



# Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992

## 1992 CHAPTER 52

### PART III

#### RIGHTS IN RELATION TO UNION MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

##### *Access to employment*

#### **137 Refusal of employment on grounds related to union membership.**

- (1) It is unlawful to refuse a person employment—
  - (a) because he is, or is not, a member of a trade union, or
  - (b) because he is unwilling to accept a requirement—
    - (i) to take steps to become or cease to be, or to remain or not to become, a member of a trade union, or
    - (ii) to make payments or suffer deductions in the event of his not being a member of a trade union.
- (2) A person who is thus unlawfully refused employment has a right of complaint to an [<sup>F1</sup>employment tribunal].
- (3) Where an advertisement is published which indicates, or might reasonably be understood as indicating—
  - (a) that employment to which the advertisement relates is open only to a person who is, or is not, a member of a trade union, or
  - (b) that any such requirement as is mentioned in subsection (1)(b) will be imposed in relation to employment to which the advertisement relates,a person who does not satisfy that condition or, as the case may be, is unwilling to accept that requirement, and who seeks and is refused employment to which the advertisement relates, shall be conclusively presumed to have been refused employment for that reason.

*Status: Point in time view as at 06/04/2009.*

*Changes to legislation: Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992, Part III is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 29 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. (See end of Document for details)*

- (4) Where there is an arrangement or practice under which employment is offered only to persons put forward or approved by a trade union, and the trade union puts forward or approves only persons who are members of the union, a person who is not a member of the union and who is refused employment in pursuance of the arrangement or practice shall be taken to have been refused employment because he is not a member of the trade union.
- (5) A person shall be taken to be refused employment if he seeks employment of any description with a person and that person—
- (a) refuses or deliberately omits to entertain and process his application or enquiry, or
  - (b) causes him to withdraw or cease to pursue his application or enquiry, or
  - (c) refuses or deliberately omits to offer him employment of that description, or
  - (d) makes him an offer of such employment the terms of which are such as no reasonable employer who wished to fill the post would offer and which is not accepted, or
  - (e) makes him an offer of such employment but withdraws it or causes him not to accept it.
- (6) Where a person is offered employment on terms which include a requirement that he is, or is not, a member of a trade union, or any such requirement as is mentioned in subsection (1)(b), and he does not accept the offer because he does not satisfy or, as the case may be, is unwilling to accept that requirement, he shall be treated as having been refused employment for that reason.
- (7) Where a person may not be considered for appointment or election to an office in a trade union unless he is a member of the union, or of a particular branch or section of the union or of one of a number of particular branches or sections of the union, nothing in this section applies to anything done for the purpose of securing compliance with that condition although as holder of the office he would be employed by the union.
- For this purpose an “office” means any position—
- (a) by virtue of which the holder is an official of the union, or
  - (b) to which Chapter IV of Part I applies (duty to hold elections).
- (8) The provisions of this section apply in relation to an employment agency acting, or purporting to act, on behalf of an employer as in relation to an employer.

#### Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 137(2) substituted (1.8.1998) by 1998 c. 8, s. 1(2)(a) (with s. 16(2)); S.I. 1998/1658, art. 2(1), Sch. 1

### 138 Refusal of service of employment agency on grounds related to union membership.

- (1) It is unlawful for an employment agency to refuse a person any of its services—
- (a) because he is, or is not, a member of a trade union, or
  - (b) because he is unwilling to accept a requirement to take steps to become or cease to be, or to remain or not to become, a member of a trade union.

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- (2) A person who is thus unlawfully refused any service of an employment agency has a right of complaint to an [<sup>F2</sup>employment tribunal].
- (3) Where an advertisement is published which indicates, or might reasonably be understood as indicating—
  - (a) that any service of an employment agency is available only to a person who is, or is not, a member of a trade union, or
  - (b) that any such requirement as is mentioned in subsection (1)(b) will be imposed in relation to a service to which the advertisement relates,a person who does not satisfy that condition or, as the case may be, is unwilling to accept that requirement, and who seeks to avail himself of and is refused that service, shall be conclusively presumed to have been refused it for that reason.
- (4) A person shall be taken to be refused a service if he seeks to avail himself of it and the agency—
  - (a) refuses or deliberately omits to make the service available to him, or
  - (b) causes him not to avail himself of the service or to cease to avail himself of it, or
  - (c) does not provide the same service, on the same terms, as is provided to others.
- (5) Where a person is offered a service on terms which include a requirement that he is, or is not, a member of a trade union, or any such requirement as is mentioned in subsection (1)(b), and he does not accept the offer because he does not satisfy or, as the case may be, is unwilling to accept that requirement, he shall be treated as having been refused the service for that reason.

#### Textual Amendments

- F2** Words in s. 138(2) substituted (1.8.1998) by 1998 c. 8, s. 1(2)(a) (with s. 16(2)); S.I. 1998/1658, art. 2(1), Sch. 1

### 139 Time limit for proceedings.

- (1) An [<sup>F3</sup>employment tribunal] shall not consider a complaint under section 137 or 138 unless it is presented to the tribunal—
  - (a) before the end of the period of three months beginning with the date of the conduct to which the complaint relates, or
  - (b) where the tribunal is satisfied that it was not reasonably practicable for the complaint to be presented before the end of that period, within such further period as the tribunal considers reasonable.
- (2) The date of the conduct to which a complaint under section 137 relates shall be taken to be—
  - (a) in the case of an actual refusal, the date of the refusal;
  - (b) in the case of a deliberate omission—
    - (i) to entertain and process the complainant's application or enquiry, or
    - (ii) to offer employment,the end of the period within which it was reasonable to expect the employer to act;

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- (c) in the case of conduct causing the complainant to withdraw or cease to pursue his application or enquiry, the date of that conduct;
  - (d) in a case where an offer was made but withdrawn, the date when it was withdrawn;
  - (e) in any other case where an offer was made but not accepted, the date on which it was made.
- (3) The date of the conduct to which a complaint under section 138 relates shall be taken to be—
- (a) in the case of an actual refusal, the date of the refusal;
  - (b) in the case of a deliberate omission to make a service available, the end of the period within which it was reasonable to expect the employment agency to act;
  - (c) in the case of conduct causing the complainant not to avail himself of a service or to cease to avail himself of it, the date of that conduct;
  - (d) in the case of failure to provide the same service, on the same terms, as is provided to others, the date or last date on which the service in fact provided was provided.

#### Textual Amendments

**F3** Words in s. 139(1) substituted (1.8.1998) by 1998 c. 8, s. 1(2)(a) (with s. 16(2)); S.I. 1998/1658, art. 2(1), Sch. 1

## 140 Remedies.

- (1) Where the [<sup>F4</sup>employment tribunal] finds that a complaint under section 137 or 138 is well-founded, it shall make a declaration to that effect and may make such of the following as it considers just and equitable—
- (a) an order requiring the respondent to pay compensation to the complainant of such amount as the tribunal may determine;
  - (b) a recommendation that the respondent take within a specified period action appearing to the tribunal to be practicable for the purpose of obviating or reducing the adverse effect on the complainant of any conduct to which the complaint relates.
- (2) Compensation shall be assessed on the same basis as damages for breach of statutory duty and may include compensation for injury to feelings.
- (3) If the respondent fails without reasonable justification to comply with a recommendation to take action, the tribunal may increase its award of compensation or, if it has not made such an award, make one.
- (4) The total amount of compensation shall not exceed the limit for the time being imposed by [<sup>F5</sup>section 124(1) of the Employment Rights Act 1996] (limit on compensation for unfair dismissal).

#### Textual Amendments

**F4** Words in s. 140(1) substituted (1.8.1998) by 1998 c. 8, s. 1(2)(a) (with s. 16(2)); S.I. 1998/1658, art. 2(1), Sch. 1

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**F5** Words in s. 140(4) substituted (22.8.1996) by 1996 c. 18, ss. 240, 243, **Sch. 1 para. 56(6)** (with ss. 191-195, 202)

#### **141 Complaint against employer and employment agency.**

- (1) Where a person has a right of complaint against a prospective employer and against an employment agency arising out of the same facts, he may present a complaint against either of them or against them jointly.
- (2) If a complaint is brought against one only, he or the complainant may request the tribunal to join or sist the other as a party to the proceedings.

The request shall be granted if it is made before the hearing of the complaint begins, but may be refused if it is made after that time; and no such request may be made after the tribunal has made its decision as to whether the complaint is well-founded.

- (3) Where a complaint is brought against an employer and an employment agency jointly, or where it is brought against one and the other is joined or sisted as a party to the proceedings, and the tribunal—
  - (a) finds that the complaint is well-founded as against the employer and the agency, and
  - (b) makes an award of compensation,it may order that the compensation shall be paid by the one or the other, or partly by one and partly by the other, as the tribunal may consider just and equitable in the circumstances.

#### **142 Awards against third parties.**

- (1) If in proceedings on a complaint under section 137 or 138 either the complainant or the respondent claims that the respondent was induced to act in the manner complained of by pressure which a trade union or other person exercised on him by calling, organising, procuring or financing a strike or other industrial action, or by threatening to do so, the complainant or the respondent may request the [<sup>F6</sup>employment tribunal] to direct that the person who he claims exercised the pressure be joined or sisted as a party to the proceedings.
- (2) The request shall be granted if it is made before the hearing of the complaint begins, but may be refused if it is made after that time; and no such request may be made after the tribunal has made its decision as to whether the complaint is well-founded.
- (3) Where a person has been so joined or sisted as a party to the proceedings and the tribunal—
  - (a) finds that the complaint is well-founded,
  - (b) makes an award of compensation, and
  - (c) also finds that the claim in subsection (1) above is well-founded,it may order that the compensation shall be paid by the person joined instead of by the respondent, or partly by that person and partly by the respondent, as the tribunal may consider just and equitable in the circumstances.
- (4) Where by virtue of section 141 (complaint against employer and employment agency) there is more than one respondent, the above provisions apply to either or both of them.

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#### Textual Amendments

**F6** Words in s. 142(1) substituted (1.8.1998) by 1998 c. 8, s. 1(2)(a) (with s. 16(2)); S.I. 1998/1658, art. 2(1), Sch. 1

### 143 Interpretation and other supplementary provisions.

(1) In sections 137 to 143—

“advertisement” includes every form of advertisement or notice, whether to the public or not, and references to publishing an advertisement shall be construed accordingly;

“employment” means employment under a contract of employment, and related expressions shall be construed accordingly; and

“employment agency” means a person who, for profit or not, provides services for the purpose of finding employment for workers or supplying employers with workers, but subject to subsection (2) below.

(2) For the purposes of sections 137 to 143 as they apply to employment agencies—

(a) services other than those mentioned in the definition of “employment agency” above shall be disregarded, and

(b) a trade union shall not be regarded as an employment agency by reason of services provided by it only for, or in relation to, its members.

(3) References in sections 137 to 143 to being or not being a member of a trade union are to being or not being a member of any trade union, of a particular trade union or of one of a number of particular trade unions.

Any such reference includes a reference to being or not being a member of a particular branch or section of a trade union or of one of a number of particular branches or sections of a trade union.

(4) The remedy of a person for conduct which is unlawful by virtue of section 137 or 138 is by way of a complaint to an [<sup>F7</sup>employment tribunal] in accordance with this Part, and not otherwise.

No other legal liability arises by reason that conduct is unlawful by virtue of either of those sections.

#### Textual Amendments

**F7** Words in s. 143(4) substituted (1.8.1998) by 1998 c. 8, s. 1(2)(a) (with s. 16(2)); S.I. 1998/1658, art. 2(1), Sch. 1

### *Contracts for supply of goods or services*

### 144 Union membership requirement in contract for goods or services void.

A term or condition of a contract for the supply of goods or services is void in so far as it purports to require that the whole, or some part, of the work done for the purposes of the contract is done only by persons who are, or are not, members of trade unions or of a particular trade union.

