From: FOI
To: [redacted]
Subject: FOI 064-25 - Response
Date: 25 June 2025 15:10:13

Dear [redacted]

Our Ref: FOI 064-25

Thank you for your email to the Electoral Commission.

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 shown in bold below followed by our response.

You have asked for the following information:

Please could I request a copy of the application made by the Identity Party (registered November 2024)? Please could I also request any correspondence related to their application? Any documentation relating to the EC's assessment of the Identity Party would be appreciated as well. Thanks and best wishes.

Our response is as follows:

We hold the information you have requested.

You will notice that certain personal details have been redacted from the documents throughout this release. Section 40(2) of the FOI Act provides for an exemption where the information requested constitutes personal data as defined by the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA), and where release of the information requested would breach one of the data protection principles. Some of the information contained in the requested information falls within the description of personal data as defined by the DPA because the information relates directly to an identifiable living individual. This includes names and contact details of individuals in some instances. The individuals in some cases are junior staff members and they would not reasonably expect their information to be released.

To access these documents, you will need to use our secure document-sharing system, Objective Connect. You will receive an 'Invitation to Objective Connect Email Notification' (sent to the inbox of [redacted]. This notification will contain a link to enable you to start accessing your information. Please find below details on how to access the specific area we have set up for your documents.

1. Click on the link in the email.
2. You will be prompted to set up your username and password. Your username will be your email address, and your password can be whatever

you like.

3. With your username and password, enter both details at the login screen and click ‘login’.
4. You will now see your personal page, which will show the Share ‘FOI 064-25’.
5. By clicking on the name of the share, you will find your documents.
6. You may view any of these documents.
7. In addition, you may download a copy to your personal computer by selecting the ‘download’ option and then ‘save’.

This service will be closed one month from our response date, this is **July 25 2025 5pm.**

The Commission strives to be an open, transparent authority and 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: www.electoralcommission.org.uk/freedom-information/make-a-freedom-information-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: https://ico.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Information Team
FOI@electoralcommission.org.uk

The Electoral Commission
electoralcommission.org.uk

Constitution of the
Identity Party

Name

1.1 The name of the Party shall be 'Identity Party' (the 'Party').

Organisation

1.2 The Party is a single organisation with no division of responsibility for the financial affairs and transactions of the Party.

Party Register

1.3 The Party shall be registered in the Great Britain party register.

Constitution

1.4 Any amendments to the Constitution may be suggested by any member of the Party Council, and they must be approved by a Special Resolution of the Party Council.

2 Aims & Objectives

Aims

2.1 The Party's principal aim shall be to safeguard the identities of individuals as well as the local, regional and national identities of the peoples of the British Isles.

Objectives

2.2 To achieve its principal aim, the Party intends to contest elections at all tiers of government in Great Britain.

3 Elections

3.1 The Party intends to stand candidates at every level of government

Candidate Selection Process

3.2 It shall be the responsibility of the Nominating Officer to create a Candidate Selection Process.

4 Party Council

4.1 The Party Council consists of Party Officers and Ordinary Members

4.1.1 Party Leader – The Party Leader is the principle spokesperson of the Party and the final decision maker on Party matters.

4.1.2 Party Treasurer – The Party Treasurer must ensure the party complies with the political finance rules set out in the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 (PPERA).

4.1.3 Nominating Officer – The Nominating Officer for the party has overall responsibility for arranging the nomination of candidates and approving the party identity marks used on nomination forms and ballot papers at elections.

4.1.4 Up to four Ordinary Members selected by the Party Council from Party Members through an Ordinary Resolution of the Party Council.

4.2 The Party Council shall have a minimum of three members and a maximum of seven.

4.3 The Party Council shall fill any vacancy of the Party Leader and Party Treasurer positions within 14 days of the vacancy arising by electing one of the Party Council members through an Ordinary Resolution to be the new Party Leader or Party Treasurer.

4.4 The Nominating Officer position may be vacant, and the responsibilities of the Nominating Officer shall be carried out by the Party Leader when the position is vacant.

4.5 The Party Council is responsible for the general management of the Party, any changes to the Constitution, and the final arbiter of any internal party disputes.

4.6 In urgent circumstances, any one member of the Party Council may act on behalf of the Party Council. They shall report on all such actions to the next meeting of the Party Council.

Party Council Meetings

4.7 The Party Council may meet online or in-person any number of times, but at least once per month.

4.8 Four members, one of whom must be a Party Officer, of the Party Council shall be a quorum for a Party Council meeting.

4.9 One attendee of the Party Council meeting shall be selected to record decisions made by the Party Council.

4.10 Should the Party Council wish to dissolve the Party or change the Constitution, they may do so through a Special Resolution in a Party Council meeting. A Special Resolution is approved when 75 % or more of Party Council members attending a meeting approve it.

4.11 An Ordinary Resolution, used for the election of a Party Officer or the election of a new Party Council member, is approved when more than 50 % of Party Council members attending a meeting approve it.

5 Resolution of Conflicts

5.1 Internal disputes within the Party shall be arbitrated by the Party Council. The ruling of the Party Council shall be binding upon all involved in the dispute.

6 Membership

6.1 Membership of the Party is open to any natural person who meets all following criteria

A. aged 16 and over
B. has paid the required fee
C. agrees to abide by the Party Constitution
D. shares the aims and objectives in the Party Constitution

6.2 Membership is open to all regardless of race, religion, sexuality, gender, ethnicity etc., in line with the Equality Act 2010 (EqA).

