



NOMINET

Privacy Services Acceptable Use Policy

This is the acceptable use policy for Nominet's Privacy Services functionality.

This is an optional functionality that registrars may choose to use where they provide their customers with .UK domain name registration services. The terms of this policy apply whenever a registrar elects to use the Privacy Services functionality on one of its tags.

- The functionality must be activated for each individual tag that a registrar wishes to use it on.
- When the functionality is activated for a tag, the registrar must nominate a privacy service provider whose details will be published in the publicly available WHOIS database in lieu of the contact details of any registrant who is using the registrar's privacy service.
- The registrar may nominate any legal person (including the registrar themselves) to act as the nominated privacy service provider, provided that the terms of this policy are otherwise complied with. The provider need not be a member of the registrar's corporate group or a Nominet registrar.
- Nominet must be able to validate:
 - The name and address of the privacy service provider – this must be completed before the functionality becomes active; and
 - The name and address of the registrant of the domain name.
- The obligations of both registrars and registrants set out in our Data Quality Policy, our Registrant Terms and Conditions and other policies continue to apply where a privacy service is used.
- Registrars using this functionality are responsible for ensuring that the privacy service provider:
 - Will accept service of documents on behalf of the registrant using the privacy service; and
 - Will transmit abuse complaints from third parties to the registrant using the privacy service.
- Registrars using this functionality must ensure that their contracts with their customers:
 - Make it clear that the customer is the registrant of the domain name, not the registrar, the privacy service or any other third party;
 - Specify the circumstances under which the registrar will remove the privacy from the customer's domain name registration(s);
 - Specify that the privacy service provider is authorised to accept service of legal documents from third parties on the registrant's behalf;
 - Specify that the privacy service provider will forward abuse complaints received from third parties to the registrant; and
 - Whether and how much the registrar charges for the use of a privacy service.
- Registrars must not force registrants to use their privacy service, and must allow their customers who have multiple domain names registered with them to select which domain names will have the privacy service functionality applied.
- Registrars must not use the privacy service functionality to circumvent the terms of any of their contracts with us, nor any of our policies.
- Registrars are solely responsible for compliance with the terms of this policy as between Nominet and that registrar. Any breach of the terms of this policy shall be dealt with under the Sanctions Policy set out in the Registrar Agreement. Sanctions may include, without limitation, the suspension of the privacy service on one or more of a registrar's tags (the result of which will be the publication of a registrant's details on the WHOIS, rather than the privacy service provider's details).
- Nominet accepts no liability towards registrars, registrants or privacy service providers in relation to the use of the privacy service functionality.