

Non-party campaigners: Where to start What is a non-party campaigner? Lots of individuals and organisations campaign around elections without standing candidates themselves. We call them 'non-party campaigners'. Non-party campaigners are vital to a healthy democracy and, as a society, we must encourage their active participation, including during elections. In many cases, spending on campaigns and activities will not be regulated. However, where there is significant spending on campaigning, there are rules that campaigners must follow to ensure that they provide transparency for voters on their campaign finances. We regulate compliance with those rules. Who is this guidance for? This guidance is for anyone spending significant amounts of money on issues-based campaigns, who need to work out if any of their campaign spending is regulated. [Book traversal links for Non-party campaigners: Where to start](#) What are the rules for non-party campaigners? What are the rules for non-party campaigners? There are two types of non-party campaigns. These are: General campaigns Local campaigns Campaigns for or against: one or more political parties parties or candidates that support or do not support particular policies other categories of candidate Campaigns for or against: one or more candidates in a particular constituency, ward or other electoral area Local campaigns Local campaigns are subject to a spending limit. For example, the limit for campaigning for or against one or more candidates in a constituency in a UK Parliamentary general election is £700. The Electoral Commission does not regulate local non-party campaigning and this guidance does not cover the local campaign rules in detail. Complaints about breaches of the local campaign rules should be made to the police. General campaigns The Electoral Commission regulates general non-party campaigns. Spending on the following activities can be regulated: election material canvassing and market research public rallies or public events press conferences or other media events transport in connection with publicising your campaign The rest of this guidance document is about the general campaign rules. Last updated: 24 May 2021 [Book traversal links for What are the rules for non-party campaigners?](#) Non-party campaigners: Where to start Elections Act 2022: Changes for non-party campaigners - overview Elections Act 2022 - an overview of changes for non-party campaigners The Elections Act 2022 ('the Elections Act') introduced new laws for non-party campaigners at: UK Parliamentary general elections (UKPGEs) Northern Ireland Assembly elections The laws do not apply to: Scottish Parliament elections Senedd elections except where the regulated periods for these elections overlap with a regulated period for a UKPGE. The changes came into force on 24 November 2022 but will only apply to a UK Parliamentary general election held after 24 November 2023. If a UK Parliamentary general election is held before this time, the current spending laws for non-party campaigners will apply. The changes that affect NI Assembly elections will, however, apply to the next set of these elections. The Elections Act makes changes to: who can spend money on campaigning at elections who can submit a notification to the Commission when you need to report your spending (which is called 'controlled expenditure' in legislation) Last updated: 24 November 2022 [Book traversal links for Elections Act 2022: Changes for non-party campaigners - overview](#) What are the rules for non-party campaigners? Elections Act 2022: Code of Practice for non-party campaigners Code of Practice The Elections Act also introduced a duty on the Electoral Commission to produce a statutory code for non-party campaigners at UKPGE and NI Assembly elections. We are committed to preparing a Code that reflects the law and is as clear and helpful as possible. The Code will explain the spending and donation controls that non-party campaigners must comply with. It also provides a new statutory defence for non-party campaigners who comply with the Code. The Code will be different from

other types of guidance that we produce because it will be approved by the UK Parliament. On 24 November we will launch our consultation on the draft Code of Practice. The consultation will run for 8 weeks until 20 January 2023. Further information about our consultation can be found [here](#). We aim to submit the final draft to the Minister in early March 2023 for their consideration. The Minister may amend the draft before it is laid in Parliament for approval. We will publish detailed guidance for non-party campaigners, that includes case studies and examples, to sit alongside the Code once it has been approved by the UK Parliament. We expect this to be in the summer of 2023. Last updated: 24 November 2022

