



Charitable Status of PCCs

PCCs are sometimes asked to provide a charity number for documents such as bank forms and grant application forms. Most PCCs will not have a charity number as they are excepted from the obligation to register with the Charity Commission. The following paragraphs provide an explanation of the relevant legislation:

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Under The Charities (Exception from Registration) Regulations 1996 [Statutory Instrument 1996 No.180], as amended by The Charities (Exception from Registration) (Amendment) Regulations 2002 [Statutory Instrument 2002 No. 1598], certain religious charities are granted exception, until 1st October 2007, from the duty to be registered under section 3(2) of the Charities Act 1993.

Parochial Church Councils of the Church of England are charities by virtue of their objectives, which include the promotion of religion and the maintenance of places of worship. As excepted Charities under this Regulation, PCCs are not obliged to register with the Charity Commission, and consequently PCCs do not have charity numbers.

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