

Filing charity annual returns during the coronavirus pandemic

During the coronavirus pandemic the charity sector will face challenges of looking after its staff, volunteers and trustees who may fall ill, have to self-isolate, or have to look after loved ones. The sector also has a vital role to play in looking after its beneficiaries, many of whom will be amongst the most vulnerable during this public health emergency.

We want to assure charities that our approach to regulation during this period will be as flexible and supportive as possible. Charities' primary interest, and ours, must be looking after the public and the communities that we serve. Charities can feel confident that we will, where possible, act in a pragmatic way by taking account of the wider public interest during this unprecedented period.

Where you face real and urgent legal issues, you should take advice on these.

Charities can also call our contact centre.

As an immediate step, charities that are due to submit an Annual Return imminently, but feel unable to do so, can call us to request a filing extension.

We have been discussing the impact of the current situation with government and the sector and will continue to do so over the coming days. Any further measures we can take to help will be communicated in due course.

Please use GOV.UK as the main source of [information about the pandemic](#)