



# European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Act 2004

## 2004 CHAPTER 2

### *Offences*

#### **6 Personation: arrestable offence**

- (1) For the purposes of any election held in accordance with provision made by a pilot order, the offence of personation under section 60 of the Representation of the People Act 1983 (c. 2) must be treated as if it is an offence to which section 24(2) of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (c. 60) (offences which are arrestable offences) applies.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not affect anything which may be done in pursuance of Rule 36 of Schedule 1 to the Representation of the People Act 1983 (arrest of challenged voter).

#### **7 Time limit for prosecution of offences**

- (1) This section applies for the purposes of any election held in accordance with provision made by a pilot order.
- (2) A magistrates' court may act under subsection (3) if it is satisfied on an application by a constable or Crown Prosecutor—
  - (a) that there are exceptional circumstances which justify the granting of the application, and
  - (b) that there has been no undue delay in the investigation of the offence to which the application relates.
- (3) The magistrates' court may extend the time within which proceedings for an offence must be commenced in pursuance of section 176(1) of the Representation of the People Act 1983 (time limit for prosecution of offences under that Act) to not more than 24 months after the offence is committed.