

Various suggestions have been circulated by the Charity Finance Group, which have undertaken an extensive consultation with finance professionals via roundtables and an online survey.

In line with those, I would encourage the SORP making-bodies to:

1. Reject the proposal for a Key Facts Summary

There is no rationale for why this summary would improve understanding of charities, and I do not believe that this is financial information which would universally demonstrate the effectiveness of a charity. It is only likely to encourage readers not to engage with the full annual report and accounts.

2. Reject the proposal for material donors and funders to be declared

I am concerned that this will impact of the donor's right to privacy and could lead to fewer charities receiving charitable donations. I also do not believe that declaring funders, such as local councils, would improve the public's understanding of the effectiveness of a charity.

3. Abolish the separate accounting of support costs

These are confusing members of public in attempting to compare different charities by reference to support costs – when such are a product of legal status and operating model

4. Not require disclosure of cost by region / country

This become overly complicated for international charities and again distracts from the outcomes of the charity by assuming that spending reflects the value of activity in a particular country. Disclosure on such basic terms is going to distort activity when such should be determined by need and resource availability. This seems to be playing into a prejudice that spending in UK would be “bad”

Regards

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