



# Registration of Political Parties Act 1998

## 1998 CHAPTER 48

An Act to make provision about the registration of political parties. [19th November 1998]

<sup>F1</sup>Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

### Textual Amendments

**F1** Act repealed (except ss. 13, 15, 24, 26 and Sch. 2) (16.2.2001) by 2000 c. 41, s. 158(2), **Sch. 22** (with s. 156(6)); S.I. 2001/222, art. 2, **Sch. 1 Pt. I** Annex (subject to transitional provisions in Sch. 1 Pt. II)

### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

**C1** Act restricted (14.12.2000) by 2000 c. 41, s. 163(4)(7), Sch. 23 Pt. I paras. 1, **7(1)** (with s. 156(6))  
Act excluded (14.12.2000) by 2000 c. 41, s. 163(4)(7), Sch. 23 Pt. I paras. 1, **7(4)** (with s. 156(6))

*The register of political parties*

*Registration*

*Changing, confirming and removing registrations*

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*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Registration of Political Parties Act 1998. (See end of Document for details)*

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*Speaker's Committee*

*Access to the register*

*Effects of registration*

**13 Parliamentary elections: nomination and ballot papers.**

Schedule 2 (which amends the Parliamentary Elections Rules) shall have effect.

**15 Security at party conferences.**

(1) Section 170 of the <sup>M4</sup>Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (security at party conferences) shall be amended as follows.

(2) In subsections (1) and (3) for “qualifying political party” substitute in each place “qualifying registered political party”.

(3) After subsection (4) add—

“(5) In this section “registered political party” means a party registered under the Registration of Political Parties Act 1998.”.

**Marginal Citations**

**M4** 1994 c. 33.

*Transitional provisions*

*Miscellaneous and general*

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**Changes to legislation:** *There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Registration of Political Parties Act 1998. (See end of Document for details)*

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**24 Short title.**

This Act may be cited as the Registration of Political Parties Act 1998.

**26 Extent.**

This Act extends to Northern Ireland.

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Registration of Political Parties Act 1998. (See end of Document for details)*

## SCHEDULES

### SCHEDULE 1

Section 2.

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### SCHEDULE 2

Section 13.

#### AMENDMENTS OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS RULES

- 1 The Parliamentary Elections Rules set out in Schedule 1 to the Representation of the <sup>M7</sup>People Act 1983 shall be amended as follows.

#### Marginal Citations

M7 1983 c. 2.

- 2 After rule 6 (nomination of candidates) insert—

*“Nomination papers: name of registered political party*

- 6A (1) A nomination paper may not include a description of a candidate which is likely to lead voters to associate the candidate with a registered political party unless the description is authorised by a certificate—
- (a) issued by or on behalf of the registered nominating officer of the party, and
  - (b) received by the returning officer at some time during the period for delivery of nomination papers set out in the Table in rule 1.
- (2) A person shall be guilty of a corrupt practice if he fraudulently purports to be authorised to issue a certificate under paragraph (1) on behalf of a registered political party’s nominating officer.
- (3) In the application of this rule in relation to an election “registered political party” means a party which was registered under the Registration of Political Parties Act 1998 at the time by which the notice of election is required to be published by virtue of rule 1.”.

- 3 (1) Rule 12 (decisions as to validity of nomination papers) is amended as follows.

(2) At the beginning of paragraph (3) insert “Subject to paragraph (3A),”.

(3) After paragraph (3) insert—

“(3A) If in the returning officer’s opinion a nomination paper breaks rule 6A(1), he shall give a decision to that effect as soon as practicable after the close of the period for delivery of nomination papers set out in the Table in rule 1.”.

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- (4) In paragraph (4) for “Where he” substitute “ Where the returning officer ”.
- 4 In rule 19 (the ballot papers), after paragraph (2) insert—
- “(2A) If a candidate who is the subject of a party’s authorisation under rule 6A(1) so requests, the ballot paper shall contain, against the candidate’s particulars, the party’s registered emblem (or, as the case may be, one of the party’s registered emblems).
- (2B) The request must—
- (a) be made in writing to the returning officer, and
- (b) be received by him during the period for delivery of nomination papers set out in the Table in rule 1.”.
- 5 In the Appendix of Forms, for the form of the front of the ballot paper there shall be substituted the form set out in the Appendix to this Schedule.
- 6 In the Directions as to printing the ballot paper in the Appendix of Forms—
- (a) in paragraph 2(a) for “and the particulars of the candidates” substitute “ , the particulars of the candidates and words forming part of emblems ”, and
- (b) after paragraph 3 add—
- “3A Where an emblem is to be printed against a candidate’s particulars—
- (a) it shall be printed between the candidate’s particulars and the vertical rule separating the candidates’ particulars from the spaces where the vote is to be marked, and
- (b) its size as printed shall not exceed two centimetres square.”.

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Registration of Political Parties Act 1998. (See end of Document for details)*

APPENDIX

1	<p><b>BASWRA</b>          Paresh Baswra          20 Kincaid Road, Small Heath,          Birmingham B10 9JG          Liberal Democrat</p>	
2	<p><b>CRANLEY</b>          Alana Cranley          4 Kennil Road, Edgware,          Middx. HA8 5JJ          Green Party</p>	
3	<p><b>EDGBASTON</b>          Richard Edgbaston          6 Tagwood Lane, Small Heath,          Birmingham B10 9HJ          The Stop the By-Pass Candidate</p>	
4	<p><b>GUNNIL-WALKER</b>          Roger Gunnil-Walker          33 Horsemeadow Lane, Sheldon,          Birmingham B25 3GJ          The Labour Party Candidate</p>	
5	<p><b>SMITH</b>          CATHERINE ANGELINA Smith          21 Terminal Grove, Selly Oak,          Birmingham B32 5JP          Independent</p>	
6	<p><b>SMITH</b>          KETH JAMES Smith          The Links, 3 Kingsdown Road,          Birmingham B44 4JN          The Conservative Party Candidate</p>	

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Registration of Political Parties Act 1998.