

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Order)*

Article 2 of this Order disapplies the provisions of Chapters I to III of Part IV of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 (control of donations to registered parties) for the period of four years in relation to any party registered in the Northern Ireland register of political parties (“a Northern Ireland party”). That register and a separate register in respect of Great Britain are maintained by the Electoral Commission under section 23 of that Act.

Article 3 disapplies the provisions of paragraphs 2 to 15 of Schedule 7 to the 2000 Act for the period of four years in relation to every regulated donee who is either an individual ordinarily resident in Northern Ireland or a members association wholly or mainly consisting of members of a Northern Ireland party. “Regulated donee” is defined to refer to a member of a registered party, a members association and a holder of the offices listed in paragraph 1(8) of Schedule 7.

Article 4 activates section 70(5) of the 2000 Act during the period in which this Order is in force. Under section 54(2)(c) of the 2000 Act a registered party is a permissible donor for the purposes of the controls on donations to registered parties. Whilst section 70(5) applies, a donation to a party registered in the Great Britain register from another registered party only falls within section 54(2)(c) if that other party is also registered in that register.

Article 5 activates paragraph 1(10) of Schedule 7 to the 2000 Act. This makes provision in respect of section 54(2)(c) and donations from registered parties to regulated donees in Great Britain equivalent to that made by section 70(5) and described above.