

UK Charity Register Cheat Sheet

Overview

The Charity Commission for England and Wales maintains a register of all active charities, including detailed information on:

- Trustees' names – **925k people**
- Charity name – **390k organisations**
- Charity registration number
- Registered contact address
- Financial history
- Date of registration

Why It Matters

- Locating individuals involved in **community organisations**
- Confirming someone's **position of responsibility** or influence
- Identifying **addresses** tied to a subject
- Mapping personal or family **interests**
- **Linking directors** across charities and businesses

Limitations

- **Data Coverage** — **regional** search only
- **No date of birth for trustees** — ID confirmation requires **cross-referencing**
- **Data quality** - **historical trustee data** is not easily accessible

Tips and Considerations

- Search by **charity town or postcode** to surface local subjects
- Look for **repeat names** across multiple charities or governance boards
- Check charities' **spending or asset levels** for wealth indicators
- Use **charity number** on Companies House if dual registered
- Investigate whether charities are linked to **criminal probes, fraud, or activism**

Investigation Support

- **Due Diligence** — Validate **professional roles and integrity**
- **Fraud & Financial Crime** — Spot **money movement** through charities
- **Asset Tracing** — Identify **high-value charities** or linked addresses
- **Person Location** — **Locate trustees** who aren't visible elsewhere
- **Executive Protection** — Identify **affiliations** that may introduce risk
- **Investigative Journalism** — Expose networks of **influence or misconduct**

Where to Search

- **Charity Commission** — England & Wales
- **OSCR** — Scotland
- **Charity Commission for NI** — Northern Ireland
- **Public Insights** — Search trustees by name

About Public Insights

Public Insights helps investigators find addresses, associates, and financial signals tied to UK people and businesses — all from a single search. The platform brings together government and commercial records to uncover properties, companies, directorships, insolvencies, and more. Designed for OSINT workflows, it's the starting point for investigations into fraud, due diligence, asset tracing, and more. Try Public Insights today at cradle.publicinsights.uk/accounts/signup to see how our platform can support your investigation workflows.