

RULES FOR POLITICAL FUND

**[Trade Union and Labour Relations
(Consolidation) Act 1992 – Sections 72-96]**

1. The objects of the National Union of Teachers shall include the furtherance of the political objects to which section 72 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 (the Act) applies, that is to say the expenditure of money-
 - (a) on any contribution to the funds of, or on the payment of any expenses incurred directly or indirectly by, a political party;
 - (b) on the provision of any service or property for use by or on behalf of any political party;
 - (c) in connection with the registration of electors, the candidature of any person, the selection of any candidate or the holding of any ballot by the Union in connection with any election to a political office;
 - (d) on the maintenance of any holder of a political office;
 - (e) on the holding of any conference or meeting by or on behalf of a political party or of any other meeting the main purpose of which is the transaction of business in connection with a political party;
 - (f) on the production, publication or distribution of any literature, document, film, sound recording or advertisement the main purpose of which is to persuade people to vote for a political party or candidate or to persuade them not to vote for a political party or candidate.

Where a person attends a conference or meeting as a delegate or otherwise as a participator in the proceedings, any expenditure incurred in connection with his attendance as such shall, for the purposes of paragraph (e) above, be taken to be expenditure incurred on the holding of the conference or meeting.

In determining, for the purposes of paragraphs (a) to (f) above, whether the trade union has incurred expenditure of a kind mentioned in those paragraphs no account shall be taken of the ordinary administrative expenses of the Union.

In these objects

- “candidate” means a candidate for election to a political office and includes a prospective candidate;
- “contribution”, in relation to the funds of a political party, includes any fee payable for affiliation to, or membership of, the party and any loan made to the party;
- “electors” means electors at any election to a political office;

- “film” includes any record, however made, of a sequence of visual images, which is capable of being used as a means of showing that sequence as a moving picture;
 - “local authority” means a local authority within the meaning of section 270 of the Local Government Act 1972 or section 235 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973; and
 - “political office” means the office of member of Parliament, member of the European Parliament or member of a local authority or any position within a political party.
2. Any payments in the furtherance of such political objects shall be made out of a separate fund of the Union (hereinafter called the political fund).
 3. As soon as is practicable after the passing of a resolution approving the furtherance of such political objects as an object of the Union, the Union’s Executive committee shall ensure that a notice in the following form is given to all members of the union in accordance with this rule:

Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992

A resolution approving the furtherance of political objects within the meaning of the above Act as an object of the union has been adopted by a ballot under the Act. Any payments in the furtherance of any of those objects will be made out of a separate fund, the political fund of the union but every member of the union has a right to be exempt from contributing to that fund. A form of exemption notice can be obtained by or on behalf of any member either by application at, or by post from NUT Headquarters, the Union’s Regional Offices or the Wales Office or from the Certification Office for Trade Unions and Employers’ Associations, Brandon House, 180 Borough High Street, London SE1 1LW.

This form, when filled in, or a written request in a form to the like effect, should be sent to the General Secretary of the Union at NUT Headquarters, Hamilton House, Mabledon Place, London WC1H 9BD.

The notice shall be published to members by such methods as are customarily used by the union to publish notices of importance to members and shall include the following minimum requirements. The notice shall be published in the union's main journal which is circulated to members and will be circulated to the Secretary of each association. A copy of the notice will be supplied to any member on request and will also be available for inspection by any member at the Union's Headquarters and at any of the Union's Regional Offices or the Wales Office.

4. Any member of the union may at any time give notice on the form of exemption notice specified in political fund rule 5, or by a written request in a form to the like effect, that he objects to contribute to the political fund. A form of exemption notice may be obtained by, or on behalf of, any member, either by application at, or by post from, the General Secretary at NUT Headquarters, Hamilton House, Mabledon Place, London WC1H 9BD or from the Union's Regional Offices or Wales Office or from the Certification Office for Trade Unions and Employers' Associations, Brandon House, 180 Borough High Street, London SE1 1LW.
5. The form of exemption notice shall be as follows:

NATIONAL UNION OF TEACHERS

POLITICAL FUND EXEMPTION NOTICE

I hereby give notice that I object to contributing to the political fund of the union and am in consequence exempt, in the manner provided by Chapter VI of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992, from contributing to that fund.

Signature: _____

Address: _____

Association: _____

Date: _____

6. Any member may obtain exemption by sending such notice to the General Secretary of the Union. On receiving it, the General Secretary shall send an acknowledgement of its receipt to the member at the address in the notice.

7. On giving such notice, a member shall be exempt, so long as his notice is not withdrawn, from contributing to the political fund of the union as from either: (a) the first day of January next after notice by the member is given, or, (b) in the case of a notice given within one month after the notice given to members under political fund rule 3 or after the date on which a new member admitted to the Union is supplied with a copy of these rules under political fund rule 13, as from the date on which the members notice is given.
8. The executive committee shall give effect to the exemption of members to contribute to the political fund of the union by making a separate levy of contributions to that fund from subscription paying members of the union who are not exempt, namely, a sum equivalent to one percent of the full annual national contribution payable annually. The Executive may in addition accept for payment into the Fund contributions made voluntarily by members specifically as contributions to the Union's Political Fund. No moneys of the union other than the amount raised by such separate levy or contributions made voluntarily by members specifically as contributions to the Union's Political Fund shall be carried to the political fund.

The first levy shall not come into force until the expiration of one month from the publication of the notice to members under political fund rule 3, nor shall any levy come into force as respects a new member until the expiration of one month from his being supplied with a copy of these rules under political fund rule 13 following admission to the union.

9. A member who is exempt from the obligation to contribute to the political fund of the union shall not be excluded from any benefits of the union, or placed in any respect either directly or indirectly under any disability or disadvantage as compared with other members of the union (except in relation to the control or management of the political fund) by reason of his/her being so exempt.
10. Contribution to the political fund of the union shall not be made a condition for admission to the union.
11. If any member alleges that he is aggrieved by a breach of any of these rules for the political fund, being a rule or rules made pursuant to section 82 of the Act, he may complain to the Certification Officer, and the Certification Officer, after making such enquiries as he thinks fit and after giving the complainant and any representative of the union an opportunity of being heard, may, if he considers that such a breach has been

committed, make such order for remedying the breach as he thinks just in the circumstances. Any such order of the Certification Officer may, subject to the right of appeal provided by section 95 of the Act, be enforced in the manner provided for in section 82(4) of the Act.

12. Any member may withdraw his/her notice of exemption on notifying his/her desire to that effect to the General Secretary who shall on receiving it send the member an acknowledgement of receipt of the notification.
13. The executive shall ensure that a copy of these rules is available, free of charge, to any member of the union who requests a copy.
14. The executive shall also send to the secretary of each association sufficient copies of these rules for distribution to each member.
15. The secretary of each association shall, so far as possible secure that each member of that association receives a copy of the rules.
16. The secretary of each association shall supply a copy of these rules free of charge to each member who requests a copy.
17. A copy of the rules shall also be supplied by the secretary of each association to every new member on his/her admission to the union.



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