

DIRECTION UNDER THE REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT 1983

The Secretary of State gives the following direction under section 52(1) of the Representation of the People Act 1983 (c.2) (as amended), in accordance with a recommendation of the Electoral Commission of 29 February 2008 as required under section 8(1) of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000.

I direct that:

1. from 1 December 2009, Electoral Registration Officers in Great Britain must ensure that any electoral registration data (with the exception of that specified at section 2.) held on electronic systems is formatted in compliance with the following standards:

a. Name Standards;

The person name as recorded on the register shall be in accordance with the name standard specified in the attached document.

b. Date of Birth

The date of birth, where already collected, must comply with the Date of Birth standard specified in the attached document.

c. UK Address Standard;

All electoral registration data pertaining to an elector with a qualifying or postal, proxy, or postal/proxy, in the UK, with the exception of those specified at section 1(e), must conform to the UK Address Standard, which must include a Unique Property Reference Number, as specified in the attached document.

d. International Address Standard;

All electoral registration data pertaining to an elector with a postal, proxy, or postal/proxy, outside of the UK, must conform to the International Address Standard specified in the attached document.

e. British Forces Post Office Address;

All electoral registration data relating to an elector with a qualifying or postal, proxy, or postal/proxy, whose address is provided as a British Forces Post Office, must conform to the British Forces Post Office Address Standard specified in the attached document.

Electoral Registration Officers may obtain copies of these documents from the Ministry of Justice by contacting:

CORE Project
Ministry of Justice
6.03 (6th Floor)
Selborne House
54-60 Victoria Street
London
SW1E 6QW

Direct Tel: 020 7210 8241

Email: CORE@justice.gsi.gov.uk

2. Data pertaining to an elector registered anonymously, as defined by the Electoral Administration Act 2006, are not subject to the standards specified in section (1).

Given by authority of the Secretary of State

Date [1 April 2008]

Bridget Prentice
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Ministry of Justice