

# Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000

**2000 CHAPTER 41** 

# PART VI

CONTROLS RELATING TO THIRD PARTY NATIONAL ELECTION CAMPAIGNS

# CHAPTER II

## FINANCIAL CONTROLS

 $I^{FI}$ Quarterly and weekly reports of donations to recognised third parties

## **Textual Amendments**

**F1** Ss. 95A-95F and cross-heading inserted (30.1.2014) by Transparency of Lobbying, Non-Party Campaigning and Trade Union Administration Act 2014 (c. 4), ss. 33(2), 45(3)(b) (with s. 46(1)(2))

## 95A Quarterly donation reports

- (1) The responsible person in relation to a recognised third party must, in respect of each reporting period that falls within a pre-dissolution period, prepare a report about reportable donations ("a quarterly report").
- - (3) A "pre-dissolution period" means a period-
    - (a) beginning with the [<sup>F3</sup>day that is the fourth anniversary of the day on which the Parliament then in existence first met], and
    - (b) ending with the day before the day  $^{F4}$ ... on which Parliament is dissolved.

[ In a case where the pre-dissolution period is 3 months or less, the reporting period is  $^{F5}(3A)$  the pre-dissolution period.

- (3B) In a case where the pre-dissolution period is more than 3 months, the reporting periods are—
  - (a) the period of 3 months beginning with the first day of the pre-dissolution period,
  - (b) any succeeding period of 3 months falling within the pre-dissolution period, and
  - (c) any final period of less than 3 months falling within that period.]
- - (6) A quarterly report must comply with the requirements of Schedule 11A.
- (7) A "reportable donation" means a relevant donation (within the meaning of Schedule 11) which—
  - <sup>F8</sup>(a) .....
    - (b) is accepted, or is dealt with in accordance with section 56(2) (as applied by paragraph 7 of Schedule 11), by the recognised third party during the reporting period.
- (8) A quarterly report must be delivered to the Commission by the responsible person within the period of 30 days beginning with the end of the reporting period to which it relates.
- (9) The report must be accompanied by a declaration signed by the responsible person stating that, to the best of that person's knowledge and belief—
  - (a) all reportable donations (if any) recorded in the report as having been accepted by the recognised third party are from permissible donors, and
  - (b) there are no reportable donations which are required to be recorded in the report in accordance with Schedule 11A which are not so recorded.
- (10) This section does not require the preparation of a quarterly report in respect of a reporting period if no reportable donations are accepted, or dealt with, as described in subsection (7)(b), by the recognised third party during that period.

[This section does not apply in relation to a recognised third party that is subject to the <sup>F9</sup>(10A) lower-tier expenditure limits.]

 $F^{10}(11)$  ....

#### **Textual Amendments**

- F2 S. 95A(2) omitted (24.3.2022) by virtue of Dissolution and Calling of Parliament Act 2022 (c. 11), s. 6(3), Sch. para. 15(2)
- F3 Words in s. 95A(3)(a) substituted (24.3.2022) by Dissolution and Calling of Parliament Act 2022 (c. 11), s. 6(3), Sch. para. 15(3)(a)
- F4 Words in s. 95A(3)(b) omitted (24.3.2022) by virtue of Dissolution and Calling of Parliament Act 2022 (c. 11), s. 6(3), Sch. para. 15(3)(b)
- F5 S. 95A(3A)(3B) inserted (24.3.2022) by Dissolution and Calling of Parliament Act 2022 (c. 11), s. 6(3), Sch. para. 15(4)

- F6 S. 95A(4) omitted (24.3.2022) by virtue of Dissolution and Calling of Parliament Act 2022 (c. 11), s. 6(3), Sch. para. 15(5)
- F7 S. 95A(5) omitted (24.3.2022) by virtue of Dissolution and Calling of Parliament Act 2022 (c. 11), s. 6(3), Sch. para. 15(5)
- **F8** S. 95A(7)(a) and word omitted (24.3.2022) by virtue of Dissolution and Calling of Parliament Act 2022 (c. 11), s. 6(3), **Sch. para. 15(6)**
- **F9** S. 95A(10A) inserted (24.11.2022) by Elections Act 2022 (c. 37), ss. 28(12), 67(1) (with s. 28(13)(14)); S.I. 2022/1226, reg. 2(c)
- **F10** S. 95A(11) omitted (24.11.2022) by virtue of Elections Act 2022 (c. 37), ss. 24(7), 67(1); S.I. 2022/1226, reg. 2(c)

## 95B Weekly donation reports during general election periods

- (1) The responsible person in relation to a recognised third party must, in respect of each reporting period that falls within a general election period, prepare a report about substantial donations ("a weekly report").
- (2) The reporting periods are—
  - (a) the period of 7 days beginning with the first day of the general election period,
  - (b) each succeeding period of 7 days falling within the general election period, and
  - (c) any final period of less than 7 days falling within that period.
- (3) A "general election period" means the period—
  - (a) beginning with the day on which Parliament is dissolved for a parliamentary general election, and
  - (b) ending with the date during a qualifying regulated period which is the date of the poll for that election.
- (4) A weekly report must comply with the requirements of Schedule 11A.
- (5) A "substantial donation" means a relevant donation of a substantial value which is received by the recognised third party during the reporting period in respect of the relevant election or elections the poll or polls for which take place during the qualifying regulated period.
- (6) A relevant donation is "of a substantial value" if its value (as determined in accordance with paragraph 5 of Schedule 11) is more than £7,500.
- (7) A weekly report must be delivered to the Commission by the responsible person within the period of 7 days beginning with the end of the reporting period to which it relates.
- (8) The report must be accompanied by a declaration signed by the responsible person stating that, to the best of that person's knowledge and belief, no substantial donations have been received by the recognised third party during the reporting period which are required to be recorded in the report in accordance with Schedule 11A and are not so recorded.
- (9) This section does not require the preparation of a weekly report in respect of a reporting period if no substantial donations are received by the recognised third party during that period.
- (10) In this section—

"qualifying regulated period" means a period in relation to which any limit is imposed by paragraph 3, 9, 10 or 11 of Schedule 10 (periods involving parliamentary general elections);

"relevant donation" has the same meaning as in Schedule 11.

