1985 No. 333

ELECTORAL LAW

Electoral Law (Registration Rules) (Variation) Order (Northern Ireland) 1985

Made . . . . . *22nd November 1985*

Coming into operation . . . *3rd February 1986*

To be laid before Parliament

The Secretary of State in pursuance of section 28(5) of the Electoral Law Act (Northern Ireland) 1962(**a**) hereby makes the following Order:—

Citation and Commencement

1. This Order may be cited as the Electoral Law (Registration Rules) (Variation) Order (Northern Ireland) 1985 and shall come into operation on 3rd February 1986.

Provided that this Order shall not have effect in respect of any register of electors prior to the registers of electors which are required to be published not later than 15th February 1986 or any data relating to such registers.

Copies of the electors list and register

2.—(1) Rule 26 of the Registration Rules in Schedule 3 to the Electoral Law Act (Northern Ireland) 1962 shall be amended in accordance with the following paragraphs of this Article.

(2) In paragraph (1), for the words "An electoral officer" there shall be substituted the words "The Chief Electoral Officer".

(3) In paragraph (2)(**b**)—

(*a*) for the words "registration officer" there shall be substituted the words "Chief Electoral Officer";

(*b*) in sub-paragraph (*a*), for the words "15p for each one thousand (or part of one thousand)" there shall be substituted the words "20p for each thousand (or remaining part of one thousand)"; and

(*c*) in sub-paragraph (*b*), for the words "£1·50 for each one thousand (or part of one thousand)" there shall be substituted the words "£2 for each thousand (or remaining part of one thousand)".

(4) Paragraph (3) shall cease to have effect.

Supply of data and labels

3. After Rule 26 of the Registration Rules in Schedule 3 to the Electoral Law Act (Northern Ireland) 1962, there shall be inserted the following Rules:—

(**a**) 1962 c. 14 (N.I.), as modified by paragraph 4 of Schedule 5 to the Northern Ireland Constitution Act 1973 (c. 36) and S.I. 1973/2163, Article 8

(**b**) Paragraph (2) of Rule 26 was substituted by S.R. 1980 No. 16, Article 5, and amended by S.R. 1983 No. 319, Article 2

"**26A.** *Supply of data*

(1) This Rule applies where the Chief Electoral Officer is a data user.

(2) In this Rule:—

"data" and "data user" have the same meaning as in section 1 of the Data Protection Act 1984(**a**);

"data to which this Rule applies" means data consisting of the names of those persons included in the register of electors, together with any data, other than data to which paragraph (3) applies, consisting of information relating to them including—

(i) their electoral numbers;

(ii) except where the address is excluded from the register under rule 20(1A) (as inserted by Article 3(1) of the Electoral Law (Registration Rules) (Variation No. 2) Order (Northern Ireland) 1980(**b**)), their addresses; and

(iii) any distinguishing letter; and

"holds" has the same meaning as in section 1(5) of the Data Protection Act 1984.

(3) The Chief Electoral Officer shall not supply data which consists of information (including addresses) which is not required to be published in the register of electors in accordance with those provisions of this Act, the Representation of the People Act 1983(**c**) or the Representation of the People (Northern Ireland) Regulations 1983(**d**) which relate to the registration of electors.

(4) Any obligation on the Chief Electoral Officer to supply data under this Rule imposes only an obligation to supply such data recorded in the form in which he holds it.

(5) The Chief Electoral Officer shall, on payment of a fee determined in accordance with paragraph (6), supply to a person, who is entitled to free copies of the current register under Rule 26(1), so much of the data to which this Rule applies as relates to the part or parts of the register to which such a person is so entitled.

(6) The fee for a person supplied with data under paragraph (5) shall be at the rate of £1·50 for each thousand (or remaining part of one thousand) names in the data supplied, or £25, whichever is the greater.

(7) The Chief Electoral Officer may, on payment of a fee at the rate of £15 for each thousand (or remaining part of one thousand) names in the data supplied, supply data to which this Rule applies to a person other than a person to whom paragraph (5) applies.

26B. *Supply of labels*

(1) This Rule applies where the Chief Electoral Officer is a data user.

(2) In this Rule:—

"data" and "data user" have the same meaning as in section 1 of the Data Protection Act 1984; and

"relevant information" means the name and address of any elector whose name and address appear on the register of electors; and such other information as appears on the register as the Chief Electoral Officer thinks fit, but not information constituting data to which Rule 26A(3) applies.

(**a**) 1984 c. 35
(**b**) S.R. (N.I.) 1980 No. 354
(**c**) 1983 c. 2
(**d**) S.I. 1983/436