6.3 The Party Council shall determine the annual subscription payable by Members of the Party, subject to the provision that any change on the subscription rate determined during any year shall take place with one calendar month's notice.

6.4 All rights and privileges of Membership of the Party shall be withheld from any persons who allow their membership to fall into arrears.

6.5 The Party Leader, or members of the National Council acting on his or her behalf, shall have the right to expel from membership any Member whose behaviour is determined to be damaging to the interests of the Party.

7 Changes to the Constitution

7.1 The Party Council may enact changes to the Constitution per Special Resolution at a Party Council meeting.

7.2 The Party Treasurer is responsible for informing the Electoral Commission of any changes to the Party Constitution.

8 Party Dissolution

8.1 The Party may be dissolved by a Special Resolution of the Party Council.

9 Financial Rules

9.1 All bank accounts of the Party shall be subject to the authority of the Party Treasurer and shall only be opened or closed by the Party Treasurer. Bank mandates shall be the sole responsibility of the Party Treasurer. Authorised signatories on cheques, standing orders, direct debits etc. shall always include the Treasurer, denoted at the time by the Party Leader to be responsible for keeping the Party financially stable and within the Electoral Commission's accountancy guidelines.

9.2 The financial year of the Party shall be from the 1st January to the 31st December.

Financial scheme

Identity Party

Introduction

1. This scheme sets out the arrangements for regulating the financial affairs of the Identity Party ('the party'), for the purposes of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 ('PPERA').

2. This scheme concerns the financial affairs of a party registered in *Great Britain.*

3. All registered officers of the party have read the scheme, and understand the obligations and responsibilities outlined.

4. The scheme has been adopted by the party and will be in practice at the point of registration.

Promoting compliance with PPERA

5. The party will have processes in place to ensure compliance with its legal obligations. The party's registered **treasurer** will ensure that the

registered leader and all other officers and members of the party have sufficient knowledge of financial obligations under PPERA to ensure that the party as a whole complies with these obligations.

Constitution

6. The party has a constitution that sets out its structure and how it operates in practice. The party has given a copy of this constitution to the Commission.

7. The arrangements outlined in the constitution are consistent with the obligations outlined by this scheme.

8. The party must notify the Electoral Commission of any updates made to the constitution no later than the party's annual renewal confirmation deadline.

Amendments to the financial scheme

9. The party's registered **treasurer** will ensure that any proposed amendments to this scheme are submitted to the Commission for approval. A revised scheme must be approved in writing by the Commission.

Accounting units and organisations within the party

10. The financial affairs of any local branches or affiliated organisations of the party, whether currently existing or to be established in future, are wholly controlled by the party's registered **treasurer**.

Financial year

11. The party's financial year will run from 1 January to 31 December.

Individual responsibility for compliance

12. The party's registered **treasurer** is responsible for the whole party's compliance with the requirements of PPERA, outlined in sections 15 to 29 of this scheme.

Annual accounts

13. The party's registered **treasurer** shall prepare a statement of accounts in respect of each financial year of the party.

14. The party's registered **treasurer** will ensure that the Party's annual accounts are approved by the Party's management committee, if there is one, and otherwise by the registered leader of the party.

15. The party's registered **treasurer** will then submit the annual statement of accounts to the Commission:

a. if both expenditure and income of the party are £250,000 or under in that year, by 30 April of the year following the end of the financial year; or

b. if either expenditure or income exceeds £250,000 in that year, by 7 July of the year following the end of the financial year, and

c. if income or expenditure of the party exceeds £250,000, the party's accounts must also be submitted with an independent auditor's report.

16. In order to comply with this requirement, the party's registered **treasurer** has:

a. put in place arrangements for ensuring that annual statements of accounts for the party are prepared, approved, audited where necessary, and submitted to the Commission by the prescribed deadline

b. put in place accounting processes capable of meeting the accounting record keeping requirements under PPERA and of any regulations made by the Commission about the format of statements of accounts

c. put in place processes to keep accounting records for six years. This continues to apply in the event that the party is deregistered

Donations and transactions (loans, credit facilities, and securities)

17. The party's registered **treasurer** will report the donations and transactions it receives each quarter to the Commission, for each of the registers it is registered on, within the following timescales:

- quarter 1 (1 January – 31 March) by 30 April of that year

- quarter 2 (1 April – 30 June) by 30 July of that year
- quarter 3 (1 July – 30 September) by 30 October of that year
- quarter 4 (1 October – 31 December) by 30 January of the following year

18. Separate quarterly reports must be submitted if the party is registered in both Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

19. If the party's registered **treasurer** submits four consecutive quarterly nil donation reports, the party will then be exempt from submitting further quarterly donation reports, until receipt of a reportable donation.

20. If the party's registered **treasurer** submits four consecutive quarterly nil transaction reports, the party will then be exempt from submitting further quarterly transaction reports, until receipt of a reportable transaction.