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## **145 Refusal to deal on union membership grounds prohibited.**

- (1) A person shall not refuse to deal with a supplier or prospective supplier of goods or services on union membership grounds. “Refuse to deal” and “union membership grounds” shall be construed as follows.
- (2) A person refuses to deal with a person if, where he maintains (in whatever form) a list of approved suppliers of goods or services, or of persons from whom tenders for the supply of goods or services may be invited, he fails to include the name of that person in that list.

He does so on union membership grounds if the ground, or one of the grounds, for failing to include his name is that if that person were to enter into a contract with him for the supply of goods or services, work to be done for the purposes of the contract would, or would be likely to, be done by persons who were, or who were not, members of trade unions or of a particular trade union.

- (3) A person refuses to deal with a person if, in relation to a proposed contract for the supply of goods or services—
  - (a) he excludes that person from the group of persons from whom tenders for the supply of the goods or services are invited, or
  - (b) he fails to permit that person to submit such a tender, or
  - (c) he otherwise determines not to enter into a contract with that person for the supply of the goods or services.

He does so on union membership grounds if the ground, or one of the grounds, on which he does so is that if the proposed contract were entered into with that person, work to be done for the purposes of the contract would, or would be likely to, be done by persons who were, or who were not, members of trade unions or of a particular trade union.

- (4) A person refuses to deal with a person if he terminates a contract with him for the supply of goods or services.

He does so on union membership grounds if the ground, or one of the grounds, on which he does so is that work done, or to be done, for the purposes of the contract has been, or is likely to be, done by persons who are or are not members of trade unions or of a particular trade union.

- (5) The obligation to comply with this section is a duty owed to the person with whom there is a refusal to deal and to any other person who may be adversely affected by its contravention; and a breach of the duty is actionable accordingly (subject to the defences and other incidents applying to actions for breach of statutory duty).

### *[<sup>F8</sup>Inducements*

#### **Textual Amendments**

- F8** Ss. 145A-145F and preceding cross-heading inserted (1.10.2004) by [Employment Relations Act 2004](#) (c. 24), [ss. 29, 59\(2\)-\(4\)](#); S.I. 2004/2566, [art. 3\(a\)](#) (with [arts. 4-8](#))

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#### **145A Inducements relating to union membership or activities**

- (1) A worker has the right not to have an offer made to him by his employer for the sole or main purpose of inducing the worker—
  - (a) not to be or seek to become a member of an independent trade union,
  - (b) not to take part, at an appropriate time, in the activities of an independent trade union,
  - (c) not to make use, at an appropriate time, of trade union services, or
  - (d) to be or become a member of any trade union or of a particular trade union or of one of a number of particular trade unions.
- (2) In subsection (1) “an appropriate time” means—
  - (a) a time outside the worker’s working hours, or
  - (b) a time within his working hours at which, in accordance with arrangements agreed with or consent given by his employer, it is permissible for him to take part in the activities of a trade union or (as the case may be) make use of trade union services.
- (3) In subsection (2) “working hours”, in relation to a worker, means any time when, in accordance with his contract of employment (or other contract personally to do work or perform services), he is required to be at work.
- (4) In subsections (1) and (2)—
  - (a) “trade union services” means services made available to the worker by an independent trade union by virtue of his membership of the union, and
  - (b) references to a worker’s “making use” of trade union services include his consenting to the raising of a matter on his behalf by an independent trade union of which he is a member.
- (5) A worker or former worker may present a complaint to an employment tribunal on the ground that his employer has made him an offer in contravention of this section.

#### **145B Inducements relating to collective bargaining**

- (1) A worker who is a member of an independent trade union which is recognised, or seeking to be recognised, by his employer has the right not to have an offer made to him by his employer if—
  - (a) acceptance of the offer, together with other workers' acceptance of offers which the employer also makes to them, would have the prohibited result, and
  - (b) the employer’s sole or main purpose in making the offers is to achieve that result.
- (2) The prohibited result is that the workers' terms of employment, or any of those terms, will not (or will no longer) be determined by collective agreement negotiated by or on behalf of the union.
- (3) It is immaterial for the purposes of subsection (1) whether the offers are made to the workers simultaneously.
- (4) Having terms of employment determined by collective agreement shall not be regarded for the purposes of section 145A (or section 146 or 152) as making use of a trade union service.



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- (5) A worker or former worker may present a complaint to an employment tribunal on the ground that his employer has made him an offer in contravention of this section.

#### **145C Time limit for proceedings**

An employment tribunal shall not consider a complaint under section 145A or 145B unless it is presented—

- (a) before the end of the period of three months beginning with the date when the offer was made or, where the offer is part of a series of similar offers to the complainant, the date when the last of them was made, or
- (b) where the tribunal is satisfied that it was not reasonably practicable for the complaint to be presented before the end of that period, within such further period as it considers reasonable.

#### **145D Consideration of complaint**

- (1) On a complaint under section 145A it shall be for the employer to show what was his sole or main purpose in making the offer.
- (2) On a complaint under section 145B it shall be for the employer to show what was his sole or main purpose in making the offers.
- (3) On a complaint under section 145A or 145B, in determining any question whether the employer made the offer (or offers) or the purpose for which he did so, no account shall be taken of any pressure which was exercised on him by calling, organising, procuring or financing a strike or other industrial action, or by threatening to do so; and that question shall be determined as if no such pressure had been exercised.
- (4) In determining whether an employer's sole or main purpose in making offers was the purpose mentioned in section 145B(1), the matters taken into account must include any evidence—
  - (a) that when the offers were made the employer had recently changed or sought to change, or did not wish to use, arrangements agreed with the union for collective bargaining,
  - (b) that when the offers were made the employer did not wish to enter into arrangements proposed by the union for collective bargaining, or
  - (c) that the offers were made only to particular workers, and were made with the sole or main purpose of rewarding those particular workers for their high level of performance or of retaining them because of their special value to the employer.

#### **145E Remedies**

- (1) Subsections (2) and (3) apply where the employment tribunal finds that a complaint under section 145A or 145B is well-founded.
- (2) The tribunal—
  - (a) shall make a declaration to that effect, and
  - (b) shall make an award to be paid by the employer to the complainant in respect of the offer complained of.

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- (3) The amount of the award shall be [<sup>F9</sup>£3,100](subject to any adjustment of the award that may fall to be made under Part 3 of the Employment Act 2002).
- (4) Where an offer made in contravention of section 145A or 145B is accepted—
  - (a) if the acceptance results in the worker’s agreeing to vary his terms of employment, the employer cannot enforce the agreement to vary, or recover any sum paid or other asset transferred by him under the agreement to vary;
  - (b) if as a result of the acceptance the worker’s terms of employment are varied, nothing in section 145A or 145B makes the variation unenforceable by either party.
- (5) Nothing in this section or sections 145A and 145B prejudices any right conferred by section 146 or 149.
- (6) In ascertaining any amount of compensation under section 149, no reduction shall be made on the ground—
  - (a) that the complainant caused or contributed to his loss, or to the act or failure complained of, by accepting or not accepting an offer made in contravention of section 145A or 145B, or
  - (b) that the complainant has received or is entitled to an award under this section.

#### **Textual Amendments**

**F9** Word in s. 145E(3) substituted (1.2.2009) by [The Employment Rights \(Increase of Limits\) Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/3055\)](#), art. 3, **Sch.**, (with art. 4)

#### **145F Interpretation and other supplementary provisions**

- (1) References in sections 145A to 145E to being or becoming a member of a trade union include references—
  - (a) to being or becoming a member of a particular branch or section of that union, and
  - (b) to being or becoming a member of one of a number of particular branches or sections of that union.
- (2) References in those sections—
  - (a) to taking part in the activities of a trade union, and
  - (b) to services made available by a trade union by virtue of membership of the union,
 shall be construed in accordance with subsection (1).
- (3) In sections 145A to 145E—
 

“worker” means an individual who works, or normally works, as mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (c) of section 296(1), and

“employer” means—

  - (a) in relation to a worker, the person for whom he works;
  - (b) in relation to a former worker, the person for whom he worked.
- (4) The remedy of a person for infringement of the right conferred on him by section 145A or 145B is by way of a complaint to an employment tribunal in accordance with this Part, and not otherwise.]

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## *[<sup>F10</sup>Detriment]*

### Textual Amendments

**F10** Words in cross-heading substituted (1.10.2004) by [Employment Relations Act 2004 \(c. 24\), ss. 30\(7\), 59\(2\)-\(4\); S.I. 2004/2566](#), art. 3 (with arts. 4-8)

### 146 [<sup>F11</sup>Detriment] on grounds related to union membership or activities.

(1) [<sup>F12</sup>A worker] has the right not to [<sup>F13</sup>be subjected to any detriment as an individual by any act, or any deliberate failure to act, by his employer if the act or failure takes place] for [<sup>F14</sup>the sole or main purpose] of—

(a) preventing or deterring him from being or seeking to become a member of an independent trade union, or penalising him for doing so,

(b) preventing or deterring him from taking part in the activities of an independent trade union at an appropriate time, or penalising him for doing so, <sup>F15</sup> . . .

[<sup>F16</sup>(ba) preventing or deterring him from making use of trade union services at an appropriate time, or penalising him for doing so, or]

(c) compelling him to be or become a member of any trade union or of a particular trade union or of one of a number of particular trade unions.

(2) In subsection [<sup>F17</sup>(1)]“an appropriate time” means—

(a) a time outside the [<sup>F18</sup>worker's] working hours, or

(b) a time within his working hours at which, in accordance with arrangements agreed with or consent given by his employer, it is permissible for him to take part in the activities of a trade union [<sup>F19</sup>or (as the case may be) make use of trade union services];

and for this purpose “working hours”, in relation to [<sup>F20</sup>a worker], means any time when, in accordance with his contract of employment [<sup>F21</sup>(or other contract personally to do work or perform services)], he is required to be at work.

[<sup>F22</sup>(2A) In this section—

(a) “trade union services” means services made available to the worker by an independent trade union by virtue of his membership of the union, and

(b) references to a worker’s “making use” of trade union services include his consenting to the raising of a matter on his behalf by an independent trade union of which he is a member.

(2B) If an independent trade union of which a worker is a member raises a matter on his behalf (with or without his consent), penalising the worker for that is to be treated as penalising him as mentioned in subsection (1)(ba).

(2C) A worker also has the right not to be subjected to any detriment as an individual by any act, or any deliberate failure to act, by his employer if the act or failure takes place because of the worker’s failure to accept an offer made in contravention of section 145A or 145B.

(2D) For the purposes of subsection (2C), not conferring a benefit that, if the offer had been accepted by the worker, would have been conferred on him under the resulting agreement shall be taken to be subjecting him to a detriment as an individual (and to be a deliberate failure to act.)]

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- (3) <sup>F12</sup>A worker] also has the right not to <sup>F23</sup>be subjected to any detriment as an individual by any act, or any deliberate failure to act, by his employer if the act or failure takes place] for <sup>F14</sup>the sole or main purpose] of enforcing a requirement (whether or not imposed by <sup>F24</sup>a contract of employment] or in writing) that, in the event of his not being a member of any trade union or of a particular trade union or of one of a number of particular trade unions, he must make one or more payments.
- (4) For the purposes of subsection (3) any deduction made by an employer from the remuneration payable to <sup>F20</sup>a worker] in respect of his employment shall, if it is attributable to his not being a member of any trade union or of a particular trade union or of one of a number of particular trade unions, be treated as <sup>F25</sup>a detriment to which he has been subjected as an individual by an act of his employer taking place] for <sup>F14</sup>the sole or main purpose] of enforcing a requirement of a kind mentioned in that subsection.
- (5) <sup>F26</sup>A worker or former worker] may present a complaint to an industrial tribunal on the ground that <sup>F27</sup>he has been subjected to a detriment]by his employer in contravention of this section.

