



CHARITIES

Registration and Regulation Update Bulletin



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Charities Updates

Welcome to the spring edition of our charities bulletin issued on behalf of the H.M. Attorney General as the regulator and registrar of charities in the Isle of Man, with our current charity numbers, engagement updates, and notes on the current status of the review of charities legislation. Please do get in touch if there is anything that you would like to see in one of our bulletins.

651	Registered charities
2	New charities
1	De-registered

Charities Engagement - What's next?

Thank you again to all that came along to our workshops last year, which were received positively. We would like to continue engagement with our stakeholders in 2024/2025. Feedback suggested that a range of dates and times would be helpful, and topics or presentations split across different sessions tailored to different attendees (new trustees, smaller charities, or larger paid trustees). Many enjoyed the engagement with other trustees, in one particular session many attendees found it very helpful to share thoughts and ideas with others, and the requirements for notifications, consents, and hints and tips in respect of common pitfalls was also a popular topic. We welcome feedback on the topics that you would like us to cover, and the best times for you. Following the feedback received, we will confirm the format which we aim to run with Council of Voluntary Organisations.



**Do you have
workshop ideas?**

**Tell us at
charities@gov.im**

Save Time and Resources....

We receive quite a number of filings (usually annual reports, or accounts) which are professionally bound, and would encourage you to file documents without those bindings where possible. The Isle of Man Government also encourages double sided printing as standard, in an effort to reduce printing cost. We would encourage charities where possible to adopt this as best practice - using less binding, and printing double sided will save paper, reduce costs to the charity, and some space in our files!



Filing Annual Reports and Accounts

I need more time to file - what do I do?

We appreciate that sometimes, issues do arise which prevent the timely filing of Annual Reports and Accounts. This could be due to something as simple as a short term illness, or a trustee leaving, or unavailability of an advisor, such as an accountant or book-keeper. Failure to file on time does constitute an offence under the Charities Registration and Regulation Act 2019, and whilst we cannot extend the statutory timeframe, it is possible to write to us to ask for us to place enforcement on hold until you are able to comply. Providing a 'grace period' for this purpose remains within the discretion of the Attorney General, and a request should be submitted in writing (by letter or by e-mail to charities@gov.im), stating the accounting year end of the annual report and accounts concerned, and giving the reasons why the filing cannot be made on time, and confirming when the filing will be made. Written confirmation will be provided if a period of grace can be given, with deadline for filing. If any delay is anticipated, the charity trustees should contact us as soon as possible, and before the expiry of any deadline given. Remember accounts and reports must be filed in hard copy!

Cyber Security Help

The Cyber Security Centre for the Isle of Man (CSC) is a free resource who can provide advice on cyber security risks and threats to charitable organisations. The CSC is a part of the Department of Home Affairs, and offers advice on cyber risks to all organisations. For more information, contact the CSC using the details below.

Web: <https://csc.gov.im>

E-mail: cyber@gov.im

Telephone: +44 1624 685557



Review of Charities Legislation

You may be aware that the Standing Committee on the Business and Functioning of the Legislative Council ("the Committee") is carrying out post-legislative scrutiny of the Charities Registration and Regulation Act 2019 ("the Act") to examine the extent to which the Act has achieved its intended purposes. More details can be found via the following link: <https://tynwald.org.im/news/call-for-evidence-charities-registration-and-regulation-act-2019>. The Attorney General is to give evidence to the Committee in April.

Notifications and Consent

Remember to tell us when you make changes

We are still seeing a number of charities filing an annual report which shows that changes have been made in a charity, but that those changes have not been notified to us. We have had some charities change trustees or address, which need to be notified to us within one month of the change. We have also seen some charities resolving to adopt a new governing instrument without consent which is required from the Attorney General before the governing instrument is adopted. If you have not yet updated your governing instrument, please do look at our model instruments at www.gov.im/charities which will make the task of updating far easier, and will ensure that the requirements of the legislation (Regulation 8 of the Charities Regulations 2020) are met.

Help and Resources for Charities

We are always happy to signpost charities to resources which may be useful. If you know of any other help or resources that we can feature in a future bulletin, please get in touch.

Resource	How do I access it?
Free meeting rooms	Contact Santander Work Cafe - www.workcafe.im
Support from other charities	Contact the Council of Voluntary Organisations - cvo@manx.net
Media features	Manx Radio - Charity of the week feature - https://www.manxradio.com/on-air/blogs/charity-of-the-week/
Data protection/retention of documents advice	Isle of Man Information Commissioner - www.inforights.im