21. In order to comply with the requirements of PPERA, the party's registered **treasurer** will:

For donations:

a. record information for all donations of more than £500, including but not always limited to:
    - amount or value of the donation
    - full name of donor
    - registered address of donor
    - company registration number (if applicable)
    - date on which the donation was received
    - date on which the donation was accepted or returned
    - information about the trust (if applicable)

b. check the permissibility of any donations over £500 as immediately as possible.

c. within 30 days of receipt, ensure that impermissible or unidentifiable donations of more than £500 to the party are recorded as outlined above and returned to the sender or financial institution that transferred the money or, if that is not possible, surrendered to the Commission

d. ensure that a submission of a quarterly donation report is made to the Commission by the timescales outlines in section 20 of this scheme. The report will include details of:
    - donations exceeding £11,180 (including aggregates in the same calendar year of donations and regulated transactions from the same source),

- donations exceeding £2,230 that come from a source the party has already accepted an over £11,180 benefit from in that calendar year, and
- any impermissible or anonymous donations of more than £500; or
- submit a nil report if there are no reportable donations

e. provide weekly donation reports to the Commission during UK Parliamentary general election campaigns if the party is contesting the election.

For transactions:

f. record information about all regulated transactions (loans, credit facilities, etc.) of more than £500, including but not always limited to:

- value of benefit of the transaction
- name of all authorised participants
- registered addresses of participants
- company registration number (if applicable)
- nature of the transaction
- date agreement entered
- the terms of the transaction

g. ensure that the party does not enter into any regulated transactions over £500 with unauthorised participants

h. ensure that a submission of a quarterly transaction report is made to the Commission by the timescales outlines in section 20 of this scheme. The report will include details of:

- transactions exceeding £11,180 (including aggregates in the same calendar year of donations and regulated transactions from the same source),
- transactions exceeding £2,230 that come from a source the party has already accepted an over £11,180 benefit from in that calendar year, and
- any void transactions or transactions of more than £500 entered into with an unauthorised participant; or
- submit a nil report if there are no reportable transactions

i. provide weekly transaction reports to the Commission during UK Parliamentary election campaigns if the party is contesting the election. Separate weekly transaction reports must be submitted if the party is registered in both Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Campaign expenditure

22. If the party has candidates contesting a UK Parliamentary general election, Scottish Parliamentary election, Senedd election, or Northern Ireland Assembly election, then the party's registered **treasurer** will submit a campaign expenditure return to the Commission:

- The campaign expenditure return will be submitted within three months of the date of the election if our expenditure is £250,000 or less, or within six months of the date of the election if our expenditure exceeds £250,000.
- If our expenditure during the campaign exceeds £250,000, our return must also be submitted with an independent auditor's report.
- Separate campaign expenditure returns will be submitted for a UK Parliamentary general election if the party is registered, and contesting elections, in both Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

23. In order to ensure compliance with the legislation, the party's registered **treasurer** will:

a. ensure that campaign expenditure and claims payments are duly authorised, received, and paid on time, and that all relevant receipts and invoices are kept
    - no campaign expenditure shall be incurred by, or on behalf of, a registered party, unless it is incurred with the authority of *the* ***treasurer*** of the party, or a person authorised in writing by an individual fulfilling a role listed above
    - no payment may be made in respect of any campaign expenditure incurred or to be incurred by, or on behalf of, a registered party unless it is made by *the* ***treasurer*** of the party, or a person authorised in writing by an individual fulfilling a role listed above

b. put in place budgeting and monitoring arrangements to ensure that campaign expenditure is within the statutory limits

c. ensure the compilation, auditing (if necessary) and timely submission to the Commission of a campaign expenditure return within the statutory deadlines

Referendums

24. If the party participates in a referendum to which PPERA applies, the party will develop and put in place arrangements for complying with the controls on referendum expenditure.

Grants

25. The party will ensure that any grants from the Commission to the party are spent in accordance with the conditions of grant imposed by the

Commission. The party agrees to cooperate with any associated audit requirements specified by the Commission.

Changes to registered details

26. The party's registered **treasurer** will ensure that the party's details that are registered with the Commission are kept up to date. The party will notify the Commission of any changes to registered officers due to death or termination within 14 days of the change, and any other changes within 28 days.

27. The party's registered **treasurer** will ensure that the party's annual renewal confirmation and £25 fee are delivered to the Commission by 31 October each year (if the party's expenditure and income are each £250,000 or less) or by 7 January of the following year (if the party's expenditure or income exceeds £250,000).

28. If the party's annual renewal confirmation is not submitted within the prescribed timescale, the party will be removed from the register of political parties.

Offences and contraventions

29. The party understands that failure to comply with certain legal requirements of being a registered political party may be a criminal offence or contravention of the law.

30. The party also understands that the Commission may impose civil penalties, including fines, on any parties and/or responsible officers that fail to comply with their legal obligations, including failures to submit statutory reports or returns on time.

Declarations

31. We, the officers named below, therefore understand the following:

    a. all officers, including newly registered officers, must read the scheme, and understand the obligations and responsibilities outlined;

    b. all registered officers understand who is responsible for compliance with PPERA;

    c. following section 14, all registered officers understand they may be responsible for compliance with PPERA, if the treasurer and/or other officers have their appointment terminated, or are unable to continue in their role;

    d. failure to comply with this scheme might lead to sanctions.

Signatures and names are contained on the next page

Signed

Leader

Name: _____

Signed: Date:

Treasurer

Name: _____

Signed: Date:

Nominating Officer

Name: _____

Signed: Date:

Campaigns Officer (if applicable)

Name: _____

Signed: Date:

Additional Officer (if applicable)

Name: _____

Signed: Date:

Application to register a political party in Great Britain

The Electoral Commission

This application was submitted electronically to the Electoral Commission on 01/09/2024 at 14:58:14.
PEF Online reference: 17844

Declaration

The party named below is applying to be a registered party in accordance with the requirements of Part II of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000.

