

## NFP eNews 2 MARCH 2023

Welcome to haysmacintyre's regular 'e-news alert' for charities and not for profit organisations.



### Regulators urge safe giving to support Turkey-Syria earthquake relief effort

Following on from the recent floods in Pakistan and the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine, the Charity Commission (the Commission) and Fundraising Regulator have again [urged the public to 'give safely'](#) when looking to support international aid efforts in response to earthquakes in Turkey and Syria.

This comes as the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) launched a Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal. The DEC brings together 15 leading UK aid charities to raise funds quickly and efficiently in times of crisis overseas.

The Appeal aims to secure urgent funding and support for people across Turkey and Syria who need immediate help to survive after disastrous earthquakes have had widespread impact across both countries since the 6 February 2023. So far, donations have reached an incredible £100m for the Appeal.

Both regulators are reminding people to check charities are registered and legitimate as people make generous donations to causes helping to support people affected by the earthquakes.

### DEC Turkey – Syria appeal raises more than £100m in two weeks

As referred to above, The DEC's Turkey-Syria Earthquake appeal has [raised more than £100m](#) since opening for donations in early February, including £5m in UK Aid Match. JustGiving, meanwhile, has seen £4.1m including Gift Aid raised through its platform for the Turkey-Syria response since the disaster occurred on 6 February. Many other charities have also launched emergency appeals. World Vision UK has received a £1m donation from XTX Markets for its Turkey-Syria earthquake appeal, and to date the Oxfam appeal has raised £2.25m.

In addition, the government has announced it will match funds up to £5m donated by the British public to the DEC's fundraising appeal for Turkey and Syria.



## Being a charity trustee

The Commission has [launched a campaign](#) of their 5-minute guides to being a charity trustee. Whether you are a new or experienced trustee, the suite will help you to be sure of your responsibilities and confident you are doing the right thing for your charity.

The main areas covered in these guides include:

- Delivering purpose
- Managing conflicts of interest
- Reporting information
- Safeguarding people
- Making decisions
- Managing finance

## My Charity Commission Account

In Spring 2023, 'My Charity Commission Account' will 'go live' and will be the new way you access your online services.

From this date:

- Contacts can enable trustees and authorised third parties to set up their accounts – further guidance to be provided
- Trustees, contacts and authorised third parties who have set up an account will be able to access a range of the Commission's online services

'My Charity Commission Account' is a new way for trustees and charity contacts to access the Commission's online services. It can also be used by other people you have authorised, such as your accountant or lawyer.



## The Commission launches an inquiry into failed financial and legal duties

The Commission has opened a statutory inquiry into the Middlesbrough Central Masjid and Community Centre after the charity repeatedly failed to provide financial accounts.

The Middlesbrough Central Masjid and Community Centre was set up to provide a place of worship, religious education and community services for the benefit of the local community in Middlesbrough.

In December 2019, the regulator placed the charity into a double defaulter class inquiry in which charities in default of their legal duty to file their annual reports, accounts, and returns for two or more years are investigated. This prompted the charity to submit its annual return and accounts for financial year ending (FYE) 2019 which were overdue by 180 days. The charity also submitted an incomplete Trustees Annual Report (TAR) for FYE 2019.

Despite already being subject to a double defaulter class inquiry, the charity again failed to submit annual returns and accounts for FYE in 2020 and 2021 to the Commission.

## Slow progress on audit reform

Publication of research by the House of Commons Library, [Company audits: issues and proposed reforms](#), shows the Government has not committed to a specific date for publishing a draft Audit Reform Bill. This Bill is expected to introduce further audit reforms following earlier reviews of the audit profession in the wake of various corporate failures. The Government Minister, Lord Callanan said reform was being delivered in a number of ways, including some already made, and commented that the Government was committed to legislating when "Parliamentary time allows".



## The Road Ahead 2023: Adapting to political change

The National Council for Voluntary Organisations have examined trends that will impact charities and volunteering in 2023. [The article](#) considers how we respond to the continuing political turbulence. Other areas considered in the series include:

- The ongoing impact of cost of living
- Supporting staff, trustees and volunteers
- Keeping up the pace on equity, diversity and inclusion
- Responding to new laws and regulations

## One into three goes

The Prime Minister, [Rishi Sunak](#), [has announced](#) the current Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) will be split into three new departments. The new departments will be the [Department for Energy Security and Net Zero](#), the [Department for Science, Innovation and Technology](#) and the [Department for Business and Trade](#). The changes are intended to assist focus on the Prime Minister's five promises: to halve inflation, grow the economy, reduce debt, cut waiting lists and stop the boats.



## And finally...London Marathon Charity Rebrands

The London Marathon Charitable Trust has changed its name for the first time in more than 30 years, the organisation announced today. Now called the London Marathon Foundation, the charity has a new logo and will be publishing a new website next month. Its trading subsidiary, London Marathon Events (LME), undertook the rebrand in-house at no cost to the charity.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

[Trustee Training: Introduction to Charity Finance and Reporting](#)

7 March 2023

09:30 - 13:00

Online

[Quarterly Charities Update](#)

14 March 2023

15:30 - 17:30

Online

[Trustee Training: What Every Trustee Should Know](#)

30 March 2023

09:30 - 13:30

Online

We welcome your feedback on this update and would be pleased to hear about any areas you would like to see covered in future editions. Please email [Vikram Sandhu](#), Director, with any comments.

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Shortlisted 2019 National Firm of the Year



Shortlisted 2019 Tax Team of the Year



Highly Commended Partner of the Year



Winner: Audit Team of the Year



Winner of the Bronze Award for 2018 and 2017



Top adviser to the top 5,000 charities, Charity Financials' league table 2021



Top ten by audit fees in the 2020 Charity Finance Audit Survey