

#### **CHARITIES ACT 2022: IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) has published <u>guidance</u> explaining how it will implement the Charities Act 2022. The guidance includes a timetable for implementation of the Charities Act 2022, and the fulfilment of other commitments made by the Government in response to the Law Commission's Technical Issues in the Charity Law report. Different provisions are expected to come into force at different points over the next 18 months.



## CHARITY COMMISSION GUIDANCE ON INTERIM MANAGERS

The Charity Commission has updated its <u>guidance</u> on when and how it appoints interim managers to clarify the application process for practitioners to join the approved list, clarifying the information that it requires from applicant practitioners and their firms.

#### **CHARITY COMMISSION: BE CERTAIN IN UNCERTAIN TIMES**

The Charity Commission has launched its latest campaign to help refresh trustee knowledge. It has been developing a set of five minute guides for trustees to provide bitesize updates on the role and responsibilities of being a trustee, which was expanded in November 2021 with the latest document on safeguarding. In order to help make this knowledge more accessible and easier to digest, the Charity Commission has now launched animated videos explaining the key areas from each of their guides. The first video can be viewed <a href="here">here</a>.



### CASH COURIERS: UPDATED MESSAGE OF WARNING FROM THE CHARITY COMMISSION

Following both changes to the law on carrying cash and continued cases involving the seizure of charitable funds held as cash by the police and officers of UK ports, the Charity Commission has published an updated alert on cash couriering.

Key points include:

- Do not use cash couriers unless there are exceptional reasons to do so
- If no alternative can be found, then trustees must put in place safeguards
- Further consideration needs to be given when transporting outside the UK, with any cash greater than £10k being declared
- Serious Incident Reports must be made for any seizures of charitable cash

#### **UKRAINE CRISIS: INCREASED RISK FOR CHARITIES**

As has been the case over the past couple of months, much attention has been on the ongoing Ukraine Crisis. The Charity Commission has issued <u>another alert</u> focused on the increased risk of sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment of those in need of assistance.

Guidance covers the expectations of trustees operating in the Ukraine region to:

- Properly assess and manage the sexual exploitation and abuse risks
- Review safeguarding policies and procedures to make sure they are fit for purpose and relevant to the current situation (this may mean reviewing more regularly as the situation evolves)
- Ensure appropriate vetting checks are undertaken to confirm trustees, staff and volunteers are suitable and eligible to act
- Implement any training for existing and new trustees, staff and volunteers
- Use the Misconduct Disclosure Scheme when appropriate
- Ensure that all those connected to the charity understand how, and feel able to report concerns



#### **ANNUAL RETURN 2022**

We are imminently awaiting the launch of the updated Annual Return for 2022. We advise that charities look at the new return as soon as possible to familiarise themselves with changes, and the Charity Commission is recommending early filing. There have been clarifications, such as around the area of operation and also for details where grants are made overseas.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

<u>Quarterly Charities Update</u> 7 June 2022

7 June 2022 16:00 - 17:30 Online

**Quarterly Charities Update** 

14 September 2022 16:00 - 17:30 Online

**Quarterly Charities Update** 

06 December 2022 16:00 - 17:30 Online

For further details on our not for profit upcoming events and to register, visit www.haysmacintyre.com/events.

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 <u>Siobhan Holmes</u>, Director and Head of Grant-Making, with any comments.

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