



# Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011

## 2011 CHAPTER 13

### PART 1

#### POLICE REFORM

#### CHAPTER 6

##### POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONERS: ELECTIONS AND VACANCIES

##### *Disqualification*

#### **64 Disqualification from election as police and crime commissioner**

- (1) A person is disqualified from being elected to the office of police and crime commissioner for a police area [<sup>F1</sup>in England] at any election unless—
- (a) the person has attained the age of 18 when nominated as a candidate at the election, and
  - (b) on each relevant day, the person is registered in the register of local government electors for an electoral area in respect of an address in the police area.

[<sup>F2</sup>(1A) A person is disqualified from being elected to the office of police and crime commissioner for a police area in Wales at any election unless—

- (a) the person has attained the age of 18 when nominated as a candidate at the election, and
- (b) on each relevant day subsection (1B) or (1C) applies.

(1B) This subsection applies if—

- (a) the person is registered in a register of parliamentary electors in respect of an address within the police area, and

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*Changes to legislation:* There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, Cross Heading: Disqualification. (See end of Document for details)

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(b) the registration is not in pursuance of an overseas elector's declaration.

(1C) This subsection applies if—

- (a) the person is disqualified as a peer from voting as an elector at parliamentary elections, or is a <sup>F3</sup>relevant citizen of the Union] <sup>F3</sup>qualifying EU citizen or an EU citizen with retained rights], and
- (b) the person is registered in a register of local government electors in respect of an address within the police area.]

(2) In this section “relevant day”, in relation to a person who is a candidate at an election, means—

- (a) the day on which the person is nominated as a candidate at the election;
- (b) the day of the poll at the election.

(3) A person is disqualified from being elected to the office of police and crime commissioner for a police area at an ordinary election if the person has been nominated as a candidate for election as police and crime commissioner for any other police area at that election.

<sup>F4</sup>(3A) A person is disqualified from being elected to the office of police and crime commissioner for a police area at an ordinary election if the person—

- (a) has been nominated as a candidate for election as mayor for the area of a combined authority at an election to be held on the same day; and
- (b) by virtue of an order under section 107F(1) of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009, the mayor would exercise functions of a police and crime commissioner in relation to the area.]

(4) A person is disqualified from being elected to the office of police and crime commissioner for a police area at an election other than an ordinary election if—

- (a) the person is police and crime commissioner for any other police area, or
- (b) the person has been nominated as a candidate for election as police and crime commissioner for any other police area for which an election is held on the same day.

<sup>F5</sup>(4A) A person is disqualified from being elected to the office of police and crime commissioner for a police area at an election other than an ordinary election if—

- (a) the person is a mayor who, by virtue of an order under section 107F(1) of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009, exercises functions of a police and crime commissioner for the area of a combined authority; or
- (b) the person has been nominated as a candidate for election as a mayor who, by virtue of such an order, would exercise such functions and the election would take place on the same day.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 64(1) inserted (1.4.2018) by [Wales Act 2017 \(c. 4\)](#), ss. **8(10)**, 71(4) (with Sch. 7 paras. 1, 6); S.I. 2017/1179, reg. 3(b)
- F2** S. 64(1A)-(1C) inserted (1.4.2018) by [Wales Act 2017 \(c. 4\)](#), ss. **8(11)**, 71(4) (with Sch. 7 paras. 1, 6); S.I. 2017/1179, reg. 3(b)
- F3** Words in s. 64(1C)(a) substituted (1.11.2023 for specified purposes) by [Elections Act 2022 \(c. 37\)](#), s. 67(1), **Sch. 8 para. 6(4)**; S.I. 2023/1145, reg. 3(i)(iv)

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**Changes to legislation:** There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, Cross Heading: Disqualification. (See end of Document for details)

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**F4** S. 64(3A) inserted (8.5.2017) by [The Greater Manchester Combined Authority \(Transfer of Police and Crime Commissioner Functions to the Mayor\) Order 2017 \(S.I. 2017/470\)](#), arts. 1(2), **10(3)(a)**

**F5** S. 64(4A) inserted (8.5.2017) by [The Greater Manchester Combined Authority \(Transfer of Police and Crime Commissioner Functions to the Mayor\) Order 2017 \(S.I. 2017/470\)](#), arts. 1(2), **10(3)(b)**

