



QUEEN'S
UNIVERSITY
BELFAST

INSTITUTE OF
PROFESSIONAL
LEGAL STUDIES

CHARITY LAW & GOVERNANCE



SHAPING
A BETTER
WORLD
SINCE 1845

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The charity sector in Northern Ireland faces considerable challenges as it deals with the possibility of an economic downturn and operating under reduced budgets alongside the current political uncertainty. Northern Ireland has a large and vibrant charity sector ranging from small groups meeting local needs with few resources to charities who are household names, operating with budgets of millions. There are many legal and governance issues which are fundamental to the effective operation and success of a charity. The regulatory landscape for charities is quickly changing in this jurisdiction. This course will consider many of these regulatory and operational matters.

WE WILL COVER THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:

- Establishing a charity: legal structures & registration requirements;
- The role of the Board
- Legal duties of a Trustee
- Practical case studies: The effective Trustee
- Charity governance – the good, the bad and the ugly!
- Real cases of governance failure
- Consequences of poor governance
- Fundraising codes & best practice
- People Management, Human Resources, Volunteering and Mental Health – issues and solutions.
- Data protection issues – the common-law versus the common misconception.
- Procurement and tendering. Public/private tendering – pre and post Brexit – and TUPE issues – what to watch out for.
- We will explore the requirement for businesses seeking to win government work to set out how they will also deliver social value priorities and the opportunities this brings for the charity sector.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

The course will appeal to solicitors and barristers in practice who advise charitable organisations. It will also appeal to those working in the charity sector or those who hold positions on boards of organisations or in a management capacity. We invite legal professionals and individuals involved with the charity sector to apply.

Course Details

VENUE

Institute of Professional Legal Studies Queen's University Belfast, 10 Lennoxvale, Belfast, BT9 5BY

DATES

Thursday 21st September 2023
Thursday 28th September 2023
Thursday 12th October 2023
Thursday 19th October 2023

Each night the sessions will be from 6pm-8.00pm with refreshments available from 5.30pm.

CPD

Time spent by solicitors and barristers attending lectures and workshops in person or completing these via e-learning as part of this course can be claimed towards your annual CPD requirement. Attendance at this course will cover 8 hours of group study CPD.

TIMETABLE

A full timetable for the course which will include more details of the topics covered and the speakers who will be presenting is available on the CPD section of our website at <https://www.qub.ac.uk/schools/InstituteofProfessionalLegalStudies/CPDCourses/>

FEES and REGISTRATION

£600

Applicants will be considered on a first-come first-served basis. Spaces are limited on the course and therefore you should register and pay as soon as possible by visiting our website at <https://www.qub.ac.uk/schools/InstituteofProfessionalLegalStudies/CPDCourses/>

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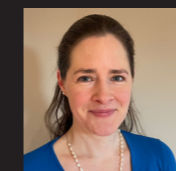
SPEAKERS

Nicole Lappin, Former Chief Charity Commissioner



Nicole Lappin was appointed Chief Commissioner of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland in August 2019. She stepped down from this role to take up the position of Chair of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive in November 2022. Nicole qualified as a barrister in Dublin, and she practised in Dublin and Belfast. She has taught a variety of courses at IPLS for over ten years. Nicole has a portfolio of governance positions, including Chair of the NI Ambulance Service and Board member positions with the NI Courts and Tribunals Service as well as the Education Authority. These positions enable her to share best practice governance across several sectors. A previous Non-executive Director with the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority in Dublin means that she has developed an insight into regulatory issues in a number of different sectors which is further enhanced through her role as Chair of a Fitness to Practise Committee for the Pharmaceutical Society for NI. As Chair of the Public Sector Chairs Forum for NI, Nicole believes that effective governance and good regulation assist with improving the delivery of services to the public.

Sarah Sellars, Solicitor



Sarah has a background in professional fundraising, having managed direct fundraising campaigns for a range of charities in the UK and Ireland. She now practises as a medical negligence solicitor, and maintains her links with the third sector through her voluntary commitments. Sarah is a trustee and director of Parenting NI; trustee of an Oxford-based housing trust; a helpline volunteer for national patient safety charity Action Against Medical Accidents; and is involved in her local school PTA.