<sup>F28</sup>(5A) This section does not apply where—

- (a) the worker is an employee; and
- (b) the detriment in question amounts to dismissal.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F11** Words in s. 146 sidenote substituted (1.10.2004) by [Employment Relations Act 2004 \(c. 24\), ss. 30\(7\), 59\(2\)-\(4\)](#); S.I. 2004/2566, [art. 3\(a\)](#) (with arts. 4-8)
- F12** Words in s. 146(1)(3) substituted (1.10.2004) by [Employment Relations Act 2004 \(c. 24\), ss. 30\(2\), 59\(2\)-\(4\)](#); S.I. 2004/2566, [art. 3\(a\)](#) (with arts. 4-8)
- F13** Words in s. 146(1) substituted (25.10.1999) by 1999 c. 26, s.1, Sch. 2 paras. 1, [2\(1\)\(2\)](#); S.I. 1999/2830, art. 2(1), [Sch. 1 Pt. I](#) (with Sch. 3 para. 1)
- F14** Words in s. 146(1)(3)(4) substituted (1.10.2004) by [Employment Relations Act 2004 \(c. 24\), ss. 57\(1\), 59\(2\)-\(4\)](#), [Sch. 1 para. 8](#); S.I. 2004/2566, [art. 3\(b\)](#) (with arts. 4-8)
- F15** Word in s. 146(1)(b) repealed (1.10.2004) by [Employment Relations Act 2004 \(c. 24\), ss. 31\(2\), 57\(2\), 59\(2\)-\(4\)](#), [Sch. 2](#); S.I. 2004/2566, [art. 3\(a\)\(c\)](#) (with arts. 4-8)
- F16** S. 146(1)(ba) inserted (1.10.2004) by [Employment Relations Act 2004 \(c. 24\), ss. 31\(2\), 59\(2\)-\(4\)](#); S.I. 2004/2566, [art. 3\(a\)](#) (with arts. 4-8)
- F17** Words in s. 146(2) substituted (1.10.2004) by [Employment Relations Act 2004, c. 24, {ss. 31\(3\)\(a\)}, 59\(2\)-\(4\)](#); S.I. 2004/2566, [art. 3\(a\)](#) (with arts. 4-8)
- F18** Word in s. 146(2) substituted (1.10.2004) by [Employment Relations Act 2004 \(c. 24\), ss. 30\(3\)\(a\), 59\(2\)-\(4\)](#); S.I. 2004/2566, [art. 3\(a\)](#) (with arts. 4-8)
- F19** Words in s. 146(2)(b) inserted (1.10.2004) by [Employment Relations Act 2004 \(c. 24\), ss. 31\(3\)\(b\), 59\(2\)-\(4\)](#); S.I. 2004/2566, [art. 3\(a\)](#) (with arts. 4-8)
- F20** Words in s. 146(2)(4) substituted (1.10.2004) by [Employment Relations Act 2004 \(c. 24\), ss. 30\(2\), 59\(2\)-\(4\)](#); S.I. 2004/2566, [art. 3\(a\)](#) (with arts. 4-8)
- F21** Words in s. 146(2) inserted (1.10.2004) by [Employment Relations Act 2004 \(c. 24\), ss. 30\(3\)\(b\), 59\(2\)-\(4\)](#); S.I. 2004/2566, [art. 3\(a\)](#) (with arts. 4-8)
- F22** S. 146(2A)-(2D) inserted (1.10.2004) by [Employment Relations Act 2004 \(c. 24\), ss. 31\(4\), 59\(2\)-\(4\)](#); S.I. 2004/2566, [art. 3\(a\)](#) (with arts. 4-8)
- F23** Words in s. 146(3) substituted (25.10.1999) by 1999 c. 26, s. 2, Sch. 2 paras. 1, [2\(1\)\(3\)](#); S.I. 1999/2830, art. 2(1), [Sch. 1 Pt. I](#) (with Sch. 3 para. 1)
- F24** Words in s. 146(3) substituted (1.10.2004) by [Employment Relations Act 2004 \(c. 24\), ss. 30\(4\), 59\(2\)-\(4\)](#); S.I. 2004/2566, [art. 3\(a\)](#) (with arts. 4-8)

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- F25** Words in s. 146(4) substituted (25.10.1999) by 1999 c. 26, s. 2, Sch. 2 paras. 1, **2(1)(4)**; S.I. 1999/2830, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1 Pt. I** (with Sch. 3 para. 1)
- F26** Words in s. 146(5) substituted (1.10.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), **ss. 30(5)**, 59(2)-(4); S.I. 2004/2566, **art. 3(a)** (with arts. 4-8)
- F27** Words in s. 146(5) substituted (25.10.1999) by 1999 c. 26, s. 2, Sch. 2 paras. 1, **2(1)(5)**; S.I. 1999/2830, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1 Pt. I** (with Sch. 3 para. 1)
- F28** S. 146(5A) substituted for s. 146(6) (1.10.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), **ss. 30(6)**, 59(2)-(4); S.I. 2004/2566, **art. 3(a)** (with arts. 4-8)

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

- C1** S. 146 modified (E.W.) (2.3.1998) by S.I. 1998/218, art. 3, **Sch.**  
S. 146 modified (1.9.1999) by 1999/2256, art. 3, **Sch.**
- C2** S. 146 modified (E.) (1.9.2003) by The Education (Modification of Enactments Relating to Employment) (England) Order 2003 (S.I. 2003/1964), art. 3, **Sch.**
- C3** S. 146 modified (W.) (12.5.2006) by The Education (Modification of Enactments Relating to Employment) (Wales) Order 2006 (S.I. 2006/1073), art. 3, **Sch.**

#### 147 Time limit for proceedings.

[<sup>F29</sup>(1)]An [<sup>F30</sup>employment tribunal] shall not consider a complaint under section 146 unless it is presented—

- (a) before the end of the period of three months beginning with the date of the [<sup>F31</sup>act or failure to which the complaint relates or, where that act or failure is part of a series of similar acts or failures (or both) the last of them] , or
- (b) where the tribunal is satisfied that it was not reasonably practicable for the complaint to be presented before the end of that period, within such further period as it considers reasonable.

[<sup>F32</sup>(2) For the purposes of subsection (1)—

- (a) where an act extends over a period, the reference to the date of the act is a reference to the last day of that period;
- (b) a failure to act shall be treated as done when it was decided on.

[<sup>F32</sup>(3) For the purposes of subsection (2), in the absence of evidence establishing the contrary an employer shall be taken to decide on a failure to act—

- (a) when he does an act inconsistent with doing the failed act, or
- (b) if he has done no such inconsistent act, when the period expires within which he might reasonably have been expected to do the failed act if it was to be done.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F29** S. 147: “(1)” inserted (25.10.1999) by 1999 c. 26, s. 2, Sch. 2 paras. 1, **3(1)(2)**; S.I. 1999/2830, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1 Pt. I** (with Sch. 3 para. 1)
- F30** Words in s. 147(1) substituted (1.8.1998) by 1998 c. 8, s. **1(2)(a)** (with s. 16(2)); S.I. 1998/1658, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**
- F31** Words in s. 147(1)(a) substituted (25.10.1999) by 1999 c. 26, s. 2, Sch. 2 paras. 1, **3(3)**; S.I. 1999/2830, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1 Pt. I** (with Sch. 3 para. 1)
- F32** S. 147(2)(3) inserted (25.10.1999) by 1999 c. 26, s. 2, Sch. 2 paras. 1, **3(4)**; S.I. 1999/2830, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1 Pt. I** (with Sch. 3 para. 1)

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

- C4** S. 147 modified (E.W.) (2.3.1998) by S.I. 1998/218, art. 3, **Sch.**  
S. 147 modified (1.9.1999) by S.I. 1999/2256, art. 3, **Sch.**
- C5** S. 147 modified (E.) (1.9.2003) by The Education (Modification of Enactments Relating to Employment) (England) Order 2003 (S.I. 2003/1964), art. 3, **Sch.**
- C6** S. 147 modified (W.) (12.5.2006) by The Education (Modification of Enactments Relating to Employment) (Wales) Order 2006 (S.I. 2006/1073), art. 3, **Sch.**

### 148 Consideration of complaint.

- (1) On a complaint under section 146 it shall be for the employer to show [<sup>F33</sup>what was the sole or main purpose] for which [<sup>F34</sup>he acted or failed to act]
- (2) In determining any question whether [<sup>F35</sup>the employer acted or failed to act, or the purpose for which he did so], no account shall be taken of any pressure which was exercised on him by calling, organising, procuring or financing a strike or other industrial action, or by threatening to do so; and that question shall be determined as if no such pressure had been exercised.
- (3) <sup>F36</sup> .....
- (4) <sup>F36</sup> .....
- (5) <sup>F36</sup> .....

#### Textual Amendments

- F33** Words in s. 148(1) substituted (1.10.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), ss. 57(1), 59(2)-(4), **Sch. 1 para. 9**; S.I. 2004/2566, **art. 3(b)** (with arts. 4-8)
- F34** Words in s. 148(1) substituted (25.10.1999) by 1999 c. 26, s. 2, **Sch. 2 paras. 1, 4(1)(2)**; S.I. 1999/2830, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1 Pt. I** (with Sch. 3 para. 1)
- F35** Words in s. 148(2) substituted (25.10.1999) by 1999 c. 26, s. 2, **Sch. 2 para. 4(3)**; S.I. 1999/2830, art. 2(1)(2), **Sch. 1 Pt. I** (with Sch. 3 para. 1)
- F36** S. 148(3)-(5) repealed (1.10.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), ss. 31(5), 57(2), 59(2)-(4), **Sch. 2**; S.I. 2004/2566, **art. 3(b)(c)** (with arts. 4-8)

### 149 Remedies.

- (1) Where the [<sup>F37</sup>employment tribunal] finds that a complaint under section 146 is well-founded, it shall make a declaration to that effect and may make an award of compensation to be paid by the employer to the complainant in respect of the [<sup>F38</sup>act or failure] complained of.
- (2) The amount of the compensation awarded shall be such as the tribunal considers just and equitable in all the circumstances having regard to the infringement complained of and to any loss sustained by the complainant which is attributable to the [<sup>F38</sup>act or failure] which infringed his right.
- (3) The loss shall be taken to include—
- (a) any expenses reasonably incurred by the complainant in consequence of the [<sup>F38</sup>act or failure] complained of, and

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- (b) loss of any benefit which he might reasonably be expected to have had but for that [<sup>F38</sup>act or failure].
- (4) In ascertaining the loss, the tribunal shall apply the same rule concerning the duty of a person to mitigate his loss as applies to damages recoverable under the common law of England and Wales or Scotland.
- (5) In determining the amount of compensation to be awarded no account shall be taken of any pressure which was exercised on the employer by calling, organising, procuring or financing a strike or other industrial action, or by threatening to do so; and that question shall be determined as if no such pressure had been exercised.
- (6) Where the tribunal finds that the [<sup>F38</sup>act or failure] complained of was to any extent caused or contributed to by action of the complainant, it shall reduce the amount of the compensation by such proportion as it considers just and equitable having regard to that finding.

