

Charities Enews



September 2023

The sudden change to wet weather this week tells us that autumn is approaching. So too is the Chancellor's Autumn Statement, planned for 22 November. This provides an update of the country's finances and the government's plans for tax and public spending based on the latest forecasts from the Office for Budget Responsibility. Perhaps not as significant as the Budget, the Statement is a good indicator of what may follow. We will keep a close eye on any proposals which may impact charities.

With kind regards

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

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Accessing Charity Commission online services

A quick check of the latest notices on the Charities Commission website mentioned they had updated their guidance on Setting up 'My Charity Commission Account' to make it easier to use. Most charities will now have actioned this but may not have invited all their trustees to set up their own accounts.

You may wish to review the updated guidance, which also covers some common issues, and check your members can access online services on behalf of your charity.

The guidance can be found [here](#)

Consultation on Code of Fundraising Practice

The Fundraising Regulator has opened a consultation as part of its ongoing review of the Code of Fundraising Practice. It is inviting those interested in charitable fundraising to share their views on the proposed changes. These include moving towards a principles-based framework, expanding the code, amending existing rules and reviewing rules where the Fundraising Regulator is not the lead regulator.

The reviewing process is expected to be completed by early 2025. Those wishing to contribute to the consultation can do so through the Fundraising Regulator's [website](#). The consultation is open until 1 December 2023.

Meta to stop covering payment processing fees for charities

The cost of third party processing fees for charities fundraising through Facebook and Instagram is set to change from this November.

Social media giant Meta is to stop covering payment processing fees for charities fundraising through its platforms. It will now partner with PayPal Giving Fund (PPGF) who charge 30p per donation plus 1.4%. Donors will have the option to increase their donation amount to cover third party processing fees.

Charities enrolled with Facebook Payments must accept the updated charitable donation terms by 1 November 2023 and switch to PPGF to receive donations.

Charity Commission CEO to step down

After seven years at the helm, Dr Helen Stephenson has announced she will be stepping down at the end of her term in July 2024. Interviews for her successor are expected to be completed by the end of this year.

As the longest-serving chief executive of the regulator, Stephenson said: "I'm exceptionally proud of my time at the Commission so far" and added that "there is still plenty to do and I look forward to continuing to work closely with the board and our staff, building on our achievements to date, and setting a new strategy."

In-memory giving market

According to research from Legacy Foresight, the UK in-memory market has grown significantly over the last 10 years and is now valued at a record amount of an estimated £1.8bn - £2.4bn a year.

The report's findings include:

- a third of adults in the UK made an in-memory donation last year, with funeral donations remaining the largest source of income
- Younger people give almost three times more than what is donated by people aged 65-75
- Online payments have overtaken cash and cheque payments as the most popular way to give
- Over half of the donations by volume are made to health charities and hospices

The report also showed that donations as part of a group (where three or more people fundraise in memory of someone they have lost) are likely to be higher than donations made by individuals, mainly because of the "emotional power and logistical benefit that group fundraising can bring".

Apply for government grants

'Find a Grant' is the new digital service available now from the UK Government which is revolutionising the way everyone can search for and apply for government grants. Designed to streamline the grant-seeking process, for the first time Find a Grant puts all the grants available from the government and how people can find them in one place.

The service can be used to:

- Access government grant funding
- Search and filter to find a grant that matches your needs
- Find out if you are eligible to apply for a grant
- Find out how to apply for a grant

It is also possible to sign up for a once weekly email that will list all the new grants that have been uploaded in the last seven days.

You can find out more [here](#)



Funding News

Round-up of the latest funding news and opportunities

Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) Suicide Prevention Grant Fund 2023-2025

Grants ranging from £10,000 to £750,000 to support suicide prevention activities delivered by charities. The activities funded must be free of charge for the recipient. The fund is particularly interested in supporting organisations that aim to help “groups of concern” and the vulnerable.

Deadline to apply: 1 October 2023

Find out more [here](#)

Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Community Ownership Fund

Charities and community organisations are invited to apply for funding worth up to £2m to take ownership of assets that are at risk of being lost to their communities, eg sports clubs or community halls. Applicants must provide at least 20% of match funding.

Deadline to apply: 11 October 2023

Find out more [here](#)

Armed Forces Covenant Fund

The Reaching and Supporting Armed Force Communities programme makes available grants up to £100,000 to charities, CICs and Armed Forces Units.

Applicants need to show how a grant would help to address hidden, compelling and complex needs, particularly those of vulnerable Armed Forces communities who are most impacted by cost of living challenges, and where there are gaps in support and provision.

Deadline to apply: 13 November 2023

Find out more [here](#)

Tesco Stronger Starts Fund

Tesco's new community grant scheme, Tesco Stronger Starts, aims to give children across the UK a stronger start in life.

In partnership with Groundwork UK, it is committing £5mn in grants to fund healthy food and activities for schools and children's groups. The scheme is open to all schools, registered charities and not-for-profit organisations, with priority given to projects that provide food and support to young people. Grants of up to £1,500 are available.

Find out more [here](#)

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