

Electoral Commission concludes three investigations into political parties |  
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three investigations into political parties You are in the section Home  
Posted: 17 January 2023 Electoral Commission concludes three investigations into  
political parties Investigations into three political parties have closed over the  
last month, with the Electoral Commission imposing a fine on one party. Publishing  
closed cases is an important part of delivering transparency in political finance in  
the UK. Who we investigated What we investigated What we found Outcome Democrats  
(political party) Late delivery of annual statement of accounts Offence found £1,500  
fine Portsmouth Independent Party (political party) Late delivery of annual statement  
of accounts Offence found No sanction Case closed Late notification of change of  
registered officer Offence found No sanction Case closed Scotland's Independence  
Referendum Party (de-registered political party) Failure to deliver annual statement  
of accounts Offence found No sanction Case closed Louise Edwards, Director of  
Regulation, said: "Political finance laws are in place to make sure the system is  
transparent and accurate. The requirements for political parties are clear so it's  
disappointing when they are not met. "We consider every case in line with our  
Enforcement Policy. Where we find an offence has taken place, we take a proportionate  
approach and do not automatically issue a sanction. For more information contact the  
Electoral Commission press office on 020 7271 0704, out of office hours 07789 920 414  
or [press@electoralcommission.org.uk](mailto:press@electoralcommission.org.uk) Notes to editors Notes to editors 1. by:  
enabling the delivery of free and fair elections and referendums, focusing on the  
needs of electors and addressing the changing environment to ensure every vote  
remains secure and accessible regulating political finance – taking proactive steps  
to increase transparency, ensure compliance and pursue breaches using our expertise  
to make and advocate for changes to our democracy, aiming to improve fairness,  
transparency and efficiency The Commission was set up in 2000 and reports to the UK,  
Welsh, and Scottish parliaments. 2. This release forms part of the Commission's  
regular monthly investigations update, an important part of its commitment to deliver  
transparency in political finance in the UK. Information of this nature is published  
routinely on the third Tuesday of each month. Details for sanctions from previous  
months are available. 3. Penalties imposed by the Commission go into the Consolidated  
Fund. This is managed by HM Treasury and not the Electoral Commission.