#### Textual Amendments

- F37** Words in s. 149(1) substituted (1.8.1998) by 1998 c. 8, s. 1(2)(a) (with s. 16(2)); S.I. 1998/1658, art. 2(1), Sch. 1
- F38** Words in s. 149(1)-(3)(6) substituted (25.10.1999) by 1999 c. 26, s. 2, Sch. 2 paras. 1, 5; S.I. 1999/2830, art. 2(1)(2), Sch. 1 Pt. I (with Sch. 3 para. 1)

## 150 Awards against third parties.

- (1) If in proceedings on a complaint under section 146—
  - (a) the complaint is made on the ground that [<sup>F39</sup>the complainant has been subjected to detriment by an act or failure by his employer taking place] for [<sup>F40</sup>the sole or main purpose] of compelling him to be or become a member of any trade union or of a particular trade union or of one of a number of particular trade unions, and
  - (b) either the complainant or the employer claims in proceedings before the tribunal that the employer was induced to [<sup>F41</sup>act or fail to act in the way] complained of by pressure which a trade union or other person exercised on him by calling, organising, procuring or financing a strike or other industrial action, or by threatening to do so,the complainant or the employer may request the tribunal to direct that the person who he claims exercised the pressure be joined or sisted as a party to the proceedings.
- (2) The request shall be granted if it is made before the hearing of the complaint begins, but may be refused if it is made after that time; and no such request may be made after the tribunal has made a declaration that the complaint is well-founded.
- (3) Where a person has been so joined or sisted as a party to proceedings and the tribunal—
  - (a) makes an award of compensation, and
  - (b) finds that the claim mentioned in subsection (1)(b) is well-founded,it may order that the compensation shall be paid by the person joined instead of by the employer, or partly by that person and partly by the employer, as the tribunal may consider just and equitable in the circumstances.

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#### Textual Amendments

- F39** Words in s. 150(1)(a) substituted (25.10.1999) by 1999 c. 26, s. 2, Sch. 2 paras. 1, **6(a)**; S.I. 1999/2830, art 2(1), **Sch. 2 Pt. I** (with Sch. 3 para. 1)
- F40** Words in s. 150(1)(a) substituted (1.10.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), ss. 57(1), 59(2)-(4), **Sch. 1 para. 10**; S.I. 2004/2566, **art. 3(b)** (with arts. 4-8)
- F41** Words in s. 150(1)(b) substituted (25.10.1999) by 1999 c. 26, s. 2, Sch. 2 paras. 1, **6(b)**; S.I. 1999/2830, art. 2(1), **Sch. 2 Pt. I**. (with Sch. 3 para. 1)

### 151 Interpretation and other supplementary provisions.

- (1) References in sections 146 to 150 to being, becoming or ceasing to remain a member of a trade union include references to being, becoming or ceasing to remain a member of a particular branch or section of that union and to being, becoming or ceasing to remain a member of one of a number of particular branches or sections of that union

<sup>F42</sup> . . . .

[<sup>F43</sup>(1A) References in those sections—

- (a) to taking part in the activities of a trade union, and
- (b) to services made available by a trade union by virtue of membership of the union,

shall be construed in accordance with subsection (1).]

[<sup>F44</sup>(1B) In sections 146 to 150—

“worker” means an individual who works, or normally works, as mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (c) of section 296(1), and

“employer” means—

- (a) in relation to a worker, the person for whom he works;
- (b) in relation to a former worker, the person for whom he worked.]

- (2) The remedy of [<sup>F45</sup>a person] for infringement of the right conferred on him by section 146 is by way of a complaint to an [<sup>F46</sup>employment tribunal] in accordance with this Part, and not otherwise.

#### Textual Amendments

- F42** Words in s. 151(1) repealed (1.10.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), ss. 31(6), 57(2), 59(2)-(4), **Sch. 2**; S.I. 2004/2566, **art. 3(a)(c)** (with arts. 4-8)
- F43** S. 151(1A) inserted (1.10.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), **ss. 31(7)**, 59(2)-(4); S.I. 2004/2566, **art. 3(a)** (with arts. 4-8)
- F44** S. 151(1B) inserted (1.10.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), **ss. 30(8)**, 59(2)-(4); S.I. 2004/2566, **art. 3(a)** (with arts. 4-8)
- F45** Words in s. 151(2) substituted (1.10.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), **ss. 30(9)**, 59(2)-(4); S.I. 2004/2566, **art. 3(a)** (with arts. 4-8)
- F46** Words in s. 151(2) substituted (1.8.1998) by 1998 c. 8, s. **1(2)(a)** (with s. 16(2)); S.I. 1998/1658, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**



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## Dismissal [<sup>F47</sup>of employee]

### Textual Amendments

**F47** S. 152 cross-heading: words inserted (1.10.2004) by [Employment Relations Act 2004 \(c. 24\)](#), [ss. 30\(1\), 59\(2\)-\(4\)](#); S.I. 2005/2566, [art. 3\(a\)](#) (with [arts. 4-8](#))

## 152 Dismissal [<sup>F48</sup>of employee] on grounds related to union membership or activities.

(1) For purposes of [<sup>F49</sup>Part X of the Employment Rights Act 1996] (unfair dismissal) the dismissal of an employee shall be regarded as unfair if the reason for it (or, if more than one, the principal reason) was that the employee—

(a) was, or proposed to become, a member of an independent trade union, <sup>F50</sup> . . .

(b) had taken part, or proposed to take part, in the activities of an independent trade union at an appropriate time, <sup>F50</sup> . . .

[<sup>F51</sup>(ba) had made use, or proposed to make use, of trade union services at an appropriate time,

(bb) had failed to accept an offer made in contravention of section 145A or 145B, or]

(c) was not a member of any trade union, or of a particular trade union, or of one of a number of particular trade unions, or had refused, or proposed to refuse, to become or remain a member.

(2) In subsection [<sup>F52</sup>(1)] “an appropriate time” means—

(a) a time outside the employee’s working hours, or

(b) a time within his working hours at which, in accordance with arrangements agreed with or consent given by his employer, it is permissible for him to take part in the activities of a trade union [<sup>F53</sup>or (as the case may be) make use of trade union services];

and for this purpose “working hours”, in relation to an employee, means any time when, in accordance with his contract of employment, he is required to be at work.

[<sup>F54</sup>(2A) In this section—

(a) “trade union services” means services made available to the employee by an independent trade union by virtue of his membership of the union, and

(b) references to an employee’s “making use” of trade union services include his consenting to the raising of a matter on his behalf by an independent trade union of which he is a member.

(2B) Where the reason or one of the reasons for the dismissal was that an independent trade union (with or without the employee’s consent) raised a matter on behalf of the employee as one of its members, the reason shall be treated as falling within subsection (1)(ba).]

(3) Where the reason, or one of the reasons, for the dismissal was—

(a) the employee’s refusal, or proposed refusal, to comply with a requirement (whether or not imposed by his contract of employment or in writing) that, in the event of his not being a member of any trade union, or of a particular trade union, or of one of a number of particular trade unions, he must make one or more payments, or

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- (b) his objection, or proposed objection, (however expressed) to the operation of a provision (whether or not forming part of his contract of employment or in writing) under which, in the event mentioned in paragraph (a), his employer is entitled to deduct one or more sums from the remuneration payable to him in respect of his employment,

the reason shall be treated as falling within subsection (1)(c).

- (4) References in this section to being, becoming or ceasing to remain a member of a trade union include references to being, becoming or ceasing to remain a member of a particular branch or section of that union or of one of a number of particular branches or sections of that trade union<sup>F55</sup> . . . .

[<sup>F56</sup>(5) References in this section—

- (a) to taking part in the activities of a trade union, and  
(b) to services made available by a trade union by virtue of membership of the union,

shall be construed in accordance with subsection (4).]

#### Textual Amendments

- F48** S. 152 sidenote: words inserted (1.10.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), ss. **30(10)**, 59(2)-(4); S.I. 2004/2566, **art. 3(a)** (with arts. 4-8)
- F49** Words in s. 152(1) substituted (22.8.1996) by 1996 c. 18, ss. 240, 243, **Sch.1 para. 56(7)(a)** (with ss. 191-195, 202)
- F50** Words in s. 152(1)(a)(b) repealed (1.10.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), ss. 32(2), 57(2), 59(2)-(4), **Sch. 2**; S.I. 2004/2566, **art. 3(a)(c)** (with arts. 4-8)
- F51** S. 152(1)(ba)(bb) inserted (1.10.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), ss. **32(2)**, 59(2)-(4); S.I. 2004/2566, **art. 3(a)** (with arts. 4-8)
- F52** Word in s. 152(2) substituted (1.10.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), ss. **32(3)(a)**, 59(2)-(4); S.I. 2004/2566, **art. 3(a)** (with arts. 4-8)
- F53** Words in s. 152(2) inserted (1.10.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), ss. **32(3)(b)**, 59(2)-(4); S.I. 2004/2566, **art. 3(a)** (with arts. 4-8)
- F54** S. 152(2A)(2B) inserted (1.10.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), ss. **32(4)**, 59(2)-(4); S.I. 2004/2566, **art. 3(a)** (with arts. 4-8)
- F55** Words in s. 152(4) repealed (1.10.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), ss. 32(5), 57(2), 59(2)(4), **Sch. 2**; S.I. 2004/2566, **art. 3(a)(c)** (with arts. 4-8)
- F56** S. 152(5) inserted (1.10.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), ss. **32(6)**, 59(2)-(4); S.I. 2004/2566, **art. 3(a)** (with arts. 4-8)

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

- C7** S. 152 modified (E.W.) (2.3.1998) by S.I. 1998/218, art. 3, **Sch.**  
S. 152 modified (1.9.1999) by S.I. 1999/2256, art. 3, **Sch.**
- C8** Ss. 152-154 modified (E.) (1.9.2003) by The Education (Modification of Enactments Relating to Employment) (England) Order 2003 (S.I. 2003/1964), art. 3, **Sch.**
- C9** Ss. 152-154 modified (W.) (12.5.2006) by The Education (Modification of Enactments Relating to Employment) (Wales) Order 2006 (S.I. 2006/1073), art. 3, **Sch**

### 153 Selection for redundancy on grounds related to union membership or activities.

Where the reason or principal reason for the dismissal of an employee was that he was redundant, but it is shown—

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- (a) that the circumstances constituting the redundancy applied equally to one or more other employees in the same undertaking who held positions similar to that held by him and who have not been dismissed by the employer, and
- (b) that the reason (or, if more than one, the principal reason) why he was selected for dismissal was one of those specified in section 152(1),
- the dismissal shall be regarded as unfair for the purposes of [<sup>F57</sup>Part X of the Employment Rights Act 1996] (unfair dismissal).

#### Textual Amendments

**F57** Words in s. 153 substituted (22.8.1996) by 1996 c. 18, ss. 240, 243, **Sch. 1 para. 56(7)(b)** (with ss. 191-195, 202)

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

- C10** S. 153 modified (E.W.) (2.3.1998) by S.I. 1998/218, art. 3, **Sch.**  
S. 153 modified (25.10.1999) by S.I. 1999/2830, art. 3, **Sch.**
- C11** S. 153 modified (E.) (1.9.2003) by The Education (Modification of Enactments Relating to Employment) (England) Order 2003 (S.I. 2003/2964), art. 3, **Sch.**
- C12** S. 153 modified (W.) (12.5.2006) by The Education (Modification of Enactments Relating to Employment) (Wales) Order 2006 (S.I. 2006/1073), art. 3, **Sch.**

### [<sup>F58</sup>154 Disapplication of qualifying period and upper age limit for unfair dismissal

Sections 108(1) and 109(1) of the Employment Rights Act 1996 (qualifying period and upper age limit for unfair dismissal protection) do not apply to a dismissal which by virtue of section 152 or 153 is regarded as unfair for the purposes of Part 10 of that Act.]

#### Textual Amendments

**F58** S. 154 substituted (6.4.2005) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), ss. 35, 59(2)-(4); S.I. 2005/872, art. 4, **Sch.** (with arts. 6-21)

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

- C13** S. 154 modified (E.W.) (2.3.1998) by S.I. 1998/218, art. 3, **Sch.**  
S. 154 modified (25.10.1999) by S.I. 1999/2256, art. 3, **Sch.**
- C14** S. 154 modified (E.) (1.9.2003) by The Education (Modification of Enactments Relating to Employment) (England) Order 2003 (S.I. 2003/1964), art. 3, **Sch.**
- C15** S. 154 modified (W.) (12.5.2006) by The Education (Modification of Enactments Relating to Employment) (Wales) Order 2006 (S.I. 2006/1073), art. 3, **Sch.**

### 155 Matters to be disregarded in assessing contributory fault.

- (1) Where an [<sup>F59</sup>employment tribunal] makes an award of compensation for unfair dismissal in a case where the dismissal is unfair by virtue of section 152 or 153, the tribunal shall disregard, in considering whether it would be just and equitable to reduce, or further reduce, the amount of any part of the award, any such conduct or action of the complainant as is specified below.

