

Conference Programme

09:15 - 09:45 Registration

09:45 - 10:00 Welcome

10:00 – 10:40 The Impact of the Cost of Living Crisis on the Sector - Azets

The sector has been hit with some tough challenges over the last few years, none more so than the current cost of living crisis. As core costs continue to rise the gap between income and expenditure continues to reduce.

The team from Azets will provide their perspective on the crisis, along with a panel of guest experts who will talk through their experiences and the steps you can take to ensure your aims, objectives and a high level of service delivery remains.

10:40 – 11:10 Break & Networking

11:10 – 11:50 The Challenge of Trustee Recruitment - RBC Brewin Dolphin

Vision, forward thinking and diversity of thought, through a balance of challenge, perspective, experience and expertise are crucial to your charity's ongoing success. The team from RBC Brewin Dolphin will provide their view point on Trustee recruitment and convene a panel of guest experts to give practical advice and offer insights into their experience.

11:50 – 12:30 When Things Go Wrong - Geldards

Charities, like any other organisations, can face various crises that can significantly impact their operations, reputation, and ability to fulfil their missions.

In this session Geldards charity lawyers review recent case studies where charities have faced legal or compliance issues, look at how to deal with such problems when they arise, and more importantly, how to avoid them in the first place.

12:30 – 13:30 Lunch & Networking

Afternoon Workshops - 13:30 – 14:10

Peak Performing Internal Controls wins race against Modern Risks - Azets

Want to know how to develop muscles on your control framework, without going to the gym? Want to build stamina & endurance to be the frontrunner and stay ahead of all those competing risks?

The Azets Risk & Technology Assurance Team will share emerging risk trends & themes that require charities to ensure continual updating of risk assessments and then strengthening of control frameworks. This will include mitigations for internal & external fraud prevention, cyber enabled, external operating environments, regulatory etc., and how to train your people – no press ups required... promise!

Wallis Room

Navigating Economic Challenges – RBC Brewin Dolphin

The team from RBC Brewin Dolphin will give an update on financial markets, providing context on the current challenges facing charities, the economic outlook and how to navigate accordingly. Particular emphasis will be placed on inflation, interest rates and what these mean for your reserves.

This discussion will be delivered in the context of the Charity Commission's recently updated guidance on Charities and Investment Matters ("CC14") and the implications on your investment policy statement and ethical policy.

Muller Room

Employment Update – Geldards

Geldards Employment lawyers provide a case law and legislation update in relation to recent developments in employment law.

Main Hall

Afternoon Workshops - 14:15 – 14:55

Proactive Steps for Managing and Mitigating Risk - Thomas Carroll

The current hard insurance market has highlighted the critical need for proactive risk management. Thomas Carroll will discuss how robust claims defensibility measures enable the 3rd Sector to safeguard and respond effectively to incidents that may lead to a potential claim.

Wallis Room

Key Trends & Steps to Reduce Cyber Risk in Charities - PureCyber

PureCyber are removing the complexity of cyber security to provide you with practical advice on how to improve the cyber security in your organisation.

Join this session to learn the basic cyber hygiene steps that you can take to build resilience to cyber attack.

Muller Room

A problem shared is a problem halved – WCVA

The challenges and opportunities for the voluntary sector in Wales today (An interactive workshop)

The voluntary sector landscape has gone through a considerable transformation in the past few years. From the COVID-19 pandemic, through the cost of living crisis, to the end of EU funding - external factors have led to significant changes in how we operate, deliver services, recruit volunteers and think about the future. Join us for an interactive workshop aiming to identify challenges and opportunities for the sector, crowdsource solutions and share best practice.

Main Hall

15:00 – 15:15 Break

15:15 – 15:45 Charity Commission - Will Lifford

Will Lifford will provide the latest views and topical insights from the Charity Commission.

Will Lifford is a Chartered Accountant who for 25 years was a partner at Grant Thornton, retiring in 2007 as UK Senior Audit Partner. In the last 13 years he has held a number of non-executive board positions in the charitable and wider public sector. These include: Chair of Martin House Children's Hospice (until 2017), board member of the Agriculture & Horticulture Development Board (until 2020) and Entrust, regulator of the Landfill Communities Fund (until 2015).

15:45 – 16:15 Q&A and Closing Remarks