



 rollits

...more than a law firm

**Charities and  
Social Enterprise**

## Sector specialism

# Charities and Social Enterprise

## Sector overview

Charities are at the heart of our local communities and are driven by their values and their mission to offer solutions to complex social problems.

Characterised by diversity and innovation, the charity sector ranges from small local organisations to large national operations that are part of a group structure, with mergers and partnerships between charities becoming increasingly commonplace.

UK charities are constantly facing new commercial, ethical and legal challenges, and operating an effective charity, voluntary organisation or social enterprise requires commercial efficiency, professional management and strategic planning – as with any good business. There are many pressures on the sector with many organisations looking for ways to adapt to the current economic landscape.

While charities must operate within the charity law framework, they do not want to lose sight of their mission by becoming tied up in legal red tape. That's where Rollits can help.

## Our sector experience

Rollits is renowned throughout the UK for its high-quality advice, broad experience and up-to-date knowledge of the issues affecting charities and social enterprises. And with tight budgets being a constant pressure, we can offer fixed-fee packages to take the worry away.

We have become the partner of choice for some very well known national charities, large social enterprises and community interest companies from across the sector.

Our dedicated charities team has experience of working on a wide range of projects for charities delivering public services, and can advise on governance and structural issues, contractual, employment and pensions issues; and for those engaged in trading, we can advise on taxation.

We have a great deal of experience in assisting charities wishing to collaborate, whether through joint working or through a formal merger, and are fully conversant with the range of legal structures available. We also advise on joint ventures between charities and commercial partners.

The team at Rollits has experience of helping charities in regard to finance and fundraising issues, and we regularly assist charity trustees in relation to governance and formation and liaise with the Charity Commission in relation to regulatory and consent issues.



## Why use Rollits?

Rollits stands out from other charity law specialists by offering a truly comprehensive package of support.

Our highly-regarded charities team is well known for its pure charity law expertise, but also has the breadth and depth of knowledge required across all legal areas. We pride ourselves on providing a joined-up and practical approach that is free of legal jargon.

We add further value to our services, by ensuring that we stay at the forefront of developments in a fast moving and competitive field.

Our legal experts are regular contributors to leading industry publications such as New Law Journal's Charities and Appeals Supplement, writing on topical issues affecting the charity sector. In addition, we run an annual free charities' legal update seminar from our York and Hull offices, offer in-house bespoke trustee training, seminars or briefings for charity clients and provide regular newsletters for charity clients on developments in the sector.

We act for many high-profile charities for whom we have become trusted partners including Charity Bank, the only charitable bank in the UK.

## Our services

Charity Formation, Mergers, Demergers and Dissolution

Compliance with the Charities Act and Regulatory Issues

Charity trustees' legal duties and responsibilities

Monitoring and advising on new legislation

Trust Law

Constitutional Matters

Trading, Fundraising and Taxation issues

Incorporation

Joint Ventures between charities and third parties

Intellectual Property

Website and ICT issues

Data Protection and Freedom of Information

Employment and Pensions

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A list of members' names is available for inspection at our registered office. We use the term 'partner' to denote members of Rollits LLP.

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