*Status: Point in time view as at 06/04/2009.*

*Changes to legislation: Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992, Part III is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 29 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. (See end of Document for details)*

- (2) Conduct or action of the complainant shall be disregarded in so far as it constitutes a breach or proposed breach of a requirement—
- (a) to be or become a member of any trade union or of a particular trade union or of one of a number of particular trade unions,
  - (b) to cease to be, or refrain from becoming, a member of any trade union or of a particular trade union or of one of a number of particular trade unions,<sup>F60</sup> . . .
  - (c) not to take part in the activities of any trade union or of a particular trade union or of one of a number of particular trade unions [<sup>F61</sup>, or
  - (d) not to make use of services made available by any trade union or by a particular trade union or by one of a number of particular trade unions.]

For the purposes of this subsection a requirement means a requirement imposed on the complainant by or under an arrangement or contract of employment or other agreement.

[<sup>F62</sup>(2A) Conduct or action of the complainant shall be disregarded in so far as it constitutes acceptance of or failure to accept an offer made in contravention of section 145A or 145B.]

- (3) Conduct or action of the complainant shall be disregarded in so far as it constitutes a refusal, or proposed refusal, to comply with a requirement of a kind mentioned in section 152(3)(a) (payments in lieu of membership) or an objection, or proposed, objection, (however expressed) to the operation of a provision of a kind mentioned in section 152(3)(b) (deductions in lieu of membership).

#### Textual Amendments

- F59** Words in s. 155(1) substituted (1.8.1998) by 1998 c. 8, s. 1(2)(a) (with s. 16(2)); S.I. 1998/1658, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**
- F60** Word in s. 155(2)(b) repealed (1.10.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), ss. 57(1)(2), 59(2)-(4), Sch. 1 para. 11(2), **Sch. 2**; S.I. 2004/2566, art. 3(b)(c) (with arts. 4-8)
- F61** S. 155(2)(d) and preceding word inserted (1.10.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), ss. 57(1), 59(2)-(4), **Sch. 1 para. 11(2)**; S.I. 2004/2566, art. 3(b) (with arts. 4-8)
- F62** S. 155(2A) inserted (1.10.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), ss. 57(1), 59(2)-(4), **Sch. 1 para. 11(3)**; S.I. 2004/2566, art. 3(b) (with arts. 4-8)

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

- C16** S. 155 excluded (E.W.) (21.5.2001) by S.I. 2001/1185, art. 2, Sch. paras. 131, **139**

## 156 Minimum basic award.

- (1) Where a dismissal is unfair by virtue of section 152(1) or 153, the amount of the basic award of compensation, before any reduction is made under [<sup>F63</sup>section 122 of the Employment Rights Act 1996], shall be not less than [<sup>F64</sup>£4,700].
- (2) But where the dismissal is unfair by virtue of section 153, [<sup>F65</sup>subsection (2)] of that section (reduction for contributory fault) applies in relation to so much of the basic award as is payable because of subsection (1) above.

*Status: Point in time view as at 06/04/2009.*

*Changes to legislation: Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992, Part III is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 29 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. (See end of Document for details)*

**Textual Amendments**

- F63** Words in s. 156(1) substituted (22.8.1996) by 1996 c. 18, ss. 240, 243, **Sch. 1 para. 56(9)(a)** (with ss. 191-195, 202)
- F64** Words in s. 156(1) substituted (1.2.2009) by [Employment Rights \(Increase of Limits\) Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/3055\)](#), art. 3, **Sch.** (with art. 4)
- F65** Words in s. 156(2) substituted (22.8.1996) by 1996 c. 18, ss. 240, 243, **Sch. 1 para. 56(9)(b)** (with ss. 191-195, 202)

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

- C17** S. 156: power to amend conferred (17.12.1999) by 1999 c. 26, s. 34(1)(f); S.I. 1999/3374, art. 2, **Sch.** (with art. 3)

<sup>F66</sup> **157** .

.....

**Textual Amendments**

- F66** S. 157 repealed (25.10.1999) by 1999 c. 26, ss. 33(1)(b), 44, **Sch. 9(10)**; S.I. 1999/2830, art. 2(3), **Sch. 2 Pt. I** (with [Sch. 3 para. 8](#))

<sup>F67</sup> **158** .

.....

**Textual Amendments**

- F67** S. 158 repealed (25.10.1999) by 1999 c. 26, ss. 33(1)(b), 44, **Sch. 9(10)**; S.I. 1999/2830, art. 2(3), **Sch. 2 Pt. I** (with [Sch. 3 para. 8](#))

**159 Power to increase sums by order.**

- (1) <sup>F68</sup> . . .
  - (a) .....
  - <sup>F69</sup>(b) .....
- (2) .....
- (3) .....

**Textual Amendments**

- F68** Words in s. 159 and s. 159(a), s. 159(2)(3) repealed (17.12.1999 subject to s. 36(3) of the amending Act) by 1999 c. 26, s. 36(1)(3), **Sch. 9(10)**; S.I. 19993374, art. 2(3), Sch.
- F69** S. 159(1)(b) repealed (25.10.1999 subject to s. 36(3) of the amending Act) by 1999 c. 26, s. 36(1)(3), **Sch. 9(10)**; S.I. 1999/2830, art. 2(3)(a)

*Status: Point in time view as at 06/04/2009.*

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## 160 Awards against third parties.

- (1) If in proceedings before an [<sup>F70</sup>employment tribunal] on a complaint of unfair dismissal either the employer or the complainant claims—
- (a) that the employer was induced to dismiss the complainant by pressure which a trade union or other person exercised on the employer by calling, organising, procuring or financing a strike or other industrial action, or by threatening to do so, and
  - (b) that the pressure was exercised because the complainant was not a member of any trade union or of a particular trade union or of one of a number of particular trade unions,
- the employer or the complainant may request the tribunal to direct that the person who he claims exercised the pressure be joined or sisted as a party to the proceedings.
- (2) The request shall be granted if it is made before the hearing of the complaint begins, but may be refused after that time; and no such request may be made after the tribunal has made an award of compensation for unfair dismissal or an order for reinstatement or re-engagement.
- (3) Where a person has been so joined or sisted as a party to the proceedings and the tribunal—
- (a) makes an award of compensation for unfair dismissal, and
  - (b) finds that the claim mentioned in subsection (1) is well-founded,
- the tribunal may order that the compensation shall be paid by that person instead of the employer, or partly by that person and partly by the employer, as the tribunal may consider just and equitable.

### Textual Amendments

**F70** Words in s. 160(1) substituted (1.8.1998) by 1998 c. 8, s. 1(2)(a) (with s. 16(2)); S.I. 1998/1658, art. 2(1), Sch. 1

## 161 Application for interim relief.

- (1) An employee who presents a complaint of unfair dismissal alleging that the dismissal is unfair by virtue of section 152 may apply to the tribunal for interim relief.
- (2) The tribunal shall not entertain an application for interim relief unless it is presented to the tribunal before the end of the period of seven days immediately following the effective date of termination (whether before, on or after that date).
- (3) In a case where the employee relies on [<sup>F71</sup>section 152(1)(a), (b) or (ba), or on section 152(1)(bb) otherwise than in relation to an offer made in contravention of section 145A(1)(d),] the tribunal shall not entertain an application for interim relief unless before the end of that period there is also so presented a certificate in writing signed by an authorised official of the independent trade union of which the employee was or proposed to become a member stating—
- (a) that on the date of the dismissal the employee was or proposed to become a member of the union, and
  - (b) that there appear to be reasonable grounds for supposing that the reason for his dismissal (or, if more than one, the principal reason) was one alleged in the complaint.

*Status: Point in time view as at 06/04/2009.*

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- (4) An “authorised official” means an official of the trade union authorised by it to act for the purposes of this section.
- (5) A document purporting to be an authorisation of an official by a trade union to act for the purposes of this section and to be signed on behalf of the union shall be taken to be such an authorisation unless the contrary is proved; and a document purporting to be a certificate signed by such an official shall be taken to be signed by him unless the contrary is proved.
- (6) For the purposes of subsection (3) the date of dismissal shall be taken to be—
  - (a) where the employee’s contract of employment was terminated by notice (whether given by his employer or by him), the date on which the employer’s notice was given, and
  - (b) in any other case, the effective date of termination.

#### Textual Amendments

**F71** Words in s. 161(3) substituted (1.10.2004) by [Employment Relations Act 2004 \(c. 24\)](#), ss. 57(1), 59(2)-(4), [Sch. 1 para. 12](#); S.I. 2004/2566, [art. 3\(b\)](#) (with arts. 4-8)

### 162 Application to be promptly determined.

- (1) An [<sup>F72</sup>employment tribunal] shall determine an application for interim relief as soon as practicable after receiving the application and, where appropriate, the requisite certificate.
- (2) The tribunal shall give to the employer, not later than seven days before the hearing, a copy of the application and of any certificate, together with notice of the date, time and place of the hearing.
- (3) If a request under section 160 (awards against third parties) is made three days or more before the date of the hearing, the tribunal shall also give to the person to whom the request relates, as soon as reasonably practicable, a copy of the application and of any certificate, together with notice of the date, time and place of the hearing.
- (4) The tribunal shall not exercise any power it has of postponing the hearing of an application for interim relief except where it is satisfied that special circumstances exist which justify it in doing so.

#### Textual Amendments

**F72** Words in s. 162(1) substituted (1.8.1998) by [1998 c. 8, s. 1\(2\)\(a\)](#) (with s. 16(2)); S.I. 1998/1658, [art. 2\(1\)](#), [Sch. 1](#)

### 163 Procedure on hearing of application and making of order.

- (1) If on hearing an application for interim relief it appears to the tribunal that it is likely that on determining the complaint to which the application relates that it will find that, by virtue of section 152, the complainant has been unfairly dismissed, the following provisions apply.

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- (2) The tribunal shall announce its findings and explain to both parties (if present) what powers the tribunal may exercise on the application and in what circumstances it will exercise them, and shall ask the employer (if present) whether he is willing, pending the determination or settlement of the complaint—
  - (a) to reinstate the employee, that is to say, to treat him in all respects as if he had not been dismissed, or
  - (b) if not, to re-engage him in another job on terms and conditions not less favourable than those which would have been applicable to him if he had not been dismissed.
- (3) For this purpose “terms and conditions not less favourable than those which would have been applicable to him if he had not been dismissed” means as regards seniority, pension rights and other similar rights that the period prior to the dismissal shall be regarded as continuous with his employment following the dismissal.
- (4) If the employer states that he is willing to reinstate the employee, the tribunal shall make an order to that effect.
- (5) If the employer states that he is willing to re-engage the employee in another job, and specifies the terms and conditions on which he is willing to do so, the tribunal shall ask the employee whether he is willing to accept the job on those terms and conditions; and—
  - (a) if the employee is willing to accept the job on those terms and conditions, the tribunal shall make an order to that effect, and
  - (b) if he is not, then, if the tribunal is of the opinion that the refusal is reasonable, the tribunal shall make an order for the continuation of his contract of employment, and otherwise the tribunal shall make no order.
- (6) If on the hearing of an application for interim relief the employer fails to attend before the tribunal, or states that he is unwilling either to reinstate the employee or re-engage him as mentioned in subsection (2), the tribunal shall make an order for the continuation of the employee’s contract of employment.

