

Scottish Parliamentary Election**Notice of Openings of Postal Voters' Ballot Boxes and the Envelopes contained therein**

Constituency / Region	Caithness, Sutherland and Ross; Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch; Inverness and Nairn Highlands and Islands
Date of Election	Thursday 7 May 2026

Issue of Postal Votes

Idox are contracted by me to produce the Postal Voting packs and postal ballot papers. Postal Vote packs will be dispatched to Royal Mail by the appointed contractor on the following dates:-
Wednesday 15 April 2026, Friday 17 April 2026 and Monday 27 April 2026

Opening of Postal Votes

I, **Derek Brown**, Constituency and Regional Returning Officer at the above election, hereby give you Notice of the Openings of Postal Voters' Ballot Boxes and the envelopes contained therein on the dates and at the places and times all as specified in the schedule below.

I further notify you that you (or any person appointed to attend in place of your Scottish Parliamentary Agent provided their appointment has been duly made and notified to me) are entitled to be present at all proceedings. You may appoint Postal Voting Agents to attend any of the sessions listed below and this should be notified to me not later than the time fixed for each Opening Session.

Schedule of Opening of Postal Votes

Session	Date	Place	Start Time
1.	Monday, 20 April 2026 (Opening of Postal ballot packs, Envelope B's only to prepare for scanning – no ballot paper envelopes opened until 26 th April)	Highland Council HQ, Block A, Glenurquhart Road, IV3 5NX Inverness	10am
2.	Tuesday, 21 April 2026		10am
3.	Wednesday, 22 April 2026		10am
4.	Thursday, 23 April 2026		10am
5.	Friday, 24 April 2026		10am
6.	Monday, 27 April 2026(Scanning, verifying and reviewing commences and opening of ballot paper envelopes begins)		09.30am
7.	Tuesday, 28 April 2026		09.30am
8.	Wednesday, 29 April 2026		09.30am
9.	Thursday, 30 April 2026		09.30am
10.	Friday, 1 May 2026		09.30am
11.	Tuesday, 5 May 2026		09.30am
12.	Wednesday, 6 May 2026		09.30am
13.	Thursday, 7 May 2026		09.30am and 9pm until finish

I further notify you that you or your Election Agent (or any person appointed to attend in place of you or your Election Agent, provided their appointment has been duly made and notified to me) are entitled to be present at proceedings. You may appoint one Postal Vote Agent to attend any of the sessions specified in this notice.

Derek Brown, Constituency & Regional Returning Officer

Date: Monday, 17 March 2026

*Printed and Published by the Regional / Constituency Returning Officer,
Highland Council, Election Office, Glenurquhart Road, IV3 5NX Inverness*