

From: compliance@libdems.org.uk
Date: Thu, 7 Mar 2024
Subject: Your March Compliance Update



Your March Compliance Update

February PPERA Return

The February donation report is due by **10th March** (even if a nil return).



Donation queries: compliance@libdems.org.uk

Lighthouse issues:

- Refer to the [user guide](#)
- Consult your local Superuser
- Raise a problem report within Lighthouse
- Ask your Chairperson to submit the return
- Email: support@libdems.org.uk

Annual Accounts

Thank you to the 76 treasurers who have submitted their year-end report.



15th March is the deadline for:

- accounts with income/expenditure under £250,000
- submission of draft accounts over £250,000 (then 31st May for the professionally audited report)

IMPORTANT: It is crucial you make the March deadline as the Compliance Team has hard deadlines set by the Electoral Commission. Late submissions may not be processed in time, risking a fine or sanction for the local party/group and its treasurer.

NOTE: Before emailing us your accounts or any queries, please consult the **accounts guide** as it covers common issues to save time and prevent avoidable delays due to incomplete submissions.

Here's the [accounts guide and template](#).

Our final **clinic** for help with your 2023 accounts is on: **Mon 11th Mar, 6-7pm** - email compliance@libdems.org.uk for the Zoom link or a one-to-one appointment with Lloyd.

The Electoral Commission

Your first point of contact should always be the Compliance Team at LDHQ.

The Electoral Commission is not responsible for the running of elections. Elections are run under the powers of the *Representation of the People Act 1983* and therefore a matter for the Police.

As one Local Party found to their detriment last year in approaching the Commission for advice, they were reported to the Police for breaking the law.

NOTE: The Electoral Commission's advice is not given with local party treasurers in mind and their website can be misleading as it's mainly intended for national Treasurers of parties.

Our job is to help you do yours, so if you need assistance, please contact:

compliance@libdems.org.uk.

Crowdfunder

We regularly get asked about Crowdfunder, so we have partnered with them to find a way to use their platform in compliance with the laws governing political parties and donations.



Whilst **Fleet** websites already **provide the same function**, using Crowdfunder requires additional compliance measures which are outlined in the following [guide](#).

Card Readers

A growing number of Local Parties / Groups want to use card readers - there are some important checks that need to be made to comply with the Law, which we have detailed [here](#).



Elavon ([Unity Bank](#)) is on the approved supplier list and we're looking at others. You could also approach the bank that your local party account is with. If there's a particular provider of card readers you would like reviewed, please contact: data.protection@libdems.org.uk.



Agent & Treasurer Training at Conference

Sat 16th March - Novotel York Centre, Fishergate, YO10 4FD (Meeting Room 3)

Join the Compliance Team for:

- 09:30-10:45 - *Being a Large Area Agent*
- 11:00-12:15 - *Election Agent Drop-In*
- 14:30-15:45 - *Best Practice for Treasurers*
- 16:00-17:15 - *Treasurer Drop-In*

Register for Conference [here](#) and check out the directory and agenda [here](#).

We look forward to seeing you in person!

Compliance Clinic

Mon 18th Mar, 6-7pm

Join us every third Monday of the month to discuss all things Compliance and Data Protection.

Email compliance@libdems.org.uk for the Zoom link or a one-to-one appointment.

Nomination Papers Clinics



Q&A sessions on getting your candidates nominated in local elections.

- Mon 25/03 - 6-7pm
- Wed 27/03 - 4-5pm
- Tue 02/04 - 10-11am

Email compliance@libdems.org.uk for a Zoom link.



Your Resources

- [Compliance updates](#)
- [UK GDPR training for officers](#)
- [Treasurer Training Day 2024](#)
- [Data Protection Checklist for local parties & groups](#)
- [Insurance](#)
- [WhatsApp guidance](#)
- [Digital imprints](#)
- [Boundary changes \(England\)](#)
- [Online donations & rebates](#)

Best wishes,



Kerry Buist (she/her)

Head of Compliance and
Governance

Liberal Democrats

You are receiving this email as you are listed as an Officer of an accounting unit for the Liberal Democrats.

As these emails contain details of your legal responsibilities as part of this role you are not able to opt out of these emails from our Compliance Team. If you think there has been an error and you shouldn't have received this email, please contact compliance@libdems.org.uk.

Published and promoted by Mike Dixon on behalf of the [Liberal Democrats](#), 1 Vincent Square, London, SW1P 2PN.