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**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

**C1** Ss. 64–68: power to apply conferred by [2009 c. 20, Sch. 5C para. 9\(1\)](#) (as inserted (28.1.2016 for specified purposes, 28.3.2016 in so far as not already in force) by [Cities and Local Government Devolution Act 2016 \(c. 1\), s. 25\(2\), Sch. 2](#))

**C2** S. 64 applied (with modifications) (8.5.2017) by [The Greater Manchester Combined Authority \(Transfer of Police and Crime Commissioner Functions to the Mayor\) Order 2017 \(S.I. 2017/470\)](#), art. 1(2), **Sch. 1 para. 29**

**C3** S. 64(3)(4) modified (20.12.2023) by [The York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority Order 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1432\)](#), arts. 1(2), 33(2), **Sch. 5 para. 29**

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**Commencement Information**

**II** S. 64 in force at 25.4.2012 by [S.I. 2012/1129](#), **art. 2(b)**

## **65 Disqualification from election or holding office as police and crime commissioner: police grounds**

- (1) A person is disqualified from being elected as, or being, a police and crime commissioner if the person—
- (a) is disqualified from being a member of the House of Commons under section 1(1)(d) of the House of Commons Disqualification Act 1975 (members of police forces for police areas in the United Kingdom);
  - (b) is a member of—
    - (i) the British Transport Police Force;
    - (ii) the Civil Nuclear Constabulary;
  - (c) is a special constable appointed—
    - (i) under section 27 of the Police Act 1996 for a police area or the City of London police area;
    - (ii) under section 25 of the Railways and Transport Safety Act 2003 (British Transport Police Force);
  - (d) is a member of staff of the chief officer of police of any police force maintained for a police area;
  - (e) is a member of staff of—
    - (i) a police and crime commissioner;
    - (ii) the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime;
  - (f) is the Mayor of London;
  - (g) is a member of the Common Council of the City of London or a member of staff of that Council in its capacity as a police authority;
  - (h) is a member (including a member who is chairman or chief executive), or member of staff, of—
    - (i) the British Transport Police Authority;
    - (ii) the Civil Nuclear Police Authority;
    - (iii) the <sup>F6</sup>Independent Office for Police Conduct];
    - (iv) the Serious Organised Crime Agency;
    - <sup>F7</sup>(v) .....

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- (i) holds any employment in an entity which is under the control of—
  - (i) a local policing body;
  - (ii) any body mentioned in paragraph (h);
  - (iii) the chief officer of police for any police force maintained for a police area or the City of London police area;
  - (iv) the chief officer of police for any police force mentioned in paragraph (b).

[<sup>F8</sup>(1A) Subsection (1)(e)(i) does not prevent a deputy police and crime commissioner—

- (a) from being elected as police and crime commissioner at an ordinary election of police and crime commissioners;
- (b) from being elected at an election held under section 51 to fill a vacancy in the office of police and crime commissioner if, on the day on which the person is nominated as a candidate at the election and at all times between that day and the declaration of the result of the election, the deputy is acting as police and crime commissioner under section 62.]

(2) In this section, “member of staff”, in relation to any person (“A”), includes a person (“B”) who works for A—

- (a) under a contract of employment,
- (b) under a contract for services, or
- (c) in accordance with arrangements made between B's employer and A;

and for this purpose B works for A if B provides services for A under the direction and control of A.

(3) In subsection (1)(i), the reference to an entity under the control of a local policing body or other body or a chief officer of police is to be construed in accordance with regulations made by the Secretary of State <sup>F9</sup>....

(4) In its application in relation to the first election of a police and crime commissioner to be held for a police area, this section applies as if—

- (a) for paragraphs (d) to (g) of subsection (1) there were substituted—
  - “(d) any member, or member of staff, of a police authority within the meaning of the Police Act 1996 (see section 101 of that Act);”, and

- (b) for paragraph (i)(i) of that subsection there were substituted—
  - “(i) a police authority within the meaning of the Police Act 1996.”

