

Best Practice in Church Accounting and Finance

5 Wider Issues

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What are the wider issues?





Reserves policy



- To save or to spend?
- How do you set a policy?
- What are free reserves?
- Reporting



Sending money overseas

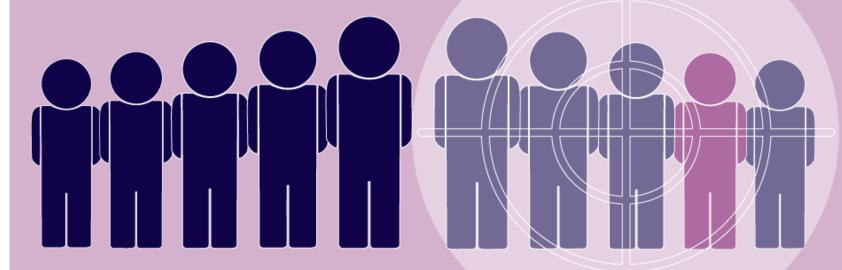


- Due diligence
- How is it being sent
- Monitoring
- HMRC interest
- Charity Commission interest





Nearly 50% of all adults have been targeted by a scam



1 in 5 of them fall victim

Fraud



- Most reported crime in the UK.
- You are 10 times more likely to be a victim of fraud than theft.
- Reported to cost between £150 million and £2 billion per year.
- Most common frauds
 - Insider fraud
 - Payment diversion
 - Cyber fraud



Cyber security



- attacks on, or through, computer systems and networks.
- often includes theft of data or disruption of systems to enable further crime.
- two thirds of high income charities had recorded a cyber breach or attack in 2018.
- over 80% had experienced a phishing attack, which are fraudulent emails.
- costs of a breach range from £300 to £100,000







Cyber Security Small Charity Guide

This advice has been produced to help charities protect themselves from the most common cyber attacks. The 5 topics covered are easy to understand and cost little to implement. Read our quick tips below, or find out more at www.ncsc.gov.uk/charity.

Backing up your data

Take regular backups of your important data, and test they can be restored. This will reduce the inconvenience of any data loss from theft, fire, other physical damage, or ransomware.





Identify what needs to be backed up. Normally this will comprise documents, emails, contacts, legal information, calendars, financial records and supporter or beneficiary databases.



Ensure the device containing your backup is not permanently connected to the device holding the original copy, neither physically nor over a local network.



Consider backing up to the cloud. This means your data is stored in a separate location (away from your offices/devices), and you'll also be able to access it quickly, from anywhere.

Keeping your smartphones (and tablets) safe

Smartphones and tablets (which are used outside the safety of the office and home)

need even more protection than "desktop" equipment.



Switch on PIN/password protection/fingerprint recognition for mobile devices.



Configure devices so that when lost or stolen they can be tracked, remotely wiped or remotely locked.



Keep your devices (and all installed apps) up to date, using the automatically update option if available.



When sending sensitive data, don't connect to public Wi-Fi hotspots - use 3G or 4G connections (including tethering and wireless dongles) or use VPNs.



Replace devices that are no longer supported by manufacturers with up-to-date alternatives.

Preventing malware damage

You can protect your charity from the damage caused by 'malware' (malicious software, including viruses) by adopting some simple and low-cost techniques.



Use antivirus software on all computers and laptops. Only install approved software on tablets and smartphones, and prevent users from downloading third party apps from unknown sources.



Patch all software and firmware by promptly applying the latest software updates provided by manufacturers and vendors. Use the 'automatically update option where available.



Control access to removable media such as SD cards and USB sticks. Consider disabling ports, or limiting access to sanctioned media. Encourage staff to transfer files via email or cloud storage instead.



Switch on your firewall (included with most operating systems) to create a buffer zone between your network and the Internet.

Avoiding phishing attacks

In phishing attacks, scammers send fake emails asking for sensitive information (such as bank details), or containing links to bad websites.



