

17. Postal, absent and provisional votes to be sorted

- (1) At the close of the poll the Assistant Returning Officer or Returning Officer who opens the ballot box is to —
 - (a) cause the envelopes with postal votes, absent votes or provisional votes to be separated from the other ballot papers contained in the ballot boxes; and
 - (b) cause the envelopes to be sorted into their respective districts or regions.
- (2) If the ballot box is opened by an Assistant Returning Officer, the Assistant Returning Officer is to forward the envelopes —
 - (a) to the Returning Officer for the district or region as the case requires; or
 - (b) if so directed by the Electoral Commissioner or the Returning Officer for the district or region as the case requires, to the Electoral Commissioner,by any means approved by the Electoral Commissioner.