

The Electoral Commission

Mr Gregory Campbell MP
Treasurer
Democratic Unionist Party
91 Dundela Avenue
Belfast
BT4 3BU

27 June 2018

Dear Mr Campbell

I am writing to you as the registered treasurer of the Democratic Unionist Party as I have concerns about comments attributed to you and broadcast on the BBC Spotlight documentary aired last night in Northern Ireland.

The programme alleged that you were not concerned with the law on permissibility of donations. In support it broadcast extracts of a recording that it said was of you discussing the receipt of a donation. Whilst these were only a small part of any interview you may have had with a journalist and no wider context was given, the comments that were broadcast are a sufficient cause for concern for me to write to remind you of your legal obligations under the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 (PPERA).

There is a duty on the party and you as registered treasurer to ensure that any donation accepted by the party is from a permissible source (section 56 PPERA). If the party and treasurer do not comply with the legislation relating to the permissibility, and the acceptance or return of a donation, the party and the registered treasurer may each be guilty of a criminal offence.

When reporting donations to the Commission, you as the registered treasurer are required to make a declaration as to the completeness and accuracy of the report that you are delivering to us. Anyone knowingly or recklessly making a false declaration under this section commits an offence.

The Electoral Commission
3 Bunhill Row
London EC1Y 8YZ

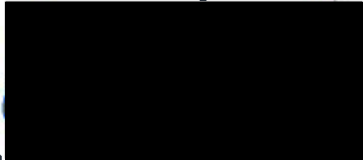
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electoralcommission.org.uk

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As you will appreciate from this reminder of your legal obligations as treasurer, it is not correct to say that the Electoral Commission is responsible for ensuring your party only accepts permissible donations.

I trust this letter assists you. If you have any further questions regarding your obligations as registered treasurer, regarding donations or any other aspect of the rules, please do not hesitate to contact our advice service on 0333 103 1928.

Yours sincerely

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Louise Edwards.

Louise Edwards
Head of Regulation

A black rectangular redaction box covering contact information, likely a phone number or email address.