
DRAFT STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2008 No.

**The Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act
2000 (Northern Ireland Political Parties) Order 2008**

PART III

Duty of the Commission during the prescribed period

Steps to be taken by the Commission for the purpose of verifying information given in Northern Ireland reports

7. For the purposes of section 71Z3(1) of the 2000 Act the prescribed steps which the Commission must take for the purpose of verifying the information given in Northern Ireland reports during the prescribed period are set out in articles 8 and 9.

Selection of Northern Ireland recordable transactions

8.—(1) In each reporting period, in relation to each Northern Ireland participant who has provided a Northern Ireland report, the Commission must—

- (a) select for verification 50 per cent of all recordable transactions to which an individual participant is a party and which have been reported by that Northern Ireland participant in accordance with paragraphs (2) and (3); and
- (b) select for verification every recordable transaction to which an individual participant is not a party.

(2) In the case of a Northern Ireland participant who has reported an odd number of recordable transactions to which individual participants are a party during any reporting period, the Commission must determine the number of recordable transactions involving individual participants to be selected for verification by adding one to the number of recordable transactions involving individual participants reported by that Northern Ireland participant and dividing the resulting number by two.

(3) In the case of a Northern Ireland participant who has reported only one recordable transaction to which an individual participant is a party during any reporting period, the Commission must select that transaction for verification.

Verification of recordable transactions involving Northern Ireland participants

9.—(1) The Commission must take the following steps in relation to each selected Northern Ireland transaction.

(2) In relation to a Northern Ireland report made in respect of a selected Northern Ireland transaction, and any documentation provided with it, the Commission must take reasonable steps to ascertain whether—

- (a) the information provided in the report in relation to that transaction is accurate; and
- (b) any documentation provided with the report in relation to that transaction is genuine.

(3) The steps taken by the Commission under paragraph (2) may include, but are not limited to, contacting a body set out in article 11.

Disclosure of information relating to transactions which are required to be dealt with in accordance with section 71I or 71J of, or paragraph 5 or 6 of Schedule 7A to, the 2000 Act

10. If, after taking the steps prescribed by articles 8 and 9, the Commission believes on reasonable grounds that a transaction recorded in a Northern Ireland report fell to be dealt with under section 71I or 71J of, or paragraph 5 or 6 of Schedule 7A to, the 2000 Act, and that it has not been dealt with in this manner, the Commission must—

- (a) write to the Northern Ireland participant who provided the report informing him of the Commission’s intention to publish the information in accordance with paragraph (b); and
- (b) publish the following information—
 - (i) the name of the Northern Ireland participant;
 - (ii) the value of the transaction;
 - (iii) the date the transaction was entered into;
 - (iv) whether the parties to the transaction (other than the Northern Ireland participant) are individuals or bodies; and
 - (v) in the case of a transaction involving a body, the type of body which is a party to the transaction with reference to article 4(2) or section 54(2) of the 2000 Act.

Disclosure of information by the Commission

11. The following bodies are prescribed for the purposes of section 71Z4(2)(b) of the 2000 Act—

- (a) a firm of solicitors in Ireland which has provided a statement in accordance with paragraph 2A(11) of Schedule 6A to the 2000 Act⁽¹⁾;
- (b) the Central Bank and Financial Services Authority of Ireland;
- (c) the office of the Certification Officer;
- (d) the Corporate Officer of the House of Commons;
- (e) the Corporate Officer of the House of Lords;
- (f) the office of the Northern Ireland Certification Officer;
- (g) Companies House (meaning that part of the Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform known as the Companies House Executive Agency);
- (h) the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment⁽²⁾;
- (i) the Department of Foreign Affairs of Ireland;
- (j) the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland;
- (k) the Financial Services Authority;
- (l) the Northern Ireland Assembly Commission;
- (m) the office of any electoral registration officer;
- (n) the Registrar of Companies of Ireland;
- (o) the Registrar of Friendly Societies of Ireland; and
- (p) the Registrar of Political Parties of Ireland.

(1) Paragraph 2A of Schedule 6A is inserted by article 5 of, and Schedule 1 to, this Order.

(2) The Department was so named by the [Departments \(Northern Ireland\) Order 1999 \(1999/283 \(N.I.1\)\)](#).

