

Charities Enews



August 2023

Making investment decisions can be a tough matter for charity trustees. The latest updated guidance from the Commission aims to help trustees adopt the right approach in the best interests of their charity. With news of this and other matters of interest to charities, including this year's Gift Aid Awareness day, we finish off our monthly charities enews with a round up of the latest funding opportunities available.

With kind regards

Paul Underwood Stuart Mackie

Paul Underwood and **Stuart Mackie**
Directors of Morris Crocker Charities Team

p.underwood@morriscrocker.co.uk and s.mackie@morriscrocker.co.uk

Tel: **023 9248 4356**

For more details about our services for charities and not-for-profit organisations, please visit our **website**

Forward this email to a friend or colleague.

Have you set up your Charity Commission account?

Trustees should have received an email from the Commission inviting them to sign up for the My Charity Commission Account service and set up their personal account. The system went live at the end of July 2023 and replaced all previous online ways of engaging with the Commission.

Each trustee will have their own account rather than the account being linked to their charity. The charity's named contact will have all the permissions and will have the power to grant permissions to other trustee's accounts.

The actions that trustees can carry out through the system will depend on what 'permissions' have been granted to their account and include:

- submitting Annual Returns (and any charities that did not complete their 2022 Annual Return by 31 July 2023 will have to start over using the My Charity Commission Account)
- updating charity details
- changing a charity's governing document
- changing a charity's name
- changing a charity's financial year-end

For more information see the Commission's **guidance on setting up your account**.

Updated guidance on charities and investment matters

Following a 'call for information' and consultation on financial investment, the Commission has updated its guidance for trustees on investing charity money. Known as CC14, the guidance has been made clearer to help trustees make the right investment decisions for their charity. It is also shorter and easier to use.

The guidance clarifies that the principal duty of a trustee is to make their investment decisions, from the range of options open to them, that further their charity's purposes. It also includes examples designed to help trustees identify the factors relevant to their own charity's situation and determine how to approach their investment decisions.

The guidance can be found **here**

Next round of Government funding

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) has revealed that the second part of the £101.5m funding package for charities announced in the Spring Budget will be distributed from this December.

Around 80% of the £25.5m VCSE Energy Efficiency Scheme will be paid out over the next two years in grants to voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) organisations to introduce energy efficiency measures in their premises.

Another £3.4m will fund an advice service to help VCSEs identify the most effective measures for reducing their energy costs, principally through an independent energy assessment.

Gift Aid Awareness Day

The Charity Finance Group (CFG) is inviting charities to join their #TickTheBox campaign on Thursday 5 October 2023 and share the message with donors, supporters, volunteers and others.

Launched in 2018, the annual Gift Aid Awareness Day, encourages charities to spread the word about the difference this tax relief makes.

You can find out more and download the social media toolkit from CFG [here](#).



Funding News

Round-up of the latest funding news and opportunities

Lloyds Bank Foundation Local Collaborations Programme

This programme supports collaborations led by small charities seeking to either:

- Make the social security system work better for those facing the greatest challenges
- Make sure people facing complex issues have access to suitable accommodation
- Improve support and services for asylum seekers and refugees

Flexible grants of £100,000 over two years are available. Collaborations will have the opportunity to extend by a further year and additional £50,000.

Expressions of interest must be made by **22 September**.

Find out more [here](#)

GiveStar's Adventure for Good Grant

Individuals, who are after adventure and also want to drive positive change in the world, can apply for funding from a £20,000 pot. The money can be used to cover costs associated with making their challenge happen so they can raise funds for charity.

To be eligible, people must be:

- Aged 18 years or older

- Based predominantly in the UK
- Planning to embark on an awe-inspiring endeavour to raise funds for charity
- Keen to collaborate with GiveStar in spreading their story.

Find out more [here](#)

A B Charitable Trust's Open Programme

Small and medium-sized charities working with migrants and refugees, or the areas of the justice system and penal reform; and human rights and access to justice can apply for grants of between £10,000 to £25,000 per year awarded from one to three years.

The Trust's Grants Committee meets four times a year to decide on grant applications. The next deadline for applications is **27 October**, with decisions made in January 2024.

Find out more [here](#)

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Tel: 023 9248 4356

