



Identity Verification

Economic Crime & Corporate Transparency Act 2023

All company directors and People with Significant Control (PSCs) need to verify their identity to prove who they are. This is a new legal requirement under the Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 to help prevent people using companies for illegal purposes.

Identity verification will become mandatory in the autumn of 2025, but you can act now and verify your identity before it becomes a requirement.

Early action will help you to avoid complications or delays. If your company has multiple officers, allow plenty of time for each one to verify their identity. Directors based outside of the UK may also need extra time if they plan to use an authorised agent, also known as an Authorised Corporate Service Provider (ACSP) to verify their identity.

How to verify your identity

You can verify:

- **Online using GOV.UK One Login** – if you have the identity documents or information required.
- **In person at selected Post Offices** – you must live in the UK and will need to use the 'Verify your identity for Companies House' service first to find out if you can verify this way.
- Using Smailes Goldie as an Authorised Corporate Service Provider (ACSP) (you will need to provide suitable identity documents).

What happens when you verify

Identity verification is a two-step process.

Step 1: Verify your identity and get your Companies House personal code. This code is personal to you, not the company. Keep this information secure until you need to use it.

Step 2: From autumn 2025, link your verified identity to Companies House records. You'll need to provide

your personal code and a verification statement for each company role you hold. More information on how to do this will be published in the coming months.

[Read guidance on verifying your identity for Companies House.](#)

If you or any other directors do not comply with identity verification requirements on time, you will not be able to file your company's confirmation statement or any other filings.

You'll also be committing an offence and there are a range of consequences, including a financial penalty and being unable to start a new company.

Check the register

It's important to make sure that we and Companies House hold the correct details for each director and PSC of your company.

You will not be able to complete identity verification if the personal information on your identity documents, such as date of birth, does not match the information held on the register.

[Check the details we hold for you and your company.](#)

You can **[tell us about some changes online.](#)** For other changes, such as incorrect/missing information about directors or PSCs on your incorporation documents, you will need to **[file a paper form.](#)**

How to keep up to date

[Read the latest updates](#) on the GOV.UK Changes to UK Company Law website and **[sign up to Smailes Goldie newsletters](#)** for our regular email newsletters.