I declare that Identity Party intends to contest one or more relevant elections in Great Britain (which will not be confined to parish (England) or community (Wales) elections) and is accordingly applying to be registered in the following part(s) of the Great Britain register:

England	Y	Scotland	Y	Wales	Y

Parliamentary election status

Exempt from UK parliamentary elections: **N**

Signatures

Proposed registered party leader

I declare that I am authorised to sign this application on behalf of the above named party.

Officer sanctioned online - 01/09/2024 2:52 PM

Signed

Printed name: Craig Buckley

Date: dd mm yyyy

Proposed registered party nominating officer

I declare that I am authorised to sign this application on behalf of the above named party.

Officer sanctioned online - 01/09/2024 2:52 PM

Signed

Printed name: Craig Buckley

Date: dd mm yyyy

Proposed registered party treasurer

I declare that I am authorised to sign this application on behalf of the above named party.

Officer sanctioned online - 01/09/2024 2:52 PM

Signed

Printed name Mr Neil MacPhee

Date dd mm yyyy

For electoral commission use

Date of receipt dd mm yyyy

Checked by

Party name

Primary name Identity Party

Language English

Secondary name

Language

English translation

Address (party headquarters or for correspondence if no HQ)

Address Identity Part
Lytchett House
13 Freeland Park
Wareham Road

Town Poole

County Dorset

Postcode BH16 6FA

Country United Kingdom

Telephone number [redacted] Extn

Fax number

Email address

Website address

Party officers

Party Leader

Title	
First name(s)	Craig
Surname	Buckley
Home address	[redacted]
Telephone number	[redacted] Extn
Fax number	
Email address	[redacted]

If leader for a particular purpose, please specify

Nominating Officer

Title	
First name(s)	Craig
Surname	Buckley
Home address	[redacted]
Town	[redacted]
County	[redacted]
Postcode	[redacted]
Country	[redacted]
Telephone number	[redacted] Extn
Fax number	
Email address	[redacted]

Treasurer

Title	Mr
First name(s)	Neil
Surname	MacPhee
Home address	[redacted]
	[redacted]
Town	[redacted]
County	[redacted]
Postcode	[redacted]
Country	[redacted]
Telephone number	[redacted] Extn
Fax number	
Email address	[redacted]

Financial and organisational information

An online payment of £150.00 has been initiated.

Copy of party's constitution enclosed?	☐ Yes	☐ No	(tick as appropriate)
Copy of financial scheme enclosed?	☐ Yes	☐ No	

Financial year end: 31/12

Declaration of assets and liabilities

Y	I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the assets/liabilities condition is met in relation to the party [the total value of assets and total amount of liabilities held are £500 or less]

Please return the form to:
Party and Election Finance
The Electoral Commission
3 Bunhill Row
London
EC1Y 8YZ

Tel: 020 7271 0616
Fax: 020 7271 0505
Email: pef@electoralcommission.org.uk
Website: www.electoralcommission.org.uk

IDENTITY PARTY

APPLICATION TO REGISTER IN GB

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Decision and Approval Board comments

Applicant party name: Identity Party

Application type: Application to register in GB

Relevant register: GB (England, Scotland, Wales)

Application details and recommendation	Decision and Approval Board comments
Constitution (**R***) Financial scheme (**A**) Proposed party name: Identity Party (**A**)	**Initial view (please add initials and date):** JK – 11/10/24: initial view is this party's application could be approved, subject to one issue with the proposed constitution (ie, its minimum Party Council membership does not allow it to meet its own quorum requirements) being addressed. However I would welcome assurance that we are confident of receiving timely confirmation of this amendment and that this approach is consistent with our practice more broadly. I would approve proposed financial scheme and proposed party name. **Approval Board comments (please add initials and date):** NN 28.10.24: I agree with the recommendation and initial view RT 28.10.24: I agree with the recommendations and with the initial view TH 28.10.2024: I agree with the recommendations and the initial view. MP 30/10/2024: I agree with the recommendations and the initial view. CH 30/10/24: I agree with the initial view. **Decision (please add initials and date):** **JK- 01/11/24:** Decision is to approve the party's application, subject to confirmation of amendment to the party's constitution. Approve financial scheme and proposed name. **Update – 19/11/2024** Amended constitution has been received and addresses the minor issue raised in the assessment.

Application details and recommendation	Decision and Approval Board comments
	Original decision was approve pending the amendments. This condition has been met and the application is now approvable. 2024-11-08-Identity Party-Amended Constitution

Recommendation of Registration Team member

1. In making my recommendations I have considered the requirements and statutory tests set out in the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 (PPERA).
2. I recommend that the Commission **reject** party's application.
3. My recommendations in relation to each aspect of the application are set out as follows:

Application	-	**A**	Meets the PPERA requirements
Asset and liability declaration	-	**A**	Meets the PPERA requirements
Constitution	-	**R***	constitution could be approved, subject to minor amendment.
Financial scheme	-	**A**	Meets the PPERA requirements
Name	Identity Party	**A**	Meets the PPERA requirements

[redacted]

30 September 2024

Registration Team member assessment

Applicant party information

Link to party accounts	n/a

4. Craig Buckley, the proposed leader and nominating officer, stood as a candidate for the English Democrats at the 2024 UKPGE in Leigh and Atherton.[1] [2]
    a. Hope Not Hate and Stand Up To Racism report that he had been active for Patriotic Alternative in Wigan[3] and member,[4] respectively.
    b. Searchlight reports that Craig Buckley stood as UKIP candidate in Wigan Borough Council in 2019.[5] [6] Searchlight similarly report his activity with Patriotic Alternative.
    c. On 4 July 2024, he stood as an independent candidate in a by-election for Leigh South in Wigan.[7]

