



PD 10

Relationship with the Charity Commission

The Charities Act established the Charity Commission. It acts as an independent regulator and its job is to work with charities to ensure that they are accountable, well run and meet their legal obligations to promote public trust and confidence

In this respect:

- a) The Board shall designate one of their members (nominally an officer) to be the primary contact with the Charity Commission
- b) The Charity Commission requires SGUK to make an Annual Return which includes the following information: -
 - i. Name and some personal details of each Trustee
 - ii. Income and Expenditure figures shown on the Annual Accounts
 - iii. An independent examiners report on the accounts if > £25k income
 - iv. A Trustees Report
 - v. Contact Information as specified
 - vi. Any other information deemed relevant
- c) The Charity Commission also issues guidance on good governance of charities in compliance with current legislation. Various publications for Trustees detail their duties to comply with legislation, act with prudence on financial matters and exercise care in making judgements etc. Each Board member should be familiar with their expected duties in PD 01
- d) SGUK is an "Unincorporated" legal entity. Hence, if SGUK were to become insolvent, then the Trustees may be personally liable for the debts of SGUK if they are judged to act irresponsibly
- e) Any changes to specified clauses of the Constitution require approval of the Charity Commission before they are adopted at an AGM/EGM
- f) Once draft changes are approved by the Board then the designated member contact will make a formal approach to the Charity Commission
- g) The Charity Commission produce various guidelines or update existing publications on an intermittent basis. It is the duty of the designated contact to keep the board informed of relevant changes in a timely fashion