



Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000

2000 CHAPTER 41

PART X

MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL

Provisions relating to offences

151 Summary proceedings.

- (1) Summary proceedings for any offence under this Act may, without prejudice to any jurisdiction exercisable apart from this subsection, be taken against any body, including an unincorporated association, at any place at which it has a place of business, and against an individual at any place at which he is for the time being.
- (2) Despite anything in section 127(1) of the ^{M1}Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, any information relating to an offence under this Act which is triable by a magistrates' court in England and Wales may be so tried if it is laid at any time within three years after the commission of the offence and within six months after the relevant date.
- (3) Despite anything in section 136 of the ^{M2}Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995, summary proceedings for such an offence may be commenced in Scotland at any time within three years after the commission of the offence and within six months after the relevant date; and subsection (3) of that section shall apply for the purposes of this subsection as it applies for the purposes of that section.
- (4) Despite anything in Article 19(1) of the ^{M3}Magistrates' Courts (Northern Ireland) Order 1981, a complaint relating to such an offence which is triable by a court of summary jurisdiction in Northern Ireland may be so tried if it is made at any time within three years after the commission of the offence and within six months after the relevant date.

^{F1}(4A)

Changes to legislation: Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000, Section 151 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 24 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- (5) In this section “the relevant date” means the date on which evidence sufficient in the opinion of the prosecutor to justify proceedings comes to his knowledge.
- (6) For the purposes of subsection (5) a certificate of any prosecutor as to the date on which such evidence as is there mentioned came to his knowledge shall be conclusive evidence of that fact.

Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 151(4A) repealed (31.12.2020) by The European Parliamentary Elections Etc. (Repeal, Revocation, Amendment and Saving Provisions) (United Kingdom and Gibraltar) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018 (S.I. 2018/1310), reg. 1, **Sch. 1 Pt. 1** (as amended by S.I. 2019/1389, regs. 1, 2(2))

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 151 applied (1.2.2016) by European Union Referendum Act 2015 (c. 36), s. 13(2), **Sch. 1 para. 44(3)**; S.I. 2016/69, reg. 2
- C2** S. 151 applied (1.2.2016) by European Union Referendum Act 2015 (c. 36), s. 13(2), **Sch. 2 para. 9(3)**; S.I. 2016/69, reg. 2
- C3** S. 151 applied (4.3.2016) by Recall of MPs Act 2015 (c. 25), s. 24(3), **Sch. 4 para. 21(1)(a)**; S.I. 2016/290, reg. 2

Commencement Information

- I1** S. 151 wholly in force at 16.2.2001; s. 151 not in force at Royal Assent, see s. 163(2); s. 151 in force at 16.2.2001 by S.I. 2001/222, art. 2, **Sch. 1 Pt. I** (subject to transitional provisions in Sch. 1 Pt. II)

Marginal Citations

- M1** 1980 c. 43.
- M2** 1995 c. 46.
- M3** S.I. 1981/1675 (N.I. 26).

Changes to legislation:

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View outstanding changes

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 2(2A) inserted by 2022 c. 37 s. 18(1)
- s. 4A-4E and cross-heading inserted by 2022 c. 37 s. 16
- s. 8(3)(d) inserted by 2011 c. 13 Sch. 10 para. 12
- s. 13ZA and cross-heading inserted by 2022 c. 37 s. 17(1)
- s. 54(1)(aa) inserted by 2009 c. 12 s. 9(1)
- s. 54(1)(aa) substituted by 2009 c. 12 s. 10(1)
- s. 54(2ZA)-(2ZC) inserted by 2009 c. 12 s. 10(3)
- s. 56(1A) inserted by 2009 c. 12 s. 10(5)
- s. 56(2)(aa) inserted by 2009 c. 12 s. 9(3)(b)
- s. 56(3B) inserted by 2009 c. 12 s. 9(4)
- s. 71H(3ZA) inserted by 2009 c. 12 Sch. 6 para. 19
- s. 71L(9A) inserted by 2009 c. 12 s. 11(2)
- Sch. 1 para. 2(1) Sch. 1 para. 2 renumbered as Sch. 1 para. 2(1) by 2022 c. 37 s. 19(2)
- Sch. 1 para. 2(2) inserted by 2022 c. 37 s. 19(4)
- Sch. 1 para. 2(1) words inserted by 2022 c. 37 s. 19(3)(a)
- Sch. 1 para. 2(1) words omitted by 2022 c. 37 s. 19(3)(b)
- Sch. 2 para. 2(1A) inserted by 2022 c. 37 s. 18(2)
- Sch. 2 para. 4 and cross-heading inserted by 2022 c. 37 s. 17(2)
- Sch. 7 para. 6(1)(aa) inserted by 2009 c. 12 Sch. 3 para. 1(1)
- Sch. 7 para. 8(1A) inserted by 2009 c. 12 Sch. 4 para. 2
- Sch. 7 para. 10(5)(aa) inserted by 2009 c. 12 Sch. 3 para. 2(5)(b)
- Sch. 7 para. 6(1)(aa) substituted by 2009 c. 12 Sch. 4 para. 1(1)
- Sch. 7 para. 10(5)(aa) words inserted by 2009 c. 12 Sch. 4 para. 3(3)
- Sch. 7A para. 8(9A) inserted by 2009 c. 12 s. 11(5)
- Sch. 7A para. 9(10)(ba) inserted by 2009 c. 12 s. 11(6)(b)
- Sch. 11 para. 4(3) inserted by 2009 c. 12 Sch. 6 para. 29(2)
- Sch. 11 para. 6(1)(aa) inserted by 2009 c. 12 Sch. 3 para. 4(1)
- Sch. 11 para. 7(2)(aa) inserted by 2009 c. 12 Sch. 4 para. 5
- Sch. 11 para. 6(1)(aa) substituted by 2009 c. 12 Sch. 4 para. 4(1)
- Sch. 11 para. 4(3) words inserted by 2009 c. 12 Sch. 6 para. 29(3)
- Sch. 15 para. 4(3)(4) inserted by 2009 c. 12 Sch. 6 para. 30(2)(b)
- Sch. 15 para. 6(1)(aa) inserted by 2009 c. 12 Sch. 3 para. 7(1)
- Sch. 15 para. 7(2)(aa) inserted by 2009 c. 12 Sch. 4 para. 8
- Sch. 15 para. 6(1)(aa) substituted by 2009 c. 12 Sch. 4 para. 7(1)
- Sch. 15 para. 4(3) words inserted by 2009 c. 12 Sch. 6 para. 30(3)