

Appendix B

The Electoral Timetable

Statutory electoral timetables for both general and by-elections are laid down in the Parliamentary Elections Rules appended to the *Representation of the People Act 1983*. The timetable was amended in the *Representation of the People Act 1985*. For the background to the timetable see House of Commons Library Research Paper 07/31.

General elections	Day of timetable	By-elections
Royal Proclamation and issue of writs	0	Issue of new writ
Receipt of writs	1	Receipt of writ
	2	
Last day for publication of notice of elections	3	Last day for publication of notice of election
Earliest day for nomination	4	Earliest day for nomination
	5	
Latest day for nomination	6	Earliest day for nominations to close
	7	
	8	Latest day for nominations to close
	9	
	10	
	11	
	12	
	13	
	14	
	15	Earliest polling day
	16	
Polling day	17	
	18	
	19	Latest polling day

Notes:-

(1) In the case of by-elections, the last day for nominations and polling day are fixed, within certain limits, by the Returning Officer.

(2) For the purposes of the timetable, Saturday, Sunday, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Good Friday, a bank holiday, and any day appointed for public thanksgiving or mourning are disregarded.

(3) The latest possible date for the next General Election is Thursday 3 June 2010 (see House of Commons Library Research Paper 07/31 for details on how this is calculated).