Application history

Link to application docs	Application, Financial Scheme, Constitution	
Part of the register	GB (England, Scotland, Wales)	
Date first lodged	**Date considered complete**	**Date published for comment**
01 September 2024	01 September 2024	27 September 2024

Consideration of the Welsh Language Measure

5. As a public body operating in Wales, we are required to carry out our functions in line with the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 and the

[1] https://www.leighjournal.co.uk/news/24427255.factory-worker-campaigning-fringe-english-democrats-party/
[2] https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/election/2024/uk/constituencies/E14001329
[3] https://hopenothate.org.uk/2024/06/10/exclusive-hope-not-hate-uncover-secret-deal-between-english-democrats-and-nazi-patriotic-alternative/
[4] https://www.standuptoracism.org.uk/wp-content2015/uploads/2024/06/DontVoteNazi_A4-1.pdf
[5] https://www.searchlightmagazine.com/2024/07/as-the-uk-goes-to-the-polls-fascists-wet-their-lips-at-prospect-of-tory-collapse/
[6] https://www.andrewteale.me.uk/leap/ward/831/
[7] https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Council/Voting-and-Elections/Results/Leigh-South-By-election-4th-July-2024.aspx

Welsh Language Standards. We are required to treat the Welsh language no less favourably than English in performing our functions in Wales.

6. I have considered these requirements insofar as they relate to our assessment of this registration application, including the application of the statutory tests under Part II of PPERA.

Type	**ID Mark – English Version**	**ID Mark – Welsh Version**	**Translators comments**
Name	Identity Party	Y Blaid Hunaniaeth	

Application form

Link to application form	Application
Recommendation	**Approve**
Summary reason	Meets the PPERA requirements

7. I **am** satisfied that the required fee has been provided.
8. I **am** satisfied that the party have provided the address of the headquarters, or that where they have provided a correspondence address, that there is no evidence that the party has a headquarters.
    a. The address provided is a post box service for businesses.[8]
9. I **am** satisfied that the party have applied to register the overall leader of the party, or where the party does not have an overall leader, the leader is registered for a particular purpose.
10. I **am not** aware of any convictions for electoral fraud within the last 5 years for the proposed treasurer, having conducted open source searches.
11. I **am** satisfied that the officer roles applied for are compliant with PPERA.
12. I **am** satisfied the party has provided the names and home addresses for all responsible officers.
13. I **am** satisfied that the application has been properly authorised.
14. I **am** satisfied the party has applied for a financial year end that matches that applied for in their financial scheme.

[8] https://www.ukpostbox.com/search?query=lytchett+house

Constitution

Link to constitution	Constitution
Recommendation	**Reject***
Equality Act issue identified	**No**
Summary reason	Constitution could be approved, subject to minor amendment.

15. Paragraph 5(1)(a), Schedule 4 of PPERA prescribes that a party must submit with their application to be registered a copy of their constitution. Section 26(9) of PPERA says that a constitution is the document or documents by which the structure and organisation of the party is determined. Accordingly, the constitution must set out sufficient detail to show the structure and organisation of the party.

16. In my view the constitution **does not** show the structure and organisation of the party.

Topics we expect a party to include in their constitution	**Where this is outlined in the constitution, or how this is met.**
Summary and recommendation.	17. The constitution sets out a simple structure for the party, with business being conducted solely through its Party Council. 18. There is a single matter that needs to be addressed by the party – its minimum Party Council membership does not allow it to meet its quorum requirements. 19. I recommend that, where there are no other issues with the application, we can approve the application subject to the party providing the necessary amendments to one or other clause. 20. Separately, I am aware that the party does not have a number of structures common to parties: a. AGM/ Conference/EGM b. Internal membership elections for officer roles c. Terms of office for officers d. Voting or decision making rights for members outside of the party council. 21. I can confirm that there is no requirement for the party to have such structures and that in this instance, they do not prevent the party from setting out the structure of the party, being consistent with PPERA, or being consistent with the financial scheme.

Topics we expect a party to include in their constitution	Where this is outlined in the constitution, or how this is met.
The constitution should reflect which register the party are applying to register in.	22. 1.3 – Party Register a. The party is on the GB register
The party's aims and objectives.	23. 2 – Aims and Objectives
A reference to an intention to stand candidates and at which elections.	24. 2 – Aims and Objectives 25. 3 - Elections
The candidate selection process (or at least a statement that the party will have one).	26. 3.2 Candidate Selection Process
The structure of the party and who is responsible for managing the party, including the responsibility of the party officers, the terms of office and procedure for change of those officers.	27. 1.2 - Organisation 28. 4 – Party Council a. 4.1 – party only has PPERA officers, no other officer positions. b. 4.2 – the party council can have a minimum of 3 members. c. 4.8 – four members are required for quorum. d. 4.2 creates a situation where the party would not be able to be quorate and not able to conduct business through the Party Council. e. Party Council is the only body through which the party conducts business, so failure to have quorum means the party is not able to function at point of registration. The party must have some other processes by which it operates which has not been included, or these clauses are incorrect. In any event, they demonstrate that the structure and organisation of the party is not properly set out, as required by PPERA 26(9). **f. I recommend that the constitution is rejected on the basis that it is not consistent with itself and therefore has not properly set out the structure and organisation of the party.** g. There are a number of potential quorum issues for several different clauses about the selection of officers and filling vacancies, however I am satisfied that 4.6, which allows an individual Party Council member to act on behalf of the entire council in 'urgent circumstances' would act as sufficient exception clause for the party to continue operating. This applies to:

