Scottish General Election (Coronavirus) Bill

Marshalled List of Amendments for Stage 2

The Bill will be considered in the following order—

Sections 1 to 16

Long Title

Amendments marked * are new (including manuscript amendments) or have been altered.

Section 3

Anas Sarwar

18 Leave out section 3

Section 4

Graeme Dey

In section 4, page 2, line 2, leave out < setting out, as at 7 April 2021> and insert <, using the most recent information available as at 7 April 2021, setting out>

Graeme Dey

- 2 In section 4, page 2, leave out lines 3 to 5 and insert—
 - <(a) the number of persons who are registered to vote at the 2021 election,
 - (b) the number of persons who have been granted a postal vote for the election, and
 - (c) the number of applications for a postal vote for the election which have been received but not determined.>

Anas Sarwar

- 19 In section 4, page 2, line 5, at end insert <, and
 - () the resources that will be made available for processing postal votes.>

Neil Findlay

- 20 In section 4, page 2, line 5, at end insert <, and
 - () the number of persons entitled to vote who have not applied for a postal vote.>

Graeme Dev

3 In section 4, page 2, line 6, after <must> insert prepare and>

After section 4

Anas Sarwar

21 After section 4, insert—

< Return of postal vote to be free of charge

The Scottish Ministers must make such provision (including in particular, but not limited to, the provision of freepost envelopes) as they consider necessary to ensure that postal voting in relation to the 2021 election is conducted at no financial cost to the voter.>

Section 5

Neil Findlay

In section 5, page 2, line 9, after <may> insert <if they consider it necessary for a reason relating to coronavirus>

Graeme Dey

- 4 In section 5, page 2, line 14, at end insert—
 - <(3A) Regulations under subsection (1) are subject to the affirmative procedure.>

Graeme Dey

- 5 In section 5, page 2, line 14, at end insert—
 - <(3B) When laying draft regulations under subsection (3A) before the Scottish Parliament, the Scottish Ministers must at the same time lay a statement of the reasons for the regulations, including information on the responses received from the persons listed in subsection (4).>

Graeme Dev

6 In section 5, page 2, line 15, leave out < making regulations under subsection (1)> and insert < laying draft regulations under subsection (3A)>

Adam Tomkins

- 7 In section 5, page 2, line 19, at end insert—
 - <() Regulations under subsection (1)—
 - (a) may be made only—
 - (i) where the Scottish Ministers consider it necessary for reasons relating to coronavirus, and
 - (ii) with the consent of—
 - (A) the Presiding Officer,
 - (B) the Electoral Commission, and
 - (C) the convener of the Electoral Management Board for Scotland,
 - (b) are subject to the affirmative procedure.>

After section 5

Anas Sarwar

23 After section 5, insert—

<Information on postal voting

- (1) The Scottish Ministers must promote public awareness and understanding about the arrangements for an all-postal vote in relation to the 2021 election.
- (2) In exercising their functions under subsection (1), the Scottish Ministers must—
 - (a) make use of radio, television, postal and online communications, and
 - (b) ensure adequate resources are provided.>

Section 7

Graeme Dey

8 In section 7, page 2, line 30, leave out <28> and insert <27>

Graeme Dey

9 In section 7, page 2, line 35, leave out <28> and insert <27>

Section 8

Anas Sarwar

- 24 In section 8, page 3, line 1, at end insert—
 - <() The polling for the ordinary general election for membership of the Scottish Parliament in 2021 is to take place on a second day of 7 May 2021 as well as the day of the poll.>

Graeme Dey

- 10 In section 8, page 3, line 2, leave out subsection (1) and insert—
 - <(1) If the convener of the Electoral Management Board for Scotland recommends to the Scotlish Ministers that polling at the 2021 election should take place on one or more specified days, as well as on the day of the poll, the Scotlish Ministers may by regulations give effect to that recommendation.>

Graeme Dey

- In section 8, page 3, line 4, leave out subsection (2) and insert—
 - <(2) A day may be specified by the convener under subsection (1) only if it is—
 - (a) consecutive to the day of the poll or any other day so specified (unless the convener considers that there is a reason to recommend a break in polling days), and
 - (b) one of the 8 days immediately succeeding the day of the poll.>

Graeme Dey

- 12 In section 8, page 3, line 12, at end insert—
 - <(4A) Regulations under subsection (1) are subject to the affirmative procedure.>

Graeme Dey

- 13 In section 8, page 3, line 12, at end insert—
 - <(4B) When laying draft regulations under subsection (4A) before the Scottish Parliament, the Scottish Ministers must at the same time lay a statement of the reasons for the regulations, including information on the responses received from the persons listed in subsection (5).>

Graeme Dey

In section 8, page 3, line 13, leave out < making regulations under subsection (1)> and insert < laying draft regulations under subsection (4A)>

Adam Tomkins

- 15 In section 8, page 3, line 17, at end insert—
 - <() Regulations under subsection (1)—
 - (a) may be made only—
 - (i) where the Scottish Ministers consider it necessary for reasons relating to coronavirus, and
 - (ii) with the consent of—
 - (A) the Presiding Officer,
 - (B) the Electoral Commission, and
 - (C) the convener of the Electoral Management Board for Scotland,
 - (b) are subject to the affirmative procedure.>

After section 8

Anas Sarwar

25 After section 8, insert—

<Information on 2021 election

- (1) Any information in relation to the 2021 election for the attention of persons entitled to vote at the 2021 election must be provided by—
 - (a) the Electoral Commission,
 - (b) the convener of the Electoral Management Board for Scotland, or
 - (c) the Electoral Registration Officers.
- (2) For the avoidance of doubt, "information in relation to the 2021 election" does not include election communications from political parties.>

Section 9

Graeme Dey

- 16 In section 9, page 3, line 34, insert—
 - <(3) If the day fixed under subsection (1) is not within the period of seven days beginning immediately after the day of the poll, any relevant additional days are to be disregarded for the purpose of the calculation of the period allowed, under section 46 of the Scotland Act 1998, for the Parliament to nominate one of its members for appointment as First Minister after the poll for the 2021 election.
 - (4) In subsection (3)—

"the day of the poll" means 6 May 2021 (or, where the Presiding Officer has exercised the power conferred by section 11(1), the day fixed by the Presiding Officer under that section for the holding of the poll for the 2021 election),

- a "relevant additional day" means any day in the period—
 - (a) beginning with the eighth day immediately after the day of the poll, and
 - (b) ending with the day fixed under subsection (1).>

Section 11

Neil Findlay

In section 11, page 4, line 3, leave out <or appropriate for any reason to do so> and insert <for a reason related to coronavirus>

Neil Findlay

27 In section 11, page 4, line 6, leave out subsection (2)

Section 15

Graeme Dey

17 In section 15, page 5, leave out subsection (2)



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