



# Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000

## 2000 CHAPTER 41

### PART V

#### CONTROL OF CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE

##### *General restrictions relating to campaign expenditure*

#### **77 Restriction on making claims in respect of campaign expenditure**

- (1) A claim for payment in respect of campaign expenditure incurred by or on behalf of a registered party during any period which is, in relation to the party, a relevant campaign period (within the meaning of section 80) shall not be payable if the claim is not sent to—
  - (a) the treasurer or a deputy treasurer of the party, or
  - (b) any other person authorised under section 75 to incur the expenditure, not later than 21 days after the end of the relevant campaign period.
- (2) Any claim sent in accordance with subsection (1) shall be paid not later than 42 days after the end of the relevant campaign period.
- (3) A person commits an offence if, without reasonable excuse—
  - (a) he pays any claim which by virtue of subsection (1) is not payable, or
  - (b) he makes any payment in respect of a claim after the end of the period allowed under subsection (2).
- (4) In the case of any claim to which subsection (1) applies—
  - (a) the person making the claim, or
  - (b) the person with whose authority the expenditure in question was incurred,may apply to the High Court or a county court or, in Scotland, to the Court of Session or the sheriff for leave for the claim to be paid although sent in after the end of the

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*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).*

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period mentioned in that subsection; and the court, if satisfied that for any special reason it is appropriate to do so, may by order grant the leave.

- (5) Nothing in subsection (1) or (2) shall apply in relation to any sum paid in pursuance of the order of leave.
- (6) Subsection (2) is without prejudice to any rights of a creditor of a registered party to obtain payment before the end of the period allowed under that subsection.
- (7) The jurisdiction conferred by subsection (4) on the Court of Session or the sheriff may be exercised in such manner as is prescribed by Act of Sederunt; and any order made by the sheriff by virtue of that subsection may be appealed to the Court of Session.
- (8) Article 60 of the County Courts (Northern Ireland) Order 1980 (appeals from county courts) shall apply in relation to any order of a county court in Northern Ireland made by virtue of subsection (4) as it applies in relation to any such decree of a county court as is mentioned in paragraph (1) of that Article.
- (9) Where, in the case of any campaign expenditure, the period allowed under subsection (1) or (2) would (apart from this subsection) end on—
  - (a) a Saturday or Sunday or Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Maundy Thursday or Good Friday,
  - (b) a bank holiday, or
  - (c) a day appointed for public thanksgiving or mourning,the period instead ends on the first day following that day which is not one of those days.
- (10) In subsection (9)(b) “bank holiday” means a day which under the Banking and Financial Dealings Act 1971 is a bank holiday in any part of the United Kingdom—
  - (a) in which is situated the office of the treasurer, deputy treasurer or (as the case may be) other authorised person to whom the claim is sent pursuant to subsection (1); or
  - (b) in which the person providing the property, services or facilities to which the expenditure relates conducts his business; or
  - (c) (if he conducts his business in more than one part of the United Kingdom) in which is situated the office from which dealings relating to the expenditure were conducted.