#### Textual Amendments

- F6** Words in s. 65 substituted (31.1.2017 for specified purposes, 8.1.2018 in so far as not already in force) by [Policing and Crime Act 2017 \(c. 3\)](#), s. 183(1)(5)(e), [Sch. 9 para. 73\(2\)](#); S.I. 2017/1249, reg. 2 (with reg. 3)
- F7** S. 65(1)(h)(v) omitted (7.10.2013) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), ss. 15, 61(2), [Sch. 8 para. 184](#); S.I. 2013/1682, [art. 3\(u\)\(v\)](#)
- F8** S. 65(1A) inserted (31.1.2017 for specified purposes, 3.4.2017 in so far as not already in force) by [Policing and Crime Act 2017 \(c. 3\)](#), [ss. 122\(1\)](#), 183(1), (5)(e) (with s. 122(2)); S.I. 2017/399, reg. 2, [Sch. para. 30](#)

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- F9** Words in s. 65(3) omitted (8.12.2021) by virtue of [The Transfer of Functions \(Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities\) Order 2021 \(S.I. 2021/1265\)](#), art. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 22(4)(b)** (with art. 12)

**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

- C1** Ss. 64–68: power to apply conferred by [2009 c. 20, Sch. 5C para. 9\(1\)](#) (as inserted (28.1.2016 for specified purposes, 28.3.2016 in so far as not already in force) by [Cities and Local Government Devolution Act 2016 \(c. 1\)](#), s. 25(2), **Sch. 2**)
- C4** S. 65 applied (with modifications) (8.5.2017) by [The Greater Manchester Combined Authority \(Transfer of Police and Crime Commissioner Functions to the Mayor\) Order 2017 \(S.I. 2017/470\)](#), art. 1(2), **Sch. 1 para. 30**
- C5** S. 65 modified (20.12.2023) by [The York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority Order 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1432\)](#), arts. 1(2), 33(2), **Sch. 5 para. 30**
- C6** S. 65(3) functions to be exercisable concurrently with the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster (12.8.2015) by [The Transfer of Functions \(Police and Crime Commissioner Elections\) Order 2015 \(S.I. 2015/1526\)](#), arts. 1(2), **3(1)(2)(d)** (with arts. 3(3), 4)

**Commencement Information**

- I2** S. 65 in force at 25.4.2012 by [S.I. 2012/1129](#), **art. 2(b)**

**66 Disqualification from election or holding office as police and crime commissioner: other grounds**

- (1) A person is disqualified from being elected as, or being, a police and crime commissioner unless the person satisfies the citizenship condition (see section 68).
- (2) A person is disqualified from being elected as, or being, a police and crime commissioner if the person—
- (a) is disqualified from being a member of the House of Commons under section 1(1)(a) to (c) of the House of Commons Disqualification Act 1975 (judges, civil servants, members of the armed forces), or
  - (b) is a member of the legislature of any country or territory outside the United Kingdom.
- (3) A person is disqualified from being elected as, or being, a police and crime commissioner if—
- (a) the person is the subject of—
    - (i) a debt relief restrictions order under paragraph 1 of Schedule 4ZB to the Insolvency Act 1986;
    - (ii) an interim debt relief restrictions order under paragraph 5 of that Schedule;
    - (iii) a bankruptcy restrictions order under paragraph 1 of Schedule 4A to that Act;
    - (iv) a bankruptcy restrictions interim order under paragraph 5 of that Schedule;
  - (b) a debt relief restrictions undertaking has effect in respect of the person under paragraph 7 of Schedule 4ZB to that Act;
  - (c) the person has been convicted in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, or the Isle of Man, of any imprisonable offence (whether or not sentenced to a term of imprisonment in respect of the offence); <sup>F10</sup> ...