[ This section does not apply in relation to a recognised third party that is subject to the <sup>F11</sup>(10A) lower-tier expenditure limits.]

<sup>F12</sup>(11).....

#### **Textual Amendments**

- **F11** S. 95B(10A) inserted (24.11.2022) by Elections Act 2022 (c. 37), ss. 28(12), 67(1) (with s. 28(13)(14)); S.I. 2022/1226, reg. 2(c)
- **F12** S. 95B(11) omitted (24.11.2022) by virtue of Elections Act 2022 (c. 37), **ss. 24(8)**, 67(1); S.I. 2022/1226, reg. 2(c)

## 95C Related offences

- (1) The responsible person in relation to a recognised third party commits an offence if, without reasonable excuse, the responsible person—
  - (a) fails to deliver a quarterly or weekly report in accordance with section 95A(8) or 95B(7),
  - (b) delivers a quarterly or weekly report to the Commission without the accompanying declaration required under section 95A(9) or 95B(8), or
  - (c) delivers a quarterly or weekly report to the Commission which does not comply with the requirements of Schedule 11A.
- (2) The responsible person in relation to a recognised third party commits an offence if the person knowingly or recklessly makes a false declaration under section 95A(9) or 95B(8).

## 95D Forfeiture

- (1) The court may, on an application made by the Commission, order the forfeiture by a recognised third party of an amount equal to the value of a relevant donation where the court is satisfied that—
  - (a) a failure by the responsible person to deliver a quarterly or weekly report in accordance with section 95A(8) or 95B(7), or
  - (b) the delivery by the responsible person of a quarterly or weekly report which fails to comply with a requirement of Schedule 11A,

was attributable to an intention on the part of any person to conceal the existence or true amount of the donation.

- (2) The standard of proof in proceedings on an application under this section is that applicable to civil proceedings.
- (3) A forfeiture order may be made under this section whether or not proceedings are brought against any person for an offence connected with the donation.
- (4) In this section "the court" means—
  - (a) in relation to England and Wales, a magistrates' court;

- (b) in relation to Scotland, the sheriff;
- (c) in relation to Northern Ireland, a court of summary jurisdiction.
- (5) Proceedings on an application under this section to the sheriff are civil proceedings.
- (6) Sections 59 and 60 (appeals etc against forfeiture orders) apply for the purposes, or in connection with the operation, of this section in relation to a recognised third party as they apply for the purposes, or in connection with the operation, of section 58 in relation to a registered party.
- (7) In this section "relevant donation" has the same meaning as in Schedule 11.

[ This section does not apply in relation to a recognised third party that is subject to the <sup>F13</sup>(8) lower-tier expenditure limits.]

#### Textual Amendments

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F13 S. 95D(8) inserted (24.11.2022) by Elections Act 2022 (c. 37), ss. 28(12), 67(1) (with s. 28(13)(14));
S.I. 2022/1226, reg. 2(c)
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## 95E Sections 95A to 95D: supplementary

- (1) This section applies where the requirements in section 95A or 95B to prepare quarterly or weekly reports in the case of a pre-dissolution period or a general election period have effect in relation to a recognised third party.
- (2) If the third party's notification under section 88(1) lapses during the pre-dissolution period or the general election period, the requirements in section 95A or 95B (as the case may be) continue to have effect in relation to the third party—
  - (a) in respect of the reporting period in which the notification lapses, and
  - (b) in respect of each reporting period (if any) which preceded that period and which falls within the pre-dissolution period or the general election period.
- (3) If the third party's notification under section 88(1) lapses at or after the end of the predissolution period or the general election period, the requirements in section 95A or 95B (as the case may be) continue to have effect in relation to the third party in the case of that period.
- (4) In a case where subsection (2) or (3) applies, references in sections 95A to 95D to the responsible person are to be read, for the purposes of, or in connection with, the discharge of obligations of the responsible person under those sections, as references to the person who was the responsible person in relation to the recognised third party immediately before the notification lapsed.
- (5) In this section—
  - (a) "pre-dissolution period" and "reporting period", in relation to a quarterly report, have the same meaning as in section 95A, and
  - (b) "general election period" and "reporting period", in relation to a weekly report, have the same meaning as in section 95B.

## 95F Public inspection of reports

- (1) Where the Commission receive a quarterly or weekly report under section 95A or 95B, they must—
  - (a) as soon as reasonably practicable after receiving the report, make a copy of the report, and of any documents accompanying it, available for public inspection, and
  - (b) keep any such copy available for public inspection for the period for which the report or other document is kept by them.
- (2) The Commission must secure that the copy of the report made available for public inspection does not include, in the case of any donation by an individual, the donor's address.
- (3) At the end of the period of 2 years beginning with the date when any report or other document mentioned in subsection (1) is received by the Commission—
  - (a) they may cause the report or other document to be destroyed, but
  - (b) if requested to do so by the responsible person in relation to the third party concerned, they must arrange for the report or other document to be returned to that person.]

### **Changes to legislation:**

Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000, Cross Heading: Quarterly and weekly reports of donations to recognised third parties is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 12 May 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. 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)