
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2001 No. 400

The Representation of the People (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2001

PART III

REGISTRATION

Information about electors

Power to require information

23.—(1) The registration officer may require any person to give information required for the purposes of that officer's duties in maintaining registers of parliamentary and local electors.

(2) If any person—

- (a) fails to comply with, or
- (b) gives false information in pursuance of,

any such requisition of the registration officer as is mentioned in this regulation, he shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

Evidence as to age and nationality

24.—(1) Where the registration officer has doubts about a person's age or nationality, he may require that person to produce such evidence as is specified in paragraph (2) below for the purposes of registration.

(2) The evidence which the registration officer may require is as follows—

- (a) a birth certificate or a statutory declaration as to the person's date of birth;
- (b) a certificate of naturalisation;
- (c) where a person has made an overseas elector's declaration, further evidence of his status as a British citizen including a document showing that he has become a British citizen by virtue of registration;
- (d) in any other case—
 - (i) a document showing that he has become a Commonwealth citizen by virtue of registration; or
 - (ii) a statutory declaration that he is a qualifying Commonwealth citizen or citizen of the Republic of Ireland or a relevant citizen of the Union.

(3) If any fee is payable in connection with the making of a declaration for the purposes of this regulation, the registration officer shall pay that fee and it shall be treated as part of his registration expenses within the meaning of section 54(1) of the 1983 Act⁽¹⁾.

(1) Section 54 was amended by Schedule 4 to the 1985 Act.

(4) Any such declaration shall be made available for inspection at the registration officer's office until the determination of the application for registration and of any objections duly made to it.

(5) This regulation does not apply where an application for registration is made in pursuance of a service declaration.

(6) In this regulation "qualifying Commonwealth citizen" has the same meaning as in section 4 of the 1983 Act⁽²⁾.

Reminders to electors registered pursuant to a declaration

25.—(1) This regulation applies in respect of a person registered in pursuance of—

- (a) a service declaration;
- (b) a declaration of local connection; and
- (c) an overseas elector's declaration.

(2) Subject to paragraph (4) below, the registration officer shall, during the relevant period, send to a person to whom this regulation applies a reminder of the need to make a fresh declaration if he wishes to remain registered as an elector in pursuance of such a declaration.

(3) In paragraph (2) above "the relevant period" means the period beginning nine months after the date when the existing entry in a register of the person in question first takes effect and ending ten months after that date.

(4) Paragraph (2) above does not apply in respect of a person to whom this regulation applies where—

- (a) the registration officer has already received from that person a fresh declaration, or
- (b) information which the registration officer has received indicates that that person is no longer entitled to make the relevant declaration.

Applications for registration

26.—(1) An application for registration as a parliamentary or local elector (or both) under section 10A(1)(a) or 13A(1)(a) of the 1983 Act⁽³⁾ shall state—

- (a) the applicant's full name;
- (b) the address in respect of which the applicant applies to be registered and at which he is resident on the date of the application;
- (c) any address in respect of which the applicant is currently registered as an elector, if he has ceased to reside at that address;
- (d) in the case of an applicant who has not attained the age of 18 years, his date of birth;
- (e) in the case of an applicant who is a merchant seaman within the meaning of section 6 of the 1983 Act, that fact.

(2) In the case of a person applying to be registered as a parliamentary or local elector (or both) in pursuance of a service declaration, a declaration of local connection or an overseas elector's application, the declaration in question shall accompany the application.

(3) An application under this regulation shall include a declaration made by the applicant that—

- (a) the particulars given in accordance with paragraph (1) above are true;
- (b) subject to paragraph (5) below, in the case of an application by a relevant citizen of the Union for registration as a local elector, he is such a citizen; and

(2) Section 4 was substituted by section 1(2) of the 2000 Act.

(3) Sections 10A and 13A were substituted by Schedule 1 to the 2000 Act.

- (c) in any other case, but subject to paragraph (5) below, he is a Commonwealth citizen or citizen of the Republic of Ireland.
- (4) An application for registration shall be made in writing to the registration officer and be signed and dated by the applicant.
- (5) Paragraph (3)(b) and (c) above does not apply to persons applying to be registered in pursuance of a service declaration or an overseas elector's declaration.

Objections to registration

- 27.**—(1) Any objection to a person's registration shall state—
- (a) the name of the person against whom the objection is made;
 - (b) the address of that person as given in the application for registration;
 - (c) the grounds of the objection;
 - (d) the name of the objector and his address as shown in the register (if so shown) together with the address to which correspondence should be sent if that address is different or if no address is shown in the register; and
 - (e) the electoral number of the objector.
- (2) An objection shall be made in writing and be signed and dated by the person objecting.
- (3) In this Part of these Regulations "objection" includes representations made against an application for registration under section 13A(1)(a) of the 1983 Act.

Inspection of applications and objections

- 28.** An application for registration and any objection to a person's registration shall be made available for inspection at the registration officer's office until the application or objection has been determined by the registration officer.