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- (d) the person is incapable of being elected as a member of the House of Commons, or is required to vacate a seat in the House of Commons, under Part 3 of the Representation of the People Act 1983 (consequences of corrupt or illegal practices)<sup>F11</sup>; or
  - (e) the person is incapable of being elected to or holding the office of—
    - (i) member of the Northern Ireland Assembly having been reported personally guilty or convicted of a corrupt practice under section 114A of the Representation of the People Act 1983 (as applied by Schedule 1 to the Northern Ireland Assembly (Elections) Order 2001 (S.I. 2001/2599)) (undue influence);
    - (ii) member of a district council in Northern Ireland having been reported personally guilty or convicted of a corrupt practice under paragraph 3 of Schedule 9 to the Electoral Law Act (Northern Ireland) 1962 (undue influence).]
- (4) For the purpose of subsection (3)(c)—
- (a) “imprisonable offence” means an offence—
    - (i) for which a person who has attained the age of 18 years may be sentenced to a term of imprisonment, or
    - (ii) for which, in the case of such a person, the sentence is fixed by law as life imprisonment;
  - (b) a person is to be treated as having been convicted—
    - (i) on the expiry of the ordinary period allowed for an appeal or application in respect of the conviction, or
    - (ii) if an appeal or application is made in respect of the conviction, when the appeal or application is finally disposed of or abandoned or fails by reason of non-prosecution.
- (5) A person is disqualified from being elected as, or being, police and crime commissioner for a police area if the person—
- (a) is a member of staff of a relevant council, or
  - (b) holds any employment in an entity which is under the control of a relevant council within subsection (7)(a), (b), (c) or (f).
- (6) For this purpose—
- “member of staff” has the same meaning as in section 65;
  - “relevant council”, in relation to a police area, means a council within subsection (7) for an area which, or any part of which, lies within the police area.
- (7) Those councils are—
- (a) a county council;
  - (b) a county borough council;
  - (c) a district council;
  - (d) a parish council;
  - (e) a community council;
  - (f) the Council of the Isles of Scilly.
- (8) In subsection (5)(b), the reference to an entity under the control of a relevant council is to be construed in accordance with regulations made by the Secretary of State<sup>F12</sup>....

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(9) Nothing in subsection (5) is to be taken to disqualify a person by virtue of being a teacher, or otherwise employed, in a school or other educational institution maintained or assisted by a relevant council.

[<sup>F13</sup>(10) Subsection (11) applies to the police and crime commissioner for a police area if, by virtue of an order under section 4A of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004, the person who is for the time being the commissioner for that area is also the fire rescue authority for an area which corresponds to or falls within the police area.

(11) A person is disqualified from being elected as, or being, that police and crime commissioner if the person is employed by—

- (a) a fire and rescue authority within section 1(2) or (3) of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004,
- (b) a fire and rescue authority constituted by a scheme under section 2 of that Act or a scheme to which section 4 of that Act relates, or
- (c) a fire and rescue authority created by an order under section 4A of that Act.]

[<sup>F14</sup>(12) A person is disqualified from being elected as, or being, police and crime commissioner if the person—

- (a) is the London Fire Commissioner, or
- (b) is a member of the staff of the London Fire Commissioner.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F10** Word in s. 66(3)(c) omitted (1.11.2023) by virtue of Elections Act 2022 (c. 37), s. 67(1), **Sch. 5 para. 7(a)**; S.I. 2023/1145, reg. 3(g) (with Sch. paras. 9(2)(4))
- F11** S. 66(3)(e) and word inserted (1.11.2023) by Elections Act 2022 (c. 37), s. 67(1), **Sch. 5 para. 7(b)**; S.I. 2023/1145, reg. 3(g) (with Sch. paras. 9(2)(4))
- F12** Words in s. 66(8) omitted (8.12.2021) by virtue of The Transfer of Functions (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) Order 2021 (S.I. 2021/1265), art. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 22(4)(c)** (with art. 12)
- F13** S. 66(10)(11) inserted (31.1.2017 for specified purposes, 3.4.2017 in so far as not already in force) by Policing and Crime Act 2017 (c. 3), s. 183(1)(5)(e), **Sch. 1 para. 90**; S.I. 2017/399, reg. 2, Sch. para. 38
- F14** S. 66(12) inserted (31.1.2017 for specified purposes, 1.4.2018 in so far as not already in force) by Policing and Crime Act 2017 (c. 3), s. 183(1)(5)(e), **Sch. 2 para. 117**; S.I. 2018/227, reg. 4(c)

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Ss. 64-68: power to apply conferred by 2009 c. 20, **Sch. 5C para. 9(1)** (as inserted (28.1.2016 for specified purposes, 28.3.2016 in so far as not already in force) by Cities and Local Government Devolution Act 2016 (c. 1), s. 25(2), **Sch. 2**)
- C7** S. 66(8) functions to be exercisable concurrently with the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster (12.8.2015) by The Transfer of Functions (Police and Crime Commissioner Elections) Order 2015 (S.I. 2015/1526), arts. 1(2), **3(1)(2)(e)** (with arts. 3(3), 4)