[Book traversal links for Elections Act 2022: Code of Practice for non-party campaigners](#)  
[Elections Act 2022: Changes for non-party campaigners - overview](#)  
[Elections Act 2022: New limits on campaigning by non-UK individuals and organisations](#)  
[New limits on campaigning by non-UK individuals and organisations](#)  
[The Act introduced new restrictions on who can campaign at UKPGE and NI Assembly elections. Individuals and organisations that are not based in the UK, do not have a UK connection or are not on a UK electoral register cannot spend more than £700 on regulated campaign activity. A non-party campaigner can only spend more than £700 on regulated campaign activity if they are:](#)  
[an individual registered on a UK electoral register or resident in the UK](#)  
[a UK registered company which is incorporated in the UK and carries on business in the UK](#)  
[a UK registered trade union](#)  
[a UK registered building society](#)  
[a UK registered limited liability partnership which carries on business in the UK](#)  
[a UK registered friendly, industrial or provident society](#)  
[an unincorporated association that has its main office in the UK and carries on the majority of its business or other activities in the UK](#)  
[a body incorporated by Royal Charter](#)  
[a UK charitable incorporated organisation](#)  
[a Scottish partnership which carries on business in the UK](#)  
[an unincorporated association with the requisite UK connection](#)  
[Unincorporated association with the requisite UK connection](#)  
[The Act introduced a new type of organisation that can spend money on regulated campaign activity. An unincorporated association has 'the requisite UK connection' if it consists of two or more persons, all of whom are registered overseas electors. Unincorporated associations with the requisite UK connection \(unlike unincorporated associations that have its main office in the UK and carry on the majority of its business or activities in the UK\) are not eligible to submit a notification to the Commission and cannot spend more than £10,000 on regulated campaign activity.](#)

Last updated: 24 November 2022

[Book traversal links for Elections Act 2022: New limits on campaigning by non-UK individuals and organisations](#)  
[Elections Act 2022: Code of Practice for non-party campaigners](#)  
[Elections Act 2022: New notification threshold](#)  
[New notification threshold](#)  
[Any non-party campaigners intending to spend more than £10,000 on regulated campaign activity in the period \(known as the 'regulated period'\) before a UKPGE or NI Assembly election must notify the Commission. The regulated period for non-party campaigners at a UK Parliamentary general election is the 365-day period leading up to, and including, polling day. For NI Assembly elections, this is the four months immediately before polling day. In the event of an extraordinary NI Assembly election, the regulated period starts on the day on which the extraordinary poll is announced. Only the following types of individuals or organisations are eligible to submit a notification: an individual registered on a UK electoral register or resident in the UK](#)  
[a UK registered company which is incorporated in the UK and carries on business in the UK](#)  
[a UK registered trade union](#)  
[a UK registered building society](#)  
[a UK registered limited liability partnership which carries on business in the UK](#)  
[a UK registered friendly, industrial or provident society](#)  
[an unincorporated association that has its main office in the UK](#)

and carries out the majority of its business or other activities in the UK a body incorporated by Royal Charter a UK charitable incorporated organisation a Scottish partnership which carries on business in the UK If you do not fall into one of these categories you cannot spend more than £10,000 on non-party campaigning at a UKPGE or NI Assembly election. You must give a notification to the Commission and that notification must be in force before you spend more than £10,000 on regulated campaign activity. Example 1 - campaign spending of less than £10,000 A campaigning group, Wildlife Britain, which is a UK registered company incorporated in the UK and which carries out business in the UK, intends to spend £8,000 at a UKPGE held after November 2023. This money will be spent on creating and printing leaflets in support of a group of candidates that support its policies. These will be distributed in the two weeks before the election. Since their total expenditure is under £10,000, they do not need to send a notification to register with us as a non-party campaigner or report their spending after the election. Last updated: 24 November 2022 Book traversal links for Elections Act 2022: New notification threshold Elections Act 2022: New limits on campaigning by non-UK individuals and organisations How to notify us to register as a non-party campaigner How to notify us to register as a non-party campaigner If you want to register as a non-party campaigner, you can make an online notification by visiting PFR Online . Alternatively, you can send us your notification by filling in Form TP1 and sending a signed copy of the form to us by email. In your notification, you can indicate whether your spending will fall below the reporting thresholds at UKPGEs. Please note, however, this reporting threshold will only be applicable for UK Parliamentary general elections held after 24 November 2023. When we receive your notification, we will consider the information you have provided and confirm in writing when your notification is in force. Your registration lasts for 15 months from the date on which you delivered a registration notification to us, but if it is due to expire during a regulated period it will be automatically extended until the end of that regulated period. If you want to renew your registration, you must send us Form TP3 no sooner than one month prior to the 12 month anniversary of your original notification and no later than three months after that date. Your notification will expire if you do not submit your renewal to us during this time. If your notification expires and you want to re-register, you will need to make a new notification. You can also renew using PFR Online . New restriction on registered political parties notifying as non-party campaigners If you are a registered non-party campaigner, you will not be able to register as a political party until you are no longer registered as a non-party campaigner. Registered political parties can no longer submit a notification as a non-party campaigner. Last updated: 24 November 2022 Book traversal links for How to notify us to register as a non-party campaigner Elections Act 2022: New notification threshold Elections Act 2022: Reporting threshold Reporting threshold The Act introduced a reporting threshold for registered non-party campaigners. Only registered non-party campaigners who spend more than £20,000 in England, or £10,000 in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland must record and report their spending and donations. In the Act, this is called the 'lower tier spending limit'. We call this the 'reporting threshold'. You can choose to notify the Commission at the time of registration that you do not intend to spend more than £20,000 in England, or £10,000 in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland. Non-party campaigners who make this declaration do not need to report any spending or donations to us either in the pre-poll period or after the election, as long as their spending remains below the reporting threshold. These campaigners must, however, ensure that they comply with the law around the control of