#### **164 Order for continuation of contract of employment.**

- (1) An order under section 163 for the continuation of a contract of employment is an order that the contract of employment continue in force—
  - (a) for the purposes of pay or [<sup>F73</sup>any other benefit] derived from the employment, seniority, pension rights and other similar matters, and
  - (b) for the purpose of determining for any purpose the period for which the employee has been continuously employed,
 from the date of its termination (whether before or after the making of the order) until the determination or settlement of the complaint.
- (2) Where the tribunal makes such an order it shall specify in the order the amount which is to be paid by the employer to the employee by way of pay in respect of each normal pay period, or part of any such period, falling between the date of dismissal and the determination or settlement of the complaint.
- (3) Subject as follows, the amount so specified shall be that which the employee could reasonably have been expected to earn during that period, or part, and shall be paid—
  - (a) in the case of payment for any such period falling wholly or partly after the making of the order, on the normal pay day for that period, and



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- (b) in the case of a payment for any past period, within such time as may be specified in the order.
- (4) If an amount is payable in respect only of part of a normal pay period, the amount shall be calculated by reference to the whole period and reduced proportionately.
- (5) Any payment made to an employee by an employer under his contract of employment, or by way of damages for breach of that contract, in respect of a normal pay period or part of any such period shall go towards discharging the employer's liability in respect of that period under subsection (2); and conversely any payment under that subsection in respect of a period shall go towards discharging any liability of the employer under, or in respect of the breach of, the contract of employment in respect of that period.
- (6) If an employee, on or after being dismissed by his employer, receives a lump sum which, or part of which, is in lieu of wages but is not referable to any normal pay period, the tribunal shall take the payment into account in determining the amount of pay to be payable in pursuance of any such order.
- (7) For the purposes of this section the amount which an employee could reasonably have been expected to earn, his normal pay period and the normal pay day for each such period shall be determined as if he had not been dismissed.

#### Textual Amendments

**F73** Words in s. 164(1)(a) substituted (30.8.1993) by 1993 c. 19, s. 49(2), **Sch. 8 para.69**; S.I. 1993/1908, art. 2(1), **Sch.1**

### 165 Application for variation or revocation of order.

- (1) At any time between the making of an order under section 163 and the determination or settlement of the complaint, the employer or the employee may apply to an [<sup>F74</sup>employment tribunal] for the revocation or variation of the order on the ground of a relevant change of circumstances since the making of the order.
- (2) Sections 161 to 163 apply in relation to such an application as in relation to an original application for interim relief, except that—
- (a) no certificate need be presented to the tribunal under section 161(3), and
- (b) in the case of an application by the employer, section 162(2) (service of copy of application and notice of hearing) has effect with the substitution of a reference to the employee for the reference to the employer.

#### Textual Amendments

**F74** Words in s. 165(1) substituted (1.8.1998) by 1998 c. 8, s. 1(2)(a) (with s. 16(2)); S.I. 1998/1658, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**

### 166 Consequences of failure to comply with order.

- (1) If on the application of an employee an [<sup>F75</sup>employment tribunal] is satisfied that the employer has not complied with the terms of an order for the reinstatement or re-engagement of the employee under section 163(4) or [<sup>F76</sup>(5)], the tribunal shall—

*Status: Point in time view as at 06/04/2009.*

**Changes to legislation:** Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992, Part III is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 29 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. (See end of Document for details)

- (a) make an order for the continuation of the employee’s contract of employment, and
  - (b) order the employer to pay the employee such compensation as the tribunal considers just and equitable in all the circumstances having regard—
    - (i) to the infringement of the employee’s right to be reinstated or re-engaged in pursuance of the order, and
    - (ii) to any loss suffered by the employee in consequence of the non-compliance.
- (2) Section 164 applies to an order under subsection (1)(a) as in relation to an order under section 163.
- (3) If on the application of an employee an [F75 employment tribunal] is satisfied that the employer has not complied with the terms of an order for the continuation of a contract of employment, the following provisions apply.
- (4) If the non-compliance consists of a failure to pay an amount by way of pay specified in the order, the tribunal shall determine the amount owed by the employer on the date of the determination.

If on that date the tribunal also determines the employee’s complaint that he has been unfairly dismissed, it shall specify that amount separately from any other sum awarded to the employee.

- (5) In any other case, the tribunal shall order the employer to pay the employee such compensation as the tribunal considers just and equitable in all the circumstances having regard to any loss suffered by the employee in consequence of the non-compliance.

#### Textual Amendments

**F75** Words in s. 166(1) substituted (1.8.1998) by 1998 c. 8, s. 1(2)(a) (with s. 16(2)); S.I. 1998/1658, art. 2(1), Sch. 1

**F76** Words in s. 166(1) substituted (30.8.1993) by 1993 c. 19, s. 49(1), Sch. 7 para. 22; S.I. 1993/1908, art. 2(1), Sch. 1

#### 167 Interpretation and other supplementary provisions.

- (1) [F77 Part X of the Employment Rights Act 1996] (unfair dismissal) has effect subject to the provisions of sections 152 to 166 above.
- (2) Those sections shall be construed as one with that Part; and in those sections—
 

“complaint of unfair dismissal” means a complaint under [F78 section 111 of the Employment Rights Act 1996];

“award of compensation for unfair dismissal” means an award of compensation for unfair dismissal under [F79 section 112(4) or 117(3)(a)] of that Act; and

“order for reinstatement or re-engagement” means an order for reinstatement or re-engagement under [F80 section 113] of that Act.
- (3) Nothing in those sections shall be construed as conferring a right to complain of unfair dismissal from employment of a description to which that Part does not otherwise apply.

*Status: Point in time view as at 06/04/2009.*

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#### Textual Amendments

- F77** Words in s. 167(1) substituted (22.8.1996) by 1996 c. 18, ss. 240, 243, **Sch. 1 para. 56(12)(a)** (with ss. 191-195, 202)
- F78** Words in s. 167(2) substituted (22.8.1996) by 1996 c. 18, ss. 240, 243, **Sch. 1 para. 56(12)(b)(i)** (with ss. 191-195, 202)
- F79** Words in s. 167(2) substituted (22.8.1996) by 1996 c. 18, ss. 240, 243, **Sch. 1 para. 56(12)(b)(ii)** (with ss. 191-195, 202)
- F80** Words in s. 167(2) substituted (22.8.1996) by 1996 c. 18, ss. 240, 243, **Sch. 1 para. 56(12)(b)(iii)** (with ss. 191-195, 202)

### *Time off for trade union duties and activities*

#### **168 Time off for carrying out trade union duties.**

- (1) An employer shall permit an employee of his who is an official of an independent trade union recognised by the employer to take time off during his working hours for the purpose of carrying out any duties of his, as such an official, concerned with—
- negotiations with the employer related to or connected with matters falling within section 178(2) (collective bargaining) in relation to which the trade union is recognised by the employer, or
  - the performance on behalf of employees of the employer of functions related to or connected with matters falling within that provision which the employer has agreed may be so performed by the trade union<sup>F81</sup>, or
  - receipt of information from the employer and consultation by the employer under section 188 (redundancies) or under the <sup>F82</sup>Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006<sup>F83</sup>, or
  - negotiations with a view to entering into an agreement under regulation 9 of the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 that applies to employees of the employer, or
  - the performance on behalf of employees of the employer of functions related to or connected with the making of an agreement under that regulation.]
- (2) He shall also permit such an employee to take time off during his working hours for the purpose of undergoing training in aspects of industrial relations—
- relevant to the carrying out of such duties as are mentioned in subsection (1), and
  - approved by the Trades Union Congress or by the independent trade union of which he is an official.
- (3) The amount of time off which an employee is to be permitted to take under this section and the purposes for which, the occasions on which and any conditions subject to which time off may be so taken are those that are reasonable in all the circumstances having regard to any relevant provisions of a Code of Practice issued by ACAS.
- (4) An employee may present a complaint to an <sup>F84</sup>employment tribunal] that his employer has failed to permit him to take time off as required by this section.

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### Textual Amendments

- F81** S. 168(1)(c) and preceding word inserted (28.7.1999) by [The Collective Redundancies and Transfer of Undertakings \(Protection of Employment\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 1999 \(S.I. 1999/1925\)](#), **reg. 14**
- F82** Words in s. 168(1)(c) substituted (6.4.2006) by [The Transfer of Undertakings \(Protection of Employment\) Regulations 2006 \(S.I. 2006/246\)](#), **reg. 20, Sch. 2 para. 1(e)** (with **reg. 21(1)**)
- F83** S. 168(1)(d)(e) and preceding word inserted (6.4.2006) by [The Transfer of Undertakings \(Protection of Employment\) Regulations 2006 \(S.I. 2006/246\)](#), **reg. 9(4)** (with **reg. 21(1)**)
- F84** Words in s. 168(4) substituted (1.8.1998) by [1998 c. 8, s. 1\(2\)\(a\)](#) (with s. 16(2)); S.I. 1998/1658, **art. 2(1), Sch. 1**

### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C18** S. 168(3)(4) applied (4.9.2000) by [1999 c. 26, s. 10\(7\)](#) (with s. 15); S.I. 2000/242, **art. 2(1)** (with transitional provisions in **arts. 3, 4**)
- C19** S. 168(3)(4) applied (1.10.2006) by [The Employment Equality \(Age\) Regulations 2006 \(S.I. 2006/1031\)](#), **reg. 47, Sch. 6 para. 9(6)** (with **regs. 44-46, Sch. 7**)

## <sup>F85</sup> 168A Time off for union learning representatives

- (1) An employer shall permit an employee of his who is—
  - (a) a member of an independent trade union recognised by the employer, and
  - (b) a learning representative of the trade union,
 to take time off during his working hours for any of the following purposes.
- (2) The purposes are—
  - (a) carrying on any of the following activities in relation to qualifying members of the trade union—
    - (i) analysing learning or training needs,
    - (ii) providing information and advice about learning or training matters,
    - (iii) arranging learning or training, and
    - (iv) promoting the value of learning or training,
  - (b) consulting the employer about carrying on any such activities in relation to such members of the trade union,
  - (c) preparing for any of the things mentioned in paragraphs (a) and (b).
- (3) Subsection (1) only applies if—
  - (a) the trade union has given the employer notice in writing that the employee is a learning representative of the trade union, and
  - (b) the training condition is met in relation to him.
- (4) The training condition is met if—
  - (a) the employee has undergone sufficient training to enable him to carry on the activities mentioned in subsection (2), and the trade union has given the employer notice in writing of that fact,
  - (b) the trade union has in the last six months given the employer notice in writing that the employee will be undergoing such training, or
  - (c) within six months of the trade union giving the employer notice in writing that the employee will be undergoing such training, the employee has done so, and the trade union has given the employer notice of that fact.

*Status: Point in time view as at 06/04/2009.*

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- (5) Only one notice under subsection (4)(b) may be given in respect of any one employee.
- (6) References in subsection (4) to sufficient training to carry out the activities mentioned in subsection (2) are to training that is sufficient for those purposes having regard to any relevant provision of a Code of Practice issued by ACAS or the Secretary of State.
- (7) If an employer is required to permit an employee to take time off under subsection (1), he shall also permit the employee to take time off during his working hours for the following purposes—
  - (a) undergoing training which is relevant to his functions as a learning representative, and
  - (b) where the trade union has in the last six months given the employer notice under subsection (4)(b) in relation to the employee, undergoing such training as is mentioned in subsection (4)(a).
- (8) The amount of time off which an employee is to be permitted to take under this section and the purposes for which, the occasions on which and any conditions subject to which time off may be so taken are those that are reasonable in all the circumstances having regard to any relevant provision of a Code of Practice issued by ACAS or the Secretary of State.
- (9) An employee may present a complaint to an employment tribunal that his employer has failed to permit him to take time off as required by this section.
- (10) In subsection (2)(a), the reference to qualifying members of the trade union is to members of the trade union—
  - (a) who are employees of the employer of a description in respect of which the union is recognised by the employer, and
  - (b) in relation to whom it is the function of the union learning representative to act as such.
- (11) For the purposes of this section, a person is a learning representative of a trade union if he is appointed or elected as such in accordance with its rules.]

