

Collecting Electoral Commissionrequired donor data with PayPal

How to use the PayPal Donate button and PayPal Checkout to collect required donor data to meet Electoral Commission reporting requirements.

paypal.com/uk/politicaluk



Summary

The Electoral Commission requires that all political campaigns ensure that donations are permissible. To do this, it is necessary for political parties to collect supplemental donor data.

The data which the Electoral Commission requires varies by donor; more information is available **here**. Your website may need to include a customer consent to allow PayPal to share this information with you for onward reporting to the Electoral Commission.

PayPal can easily be enabled to capture the Electoral Commission-required donor data and include it with the payment transaction. After a donor enters the required information, it can be concatenated and passed with the payment transaction in the "Custom" fields in the PayPal Donate button or PayPal Checkout. The data entered in the "Custom" fields can then be taken from PayPal report files for use as required with Electoral Commission filings and for reconciliation.

Setting up the Donate button and PayPal Checkout to collect donor data

Using the "Custom" field

The "Custom" field can be used to pass proprietary information through to your PayPal reports. In this case, you would concatenate the entered data into a single field passed to PayPal.

custom = "{entered first name}":"{entered last name}":"{entered address}":"{entered postcode}"

first name, last name, address, postcode separated by a colon (:)

for example, SARAH:SMITH:My Street Bournemouth:BH1 1AA



PayPal Reporting

If "Custom" fields were used to pass the information, it will appear in the PayPal reports similar to this example:

Custom Number	Receipt
Sarah:Smith:1 My Street BOURNEMOUTH:BH1 1AA	
Veer:Patel:23 Tyr y Farchnad SWANSEA:SA4 3GS	
Leo:Kaufman:2 My Street HATFIELD:AL10 9AA	