#### Commencement Information

- I3** S. 66 in force at 25.4.2012 by S.I. 2012/1129, **art. 2(b)**



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*Changes to legislation:* There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, Cross Heading: Disqualification. (See end of Document for details)

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## 67 Disqualification of person holding office as police and crime commissioner

A person becomes disqualified from being a police and crime commissioner upon becoming a member of—

- (a) the House of Commons;
- (b) the Scottish Parliament;
- (c) the National Assembly for Wales;
- (d) the Northern Ireland Assembly;
- (e) the European Parliament.

### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Ss. 64-68: power to apply conferred by 2009 c. 20, **Sch. 5C para. 9(1)** (as inserted (28.1.2016 for specified purposes, 28.3.2016 in so far as not already in force) by [Cities and Local Government Devolution Act 2016 \(c. 1\)](#), s. 25(2), **Sch. 2**)

### Commencement Information

- I4** S. 67 in force at 25.4.2012 by [S.I. 2012/1129](#), **art. 2(b)**

## 68 Citizenship condition

- (1) This section applies for the purposes of section 66.
- (2) A person satisfies the citizenship condition if the person is—
  - (a) a qualifying Commonwealth citizen,
  - (b) a citizen of the Republic of Ireland, or
  - (c) a [<sup>F15</sup>citizen of the Union][<sup>F15</sup>qualifying EU citizen or an EU citizen with retained rights].
- (3) For the purposes of this section, a person is a qualifying Commonwealth citizen if the person is a Commonwealth citizen and—
  - (a) is not a person who requires leave under the Immigration Act 1971 to enter or remain in the United Kingdom, or
  - (b) is a person who requires such leave but for the time being has (or is, by virtue of any enactment, to be treated as having) indefinite leave to remain within the meaning of that Act.
- (4) But a person who does not require leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom by virtue only of section 8 of the Immigration Act 1971 (exceptions to requirement for leave in special cases) is not a qualifying Commonwealth citizen by virtue of subsection (3)(a).
- (5) [<sup>F16</sup>In this section the expression “citizen of the Union” is to be construed in accordance with Article 20(1) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.]

### Textual Amendments

- F15** Words in s. 68(2)(c) substituted (1.11.2023 for specified purposes) by [Elections Act 2022 \(c. 37\)](#), s. 67(1), **Sch. 8 para. 6(5)(a)**; [S.I. 2023/1145](#), reg. 3(i)(iv)
- F16** S. 68(5) omitted (1.11.2023 for specified purposes) by virtue of [Elections Act 2022 \(c. 37\)](#), s. 67(1), **Sch. 8 para. 6(5)(b)**; [S.I. 2023/1145](#), reg. 3(i)(iv)



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**Changes to legislation:** There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, Cross Heading: Disqualification. (See end of Document for details)

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**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

- C1** Ss. 64-68: power to apply conferred by 2009 c. 20, **Sch. 5C para. 9(1)** (as inserted (28.1.2016 for specified purposes, 28.3.2016 in so far as not already in force) by [Cities and Local Government Devolution Act 2016 \(c. 1\)](#), s. 25(2), **Sch. 2**)

**Commencement Information**

- I5** [S. 68](#) in force at 25.4.2012 by [S.I. 2012/1129](#), **art. 2(b)**

**69 Validity of acts**

The acts of a person elected as police and crime commissioner for a police area under this Chapter who acts in that office are, despite any disqualification—

- (a) from being, or being elected as, a police and crime commissioner, or
- (b) from being, or being elected as police and crime commissioner for that area, as valid and effectual as if the person had not been so disqualified.

**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

- C8** [S. 69](#) excluded (8.5.2017) by [The Greater Manchester Combined Authority \(Transfer of Police and Crime Commissioner Functions to the Mayor\) Order 2017 \(S.I. 2017/470\)](#), art. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 21(c)**

**Commencement Information**

- I6** [S. 69](#) in force at 25.4.2012 by [S.I. 2012/1129](#), **art. 2(b)**

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, Cross Heading: Disqualification.