donations, only accepting donations over £500 from permissible sources. If you are incurring spending in more than one nation of the UK, you will become subject to the requirements of the reporting threshold if you plan to exceed the spending limit on controlled expenditure in any of the nations. If, however, you do not exceed the reporting threshold limits in any of the nations, you will remain exempt from the reporting requirements. Once a non-party campaigner is registered, they may change their notification in relation to the reporting threshold if their spending intentions change. Non-party campaigners will not be penalised for withdrawing or submitting a notification once they are registered, but they must not exceed the reporting threshold until their notification has been processed by us and is in force. If you intend to only incur spending in either Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland, then the notification threshold (£10,000) and the reporting threshold (£10,000 in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland) are the same. You therefore do not need to make a declaration when you notify us, and you must record and report your spending and donations.

**Example 2 - regulated campaign spending below the reporting threshold**

A registered non-party campaigner, Save the Trees, chose to include a declaration that they would not exceed the reporting threshold at UKPGEs when they submitted their notification to register with us. During the regulated period at a UKPGE held after November 2023, they spent a total of £33,000 across England, Scotland and Wales on controlled expenditure. Save the Trees spent £18,000 in England, £9,000 in Scotland and £6,000 in Wales on its campaigning activities at the election. As a registered non-party campaigner, they needed to ensure that they complied with the controls on receiving and accepting permissible donations over £500. They also made sure that they did not spend in excess of the reporting threshold before withdrawing their declaration with the Commission (which, in this case, they did not need to do). Since they did not exceed the reporting threshold in any nation in the UK, they did not need to submit quarterly or weekly pre-poll donation reports in the regulated period or report their spending and donations after the election.

**Example 3 - regulated campaign spending above the reporting threshold**

Alex Smith, an individual who is on the electoral register, has a budget of £33,000 to spend at a UKPGE in December 2024. They intend to use this money supporting their parties of choice on political adverts. They wish to spend £25,000 in England and £8,000 in Northern Ireland. As they are spending more than £10,000, they must send a notification to register with us before they spend more than £10,000 across both areas. Additionally, since they intend to spend more than £20,000 in England, they must comply with all the controls on receiving and accepting donations, record keeping, receiving and paying invoices within the statutory timescales, quarterly and weekly pre-poll reporting during the regulated period and post-election spending and donation reporting.

Last updated: 24 November 2022

[Book traversal links for Elections Act 2022: Reporting threshold](#)

[How to notify us to register as a non-party campaigner](#)

[Elections Act 2022: Reporting at a UKPGE](#)

[Reporting requirements at a UKPGE](#)

If you intend to spend more than £20,000 in England or £10,000 in either Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland on controlled expenditure at a UKPGE, your spending will exceed the reporting threshold. As a result, you will be required to report your spending and donations. Non-party campaigners who meet the reporting threshold must ensure that they:

- Submit quarterly donation reports during the regulated period of a UKPGE
- Submit weekly donation reports during the regulated period of a UKPGE
- Report their campaign spending and donations after a UKPGE within the statutory deadlines
- Prepare a statement of accounts for the regulated period (unless the campaigner is an individual or has prepared a statement of accounts for another legal purpose)

