Charities

& Wright Vigar





We formed our Charities Team partly in recognition of the experience, as Trustees and advisers, which already existed in the firm, grown from long relationships with more than 60 charities of varying shapes and sizes. It has enabled us to develop a truly specialist service. We can work with a genuine understanding of the regulatory environment for charities and practical experience of how to solve the problems. Some of the areas where we can help are:

Governance

- Strategy and organisational structure
- Restricted, Endowed and Designated Funds
- Bespoke Trustee training
- Seminars on issues of common concern

Operational Assistance

- Designing useful management accounts
- Internal audit and financial controls
- Help with personnel and IT related matters
- Identification of Key Performance Indicators

Specialist Taxation

- VAT health check
- VAT treatment of income streams
- Direct tax advice
- Gift Aid claims

Trustees' report and accounts

- Appropriate format for the figures: meaningful content for the words
- Receipts and payments accounts (reduced requirements)
- Fully compliant accounts (Statement of Recommended Practice)
- Independent Examination under guidelines from the Charity Commission
- Audit under International Auditing Standards and Practice note 11



Chris Shelbourne - Director

Chris established his own charity in 1995, Christian Partners in Africa, concentrating on development work in Africa, in particular Ethiopia and Uganda. He still heads up the charity and the past 16 years have given him an insight into all aspects of running a charity, from dealing with UK statutory bodies and funding bodies to dealing with overseas partners and UK supporters. Chris visits Africa regularly to review progress on projects and keep in touch with workers on the ground. He has even been known to get his hands dirty helping at various fund-raising events for the charity.

Combining this with his position as Managing Director of Wright Vigar, Chris is uniquely well placed to comment and advise on a wide range of issues affecting charities, in particular strategic decision making, organisational structures, and advising trustees.



James Sewell - Director

James has been working with charities for over 10 years. His role has varied, including involvement with preparation of funding bids as well as management and year end accounts. He has assisted several organisations with specialist advice on VAT and direct taxes as well as structuring organisations for optimum operational and tax efficiency.

James enjoys the variety of challenges in such diverse concerns as grant making trusts, service-delivery concerns with significant government funding, volunteer-staffed "grass-roots" charities and many others. Every one is different: but still common themes and concerns arise.

James is a Chartered Accountant and Chartered Tax Adviser.

James is responsible for the Sleaford office where he and his team pride themselves on offering a high quality, pro active service, to a wide range of clients. James regularly works in Lincoln to maintain and grow his Lincoln client base.

Wright Vigar Charity Team

Eleven charity team members from across Wright Vigar work together to look after more than 60 charities. We have the skills and experience to tackle the issues large and small.

Lincoln, Gainsborough, London, Newark, Retford, Sleaford

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