

## **Y: Special Interest Groups**

Y.1 Special Interest Groups (hereinafter referred to as 'groups') within the Party may be set up subject to recognition by the National Executive Committee and shall take the name form "Trade Unionists in UKIP".

Y.2.1 Any members forming a Group without approval from the National Executive Committee, or maintaining a Group when permission has been revoked by the National Executive Committee, may be subject to disciplinary action.

Y.2.2 Groups shall inform the National Executive Committee of the identity of their officers when seeking approval. An established group shall require ratification by the National Executive Committee (or the Party Chairman by delegated authority) when a change in officers is made.

Y.2.3 Any officer of a Group may be removed by the NEC following the same procedure as for removal of an officer of the Party in E.17 of these Rules of Procedure.

Y.3 Groups are formal or informal associations of Party members; their views and beliefs shall not be held to be the views of the Party.

Y.4 No Group shall falsely represent their views and beliefs as being those of the Party, or make statements which could prove to be an embarrassment to the Party; sanctions may include having their authorisation rescinded and those responsible maybe subject to disciplinary action.

Y.5 Such Groups must have a Constitution and 'Aims and Objectives' which include support of UKIP, and shall not directly contradict Party policy. All such groups must accept as a minimum the aims and objectives of the party as set out in its Constitution.

Y.6 The National Executive Committee shall have regard to equality legislation when approving Groups.

Y.7.1 Where a Group makes a donation to the Party, it shall either register with the Electoral Commission as a registered third party or provide a written guarantee complying with the provisions of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000.

Y.7.2 Any Group which holds a bank account shall not be an Accounting Unit of the Party.

Y.7.3 Any Group shall exercise due diligence in all its financial dealings and stewardship of members' funds.

Y.8 The NEC may revoke recognition of a Special Interest Group at its sole discretion. In such a case, the Special Interest Group shall be required to disband.

Y.9 All Groups shall operate in a fair, transparent and democratic manner. They shall do nothing to undermine the Party's interests, although they may campaign to change Party policy by lobbying the Head of policy or the relevant Policy group.

Y.10.1 Either the Party Chairman or the NEC may require the withdrawal of any literature, both printed and electronic, produced by a Special Interest Group which they believe at their sole discretion may be harmful to the wider interests of the Party.

Y.10.2 Either the Party Chairman or the NEC may require a Special Interest Group to submit all literature, whether physical or electronic, to a named Party officer for vetting before publication.

Either the Party Chairman or the NEC may, at their discretion, withdraw permission for a Special Interest Group to use social media or to use the Party's logo (or any variant thereof).

Y.11 Special Interest Groups are required to comply with the Party's Social Media Guidelines (Appendix 4 to these Rules of Procedure).

Y.12 Failure to comply with the provisions of section Y of these Rules of Procedure shall be considered to be grounds for disciplinary action.