

Charities Regulator Stakeholder Forum

Date: 6 November 2023

Location: Charities Regulator, Georges Dock Dublin 1 and virtual.

The second meeting of the Charities Regulator's Stakeholder Forum was held on 6 November 2023. An agenda was circulated before the meeting.

Charities Regulator updates

- Madeleine Delaney (Director of Legal Affairs and Registration) gave a brief introduction on the Legal Affairs and Registration Unit and what it covers. She also updated members on ongoing and planned activity including initiatives to simplify charities' engagement with the Charities Regulator on matters including proposed changes by charities to their governing document. Updated guidance on what is a charity is being developed while guidance on changing a charity's name is among the topics for 2024.
- Thomas Mulholland (Director of Compliance and Enforcement) provided an update on annual reporting compliance for 2023 and a current targeted compliance programme involving charities and charity trustees that have Annual Reports outstanding for a considerable period. He confirmed that enforcement actions for those that do not come into compliance may include prosecutions and/or removal from the Register of Charities.
- Geraldine McCarthy (Head of Communications and Stakeholder Engagement) provided an update to the forum on communications initiatives and updates to the Charities Regulator website. Arising from feedback from the inaugural meeting of the forum she confirmed that a dedicated section with information and guidance on fraud prevention will be created on the Charities Regulator website in 2024.

Charities Regulator's guidance for charity trustees

In response to feedback from members of the stakeholder forum, the Charities Regulator confirmed that it will be continuing its review of its guidance for charity trustees in 2024 to make it easier to find and understand, as well as identifying areas where new or additional guidance would be beneficial. It highlighted priority areas for review in 2024 including guidance on the Charities Governance Code and the role and responsibilities of trustees. It sought suggestions and feedback from the forum members on topics for additional or revised guidance. Areas highlighted for further consideration included the development of a compliance calendar template for charities, the challenges of charities without employees and the development of more case studies.

2024 meetings

April 2024

October 2024