Johanna Cunningham, Associate Solicitor



Johanna is an associate solicitor in the Employment team at A&L Goodbody. She advises employers in the public, private and charitable sectors on the full spectrum of employment law issues. In particular, Johanna has comprehensive experience in the following areas: drafting employment contracts, director service agreements and policies, advising on redundancy scenarios, disciplinary, grievance and industrial relations issues and advising on the employment aspects of mergers and acquisitions. Johanna also represents clients through every stage of the tribunal process and has solid advocacy experience in the Industrial Tribunals and Fair Employment Tribunal.

In addition to core employment law expertise, Johanna also has a thorough understanding of data protection law. Johanna regularly provides advice and training to employers on dealing with subject access requests, handling data breaches, cross-border data processing, data protection policies, and the impact of data protection on hybrid working.

Gareth Walls, Partner & Head of Employment



Gareth Walls is partner and head of the A&L Goodbody Employment and Incentives team in Northern Ireland. Gareth represents a number of local, national and international brands in business support, strategic workforce planning and high profile tribunal matters. He also has significant experience in corporate immigration, redundancy, re-structuring and TUPE issues. Gareth is an accomplished commercial litigator with particular emphasis on discrimination and injunctive relief in the Employment context, as well as being a sought after speaker on Employment issues in Northern Ireland. He is also a voluntary director and Board member of a number of local charities.

Stephen Geoghan, Associate Solicitor



Stephen is an Associate in A&L Goodbody's Litigation Department in Belfast and he specialises in Public & Regulatory law. Stephen has a wide range of experience in advising registered charities, housing associations and Industrial and Provident Societies. His practice area includes acting on behalf of regulated utilities and companies in the energy sector, his primary areas of practice are procurement, judicial review, and regulatory law.

David Nicholl LLB, FCPFA



David Nicholl is the Managing Director of On Board Training and Consultancy Ltd. He is the original author of the 'On Board' Guides for Board Members of Public Bodies in Scotland and Northern Ireland. David has trained more than 800 Boards of public sector and not-for-profit organisations and is widely recognised as one of the UK and Ireland's leading experts in corporate governance.

David has advised more than 150 Boards/organisations on various governance issues including developing and improving their corporate governance frameworks, conflict resolution, how to handle conflicts of interest etc. He has also undertaken many high profile investigations into governance failure. David was one of the founders of 'How Good is Your Governance', a unique online Governance Improvement Tool that enables charities to benchmark their governance arrangements against best practice and provide assurance that they are operating effectively.

David is the Chair of Dreamscheme Northern Ireland, a charity that works with at-risk young people in disadvantaged areas of Belfast. He also chairs the Pension Fund of a not-for-profit organisation. He also served as an independent member on the Audit and Risk Committee of the South Eastern Education and Library Board for ten years.



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TESTIMONIALS

“This course really packs a punch in that it condenses a huge amount of topics, issues and trends into a relatively short programme. The course is well suited for working professionals and gets the balance just right between legal theory and practical scenarios which we are all likely to face at some stage throughout our careers working in the third sector. Highly recommended.”

Chris Armstrong, Deputy CEO, EastSide Partnership

“I attended the inaugural Charity Law and Governance course at IPLS. There was a good range of highly experienced speakers and quite a bit of interaction with the speakers and fellow participants, which meant that the course was extremely informative and very enjoyable.”

Damian Collins -Associate Solicitor- McCartan Turkington Breen Solicitors

“An insightful course, touching on the basics of Charity Law and governance in Northern Ireland. As a solicitor I found this course to be both practical and educational, and presented in an organised and informative manner by experts across this area. I would recommend this course as an overview for both legal professionals and those who operate in this sector.”

Aimee Craig - Associate Director (Solicitor) Tughans

How to get more information

Visit our website for the latest availability, dates and fees:

www.qub.ac.uk/schools/InstituteofProfessionalLegalStudies/ or contact us on **028 9097 5699**

or e-mail: **Claire Armstrong** on c.a.armstrong@qub.ac.uk

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