

# Press release: Commission publishes Accounts monitoring report: double default class inquiry

Commission looked at accounts from charities that were in the class inquiry.

In a report published today (10 May) the Charity Commission has published its findings from [its accounts review](#) conducted on accounts filed by charities in the Commission's ongoing class inquiry ([see Endnotes](#)).

The [accounts review](#) looked at accounts filed by 27 charities in the inquiry and found:

- 6 charities closed and failed to tell the Commission
- 6 had filed their accounts with Companies House but failed to submit them to the Commission
- 2 charities submitted accounts without the correct external scrutiny and the Commission instructed them to re-submit their accounts

In the 2015-16 class inquiry, evidence was uncovered of poor financial management and misuse of charity funds in 3 charities and as a result 3 standalone investigations were opened.

The accounts review found that of the majority of the accounts submitted were found to be of good and acceptable quality and those who used the Commission's accounts templates were more likely to have good quality accounts. However it was clear that not all trustees understood the external scrutiny requirements.

Fourteen of the 32 charities that were placed into the class inquiry by the Commission in 2015-16 submitted their accounts to the Commission during the year, as did 13 from the 2014-15 class inquiry. The Commission's accountants closely scrutinised 69 copies of accounts from these 27 charities. The filing of these accounts led to £15.5 million of charity income being accounted for to the general public through the Commission's register and this brings the total amount reported during the course of the class inquiry to just over £75 million since September 2013.

**Nigel Davies, Head of Accountancy Services at the Charity Commission for England and Wales, said:**

Our class inquiry has ensured compliance in the charity sector by

holding trustees to account for failing to abide by their legal duty to file accounts and be transparent, a key driver of public trust in charities.

It is disappointing that it required our regulatory action to ensure these charities complied. They showed the ability to report well when they put the effort in as the majority of the charities involved in the class inquiry eventually filed good quality accounts. However, it is concerning that the underlying attitude to compliance on basic duties and accountability to donors and the public remains poor.

This report sends a clear message to trustees that we will take robust action to tackle non-compliance so that charity funds are declared and accounted for on the register of charities.

Ends

PR 37/17

---

#### Notes to editors

1. [The Charity Commission](#) is the independent regulator of charities in England and Wales. To find out more about our work, see our [annual report](#).
2. Search for charities on our [online register](#).
3. Details of how the Commission reports on its regulatory work can be found on [GOV.UK](#).

#### Endnotes

1. Class inquiry into those charities who fail to file accounts properly in 2 consecutive years, so-called 'double defaulters'.

---

## [News story: Pagers merger may face in-depth investigation](#)

Capita and Vodafone face an in-depth merger investigation, unless the companies offer acceptable ways of addressing competition concerns.

Capita and Vodafone both supply wide-area paging services to customers, including emergency services and hospitals. Customers rely on pagers because issues such as coverage, reliability and battery life mean that alternative

technologies, like mobile phones, are not suitable.

The Competition and Markets Authority's (CMA) initial investigation into the merger has found that it could lead to a substantial lessening of competition as the 2 companies are the only suppliers of wide-area paging services in the UK.

It found that, after the merger, customers could face price rises and reduced quality of coverage.

Capita has until 17 May 2017 to offer proposals to resolve the competition concerns. If it does not offer undertakings, or if the CMA is unable to accept undertakings offered, the merger will be referred for an in-depth phase 2 investigation.

---

## **News story: Just Eat/Hungryhouse merger faces in-depth investigation**

Both companies provide online takeaway ordering services. These give restaurants the opportunity to reach a wide pool of consumers and offer them the convenience of choosing from a large range of takeaway providers in one place.

Following its initial investigation into the merger, the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) has found that the companies are close competitors because of the similarity of their service and their broad geographical coverage.

The CMA also believes that more recent entrants to this market offering delivery services – such as Deliveroo, UberEATS and Amazon Restaurants – represent less direct competition to the companies as these tend to target different types of restaurant (primarily dine-in restaurants without their own delivery services). These recent entrants also offer less extensive geographic coverage than Just Eat and Hungryhouse.

The CMA is therefore concerned that the loss of competition resulting from the Just Eat/Hungryhouse merger may result in worse terms for restaurants using either of the 2 companies.

The merger will now be referred for an in-depth phase 2 investigation by an independent group of CMA panel members – unless Just Eat is able to offer undertakings which sufficiently address the CMA's competition concerns.

