Candidate return long campaign Scottish Parliamentary election (XLS) Explanatory Notes - Candidate long campaign Scottish Parliament Candidate return short campaign Scottish Parliamentary election (XLS) Candidate return short campaign Scottish Parliamentary election (PDF) Explanatory Notes - Candidate return short campaign Scottish Parliament Agent declaration Scottish Parliament Candidate declaration Scottish Parliament Regional party list candidate declaration personal sp Scottish Parliament non-party campaigner Article 41 spending return & declaration Part 4 The campaign This part covers: Campaigning dos and don'ts Using the electoral register and absent voters' lists Using schools and rooms for public meetings Imprints on campaign publicity material Polling day dos and don'ts Reporting allegations of electoral malpractice Candidate guide - Scottish Parliamentary election (part 4/6) (PDF) [Click here to view resources for Part 4: The campaign](#) Contact details of Constituency Returning Officers and Regional Returning Officers - Scottish Parliamentary election Register request form (DOC) Absent voters' list request form (DOC) Candidate Imprints at Scottish Parliamentary elections and council elections in Scotland Code of Conduct for s - devolved Scottish and Welsh elections from January 2023 Tellers' dos and don'ts (PDF) Secrecy requirements - the poll - Scottish Parliamentary Election Secrecy requirements - the count - Scottish Parliamentary Election (DOC) Secrecy requirements - postal voting - Scottish Parliamentary Election Part 5 Your right to attend key electoral events This part covers: Attending the opening of postal votes and what to expect Attending polling stations and what to expect Attending the count and what to expect Candidate guide - Scottish Parliamentary election (part 5/6) (PDF) [Click here to view resources for Part 5: Your right to attend key electoral events](#) Polling agent appointment form (DOC) Postal voting agent appointment form (DOC) Counting agent appointment form (DOC) Secrecy requirements - the poll - Scottish Parliamentary Election Secrecy requirements - the count - Scottish Parliamentary Election (DOC) Secrecy requirements - postal voting - Scottish Parliamentary Election Tellers' dos and don'ts (PDF) Tellers guidance Part 6 After the declaration of results This part covers: Making the declaration of acceptance of office Access to election paperwork Submitting your spending returns and declarations Questioning the result through an election petition Candidate guide - Scottish Parliamentary election (part 6/6) (PDF)