

Charity News



ABC Accountants

Accountants based in Leicestershire, UK

ANY HOUSE / BUILDING, ANY TOWN,
ANY COUNTY, ANY POSTCODE

TEL: 0123 456 789 FAX: 0123 456 789

EMAIL: anymame@anywhere.co.uk

www.anymame.co.uk

LET US HELP YOU

Many complex accounting and reporting requirements are applicable for charities and not-for-profit organisations. ABC Accountants can help you to make sense of these requirements, and advise you on the best course of action to take.

We will assist you with your accounting and taxation issues, and also help you to develop financial planning and management strategies. Our advisers will handle your VAT queries, alongside your Payroll Giving scheme and any audit requirements.

In addition, we are able to help you generate an efficient and effective business plan, and prepare plans for your budget and cashflow.

We have years of experience in helping charities with their fundraising needs, and can provide advice on the Charity Commission and SORP compliance.

So let us work with you to help you achieve your goals.

HAMPERS FOR LOCAL FAMILIES

Every year we support a charity that helps those less fortunate. This year the team donated items to create Christmas hampers for the Leicester South Foodbank. Each hamper contains emergency food to help feed families and individuals who are struggling to put food on the table this Christmas.

The response from the team has been phenomenally generous. For more information about the charity and how to donate you can visit their website.



MEET THE EXPERTS

Thanks to Phil, Jenny and Andrew for allowing us to use their images. Yes – these are actually Mercia’s charity experts.



Phil**FROST**

Phil qualified in his home town of Sheffield. He worked for Financial Training for a number of years and was their midlands regional director before joining ABC Accountants in 2001. He lectures to the accounting profession and to those in industry and commerce on accounting, auditing, and related legal and regulatory topics as well as specialising in charity and property accounting together with international accounting standards.



Jenny**FAULKNER**

Jenny is Head of our Assurance and Financial Reporting Publications division and acts as editor of a number of manuals including the Charities Manual. She lectures on getting the most out of the Audit Manual and has been known to Chair the Mercia Charities Conference. Jenny either writes or reviews the technical content for Charity News.

In her spare time, Jenny also acts as an independent examiner for local small charities.



Andrew**PAUL**

Andrew joined ABC Accountants in 1999 as part of the Audit and Accounts technical team. At the end of 2012 Andrew left ABC Accountants to work in Rwanda for six months, helping to build the capacity of finance teams working in the healthcare sector with the US Charity Partners in Health. On returning to the UK, Andrew held the post of Finance Manager for Compassion UK, a £30m+ income Charity. Andrew is now back at ABC Accountants and help’s Jenny with the technical content for Charity News.

Our Charity News includes useful guidance on fraud, public confidence in the sector and board diversification. We also consider the impact of Update Bulletin 2 on the SORP, the implication of this year's Budget on charities and other pertinent issues giving you the inside track on the sector's current hot topics and latest guidance.



The newsletter is applicable to the whole of the United Kingdom and makes reference to the three UK charity regulators:

- the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland (CCNI)
- the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) and
- the Charity Commission for England and Wales (CCEW).

All the articles may be of interest however to aid you we have included the following key:

Key

	United Kingdom
	England
	Wales
	Scotland
	Northern Ireland

Hot topics

How much do the public trust charities?



It is fair to say that 2018 has seen a lot of scrutiny of the charity sector with some very high profile names in the spotlight. It is therefore perhaps not surprising that the CCEW research into the public's trust of charities came up with some interesting results.

Confidence levels low

The research found that public confidence in charities is currently 5.5 out of 10. This compares to 5.7 out of 10 when the research was last carried out in 2016 and 6.7 out of 10 in 2014. It should be noted that the research was carried out immediately after the Oxfam news hit the press. This still compares favourably with groups such as MPs and journalists, who score below 4 out of 10!

It is also interesting to note that trust is highest among young people and declines as you move up the age range.

When asked why trust has declined, respondents quoted the recent media reports and that too much charity money is being spent on advertising, wages and admin as being the two main reasons.

Other issues

Other findings from the research included that 58% of respondents think that charities perform an essential or very important role in society. The main factors affecting the issue of trust are ensuring that donations reach the end cause, as well as making a positive difference.

Has your charity considered how a reduction in public confidence could affect donations and implications for any long term viability?

Guidance: goo.gl/c8fPD4

Joint registration portal shelved



The government has decided not to pursue plans to develop a joint CCEW and HMRC portal for charity registrations.

The rules at present require charities to register with the CCEW and then again with HMRC for Gift Aid and other purposes. The plan (announced back in 2013) was to streamline this process to reduce the burden on charities and improve information sharing. However,