Just Eat has until 17 May 2017 to offer proposals to resolve the competition concerns. If it does not offer undertakings, or if the CMA is unable to accept undertakings offered, the merger will be referred for an in-depth

phase 2 investigation.

---

## **Press release: PM call with President Erdogan of Turkey: 9 May 2017**

This evening the Prime Minister spoke to President Erdogan of Turkey to reiterate the UK's continuing commitment to the bilateral relationship between our 2 countries and express her wish to deepen co-operation on a range of issues. The Prime Minister particularly underlined the importance of our strong security partnership.

The Prime Minister and President Erdogan discussed the ongoing Cyprus settlement talks and the Prime Minister reiterated that while there remains an opportunity for an historic agreement to be reached, all parties need to be prepared to take bold steps. She added that the UK stands ready to play a role in seeking a solution.

On Syria, the Prime Minister welcomed the progress made at the Astana talks and praised Turkey's constructive role in helping to establish de-escalation zones. She underlined the importance of the talks being linked to a broader political process, culminating in a transition of power away from Assad.

The Prime Minister and President Erdogan welcomed the strength of the UK-Turkey trade relationship and reaffirmed their desire to explore the opportunities presented by Brexit. They noted the progress made towards the signature of a deal between Turkish Aerospace Industries and BAE Systems for the preliminary design phase of the Turkish Fighter, and agreed this was a sign of the deepening defence industry relationship between Turkey and the UK.

The 2 leaders looked forward to the upcoming Somalia conference and the Prime Minister welcomed the substantial contribution Turkey has made, as well as their strong leadership in improving security in Somalia.

The Prime Minister and President Erdogan concluded by looking forward to meeting at the NATO summit in Brussels later this month.

---

## **News story: General Election 2017**

As the General Election approaches it is important that individuals and organisations consider their protective security provisions, they remain

vigilant and report suspicious behaviour and items to police at the earliest opportunity. The UK threat level remains at SEVERE, meaning an attack is highly likely. Terrorist groups and individuals continue to encourage individuals to plan and mount attacks in the UK, particularly against symbols of the State and crowded places. Low sophistication, low complexity methodologies are the simplest to execute and require little or no training. We urge the public to be alert but not alarmed and the police service and our partners are doing everything we can to help protect the security of citizens, communities, public institutions and businesses.

There is also valuable advice to assist individuals in keeping themselves safe, although it's important to remember that a key principle of personal security is that the individual must carry the main responsibility and remain vigilant. Whilst it is impossible to provide advice for every eventuality, there is generic advice available from various sources. We would like to direct organisations to the [UK National Counter Terrorism Security Office (NaCTSO) website] (<https://www.gov.uk/nactso>) where a range of protective security guidance is available.

Further protective security guidance is available on the website for [Centre for the Protection on National Infrastructure \(CPNI\)](#) including guidance for personnel security through a staff vigilance campaign.

## Protective Security Advice

The message is clear – ‘don’t worry, don’t delay, just act’ In an emergency call the police dial 999.

Protective security advice is available on the [NaCTSO website](#) in the guidance ‘Recognising the terrorist threat’ and advises on:

- reporting suspicious activity to the police by calling confidentially on 0800 789 321 or at [gov.uk/ACT](https://www.gov.uk/ACT)
- reporting online terrorist and violent extremist material [online](#)
- understanding how to respond in a weapons or firearms attack follow the [RUN HIDE TELL](#) principles
- understanding how to respond to [suspicious items](#)
- understanding how to respond if there is a [bomb threat](#)
- understand what to do if a [suspicious package](#) is delivered to your home or work address

## Personal Security for those canvassing

The [Suzy Lamplugh Trust](#) provide advice for those individuals and groups who are campaigning and canvassing.

## Advice for officials

Can be obtained through local authorities or the Electoral Commission [The College of Policing Authorised Professional Practice \(APP\)](#) have produced guidance on [Maintaining order and preventing undue influence outside polling](#)

[stations](#). The APP outlines the necessity for Returning Officers and their respective Police Force to initiate early contact in planning for the Election. The Electoral Commission provide a variety of guidance products, including a handbook for Polling Station staff at [www.electoralcommission.org.uk](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk).

## **Additional Advice**

Is available from the [Centre for Protection of National Infrastructure](#)