



The Photographic Alliance of Great Britain

Use of Website Security Certificates

Security on a web site is indicated by a padlock icon or the use of the https protocol, rather than just http. Security certificates are offered through web hosting providers and their effect is to encrypt traffic between the user's browser and the server. This is relevant for transaction data including logon credentials.

Security certificates can be purchased for websites, usually through the hosting provider. They are a cost which is appropriate if justified.

The PAGB uses a number of website domains.

Main site (thepagb.org.uk)

The main website does not use a certificate. There are only two transactional uses of personal data on the site – the administrative user logon and the contact form. Data for the contact form is therefore passed in clear. As use of the contact form only results in an email, and emails are sent in clear, there would be no value in having a certificate.

Google reCAPTCHA is a separate system which attempts to ensure users are real people rather than robots. The main website uses reCAPTCHA v2 for logon and reCAPTCHA v3 on the contact form.

Central Entries / Management System (pagbhost.co.uk)

The Central Entries System uses a certificate as there is significant personal information passed for most usage, and the site is also taking payments.

PAGB e-news (pagbenews.co.uk)

The e-news website does not use a certificate. There is an administrative logon, but otherwise it is read-only.

e-news signup is via a separate provider and does use a certificate.