

# Political Parties and Elections Act 2009

# CHAPTER 12

# POLITICAL PARTIES AND ELECTIONS ACT 2009

# PART 1

# THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION

# Functions of Electoral Commission

- 1 Compliance with controls imposed by the 2000 Act etc
- 2 Investigatory powers of Commission
- 3 Civil sanctions

#### Electoral Commissioners etc

- 4 Selection of prospective Electoral Commissioners and Commission chairman
- 5 Four Electoral Commissioners to be persons put forward by parties
- 6 Number of Electoral Commissioners
- 7 Political restrictions on Electoral Commissioners and staff
- 8 Education about systems of government and EU institutions

#### PART 2

#### POLITICAL DONATIONS ETC AND EXPENDITURE

#### Donations etc

- 9 Declaration as to source of donation
- 10 Non-resident donors etc
- 11 Non-resident lenders etc
- 12 Defence to charge of failing to return donation from impermissible donor

### Offences

13 "Reasonable excuse" in relation to certain offences under the 2000 Act

#### Responsible persons and compliance officers

- 14 Control of donations to members associations: responsible persons
- 15 Control of donations to holders of elective office: compliance officers
- 16 Control of loans etc to members associations: responsible persons
- 17 Control of loans etc to holders of elective office: compliance officers
- 18 Person may not be "responsible person" for more than one third party

#### Unincorporated associations

19 Reports of gifts received by unincorporated associations making political contributions

#### Thresholds

20 Increased thresholds in relation to donations etc

#### Election expenses

- 21 Limitation of pre-candidacy election expenses for certain general elections
- 22 Election expenses: guidance by Commission

### PART 3

#### ELECTIONS

- 23 Election falling within canvass period
- 24 Candidate at parliamentary election may withhold home address from publication
- 25 Disposal of election documents in Scotland
- 26 Filling vacant European Parliament seats in Northern Ireland
- 27 Returning officers for elections to the European Parliament

# PART 4

#### ELECTORAL REGISTRATION

#### Co-ordinated on-line record of electors

- 28 Establishment of corporation sole to be CORE keeper
- 29 Use of CORE information

#### Identifying information

- 30 Voluntary provision of identifying information
- 31 Regulations amending or supplementing section 30
- 32 Report by Electoral Commission on provision of identifying information
- 33 Obligatory provision of identifying information
- 34 Provision supplementing section 33

# Data schemes

35 Schemes for provision of data to registration officers

36 Schemes under section 35: proposals, consultation and evaluation

#### Interpretation

#### 37 Meaning of expressions relating to registration

#### PART 5

#### GENERAL

- 38 Meaning of "the 1983 Act" and "the 2000 Act"
- 39 Amendments and repeals
- 40 Transitional provision
- 41 Money
- 42 Extent
- 43 Commencement
- 44 Short title

#### SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 1 — Investigatory powers of Commission: Schedule to be inserted into the 2000 Act

SCHEDULE 2 — Civil sanctions: Schedule to be inserted into the 2000 Act

SCHEDULE 3 — Declaration as to source of donation

- 1 Schedule 7 to the 2000 Act (control of donations to individuals and members associations)
- 2 (1) Paragraph 10 of that Schedule (donation reports: donations from...
- 3 (1) Paragraph 11 of that Schedule (donation reports: donations from...
- 4 Schedule 11 to the 2000 Act (control of donations to recognised third parties)
- 5 (1) In paragraph 9 of that Schedule (statement of relevant...
- 6 (1) Paragraph 11 of that Schedule (donations from impermissible donors)...
- 7 Schedule 15 to the 2000 Act (control of donations to permitted participants)
- 8 (1) In paragraph 9 of that Schedule (statement of relevant...
- 9 (1) Paragraph 11 of that Schedule (donations from impermissible or...
- 10 Schedule 20 to the 2000 Act (penalties)

SCHEDULE 4 — Declaration as to whether residence etc condition satisfied

- 1 Schedule 7 to the 2000 Act (control of donations to individuals and members associations)
- 2 In paragraph 8 of that Schedule (acceptance or return of...
- 3 (1) Paragraph 10 of that Schedule (donation reports: donations from...
- 4 Schedule 11 to the 2000 Act (control of donations to recognised third parties)
- 5 In paragraph 7 of that Schedule (acceptance or return of...
- 6 In paragraph 9A of that Schedule (inserted by Schedule 3...
- 7 Schedule 15 to the 2000 Act (control of donations to permitted participants)
- 8 In paragraph 7 of that Schedule (acceptance or return of...

- 9 In paragraph 9A of that Schedule (inserted by Schedule 3...
- 10 Schedule 20 to the 2000 Act (penalties)

SCHEDULE 5 — Reports of gifts received by unincorporated associations making political contributions: Schedule to be inserted into the 2000 Act

SCHEDULE 6 — Minor and consequential amendments

- 1 Representation of the People Act 1983 (c. 2)
- 2 In section 13 (publication of registers), in subsection (5)(b), for...
- 3 In section 13A (alteration of registers), in subsection (5), for...
- 4 In section 65A (false statements in nomination papers etc), in...
- 5 (1) Section 70 (effect of default in election agent's appointment)...
- 6 In section 76A (power to vary provisions about election expenses),...
- 7 In section 90ZA (meaning of "election expenses"), for subsection (5)...
- 8 (1) Schedule 1 (parliamentary elections rules) is amended as follows....
- 9 Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 (c. 41)
- 10 In section 3 (appointment of Electoral Commissioners and Commission chairman),...
- 11 In section 15 (Deputy Electoral Commissioners), in subsection (3) (Deputy...
- 12 In section 54 (permissible donors), in subsection (1)(b), for "that...
- 13 (1) In section 55 (payments etc which are (or are...
- 14 In section 56 (acceptance or return of donations: general), in...
- 15 In section 58 (forfeiture of donations made by impermissible or...
- 16 In section 62 (quarterly donation reports), in subsection (9) (donation...
- 17 In section 65 (submission of donation reports to Commission), in...
- 18 In section 67 (weekly donation reports in connection with elections...
- 19 In section 71H (authorised participants), after subsection (3) there is...
- 20 In section 71U (weekly donation reports in connection with elections...
- 21 In the heading to Part 9, after "companies" there is...
- 22 In section 145 (function of Commission with respect to compliance...
- 23 In section 148 (general offences), in subsection (1) (offence of...
- 24 In section 149 (inspection of Commission's registers etc), in subsection...
- 25 In section 156 (orders and regulations), in subsection (2), for...
- 26 In section 160 (general interpretation), in subsection (1) (definitions), at...
- 27 (1) Schedule 1 (the Electoral Commission) is amended as follows....
- 28 (1) Schedule 7 (control of donations to individuals and members...
- 29 (1) Schedule 11 (control of donations to recognised third parties)...
- 30 (1) Schedule 15 (control of donations to permitted participants) is...
- 31 In Schedule 20 (penalties), in the entry for section 56(3)...

SCHEDULE 7 — Repeals