

Lindsay Boswell

Lindsay Boswell is the Chief Executive of the Institute of Fundraising. The Institute is the UK's leading membership body for not-for-profit fundraisers and has over 4000 individual members. A key part of the Institutes mission is to create a strong and clear voice promoting high standards in fundraising. This has now received support from both the Westminster parliament and the Scottish Executive and self-regulation is due to be launched in 2006. Lindsay has led this initiative and has experience of more than 16 years in the voluntary sector having worked for charities in the UK, Malaysia, Botswana, Zimbabwe and Chile. He has run the Institute of Fundraising for the last 5 years."

Luke Fitzherbert

Luke FitzHerbert works for the Directory of Social Change. He has developed its series of grant guides and is editor of the Guide to the Major Trusts, of the widely reported National Lottery Yearbooks, and of its guide to The Major Charities. He has developed the Directory of Social Change's programme of training on outcome funding. Luke has been closely involved in monitoring the progress of the new Charities Bill for England and Wales and has long years of experience of dealing with annual returns and the charity SORP. He is spokesperson for DSC on these issues.

Lorcan Colclough

Lorcan is a Chartered Accountant and is a Partner in the Enterprise Division of Mazars. Mazars is the eighth largest accountancy practice in Ireland with two offices in Dublin and Galway. Lorcan works principally in the area of audit and assurance. He is currently Chairman of the Leinster Society of Chartered Accountants and is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Irelands Auditing Standards Committee. He is a keen advocate of Charity Law Reform and has spoken on this area previously.

Gavin Smith

Gavin joined Triodos Bank in 2002 to head the Business Banking team. Prior to joining, Gavin was Head of Factoring Operations for a subsidiary of Abbey National Business Banking where he provided asset financial services to small to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Gavin's experience of working in the enterprise culture dates back to his first job as a graduate trainee in Belfast for the Northern Ireland Small Business Enterprise Unit in 1987.

Patricia Rickard-Clarke

Patricia Rickard-Clarke is the permanent Commissioner with the Law Reform Commission having been a part-time Commissioner since 1997. Up until 2002 she was a partner in the Private Client Department of McCann Fitzgerald Solicitors where she was in private practice for over 20 years specialising in taxation and trusts.

IRISH CHARITIES TAX REFORM GROUP

ISFC
10 Grattan Crescent
Inchicore
Dublin 8
ph: 01 453 1861
fax: 01 453 1862
email: ictr@iol.ie
www.charitytaxreform.com
www.vatcampaign.com

From Policy to Practice - Charity Regulation

learning from others

Irish Charities Tax Reform Group

14th Annual Conference

Wednesday 9th November 2005

The Gresham, Dublin

Opening address by: Sean Fleming TD - (Chairman Joint Committee on Finance and Public Affairs)

Chaired by: Aine Lawlor - (Presenter "Morning Ireland" RTE)

Guest Speaker: Fintan Drury - (Chairman PLATINUM ONE)

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Programme

- 09.00 ICTRG AGM (Members only)
- 09.30 Registration with tea/coffee
- 09.50 Welcome and Introduction - Niamh Ní Chonghaile (Chairman ICTRG)
- 10.00 Opening Address: Tax policy in the context of a newly regulated charity sector – Sean Fleming TD (Chairman Joint Committee on Finance and Public Services)
- 10.20 Self Regulation of Fundraising in the UK – possible lessons for Ireland – Lindsay Boswell (CEO Institute of Fundraising – UK)
- 10.50 Questions and Answers – chaired by Aine Lawlor (RTÉ)
- 11.05 Annual Returns – is SORP an appropriate model for Ireland? – Luke Fitzherbert (Directory of Social Change, UK)
- 11.25 Annual Returns - an Irish perspective - Lorcan Colclough (Chairman, Leinster Society of Chartered Accountants)
- 11.40 Q & A – chaired by Aine Lawlor (RTÉ)
- 11.55 Break
- 12.10 UK legal structures for charities – Charitable Incorporated Organisations (CIO) - Luke Fitzherbert (Directory of Social Change, UK)
- 12.30 'Community Interest Companies - the UK's new CIC's' Gavin Smith (Triodos Bank)
- 12.45 Legal structures for charities – an Irish perspective - Patricia Rickard Clarke (Law Reform Commissioner)
- 12.55 Questions and Answers – chaired by Aine Lawlor (RTÉ)
- 13.15 Lunch
- 14.00 Lunchtime Guest Speaker: Fintan Drury (Chairman PLATINUM ONE)
- 14.30 Close