The

spending limits that restrict the total amount a non-party campaigner can spend on regulated campaign activity during a regulated period have not been changed by the Elections Act 2022. Last updated: 24 November 2022 [Book traversal links for Elections Act 2022: Reporting at a UKPGE Elections Act 2022: Reporting threshold](#) What spending is regulated? What spending is regulated? If you spend money on one of the five activities during a regulated period, you need to apply two tests to your spending to decide if it is regulated: the purpose test the public test For your spending to be regulated, it must meet the purpose test. In addition, for three types of activity, the public test must also be met. The purpose test The purpose test is met if your activity can reasonably be regarded as intended to influence voters to vote for or against: one or more political parties political parties or candidates that support or do not support particular policies other categories of candidates, for example, candidates who went to a state school, or independent candidates (who are not standing in the name of a political party) This test applies to any of the five campaign activities. The public test The public test is met if your activity is aimed at the public or a section of the public. Your members and committed supporters do not count as members of the public. This test applies to: election material canvassing and market research public rallies or public events For more details on the public test, please see pages 7-8 of [Overview of regulated non-party campaigning](#) It is important that you think carefully when applying the tests for regulated spending, because there are electoral offences linked to failing to follow the rules. Most of the rest of this guidance document focuses on how to apply the purpose test to your campaign activities. Last updated: 24 May 2021 [Book traversal links for What spending is regulated? Elections Act 2022: Reporting at a UKPGE](#) Does your campaign activity meet the purpose test? Does your campaign activity meet the purpose test? You can work out whether your campaign meets the purpose test by looking at the following: whether it includes a call to action to voters tone context and timing how a reasonable person would see your activity These factors should be considered as a whole rather than individually. You can use the questions below to help you look at these factors. If, on balance, the answer to the questions is 'yes', then it is likely that your campaigning activity meets the purpose test. If one or two of the answers is 'yes', that does not necessarily mean that your campaign activity meets the purpose test. The questions are a guide for how to decide whether the activity is reasonably regarded as intended to influence voters in who they vote for. Call to action to voters. Is your campaign asking people to vote for or against a particular political party, parties or category of candidate at an upcoming election? Can it reasonably be seen as implicitly asking them to? Would someone think that your campaign is asking them to? It is unlikely that a public campaign without an explicit or implicit call to action to voters will meet the purpose test. Tone. Are you negative or positive towards: a political party or parties, a category of candidate, or a policy closely and publicly associated with a party or category of candidate? Context and timing. Context: Are you campaigning on a policy that will make a voter think of a particular party or category of candidates? For example: Does the policy clearly represent an area of difference between political parties that the voters you are targeting are likely to be aware of? Are the policy and political parties' views on it prominent in public debate at the time that you design and launch your campaign? Are you campaigning as a reaction to a policy or position of a political party? Timing: Did your campaign start close to the date of an election? The closer the election is, the more likely it is that a reasonable person would think that your campaign is intended to influence people to vote for or against a political party,

parties or category of candidate. If your campaign has been running for a long time prior to the election, it is less likely that a reasonable person would think it is aimed at the election. How would a reasonable person see your activity? Would a reasonable person think your campaign is intended to influence people to vote for or against a political party, parties or category of candidate at an upcoming election?

Last updated: 24 May 2021 Book traversal links for Does your campaign activity meet the purpose test? What spending is regulated? Purpose test: Intention Purpose test: Intention When you intend something, you can in some circumstances be reasonably regarded as having a different intention, or a further intention. The primary intention of your campaign may not be to influence voters. For example, you might run a campaign with one or more of the following intentions: raising awareness of an issue influencing political parties to adopt a policy in their manifestos campaigning for or against government legislation providing information to voters encouraging people to register to vote encouraging people to vote, but not for anyone in particular A campaign that can be reasonably regarded as having one of these intentions will not meet the purpose test unless it can also be reasonably regarded as having the intention to influence voters to vote for or against a political party or category of candidates. Even if your primary intention is something else, your campaign will still meet the purpose test if it can be reasonably regarded as intended to influence voters to vote for or against a political party or category of candidates. For example, suppose for example your intention is to influence political parties to adopt a policy. If you go about this by identifying and promoting parties and candidates who have already adopted the policy, then this will meet the purpose test. Last updated: 24 May 2021 Book traversal links for Purpose test: Intention Does your campaign activity meet the purpose test? Purpose test: Campaigning on an issue Purpose test: Campaigning on an issue Campaigns that mention political parties or candidates In almost all cases, an activity will meet the purpose test if it: explicitly promotes political parties or candidates who support your campaign's aims implicitly promotes some parties or candidates over others, for example by setting out or comparing the merits of the positions of political parties or candidates on a policy Campaigns that do not mention political parties or candidates If your campaign does not mention candidates, parties, or elections, then your spending is less likely to be regulated. This is because on the balance of the factors - in particular 'call to action to voters' and 'tone' - your activity is less likely to meet the purpose test. In order for an activity to meet the test, the voter needs to know which way they are being persuaded to vote. However, your campaign might identify a political party, parties, or group of candidates implicitly, without naming them. This could happen if a policy or issue is so closely and publicly associated with a party, parties or category of candidates that it is effectively a shorthand for them in your campaign. In this case, your campaign will meet the purpose test if, after assessing all the factors, it is reasonable to regard your campaign activity on the policy as intended to influence voters to vote for or against those political parties or candidates. Specific policies may be more likely than more general issues to be closely associated with parties or candidates. Example: 'Social care' and the 'dementia tax' at the 2017 UK Parliamentary general election Example: 'Social care' and the 'dementia tax' at the 2017 UK Parliamentary general election 'Social care' was a prominent issue at the time, but most prominent parties had a range of policies and positions on it. The general issue was not closely and publicly associated with any party or category of candidates. A campaign on social care would have been unlikely to meet the purpose test unless it specifically mentioned parties or

