

Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses



The Ridgeway, London, NW7 1RN Telephone: 020 8906 2211

TAB August 6, 2013

TO ALL BODIES OF ELDERS IN ENGLAND AND WALES

Re: Charity Commission annual return form for 2013

Dear Brothers:

The following guidance is only applicable to congregations that are registered as charities with the Charity Commission.

Recently, the Charity Commission released a new annual return form for 2013 which is now available to complete online via the Commission's website. Congregations in England and Wales that are registered as charities have until January 31, 2014, to submit their annual return. This form contains two new questions, and two questions which were previously voluntary but are now mandatory. We are pleased to provide the following comments to assist you in answering these additional questions.

Gift Aid

Most, if not all, congregations that are registered as charities with the Charity Commission will also be recognized as charities by HM Revenue and Customs, and will submit Gift Aid claims. If you actually submitted such a Gift Aid claim during the year ended 31 March, confirm that you did so by answering, Yes.

Land and buildings

If your congregation is the title-holding congregation, or if it leases the property used as a Kingdom Hall, answer, Yes. Also, confirm that your land and buildings are used for charitable purposes.

(Congregations that answer No to this question may notice that they are incorrectly shown as not using land and buildings. We have brought this to the attention of the Charity Commission.)

Area of operation outside England and Wales

As your congregation does not operate in countries outside of England and Wales, there is no need to click on the link to add details.

UK volunteers

Enter the peak number of publishers during the financial year ended 31 March, less the number of elders who served as trustees. (See letter LEA December 31, 2008, Re: Elder subject to bankruptcy order.)

We trust these brief notes are of help to you, and we commend you for your diligence in complying with these necessary legal requirements.

Please be assured of our good wishes and warm Christian love.

Your brothers,
*Christian Congregation
of Jehovah's Witnesses*