Topics we expect a party to include in their constitution	Where this is outlined in the constitution, or how this is met.
	i. 4.1.4 – Ordinary Members, required for quorum (4.8) cannot be selected initially, because the maximum officer number (3) does not allow quorum for an Ordinary Resolution to pass (4.11) ii. 4.3 – An Ordinary Resolution is required to replace the leader and treasurer, but the Party Council may dip below quorum when a vacancy occurs and such a resolution would not be possible. iii. 4.4 – the nominating officer role can be carried out by the leader, potentially dropping the party below quorum.
How the party will make and record decisions, as well as any other governance arrangements. For example the frequency, timing and type of meetings and the quorum for meetings.	29. 5 – Resolution of Conflicts
If the party has membership, and if so the process and rules governing that membership.	30. 6 – Membership a. Other than those members who are selected to serve the Party Council, members do not have any voting rights or decision making powers.
How the constitution can be changed and the process for dissolution of the party.	31. 1.4 - Constitution a. Amendment process. 32. 4.10 – the party can be dissolved by Special Resolution. 33. 7 – Changes to the Constitution 34. 8 – Party Dissolution
That the party have adopted its financial scheme / The constitution must also be consistent with a party's financial scheme	35. Financial Rules 36. I am not aware of any contradiction with the financial scheme or omission of details that would prevent determination of adoption of the scheme.
Equality Act consideration	37. I **have not** identified any issues in the legislation relating to equalities legislation.

Financial scheme

Link to scheme	Financial Scheme
Recommendation	**Approve**
Summary reason	Meets the PPERA requirements

38. Pursuant to section 26 of PPERA, a party may not be registered unless it has adopted a scheme which sets out the arrangement for regulating the financial affairs of the party for the purposes of PPERA.
39. I am of the view that the scheme **does** set out the arrangements for regulating the financial affairs of the party of the purposes of PPERA.
40. Based on the information available to me, I am of the view that the party **has adopted** the scheme.
41. The party's financial year end **does** match the financial year end indicated on the application form.

Asset and Liability Declaration

Link to record	Application
Recommendation	**Approve**
Summary reason	
Pursuant to section 28(3B) of PPERA, a party may not be registered unless it has made a declaration that it the asset/liability is or is not met. Has the party has made a declaration under 28(3B)?	
A declaration has been made and states that an ALR is not required. Having considered the available information I am satisfied that the party is not required to provide an ALR.	1. I am not aware of information that indicates the declaration is not properly made.

Name

Proposed name	Identity Party
Recommendation	**Approve**
Summary reason	Meets the PPERA requirements

42. In making my recommendation I have considered the factors set out in the following paragraphs.

43. As explained above, in considering the requirements of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 and the Welsh Language Standards, I have sought a translation for this proposed name: Y Blaid Hunaniaeth. I have considered the relevance of the translation to each of the relevant statutory tests.

44. I am of the view that registration of the identifier **is not likely** to result in electors confusing the applicant party with another registered party.

OAK, Mary (address in the Constituency) National Identity Networking Gang	
ASH, James (address in the Constituency) Identity Party	
PINE, Susan (address in the Constituency) The People's Independent Party	

a. Above is the only use of the word ‘Identity’. I am satisfied that it is not sufficiently similar as to meet the threshold of confusing.

b. The word ‘Identity’ is vaguely similar to the word ‘Independent’, which is widely used on the register. Above is the most similar name. Again, I do not think the proposed name is likely to cause confusion.

45. The proposed identifier, in my view, is **not likely**, were it to appear on a ballot paper, to result in an elector being misled as to the effect of their vote.

a. I was not aware of any similarly named external groups.

46. The proposed identifier **is not the same** as another identifier on the register.
47. The proposed identifier **is not more** than six words.
48. The proposed identifier, in my view, **is not** obscene or offensive.
49. The proposed identifier, in my view, if published is **not likely** amount to the commission of an offence.
50. The proposed identifier, in my view, is **not likely**, were it to appear on a ballot paper, to contradict, or hinder an elector's understanding of, any directions for their guidance in voting.
51. The proposed identifier **does not** include any script other than Roman Script.
52. The proposed identifier **does not** include a word or expression prohibited by order made by the Secretary of State.

Register searches

Table 1: Identity marks that contain words in the proposed identity marks

53. I have conducted a search to identify where words contained in the proposed descriptions and emblems appear on the registers.

54. I undertook the searches on the GB (England, Scotland, Wales) register.

55.

Word searched for: Identity		
ID Mark	**Type**	**Party registered to**
National Identity Networking Gang	Name	National Identity Networking Gang

Public comments

None received

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Constitution of the
Identity Party

Name

1.1 The name of the Party shall be 'Identity Party' (the 'Party').

Organisation

1.2 The Party is a single organisation with no division of responsibility for the financial affairs and transactions of the Party.

Party Register

1.3 The Party shall be registered in the Great Britain party register.

Constitution

1.4 Any amendments to the Constitution may be suggested by any member of the Party Council, and they must be approved by a Special Resolution of the Party Council.