candidates. The 'dementia tax' was a particular clear and prominent policy of the Conservative and Unionist Party at the election, announced as part of their manifesto during the campaign. It was closely and publicly associated with them. A campaign against the dementia tax would have been much more likely to meet the purpose test on the balance of the factors – particularly because the very phrase 'dementia tax' is one that was coined and used by the Conservatives' opponents in that election campaign. Case studies from recent elections Our case studies give examples of issues-based campaigns from recent elections and explain whether or not they met the purpose test: Non-party campaigner case studies from recent elections Last updated: 24 May 2021 Book traversal links for Purpose test: Campaigning on an issue Purpose test: Intention What happens if the policy I have been campaigning on is adopted by a political party? What happens if the policy I have been campaigning on is adopted by a political party? A political party may publicly adopt policies that you are already campaigning for or against. If your campaign did not meet the purpose test before the party changed its position, your planned campaign remains unlikely to meet the test. However, as a result of the party changing their position, you might enhance or increase your spending on the issue over what you originally planned. In this case, the further campaign spending will be regulated if it can reasonably be regarded as intended to promote or criticise the party. As usual you should assess your campaign using the factors we have set out . For example, if you welcome a political party's commitment to a policy that you have campaigned on, and it is clear that you would welcome a commitment from any political party, this will typically not meet the purpose test. Last updated: 24 May 2021 Book traversal links for What happens if the policy I have been campaigning on is adopted by a political party? Purpose test: Campaigning on an issue Purpose test: Charities and other organisations with limits on their political activities Purpose test: Charities and other organisations with limits on their political activities Some organisations have restrictions on their political activities, for example in their constitution, or charities who are bound by charity law. These organisations may find that abiding by these separate restrictions means that they are less likely to carry out activities that meet the purpose test. This is because the restrictions mean that many of the sorts of campaigns that meet the purpose test are prohibited for those organisations. For example, charities must remain independent of party politics and must not support a political party or candidate, or create a perception of support as a result of their actions or participation. If you are a charity and abide by charity law and guidance from the relevant charity regulator, in most circumstances your campaign activity is unlikely to meet the purpose test. Part of UK Charity regulator Website link England and Wales Charity Commission for England and Wales Scotland OSCR Northern Ireland Charity Commission of Northern Ireland You will still need to be aware of the non-party campaigner rules in case your activities meet the purpose test. In some circumstances, charities can and do carry out campaign activity that is regulated under electoral law. In the recent past, for example the UK Parliamentary general elections in 2015 and 2017, charities have conducted campaigns that met the tests for regulated spending, and have registered with us in accordance with the rules. Our case studies from recent elections provide examples of issues-based campaigning that will be helpful when applying the purpose test to your own campaigns. If you are planning a campaign and you are still unsure how it fits in with the rules for non-party campaigners, please get in touch and we can provide advice. Last updated: 24 May 2021 Book traversal links for Purpose test: Charities and other organisations with limits on their political activities What happens if the policy I have been

