



## a guide to **Freedom Account**

“It is important to me that every penny I give to charity is tax effective; this is guaranteed when I donate through my payroll or donate securely online using my Freedom Account”

**Martin Blake**  
Head of Social Responsibility, Royal Mail Group

**charities**trust

helping you to help others  
making your donations work harder



## What is a Freedom Account?

The Charities Trust Freedom Account has been created for people who have a busy lifestyle and those who wish to have the flexibility of giving to good causes at anytime or for any appeal, while still making donations in a tax effective way.

The Freedom Account can also be set up to split donations, so on a monthly basis a proportion of the donation goes to a nominated charity with the remainder paid into a Freedom Account.

The Freedom Account provides the opportunity to pay into the account via Payroll Giving, Bank Transfer, Debit/Credit Card or Cheque. On all post tax donations Charities Trust claims back the Gift Aid available and adds it to the Freedom Account.

“My Freedom Account allows me to write a charity cheque for one off appeals”

Humph Baker

## The Freedom Account gives you

- Freedom to donate to any UK charity.
- Tax efficient donations deducted from salary.
- Option to add monies to your account at any time.
- Secure online donations into your account.
- Secure log-on to manage your account online.
- Individual charity cheque book.
- Quarterly statements sent either via email or post.
- Charitable gifts kept separate from your money.
- Ability to budget for charitable giving.
- Traceability for tax reviews and self assessment processes.



“Ideal for when I'm at charity dinners, the Freedom Account charity cheque makes life so much easier”

**Steve Hayes**

Managing Director, Northwest Business College

## **Tax Effective Giving**

Charities Trust aims to make all donations into your Freedom Account tax effective.

If you donate into your Freedom Account via your payroll, you will receive tax effective relief at source, so every £1 you donate costs you £0.78 or £0.60 if you are a higher rate tax payer.

When you make post tax donations to your Freedom Account, Charities Trust will claim Gift Aid and this is added to your Freedom Account. As long as you are a UK tax payer every £1.00 you donate is worth an extra £0.28. And if you are a higher rate tax payer you can reclaim the difference between basic and higher rate tax on your charitable donations.

“Charitable giving assists me with budgeting, and the quarterly statements are invaluable for my tax returns”

**Evelyn Bhatt**

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## Charities Trust

Charities Trust is a registered Payroll Giving Agency, and manages £millions of charitable donations on behalf of individuals and companies each year. As a registered charity our aim is to keep costs as low as possible. As a non profit organisation, any surplus made is dispersed back into the charity sector.

### Administration Services\*

- Payroll Giving charge £0.25 per donation.
- Cheques, cash, bank transfers or standing orders £0.25 per deposit.
- Debit/Credit card payments into the account 4%.
- 4% charge on Gift Aid claims.
- Secure online donations are quicker and hassle free for you and your nominated charity or good cause - FREE administration.
- Charity Cheques can be written and sent to the charity or good cause of your choice - FREE administration.
- Quarterly statements provided via email or sent through the post - FREE administration.
- Customer Service helpline or advice on charitable donations or fundraising - FREE administration.
- Welcome pack with your activation code and personal GP Account Number - FREE administration.
- Online balance checking - FREE administration.

\* Charities Trust reserve the right to amend charges.

### 3 Ways to Open a Freedom Account

- Apply online [www.myfreedomaccount.org](http://www.myfreedomaccount.org)
- Email your details to [enquiries@myfreedomaccount.org](mailto:enquiries@myfreedomaccount.org) (see Authorisation Form for details required).
- Complete the Authorisation Form and forward to your Payroll Dept or send direct to Charities Trust.

**For more information please contact:**

**Charities Trust,  
Suite 22, Century Building,  
Brunswick Business Park,  
Tower Street, Liverpool, L3 4BJ  
Tel: 0151 286 5129 Fax: 0151 286 2360**

**email: [enquiries@myfreedomaccount.org](mailto:enquiries@myfreedomaccount.org)**

**[www.charitiestrust.org](http://www.charitiestrust.org)**

**Registered Charity No.: 327489**

# Freedom Account Authorisation Form

I wish to open a Freedom Account. (Min £10 to open account).

This request is  New  An amendment  In addition (please tick the relevant box)

Please deduct/receive £ \_\_\_\_\_ on a monthly basis. (please tick the relevant box)

Payroll Giving, monthly pay.

Please forward a copy of this form to your Payroll Department.

Open a monthly standing order.

Charities Trust will send you appropriate form.

Cheque, Credit/Debit Card Donation.

I confirm I am a tax payer and I wish Charities Trust to claim Gift Aid on this and future post tax donations. *giftaid it*

Debit/Credit Card No:

\_\_\_\_\_

Start Date     Expiry Date     Issue No:

PERSONAL DETAILS (please tick the relevant box)

Mr  Mrs  Miss  Ms  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Surname \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Company \_\_\_\_\_

Workplace Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Payroll No. \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Charities Trust will use your information for administration or analysis. We may share your information with other companies or carefully selected third parties. We may send you details of other goods and services which may be of interest to you. The information may be provided by letter, telephone or other reasonable means of communication. If you do not wish your details to be shared with carefully selected third parties, please tick this box.

**If you have chosen Payroll Giving please send your Authorisation Form to your Payroll Department. For all other options, please send direct to Charities Trust.**

If you need more information please contact Charities Trust on 0151 286 5129 or email enquiries@myfreedomaccount.org or log onto www.myfreedomaccount.org Charity Registration No: 327489

**Charities Trust, Suite 22, Century Building, Brunswick Business Park, Tower Street, Liverpool L3 4BJ.**

## FAQ's

### **Is there a minimum donation?**

The minimum monthly donation to a Freedom Account is £10 (or £2.50 per week). However, this will only cost you £7.80 (or £6 if you are a higher tax rate payer), if you donate via Payroll Giving.

### **Is there a minimum or maximum amount of money I can donate using a charity cheque?**

The minimum amount a charity cheque can be written out for is £5.00. There is no maximum, however, you need to have sufficient funds in your account to enable the charity to cash the cheque, as Charities Trust only make payments to charities when there are sufficient funds in your account. You can check your balance online at [www.myfreedomaccount.org](http://www.myfreedomaccount.org)

### **Can a charity claim Gift Aid on my Freedom Account donation?**

No - if your donation is taken from your salary before income tax is levied, your donation will have already received tax relief and no further tax is recoverable. If you make a donation from your nett pay, Charities Trust will claim Gift Aid and transfer it to your account, so no further tax relief is due.

### **Can I put completed charity cheques into charity collection tins and envelopes?**

Yes - in that way they are the same as a cheque written on your normal bank account.

### **How quickly will the charity receive my donation?**

Charities Trust will pay out charity donations at the end of each month. Making your donations online is the fastest way of sending a donation, [www.myfreedomaccount.org](http://www.myfreedomaccount.org)

### **Can I make donations to overseas charities?**

As your donations are tax effective, donations can only be made to charities registered within the UK. However, there are hundreds of charities within the UK who have activities overseas, but are based in the UK.

### **Can I use my account to buy goods or services?**

No - as the tax relief has already been received through Gift Aid or claimed at source from your payroll, your charity cheque or online donation is a gift for your chosen charity.

### **Can I make anonymous gift donations from my Freedom Account?**

Yes - Charities Trust will not disclose your details without your permission.

