

12 March 2026

Social Purpose eNews



Updated fundraising for an emergency guidance (CC40)

The Charity Commission has published updated guidance titled [“Fundraising for an emergency: guidance for charities \(CC40\)”](#).

The guidance reminds charities of their responsibilities relating to emergency fundraising appeals, including helping understand whether your charity can fundraise for a particular emergency (i.e. making sure the charity’s work carries out its charitable purpose and not any other purpose), wording of appeals and the options for using funds raised, such as passing funds onto another charity or operating as a grant maker.

Updated Compliance toolkit (chapter 5)

The Charity Commission has published updates to the Compliance toolkit ([chapter 5](#)) relating to protection of charities from abuse for extremist purposes (See [Summary](#)). The guidance reminds trustees of their duties and responsibilities, including compliance with general law whilst facilitating discussion and debate, and encouraging free speech. The risks will vary between charities and the trustees’ response to the risk should therefore be proportionate to the risk assessment made.



Statement and guidance issued for charities on the ongoing situation in Iran

The Charity Commission has published guidance for charities affected by the volatile [situation in Iran](#) and [wider Middle East region](#). This covers reminders on the risks of supporting extremism or terrorism, overseas staff safety, and safety in the UK for charities deemed to have links to those involved in the conflict. Previous guidance for charities operating in the Middle East was published last year.

Fundraising Regulator reviewing complaints data

The Fundraising Regulator has launched [an 18-month research project](#) examining complaints received by charities about their fundraising activities and how the sector can learn from them collectively. Previously, the Regulator gathered data from 58 large charities; this project will expand participation to a broader range of organisations in order to provide a more representative picture of the sector as a whole.



Important cybersecurity considerations

With significant recent headlines, including M&S and Jaguar Land Rover, cybersecurity remains a priority for many organisations. For charities, a loss of data can cause a significant loss of confidence from stakeholders, including both beneficiaries and donors. [CFG have issued a practical checklist for charities](#), including regular training for staff as well as a risk check for potential areas of weakness in your systems.

Northern Ireland repealing law impacting charities registered in other parts of the UK

The Northern Irish government has **decided to repeal Section 167 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008**, which required the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland to regulate voluntary organisations operating in NI but registered elsewhere in a different way. After a consultation in 2025, it was concluded that implementing Section 167 would've created a two tier regulatory environment "without delivering meaningful public benefit".



Survey highlights growing fraud risks for charities

[A survey of 164 UK charities](#) showed that 34% reported incidents or attempted incidents of fraud in the last year, of which 73% suffered losses. 38% of fraudsters operated internally, within the charity whilst 23% were outsiders. This highlights that internal fraud risk, most commonly involving misappropriation of assets or payment diversion, remains a significant concern, and that ongoing awareness and training are essential to mitigate these risks.

Safeguards needed for fundraisers paid by commission

In 2025 the Fundraising Regulator revised its code of practice for charities to not pay commission to fundraisers in most cases whilst advising charities to "give appropriate consideration" to which method of payment they used. [Rogare, the fundraising think tank, has proposed 12 safeguards](#) to protect both fundraisers and other stakeholders if commissions are to be paid, including that commission payments are always capped. Read more on what they have to say here.

Upcoming Events

[New Year, New SORP!](#)

[Income recognition for professional institutes and membership bodies](#)

19 March 2026

15:00 - 16:00

Online

[Trustee Training: Charity law update](#)

24 March 2026

13:30 - 15:30

Online

[Trustee Training: Introduction to charity finance](#)

09 April 2026

13:30 - 17:00

Online

[Catholic Charity Conference 2026](#)

07 May 2026

10:15 - 16:15

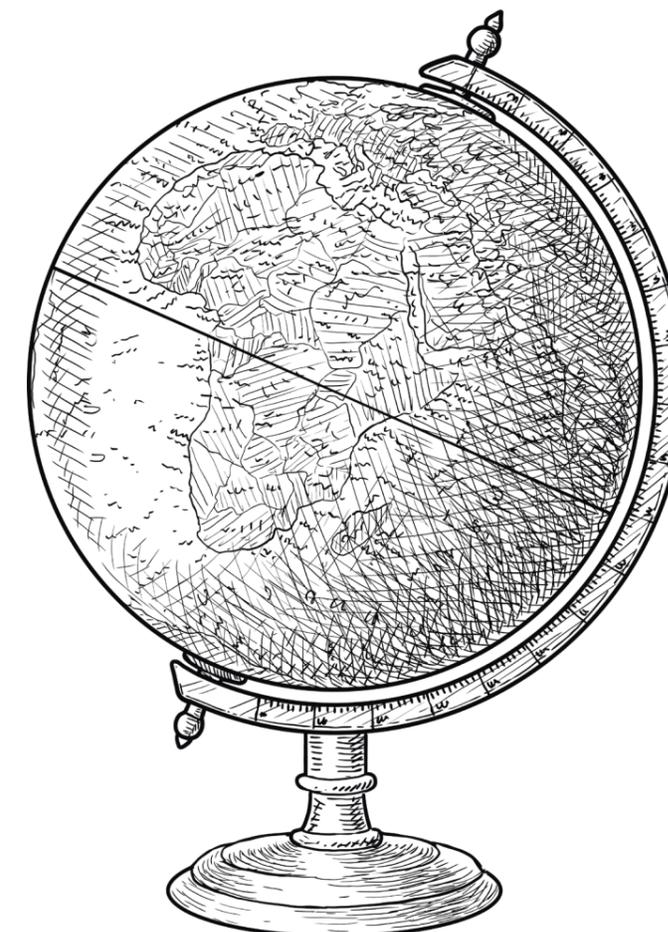
Church House Westminster

[SORP in Practice: Recap for Charities](#)

21 May 2026

10:00 - 11:00

Online



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