

Mr Paul Weston
Treasurer
Liberty GB
3rd Floor, 207 Regent Street
London
W1B 3HH

23 August 2016

Party Ref: 4543585

Dear Mr Watson

Decision to remove your party descriptions from the register of political parties

I am writing to inform you that under the Commission's duty to maintain the register of political parties, descriptions and emblems in accordance with the requirements of the Political Parties Elections and Referendums Act 2000 (PPERA), we have conducted a review of your party identifiers. This has resulted in some of your party descriptions being removed from the register for reasons of not meeting the statutory requirements of s.28A PERA.

The review was carried out as part of the Commission considering the register in the context of the forthcoming Bately and Spennymoor UK Parliamentary by-election (date to be announced), taking into account the likely impact on voters there of the tragic circumstances that have caused the need for a by-election. Liberty GB has announced that they will be standing a candidate in the by-election.

The law requires the Commission to form an opinion on whether an identity mark would be 'offensive' and we consider this test in terms of voters exercising their democratic right to vote without encountering offensive material on the ballot paper

The review identified that the following registered party descriptions are in the opinion of the Commission offensive.

- Vote for real people, not politicians!
- Western civilisation, British culture, free speech
- Halt immigration, tackle extremism, defend freedom
- Replace corrupt politicians, vote Liberty GB
- Halt immigration and extremism, defend freedom!

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The Commission has removed the above descriptions from the register of political parties for Great Britain.

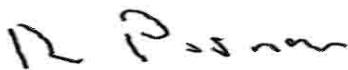
The decisions on the descriptions do not affect Liberty GB being able to stand candidates under the party name, or using that party name or still registered descriptions or emblems on the ballot paper at the forthcoming by-election. Equally the decisions do not preclude the party or its candidate(s) putting forward its views as part of campaigning or in how the party or a candidate presents that in campaigning material.

It is open to your party to submit a fresh application to replace these descriptions. If you decide to do so before 30 September 2016 there will be no fee. As with all applications we will consider whether the emblem meets the statutory tests in Political Parties Elections and Referendums Act 2000 (PPERA).

Whilst this letter will no doubt be disappointing to you, I trust you will understand that the Commission is obliged to maintain the register consistent with the statutory requirements.

Please contact the Party Registration team on 0333 103 1928 or email partyreg@electoralcommission.org.uk if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely



Bob Posner
Electoral Commission Director of Party and Election Finance
and Legal Counsel

CC to: (nominating officer); (additional officer)