Ensure staff don't browse the web or check emails from an account with Administrator privileges. This will reduce the impact of successful phishing attacks.



Scan for malware and change passwords as soon as possible if you suspect a successful attack has occurred. Don't punish staff if they get caught out (it discourages people from reporting in the future).



Check for obvious signs of phishing, like poor spelling and grammar, or low quality versions of recognisable logos. Does the sender's email address look legitimate, or is it trying to mimic someone you know?

Using passwords to protect your data

Passwords - when implemented correctly - are a free, easy and effective way to prevent unauthorised people from accessing your devices and data.



Make sure all laptops, MACs and PCs use encryption products that require a password to boot. Switch on password/ PIN protection or fingerprint recognition for mobile devices.



Use two factor authentication (2FA) for important websites like banking and email, if you're given the option.



Avoid using predictable passwords (such as family and pet names). Avoid the most common passwords that criminals can guess (like passw0rd).



Do not enforce regular password changes; they only need to be changed when you suspect a compromise.



Change the manufacturers' default passwords that devices are issued with, before they are distributed to staff.



Provide secure storage so staff can write down passwords and keep them safe (but not with the device). Ensure staff can reset their own passwords, easily.



Consider using a password manager. If you do use one, make sure that the 'master' password (that provides access to all your other passwords) is a strong one.

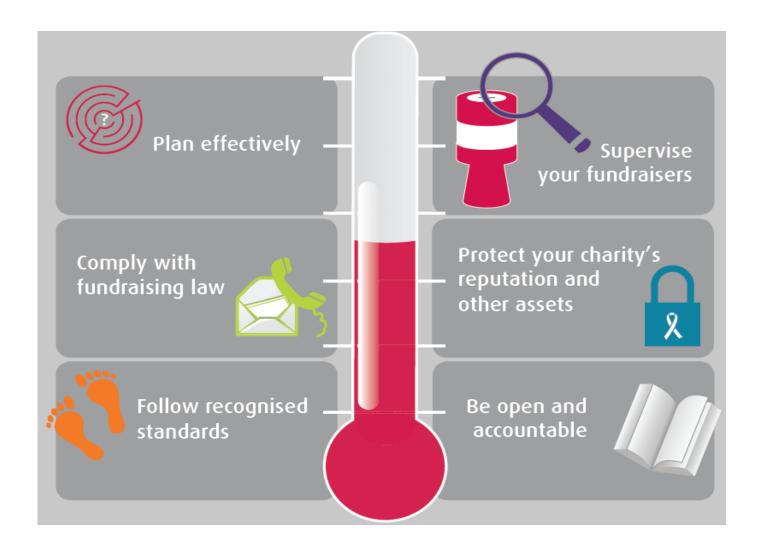


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For more information go to www.ncsc.gov.uk woncsc

Fundraising









The nine 'charity' bosses paid £300,000

The Daily Telegraph negative impact on pupils' work"

CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS



Minister threatens to withdraw aid funding

James Officepie. Caroline Wheeler, Iram Romcan and Richard Kerbai

More than 100 weekers for Britain leading charities were accused of secural abuse to the past year above. Karling feats psedophries are ton peting over most and organizations.

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EX-RED CROSS WORKER

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OXFAM was last night shamed into a grovelling apol-ogy for its sex scandal after a ninister threatened to pull the plug on funding.

The charity's chief executive admitted there had been a failure of 'moral leadership' in the wake of allegations of sexual misconduct by aid workers.

Penny Mordaust, International Developpredecessor into rate; said there was ture of demial' among aid agencies coused officials in her former depart of complicity in a "cover-up" of ser claims involving charities.



Charity admits 'moral failure' over prostitutes

scandal ++ £32m aid cash under threat ++ Former

Minister: Civil servants covered up abuse claims

Revealed: Harry and Meghan's parade 🚜

Governance



- Trustee benefits
- Conflicts of interest
- Safeguarding
- Charity Governance Code





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