2 Aims & Objectives

Aims

2.1 The Party's principal aim shall be to safeguard the identities of individuals as well as the local, regional and national identities of the peoples of the British Isles.

Objectives

2.2 To achieve its principal aim, the Party intends to contest elections at all tiers of government in Great Britain.

3 Elections

3.1 The Party intends to stand candidates at every level of government

Candidate Selection Process

3.2 It shall be the responsibility of the Nominating Officer to create a Candidate Selection Process.

4 Party Council

4.1 The Party Council consists of Party Officers and Ordinary Members

4.1.1 Party Leader – The Party Leader is the principle spokesperson of the Party and the final decision maker on Party matters.

4.1.2 Party Treasurer – The Party Treasurer must ensure the party complies with the political finance rules set out in the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 (PPERA).

4.1.3 Nominating Officer – The Nominating Officer for the party has overall responsibility for arranging the nomination of candidates and approving the party identity marks used on nomination forms and ballot papers at elections.

4.1.4 Up to four Ordinary Members selected by the Party Council from Party Members through an Ordinary Resolution of the Party Council.

4.2 The Party Council shall have a minimum of four members and a maximum of seven.

4.3 The Party Council shall fill any vacancy of the Party Leader and Party Treasurer positions within 14 days of the vacancy arising by electing one of the Party Council members through an Ordinary Resolution to be the new Party Leader or Party Treasurer.

4.4 The Nominating Officer position may be vacant, and the responsibilities of the Nominating Officer shall be carried out by the Party Leader when the position is vacant.

4.5 The Party Council is responsible for the general management of the Party, any changes to the Constitution, and the final arbiter of any internal party disputes.

4.6 In urgent circumstances, any one member of the Party Council may act on behalf of the Party Council. They shall report on all such actions to the next meeting of the Party Council.

Party Council Meetings

4.7 The Party Council may meet online or in-person any number of times, but at least once per month.

4.8 Four members, one of whom must be a Party Officer, of the Party Council shall be a quorum for a Party Council meeting.

4.9 One attendee of the Party Council meeting shall be selected to record decisions made by the Party Council.

4.10 Should the Party Council wish to dissolve the Party or change the Constitution, they may do so through a Special Resolution in a Party Council meeting. A Special Resolution is approved when 75 % or more of Party Council members attending a meeting approve it.

4.11 An Ordinary Resolution, used for the election of a Party Officer or the election of a new Party Council member, is approved when more than 50 % of Party Council members attending a meeting approve it.

5 Resolution of Conflicts

5.1 Internal disputes within the Party shall be arbitrated by the Party Council. The ruling of the Party Council shall be binding upon all involved in the dispute.

6 Membership

6.1 Membership of the Party is open to any natural person who meets all following criteria

A. aged 16 and over
B. has paid the required fee
C. agrees to abide by the Party Constitution
D. shares the aims and objectives in the Party Constitution

6.2 Membership is open to all regardless of race, religion, sexuality, gender, ethnicity etc., in line with the Equality Act 2010 (EqA).

6.3 The Party Council shall determine the annual subscription payable by Members of the Party, subject to the provision that any change on the subscription rate determined during any year shall take place with one calendar month's notice.

6.4 All rights and privileges of Membership of the Party shall be withheld from any persons who allow their membership to fall into arrears.

6.5 The Party Leader, or members of the National Council acting on his or her behalf, shall have the right to expel from membership any Member whose behaviour is determined to be damaging to the interests of the Party.

7 Changes to the Constitution

7.1 The Party Council may enact changes to the Constitution per Special Resolution at a Party Council meeting.

7.2 The Party Treasurer is responsible for informing the Electoral Commission of any changes to the Party Constitution.

8 Party Dissolution

8.1 The Party may be dissolved by a Special Resolution of the Party Council.

9 Financial Rules

9.1 All bank accounts of the Party shall be subject to the authority of the Party Treasurer and shall only be opened or closed by the Party Treasurer. Bank mandates shall be the sole responsibility of the Party Treasurer. Authorised signatories on cheques, standing orders, direct debits etc. shall always include the Treasurer, denoted at the time by the Party Leader to be responsible for keeping the Party financially stable and within the Electoral Commission's accountancy guidelines.

9.2 The financial year of the Party shall be from the 1st January to the 31st December.

[redacted]

From: Partyreg <partyreg@electoralcommission.org.uk>
Sent: 01 January 2001 00:00
To: Craig Buckley; Craig Buckley; Neil MacPhee
Subject: Identity Party - application decision

Dear Neil MacPhee,

Registration of Identity Party (RPP [redacted])

I write to inform you that we have approved your application to register **Identity Party**. The party is now on the Choose an item. register of political parties Choose an item. as of 21 November 2024.

Your party has been allocated the following unique reference RPP [redacted] which should be quoted on all communications and returns sent to us. The reference offers a safeguard so that we can be certain that any correspondence, returns etc. received in your party's name are genuine. It is therefore in your own interest to ensure that only those officers who need to communicate with us have access to the reference.

Your entry on the register is:
http://search.electoralcommission.org.uk/English/Registrations/PP17844
(please allow a day for the entry to appear on the register)

We have approved your party's proposed financial scheme and constitution. Our full decision on the remaining elements of your application is outlined in this message.

Contact us immediately if any of the details outlined below or in the party's entry on the register are incorrect or are not what the party intended.