campaigning on is adopted by a political party? Purpose test: The regulated period in an early UK Parliamentary general election Purpose test: The regulated period in an early UK Parliamentary general election The non-party campaigner rules under PPERA only apply in the period before certain elections. This is known as the 'regulated period'. Election type Length of regulated period UK Parliamentary general elections 365 days before polling day Scottish Parliamentary elections Senedd elections Northern Ireland Assembly elections 4 months before polling day In an unscheduled UK Parliamentary general election, such as the 2017 UK Parliamentary general election, the time between the election's announcement and polling day is typically shorter than the length of the regulated period. When this happens, the regulated period will still run for 365 days. It will therefore have started before the election was announced. This does not happen in unscheduled elections to the Scottish Parliament, Senedd or Northern Ireland Assembly. It is a feature of early UK Parliamentary general elections. Campaign activity before an election is announced The retrospective nature of the regulated period may concern campaigners due to uncertainty about whether the rules apply. However, most campaign activity undertaken before an election is announced is unlikely to meet the purpose test. First, many campaigns are purely issues-based rather than focusing on candidates or parties. Policies and issues may not be sufficiently closely and publicly associated with a party, parties or category of candidates for the campaign activity to meet the purpose test. This is especially true when the campaigns were intended to take place outside of an election period, since then they are less likely to have a call to action to voters, or even to mention parties or candidates. Second, you are unlikely to be reasonably regarded as intending to influence people to vote in an election when you do not know or expect that the election is happening. Therefore, where this was the case, your activity is unlikely to have met the purpose test. The likely exceptions to this are if either: you ran campaigns which met the purpose test in a different election in the regulated period – for example you campaigned in local elections earlier in the year you anticipated or made reference to the future election before it was announced – for example "Vote Conservative in the coming election", or "Unseat MPs who voted for austerity". If you spend money on campaigning like this at any time, then you will need to keep a record of what you have spent. This is so that if an early UK Parliamentary general election is called, you will know how much regulated spending you have incurred in the regulated period. Last updated: 17 December 2021 Book traversal links for Purpose test: The regulated period in an early UK Parliamentary general election Purpose test: Charities and other organisations with limits on their political activities Staff costs and other overheads Staff costs and other overheads You will need to include staff costs, as well as other overheads, where they are associated with your regulated activities. Staff costs that are associated with your organisation's general, non-campaign related activities do not count as regulated campaign spending. If you have a member of staff working on regulated campaign activity as well as your organisation's other work, you will need to count a proportion of the staff salary which reflects the time spent working on regulated campaign activities. If your organisation already has an established way of apportioning these costs, you may decide to calculate staff costs incurred in relation to regulated campaign activities in the same way. In each case you should make an honest and reasonable assessment of the amount you have spent, based on the facts. You should be able to explain what the assessment is based on. Examples of calculating staff costs and overheads: Example 1 A member of staff estimates that they spent half of their time working on regulated activity during the



regulated period. You treat half of what you pay that staff member during the regulated period as regulated spending. Eg2 staff costs Example 2 You are planning an online campaign that will meet the purpose and public tests. From your budgeting and team planning you have estimated in advance that your Campaigns team will spend 20% of their time working on it for three months of the regulated period. If this estimate turns out to be correct, you count 20% of the staff costs for the Campaigns team for three months towards the spending on that online campaign. Eg 3 staff costs Example 3 Carrying out a canvassing campaign, your office telephone bills increase. The increase in the telephone costs counts towards the regulated spending for your campaign. You could estimate this increase by looking at your telephone bill at the same time last year, and calculating the extra you have spent this year. Last updated: 24 May 2021 Book traversal links for Staff costs and other overheads Purpose test: The regulated period in an early UK Parliamentary general election Joint campaigning Joint campaigning If you and another campaigner are incurring joint spending in a joint campaign, then the regulated spending by each campaigner counts towards the regulated spending total for both campaigners. This is to stop campaigners combining their spending limits to avoid the rules. What we mean by joint spending We recognise that campaigners may come together to campaign in a variety of ways, and that these might change over the course of a campaign. Under electoral law, joint spending means spending money on regulated campaign activities where there is a common plan or arrangement between one or more non-party campaigners. You cannot be incurring joint spending if you are not planning on spending money – for example if the work is going to be done by volunteers. You are unlikely to be incurring joint spending if you: campaign on the same issue without a common plan or arrangement speak at another campaigner's event without being involved in any other way have informal discussions with another campaigner, or keep each other informed, in a way that does not involve decision-making or coordinating your plans endorse another campaign without having any further involvement – for example if you: sign a letter written by another campaigner add your branding to another campaign publicise your support for another campaign You are likely to be incurring joint spending if: you have joint advertising campaigns, leaflets or events you coordinate your regulated campaign activity with another campaigner – for example, if you agree that you should each cover particular areas, arguments or voters another campaigner can approve or has significant influence over your leaflets, websites, or other campaign activity For more on the joint campaigning rules, please see Joint campaigning for non-party campaigners Last updated: 24 May 2021 Book traversal links for Joint campaigning Staff costs and other overheads