From: <u>FOI</u>

To:

Subject: FOI 54/17 2015 UKPGE Fraud Response

Date: 16 May 2017 18:26:03



Our Ref: FOI 54/17

Thank you for your email to the Electoral Commission dated 8 May 2017.

The Commission aims to respond to requests for information promptly and has done so within the statutory timeframe of twenty working days.

Your request is in bold below followed by our response.

You have requested:

F.O.I. request What was the maximum fine a party could face at the 2015 General Election and how much has each party been fined to date, please?

Our response is as follows:

We hold the information you have requested.

The Commission's powers to impose sanctions, including fines, on registered political parties are provided by Schedule 19C to the Political Parties Elections and Referendums Act 2000 (PPERA).

The Commission may impose sanctions in relation to most, though not all, PPERA offences. The Political Parties, Elections and Referendums (Civil Sanctions) Order 2010 lists in Schedule 2 the offences the Commission can impose sanctions for.

The Order also provides, at Part 2 paragraph 5, that the maximum penalty the Commission may impose is £20,000.

In practice therefore, the Commission may impose a penalty of up to £20,000 in relation to any offence listed in Schedule 2 of the Order. Where more than one offence has been committed, the Commission may impose a penalty of up to £20,000 for each one.

As regards how much each party has been fined, you can see information about every fine the Commission has imposed since December 2010, when the Commission was given these powers, on our website.

You will need to scroll down our <u>Enforcement page</u> to the sub heading 'Closed cases' and click on the link to 'Information about closed cases'. This table is updated every month; the most recent cases are at the top.

At the bottom of the same page you will also find links to some more detailed case reports we have produced for certain cases.

I trust that this information satisfies your request.

If you are not satisfied with this response, please note that the Commission operates a review procedure, details of which can be found on the Commission website at: http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/about-us/freedom-of-information-requests/how-do-l-make-an-foi-request

Please also note that if you have exhausted all internal Commission review procedures and you are still not satisfied you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner. Details of this procedure can be found on the ICO website: http://www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,



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