

Timetable for the Scottish Parliamentary election: 6 May 2021

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.

This timetable has been developed based on the legislation as it currently stands and so it may be subject to change. We will update and re-publish the timetable as appropriate if further legislation is made.

Event	Working days before poll (deadline if not midnight)	Date (deadline if not midnight)
Publication of notice of election	Not later than 28 days and not earlier than 35 days	Between Monday 15 March and Wednesday 24 March
Delivery of nomination papers	From the day after the publication of the notice of election until the 23rd day (4pm)	Not later than 4pm on any working day after publication of notice of election until 4pm on Wednesday 31 March
Deadline for delivery of nomination papers	23 days (4pm)	4pm on Wednesday 31 March
Deadline for withdrawals of nomination	23 days (4pm)	4pm on Wednesday 31 March

Event	Working days before poll (deadline if not midnight)	Date (deadline if not midnight)
Making objections to nomination papers	<p>During the hours allowed for delivery of nomination papers on the last day for their delivery and the hour following.</p> <p>No objection may be made in the afternoon of the last day except to a nomination paper delivered within 24 hours of the last time for its delivery</p>	<p>Objections can only be made on Wednesday 31 March (until 5pm).</p> <p>Until 12 noon on Wednesday 31 March objections can be made to all delivered nominations</p> <p>Between 12 noon and 5pm on Wednesday 31 March objections can only be made to nominations delivered after 4pm on Tuesday 30 March</p>
Deadline for the notification of appointment of election agent	23 days (4pm)	4pm on Wednesday 31 March
Publication of statement of persons nominated, including notice of poll and situation of polling stations	<p>If no objections: on 23 days (at 5pm)</p> <p>If objection(s) are made: Not before objection(s) are disposed of but not later than 24 hours after the last time for delivery of nomination papers</p>	<p>If no objections: at 5pm on Wednesday 31 March</p> <p>Objection(s) made: not before objection(s) are disposed of but not later than 4pm on Thursday 1 April</p>
Publication of first interim election notice of alteration	23 days ⁱ	Wednesday 31 March

Event	Working days before poll (deadline if not midnight)	Date (deadline if not midnight)
Deadline for receiving new postal vote and postal proxy applications, and for changes to existing postal or proxy votes	21 days (5pm)	5pm on Tuesday 6 April
Deadline for receiving applications for registration	12 days	Monday 19 April
Deadline for cancelling existing postal or proxy votes	11 days	Tuesday 20 April
Deadline for receiving new applications to vote by proxy (not postal proxy or emergency proxies)	6 days (5pm)	5pm on Tuesday 27 April
Publication of second interim election notice of alteration	Between 22 days and 6 days	Between Thursday 1 April and Tuesday 27 April (inclusive)
Publication of final election notice of alteration	5 days	Wednesday 28 April
Deadline for notification of appointment of polling and counting agents	5 days	Wednesday 28 April
Deadline for notification of appointment of sub-agents	2 days	Tuesday 4 May
Polling day	0 (7am to 10pm)	7am to 10pm on Thursday 6 May
Last time for re-issue of spoilt postal votes	0 (10pm)	10pm on Thursday 6 May
Deadline for emergency proxy applications	0 (5pm)	5pm on Thursday 6 May
Last time to alter the register due to clerical error or court appeal	0 (9pm)	9pm on Thursday 6 May

ⁱ Calculated in accordance with RPA 1983