A registered political party must comply with the financial controls and responsibilities set out in the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 (PPERA). We urge strongly that you familiarise yourself with our guidance which outlines the responsibilities of a registered party treasurer, as well our guidance on maintaining your party's details. I have included a welcome pack regarding your obligations to us.

Failure to comply with the obligations may be a criminal offence which can attract prosecution or civil sanctions, including a fine. You can find our enforcement policy here.

Identity mark(s) that have been approved

We have approved the following identity marks which will now be included in the party's entry on the register.

	Identity mark
Name	Identity Party

Candidates standing for the party may use these identity marks on ballot papers at relevant elections in the UK.

Party contact details

We confirm the following contact details for your party.

The party headquarters address and officer names will appear on the register. Other details, including all email addresses and telephone numbers, will not appear on the register. Please note that an officer's home address will not appear on the register unless it is also the party's registered address.

	Post/Home address	Email	Telephone
Party Headquarters	Identity Party Lytchett House 13 Freeland Park Wareham Road Poole Dorset BH16 6FA	-	[redacted]
Leader and nominating officer: Craig Buckley	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
Treasurer: Neil MacPhee	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]

If your registered details change, you have a legal obligation to notify us within a statutory timeframe. It will also enable us to ensure that any reminders and information are sent to the correct person at the right address.

Annual confirmation of registered details for a political party

To remain a registered party, every year your party must:

- confirm your party's registered details are correct
- pay a £25 registration fee.

For your party, your first confirmation can be delivered between and 31 October 2025. We urge strongly that you set yourself a reminder to do this each year. The deadline may change if the party's financial year end changes or if the party's income or expenditure for the previous year exceeds £250,000.

You can confirm your party's registered details either online or by completing and returning an RP8 form to us along with a £25 payment.

Our duty to maintain the register

We have a duty under PPERA to maintain the registers of political parties as well as to monitor, and take all reasonable steps to secure, compliance with the rules for political parties set out in PPERA.

In accordance with that duty we may conduct reviews of the registers to determine whether identity marks still meet the statutory tests. This could mean that in future if we may consider that your identity marks no longer meet the statutory tests and so will remove them from the register.

We may also review the party's registered details should other circumstances change, such as details of the party's registered officers or the party's registered name. Additionally, should it come to our attention that the party is not operating in accordance with its constitution or financial scheme this may also give rise to such a review.

The party will normally be advised of any such review.

Regulatory Support Team
The Commission also has a Regulatory Support team, who can be contacted by either emailing pef@electoralcommission.org.uk or calling 0333 103 1928. The Regulatory Support team frequently run election specific webinar events for parties and can provide further advice on rules around party finance and imprints.

Please get in touch if you have any further queries about this message. You can find guidance in relation to registering and maintaining a party on our website here.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

The Electoral Commission
electoralcommission.org.uk

From: craig buckley [redacted]
Sent: 08 November 2024 12:07 PM
To: Party Reg Partyreg@electoralcommission.org.uk
Subject: Re: Identity Party - provisional decision CCM:0288838

Please find attached the amended Identity Party constitution.

I, Craig Buckley confirm that i give my authorisation for these changes to the Identity Party constitution.

could you please reply to confirm that i have complied with your request and inform me if you require anything else.

much appreciated, sincerely

Craig Buckley, Identity Party leader

From: [redacted]
Sent: 06 November 2024 10:48 PM
To: Party Reg Partyreg@electoralcommission.org.uk
Subject: Re: Identity Party - provisional decision CCM:0288838

Dear [redacted],

Thank you for the update and feedback on the application. We have revised our Party Constitution (Section 4.2) to address this issue, which should now be solved. We have agreed on the changes and have approved the change.
Please advise if this email will suffice to enable you to complete the processing of our application or whether additional action is required.

Best regards,

Neil MacPhee

From: Party Reg
Sent: 05 November 2024 5:56 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Identity Party - provisional decision CCM:0288838

Dear Neil MacPhee,

We have come to a provisional decision on your application. We are satisfied that your application can be approved *if* a minor modification is made to the constitution you have submitted. If you are not able to provide a compliant amendment by the deadline, we will be required to reject your application.

We request you provide amendments by **20 November**.

Constitution
In your constitution 4.2 states that the party council can have a minimum of 3 members and 4.8 states that 4 members are required for the council to have quorum. 4.2 therefore creates a situation where the party cannot be quorate and would be unable to function.

We request that your constitution is amended to resolve this issue. Please send your revised constitution to us at this email address and authorisation from all officers that they accept the amendments made to it.

If you have questions about this email, please contact us.

Kind regards,

[redacted]

The Electoral Commission
electoralcommission.org.uk

From: Party Reg
Sent: 27 September 2024 3:36 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Identity Party - receipt of application CCM:0288809

Dear Neil MacPhee,

We confirm receipt of your application to register Identity Party and your payment of £150 on 1 September.

We will now assess your application against the requirements of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 (PPERA). At this point we cannot confirm whether or not the application will be approved.

Next steps
We will publish the details of your application shortly on our 'Current Applications' page for public comment.

The Registration Team will assess your application against the PPERA requirements and put it to our internal Approvals Board. This Board is chaired by the Director of Regulation and Digital Transformation who takes the final decision.

We aim to process applications as quickly as possible, and we will notify you once we have made a decision. We may write to you during the assessment process seeking further information from you about the application. Otherwise, we will contact you again once we have made a decision. In the meantime, you can find guidance in relation to registering and maintaining a party on our website.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

The Electoral Commission
electoralcommission.org.uk