#### Textual Amendments

**F85** S. 168A inserted (27.4.2003) by [Employment Act 2002 \(c. 22\)](#), ss. 43(2), 55(2); S.I. 2003/1190, art. 2(1) (with art. 3)

### 169 Payment for time off under section 168.

- (1) An employer who permits an employee to take time off under section 168 [<sup>F86</sup>or 168A] shall pay him for the time taken off pursuant to the permission.
- (2) Where the employee's remuneration for the work he would ordinarily have been doing during that time does not vary with the amount of work done, he shall be paid as if he had worked at that work for the whole of that time.
- (3) Where the employee's remuneration for the work he would ordinarily have been doing during that time varies with the amount of work done, he shall be paid an amount calculated by reference to the average hourly earnings for that work.

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The average hourly earnings shall be those of the employee concerned or, if no fair estimate can be made of those earnings, the average hourly earnings for work of that description of persons in comparable employment with the same employer or, if there are no such persons, a figure of average hourly earnings which is reasonable in the circumstances.

- (4) A right to be paid an amount under this section does not affect any right of an employee in relation to remuneration under his contract of employment, but—
- (a) any contractual remuneration paid to an employee in respect of a period of time off to which this section applies shall go towards discharging any liability of the employer under this section in respect of that period, and
  - (b) any payment under this section in respect of a period shall go towards discharging any liability of the employer to pay contractual remuneration in respect of that period.
- (5) An employee may present a complaint to an [<sup>F87</sup>employment tribunal] that his employer has failed to pay him in accordance with this section.

#### Textual Amendments

**F86** Word in s. 169(1) inserted (27.4.2003) by 2002 c. 22, ss. 43(3), 55(2); S.I. 2003/1190, art. 2(1) (with art. 3)

**F87** Words in s. 169(5) substituted (1.8.1998) by 1998 c. 8, s. 1(2)(a) (with s. 16(2)); S.I. 1998/1658, art. 2(1), Sch. 1

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

**C20** S. 169 applied (4.9.2000) by 1999 c. 26, s. 10(7) (with s. 15); S.I. 2000/2424, art. 2 (with transitional provisions in arts. 3, 4)

**C21** S. 169 applied (1.10.2006) by The Employment Equality (Age) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/1031), reg. 47, Sch. 6 para. 9 (with regs. 44-46, Sch. 7)

### 170 Time off for trade union activities.

- (1) An employer shall permit an employee of his who is a member of an independent trade union recognised by the employer in respect of that description of employee to take time off during his working hours for the purpose of taking part in—
- (a) any activities of the union, and
  - (b) any activities in relation to which the employee is acting as a representative of the union.
- (2) The right conferred by subsection (1) does not extend to activities which themselves consist of industrial action, whether or not in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute.
- [<sup>F88</sup>(2A) The right conferred by subsection (1) does not extend to time off for the purpose of acting as, or having access to services provided by, a learning representative of a trade union.
- (2B) An employer shall permit an employee of his who is a member of an independent trade union recognised by the employer in respect of that description of employee to take time off during his working hours for the purpose of having access to services provided by a person in his capacity as a learning representative of the trade union.

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- (2C) Subsection (2B) only applies if the learning representative would be entitled to time off under subsection (1) of section 168A for the purpose of carrying on in relation to the employee activities of the kind mentioned in subsection (2) of that section.]
- (3) The amount of time off which an employee is to be permitted to take under this section and the purposes for which, the occasions on which and any conditions subject to which time off may be so taken are those that are reasonable in all the circumstances having regard to any relevant provisions of a Code of Practice issued by ACAS.
- (4) An employee may present a complaint to an [<sup>F89</sup>employment tribunal] that his employer has failed to permit him to take time off as required by this section.
- [<sup>F90</sup>(5) For the purposes of this section—
- (a) a person is a learning representative of a trade union if he is appointed or elected as such in accordance with its rules, and
  - (b) a person who is a learning representative of a trade union acts as such if he carries on the activities mentioned in section 168A(2) in that capacity.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F88** S. 170(2A)-(2C) inserted (27.4.2003) by 2002 c. 22, ss. 43(4), 55(2); S.I. 2003/1190, art. 2(1) (with art. 3)
- F89** Words in s. 170(4) substituted (1.8.1998) by 1998 c. 8, s. 1(2)(a) (with s. 16(2)); S.I. 1998/1658, art. 2(1), Sch. 1
- F90** S. 170(5) inserted (27.4.2003) by 2002 c. 22, ss. 43(5), 55(2); S.I. 2003/1190, art. 2(1) (with art. 3)

#### 171 Time limit for proceedings.

- An [<sup>F91</sup>employment tribunal] shall not consider a complaint under section 168, [<sup>F92</sup>168A,] 169 or 170 unless it is presented to the tribunal—
- (a) within three months of the date when the failure occurred, or
  - (b) where the tribunal is satisfied that it was not reasonably practicable for the complaint to be presented within that period, within such further period as the tribunal considers reasonable.

#### Textual Amendments

- F91** Words in s. 171 substituted (1.8.1998) by 1998 c. 8, s. 1(2)(a) (with s. 16(2)); S.I. 1998/1658, art. 2(1), Sch. 1
- F92** Word in s. 171 inserted (27.4.2003) by 2002 c. 22, ss. 53, 55(2), Sch. 7 para. 19; S.I. 2003/1190, art. 2(2)

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

- C22** S. 171 applied (4.9.2000) by 1999 c. 26, s. 10(7), (with s. 15); S.I. 2000/2242, art. 2 (with transitional provisions in arts. 3, 4)
- C23** S. 171 applied (1.10.2006) by The Employment Equality (Age) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/1031), reg. 47, Sch. 6 para. 9 (with regs. 44-46, Sch. 7)

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## 172 Remedies.

- (1) Where the tribunal finds a complaint under section 168 [<sup>F93</sup>, 168A] or 170 is well-founded, it shall make a declaration to that effect and may make an award of compensation to be paid by the employer to the employee.
- (2) The amount of the compensation shall be such as the tribunal considers just and equitable in all the circumstances having regard to the employer's default in failing to permit time off to be taken by the employee and to any loss sustained by the employee which is attributable to the matters complained of.
- (3) Where on a complaint under section 169 the tribunal finds that the employer has failed to pay the employee in accordance with that section, it shall order him to pay the amount which it finds to be due.

### Textual Amendments

**F93** Word in s. 172(1) inserted (27.4.2003) by 2002 c. 22, ss. 53, 55(2), Sch. 7 para. 20; S.I. 2003/1190, art. 2(2)

### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

**C24** S. 172 applied (4.9.2000) by 1999 c. 26 s. 10(7) (with s. 15); S.I. 2000/2242, art. 2 (with transitional provisions in arts. 3, 4)

**C25** S. 172 applied (1.10.2006) by The Employment Equality (Age) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/1031), reg. 47, Sch. 6 para. 9 (with regs. 44-46, Sch. 7)

## 173 Interpretation and other supplementary provisions.

- (1) For the purposes of sections 168 [<sup>F94</sup>, 168A] and 170 the working hours of an employee shall be taken to be any time when in accordance with his contract of employment he is required to be at work.
- (2) The remedy of an employee for infringement of the rights conferred on him by section 168, [<sup>F95</sup>168A,] 169 or 170 is by way of complaint to an [<sup>F96</sup>employment tribunal] in accordance with this Part, and not otherwise.
- [<sup>F97</sup>(3) The Secretary of State may by order made by statutory instrument amend section 168A for the purpose of changing the purposes for which an employee may take time off under that section.
- <sup>F97</sup>(4) No order may be made under subsection (3) unless a draft of the order has been laid before and approved by resolution of each House of Parliament.]

### Textual Amendments

**F94** Word in s. 173(1) inserted (27.4.2003) by 2002 c. 22, ss. 53, 55(2), Sch. 7 para. 21(a); S.I. 2003/1190, art. 2(2)

**F95** Word in s. 173(1) inserted (27.4.2003) by 2002 c. 22, ss. 53, 55(2), Sch. 7 para. 21(a); S.I. 2003/1190, art. 2(2)

**F96** Words in s. 173(2) substituted (1.8.1998) by 1998 c. 8, s. 1(2)(a) (with s. 16(2)); S.I. 1998/1658, art. 2(1), Sch. 1

**F97** S. 173(3)(4) inserted (27.4.2003) by 2002 c. 22, ss. 43(6), 55(2); S.I. 2003/1190, art. 2(1) (with art. 3)



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

- C26** S. 173 applied (4.9.2000) by 1999 c. 26, s. 10(7), (with s. 15); S.I. 2000/2242, art. 2 (with transitional provisions in arts. 3, 4)
- C27** S. 173 applied (1.10.2006) by The Employment Equality (Age) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/1031), reg. 47, Sch. 6 para. 9 (with regs. 44-46, Sch. 7)

#### *[<sup>F98</sup>Right to membership of trade union]*

#### Textual Amendments

- F98** Ss. 174-177 and cross heading substituted (30.11.1993) by 1993 c. 19, s.14; S.I. 1993/1908, art. 2(2), Sch.2

#### **[<sup>F99</sup>174 Right not to be excluded or expelled from union.**

- (1) An individual shall not be excluded or expelled from a trade union unless the exclusion or expulsion is permitted by this section.
- (2) The exclusion or expulsion of an individual from a trade union is permitted by this section if (and only if)—
  - (a) he does not satisfy, or no longer satisfies, an enforceable membership requirement contained in the rules of the union,
  - (b) he does not qualify, or no longer qualifies, for membership of the union by reason of the union operating only in a particular part or particular parts of Great Britain,
  - (c) in the case of a union whose purpose is the regulation of relations between its members and one particular employer or a number of particular employers who are associated, he is not, or is no longer, employed by that employer or one of those employers, or
  - (d) the exclusion or expulsion is entirely attributable to [<sup>F100</sup>conduct of his (other than excluded conduct) and the conduct to which it is wholly or mainly attributable is not protected conduct].
- (3) A requirement in relation to membership of a union is “enforceable” for the purposes of subsection (2)(a) if it restricts membership solely by reference to one or more of the following criteria—
  - (a) employment in a specified trade, industry or profession,
  - (b) occupational description (including grade, level or category of appointment), and
  - (c) possession of specified trade, industrial or professional qualifications or work experience.

[<sup>F101</sup>(4) For the purposes of subsection (2)(d) “excluded conduct”, in relation to an individual, means—

- (a) conduct which consists in his being or ceasing to be, or having been or ceased to be, a member of another trade union,
- (b) conduct which consists in his being or ceasing to be, or having been or ceased to be, employed by a particular employer or at a particular place, or
- (c) conduct to which section 65 (conduct for which an individual may not be disciplined by a union) applies or would apply if the references in that section

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to the trade union which is relevant for the purposes of that section were references to any trade union.