Opening Address – Sean Fleming TD

Sean is a full time public representative for Laois/Offaly since first elected to the Dail in 1997. He is a Commerce graduate of UCD and a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland. Sean is chairman of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Finance and the Public Service and a member of the Public Accounts Committee and the Standing Joint Committee on Consolidation Bills. He is a former Financial Director of the Fianna Fail Party at National Level.

Guest Speaker - Fintan Drury

Fintan is the Chairman of PLATINUM ONE Ireland's only full service sports sponsorship and event management agency. He was a key player in the initiative to bring the Ryder Cup to Ireland in 2006. Former news and current affairs journalist with RTE, Drury set up Drury Communications in 1989 and grew the company into a market leader prior to selling it in 1999. He is the Chairman of The RTE Authority, Chairman of Paddy Power plc and also sits on the board of Anglo Irish Bank Corporation plc.

From Policy to Practice – Charity Regulation - learning from others

New legislation on the regulation of charities is to be published in Spring 2006 according to Minister Noel Ahern TD in a recent radio interview. His Department has already set out the broad parameters of the legislation in its consultation document "A modern statutory framework for charities" (Dec. 2003) which includes a statutory body for the regulation of charities. It is envisaged that this body will be responsible for maintaining a register of charities and will have the necessary powers for ensuring their proper administration and regulation.

"From Policy to Practice – Charity Regulation" anticipates what form the regulation will take in practice by drawing on the experience of our UK colleagues in three key areas, regulation of fundraising, the design of annual returns and the development of special legal structures for charities and social economy organisations. Emphasis will be placed on the lessons to be learned and pitfalls to avoid in developing the detail of our own regulatory system in Ireland.

In his opening address Sean Fleming TD, Chairman of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Finance and the Public Service, will concentrate on government policy in relation to charities and in particular taxation policy in the context of new legislation.

The proposals on fundraising set out in the government's consultation document favour a mix of formal and self-regulation. Lindsay Boswell (UK Institute of Fundraising) has led the development of self-regulation practice in the UK and will give us the benefit of his experience, focusing on the lessons that can be learned in Ireland.

The UK also has a long history in relation to the development and practical implementation of annual returns, accounting standards and reporting requirements for charities. Luke Fitzherbert (Directory of Social Change) will provide a critical analysis of the UK model with a view to highlighting issues that should be considered in designing annual returns for Ireland. Lorcan Colclough will provide us with an Irish perspective on charity annual returns from a professional accountancy point of view.

There has been some debate in recent years on the suitability of existing legal structures for charities and the potential for developing new models that specifically meet their needs. This issue was raised in the Law Reform Commissions recent consultation on Charity Trust Law reform. In the UK this has led to two new legal forms, Charitable Incorporated Organisations (CIOs) for charities and Community Interest Companies (CICs) for social economy organisations. Luke Fitzherbert and Gavin Smith (Triodos Bank) will outline the key features and benefits of each and Patricia Rickard Clarke (Law Reform Commissioner) will provide an Irish legal perspective on the issue.

ICTRG is delighted to welcome Fintan Drury as our guest lunch-time speaker this year.

The Conference is designed for Board Members, Trustees, Chief Executives and Development and Financial Executives of charities and voluntary organisations. ICTRG is a membership organisation of 142 Irish Charities working to increase funding to the sector through tax reform.