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Office of the Parliamentary Counsel 36 Whitehall London SW1A 2AY

Telephone Direct line 01 273 3429
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5 July 1985

F E R Butler Esq
10 Downing Street
SW1

No need to reply.

Dear ~~Robert~~,

FERB

PROCEDURE FOR GENERAL ELECTIONS

Thank you for your letter of 3 July enclosing improved copies of pages 12-17 and 22-24. I am having the replaced pages shredded.

Certainly
";" has
dropped
out.

I now see that paragraph 27 mentions the 1983 dissolution without prorogation. In line 7 of that paragraph, has "; and" dropped out after "complication"?

I have a revised version of paragraph 16(i)(a) ready to send you as soon as the Local Government Bill is sure of enactment.

Yours ever

George

GEORGE ENGLE

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Election - '83 election 5/83



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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

3 July 1985

PROCEDURE FOR GENERAL ELECTIONS

Thank you for your letter of 26 June.

I did not mention in paragraph 31 that dissolution without prorogation occurred in 1983 but it is mentioned in paragraph 27.

I will look forward to hearing from you further when you have heard from the Home Office about the date to bring into force the provisions of the Representation of the People Act 1985.

I apologise for the photocopying. I am enclosing new copies of pages 12-17 and 22-24.

Sir George Engle, K.C.B., Q.C.

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Office of the Parliamentary Counsel 36 Whitehall London SW1A 2AY

Telephone Direct line 01 273 3429

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26 June 1985

Robin Butler Esq
10 Downing Street
LONDON
SW1

Dear Robin,

PROCEDURE FOR GENERAL ELECTIONS

Thank you for your letter of 17 June enclosing one copy of the sixth edition of the guide. (I have caused my previous copy to be destroyed.)

This embodies all the non-asterisked textual amendments suggested by me; but paragraph 31 still does not mention that dissolution without prorogation occurred in 1983.

I have written to the Home Office, asking them to notify me as soon as they decide to make an order bringing into force the provisions of the Representation of the People Act 1985 which affect the relationship between dissolution and polling. I will let you know what is afoot whenever I hear from them. I will let you have a revised version of paragraph 16(i)(a) in due course.

What you say in the last paragraph of your letter is correct - though, as I said in paragraph 7 of my letter of 30 May, there is a technical difficulty (currently under consideration) which appears to preclude any interval between the date of the Dissolution Council and the date of dissolution. If and when a solution of the

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Gen. Election



technical difficulty is found, we will have to consider what changes ought to be made in the guide. Paragraph 3.2 is obviously a candidate.

Finally, I should perhaps mention the dimness of the photocopying in several places in my copy of the sixth edition - e.g. the bottom of pages 12 to 17 and 22 to 24. I hope the next edition will be more legible.

Yours sincerely

GEORGE ENGLE



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