- (4A) For the purposes of subsection (2)(d) “protected conduct” is conduct which consists in the individual’s being or ceasing to be, or having been or ceased to be, a member of a political party.
- (4B) Conduct which consists of activities undertaken by an individual as a member of a political party is not conduct falling within subsection (4A).]
- <sup>F102</sup> [ Conduct which consists in an individual's being or having been a member of a political party is not conduct falling within subsection (4A) if membership of that political party is contrary to—
- (4C) (a) a rule of the trade union, or  
 (b) an objective of the trade union.
- (4D) For the purposes of subsection (4C)(b) in the case of conduct consisting in an individual's being a member of a political party, an objective is to be disregarded—
- (a) in relation to an exclusion, if it is not reasonably practicable for the objective to be ascertained by a person working in the same trade, industry or profession as the individual;
- (b) in relation to an expulsion, if it is not reasonably practicable for the objective to be ascertained by a member of the union.
- (4E) For the purposes of subsection (4C)(b) in the case of conduct consisting in an individual's having been a member of a political party, an objective is to be disregarded—
- (a) in relation to an exclusion, if at the time of the conduct it was not reasonably practicable for the objective to be ascertained by a person working in the same trade, industry or profession as the individual;
- (b) in relation to an expulsion, if at the time of the conduct it was not reasonably practicable for the objective to be ascertained by a member of the union.
- (4F) Where the exclusion or expulsion of an individual from a trade union is wholly or mainly attributable to conduct which consists of an individual's being or having been a member of a political party but which by virtue of subsection (4C) is not conduct falling within subsection (4A), the exclusion or expulsion is not permitted by virtue of subsection (2)(d) if any one or more of the conditions in subsection (4G) apply.
- (4G) Those conditions are—
- (a) the decision to exclude or expel is taken otherwise than in accordance with the union's rules;
- (b) the decision to exclude or expel is taken unfairly;
- (c) the individual would lose his livelihood or suffer other exceptional hardship by reason of not being, or ceasing to be, a member of the union.
- (4H) For the purposes of subsection (4G)(b) a decision to exclude or expel an individual is taken unfairly if (and only if)—
- (a) before the decision is taken the individual is not given—
- (i) notice of the proposal to exclude or expel him and the reasons for that proposal, and
- (ii) a fair opportunity to make representations in respect of that proposal,
- or

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- (b) representations made by the individual in respect of that proposal are not considered fairly.]
- (5) An individual who claims that he has been excluded or expelled from a trade union in contravention of this section may present a complaint to an [<sup>F103</sup>employment tribunal].]

#### Textual Amendments

- F99** Ss. 174-177 and cross heading substituted (30.11.1993) by 1993 c. 19, s. 14; S.I. 1993/1908, art. 2(2), Sch. 2
- F100** Words in s. 174(2)(d) substituted (31.12.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), ss. 33(2), 59(2)-(4); S.I. 2004/3342, art. 4(a) (with arts 6-12)
- F101** S. 174(4)-(4B) substituted for s. 174(4) (31.12.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), ss. 33(3), 59(2)-(4); S.I. 2004/3342, art. 4(a) (with arts. 6-12)
- F102** S. 174(4C)-(4H) inserted (6.4.2009) by Employment Act 2008 (c. 24), ss. 19(2), 22(f); S.I. 2009/603, art. 2 (with art. 3, Sch. paras. 5-7)
- F103** Words in s. 174(5) substituted (1.8.1998) by 1998 c. 8, s. 1(2)(a) (with s. 16(2)); S.I. 1998/1658, art. 2(1), Sch. 1

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

- C28** S. 174 extended (31.12.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), ss. 33(7), 59(2)-(4); S.I. 2004/3342, art. 4(a) (with arts. 6-12)

#### [<sup>F104</sup>175 Time limit for proceedings.

An [<sup>F105</sup>employment tribunal] shall not entertain a complaint under section 174 unless it is presented—

- (a) before the end of the period of six months beginning with the date of the exclusion or expulsion, or
- (b) where the tribunal is satisfied that it was not reasonably practicable for the complaint to be presented before the end of that period, within such further period as the tribunal considers reasonable.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F104** Ss. 174-177 and cross heading substituted (30.11.1993) by 1993 c. 19, s. 14; S.I. 1993/1908, art. 2(2), Sch. 2
- F105** Words in s. 175 substituted (1.8.1998) by 1998 c. 8, s. 1(2)(a) (with s. 16(2)); S.I. 1998/1658, art. 2(1), Sch. 1

#### [<sup>F106</sup>176 Remedies.

- (1) Where the [<sup>F107</sup>employment tribunal] finds a complaint under section 174 is well-founded, it shall make a declaration to that effect.

[<sup>F108</sup>(1A) If a tribunal makes a declaration under subsection (1) and it appears to the tribunal that the exclusion or expulsion was mainly attributable to conduct falling within section 174(4A) it shall make a declaration to that effect.

*Status: Point in time view as at 06/04/2009.*

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- (1B) If a tribunal makes a declaration under subsection (1A) and it appears to the tribunal that the other conduct to which the exclusion or expulsion was attributable consisted wholly or mainly of conduct of the complainant which was contrary to—
  - (a) a rule of the union, or
  - (b) an objective of the union,
 it shall make a declaration to that effect.
- (1C) For the purposes of subsection (1B), it is immaterial whether the complainant was a member of the union at the time of the conduct contrary to the rule or objective.
- (1D) A declaration by virtue of subsection (1B)(b) shall not be made unless the union shows that, at the time of the conduct of the complainant which was contrary to the objective in question, it was reasonably practicable for that objective to be ascertained—
  - (a) if the complainant was not at that time a member of the union, by [<sup>F109</sup>a person working in the same trade, industry or profession as the complainant], and
  - (b) if he was at that time a member of the union, by a member of the union.]
- <sup>F110F110</sup>(2) An individual whose complaint has been declared to be well-founded may make an application [<sup>F111</sup>to an employment tribunal] for an award of compensation to be paid to him by the union.
- (3) The application shall not be entertained if made—
  - (a) before the end of the period of four weeks beginning with the date of the declaration [<sup>F112</sup>under subsection (1)], or
  - (b) after the end of the period of six months beginning with that date.
- (4) The amount of compensation awarded shall, subject to the following provisions, be such as the [<sup>F107</sup>employment tribunal]. . . considers just and equitable in all the circumstances.
- (5) Where the [<sup>F107</sup>employment tribunal]. . . finds that the exclusion or expulsion complained of was to any extent caused or contributed to by the action of the applicant, it shall reduce the amount of the compensation by such proportion as it considers just and equitable having regard to that finding.
- (6) The amount of compensation calculated in accordance with subsections (4) and (5) shall not exceed the aggregate of—
  - (a) an amount equal to thirty times the limit for the time being imposed by [<sup>F113</sup>section 227(1)(a) of the Employment Rights Act 1996] (maximum amount of a week’s pay for basic award in unfair dismissal cases), and
  - (b) an amount equal to the limit for the time being imposed by [<sup>F114</sup>section 124(1)] of that Act (maximum compensatory award in such cases).
- <sup>F115</sup> . . . . .
- <sup>F116</sup>(6A) If on the date on which the application was made the applicant had not been admitted or re-admitted to the union, the award shall not be less than [<sup>F117</sup>£7,300].
- (6B) Subsection (6A) does not apply in a case where the tribunal which made the declaration under subsection (1) also made declarations under subsections (1A) and (1B).]
- <sup>F118</sup>(7) . . . . .
- <sup>F119</sup>(8) . . . . .

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### Textual Amendments

- F106** Ss. 174-177 and cross heading substituted (30.11.1993) by 1993 c. 19, s. 14; S.I. 1993/1908, art. 2(2), **Sch. 2**
- F107** Words in s. 176 substituted (1.8.1998) by 1998 c. 8, s. 1(2)(a) (with s. 16(2)); S.I. 1998/1658, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**
- F108** S. 176(1A)-(1D) inserted (31.12.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), ss. 33(4), 59(2)-(4); S.I. 2004/3342, art. 4(a) (with arts. 6-12)
- F109** Words in s. 176(1D)(a) substituted (6.4.2009) by Employment Act 2008 (c. 24), ss. 19(3), 22(f); S.I. 2009/603, art. 2 (with art. 3, Sch.)
- F110** Words in s. 176(2) repealed (31.12.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), ss. 34(8)(b), 57(2), 59(2)-(4), **Sch. 2**; S.I. 2004/3342, art. 4(a)(c) (with arts. 6-12)
- F111** Words in s. 176(2) inserted (31.12.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), ss. 34(8)(a), 59(2)-(4); S.I. 2004/3342, art. 4(a) (with arts. 6-12)
- F112** Words in s. 176(3)(a) inserted (31.12.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), ss. 33(5), 59(2)-(4); S.I. 2004/3342, art. 4(a) (with arts. 6-12)
- F113** Words in s. 176(6)(a) substituted (22.8.1996) by 1996 c. 18, ss. 240, 243, **Sch. 1 para. 56(13)(a)** (with ss. 191-195, 202)
- F114** Words in s. 176(6)(b) substituted (22.8.1996) by 1996 c. 18, ss. 240, 243, **Sch. 1 para. 56(13)(b)** (with ss. 191-195, 202)
- F115** Words in s. 176(6) repealed (31.12.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), ss. 34(11), 57(2), 59(2)-(4), **Sch. 2**; S.I. 2004/3342, art. 4(a)(c) (with arts. 6-12)
- F116** S. 176(6A)(6B) inserted (31.12.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), ss. 33(6), 59(2)-(4); S.I. 2004/3342, art. 4(a) (with arts. 6-12)
- F117** Word in s. 176(6A) substituted (1.2.2009) by The Employment Rights (Increase of Limits) Order 2008 (S.I. 2008/3055), art. 3, **Sch.** (with art. 4)
- F118** S. 176(7) repealed (17.12.1999 subject to s. 36(3) of the amending Act) by 1999 c. 26, ss. 36(1)(3), 44, **Sch. 9(10)**; S.I. 1999/3374, art. 2(b), **Sch.** (with art. 3)
- F119** S. 176(8) repealed (17.12.1999 subject to s. 36(3) of the amending Act) by 1999 c. 26, ss. 36(1)(3), 44, **Sch. 9(10)**; S.I. 1999/3374, art. 2(b), **Sch.** (with art. 3)

### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C29** S. 176: power to amend conferred (17.12.1999) by 1999 c. 26, s. 34(1)(g); S.I. 1999/3374, art. 2(a), **Sch.** (with art. 3)
- C30** S. 176 extended (31.12.2004) by Employment Relations Act 2004 (c. 24), ss. 33(7), 59(2)-(4); S.I. 2004/3342, art. 4(a) (with arts. 6-12)

### [<sup>F120</sup>177 Interpretation and other supplementary provisions.

- (1) For the purposes of section 174—
- “trade union” does not include an organisation falling within paragraph (b) of section 1,
  - “conduct” includes statements, acts and omissions, and
  - “employment” includes any relationship whereby an individual personally does work or performs services for another person (related expressions being construed accordingly).
- (2) For the purposes of sections 174 to 176—
- if an individual’s application for membership of a trade union is neither granted nor rejected before the end of the period within which it might reasonably have been expected to be granted if it was to be granted, he shall be

*Status: Point in time view as at 06/04/2009.*

*Changes to legislation: Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992, Part III is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 29 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. (See end of Document for details)*

- treated as having been excluded from the union on the last day of that period,  
and
- (b) an individual who under the rules of a trade union ceases to be a member of the union on the happening of an event specified in the rules shall be treated as having been expelled from the union.
- (3) The remedy of an individual for infringement of the rights conferred by section 174 is by way of a complaint to an [<sup>F121</sup>employment tribunal] in accordance with that section, sections 175 and 176 and this section, and not otherwise.
- (4) Where a complaint relating to an expulsion which is presented under section 174 is declared to be well-founded, no complaint in respect of the expulsion shall be presented or proceeded with under section 66 (complaint of infringement of right not to be unjustifiably disciplined).
- (5) The rights conferred by section 174 are in addition to, and not in substitution for, any right which exists apart from that section; and, subject to subsection (4), nothing in that section, section 175 or 176 or this section affects any remedy for infringement of any such right.

#### Textual Amendments

**F120** Ss. 174-177 and cross heading substituted (30.11.1993) by 1993 c. 19, s. 14; S.I. 1993/1908, art. 2(2), Sch. 2

**F121** Words in s. 177(3) substituted (1.8.1998) by 1998 c. 8, s. 1(2)(a) (with s. 16(2)); S.I. 1998/1658, art. 2(1), Sch. 1

**Status:**

Point in time view as at 06/04/2009.

**Changes to legislation:**

Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992, Part III is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 29 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.