



**CabinetOffice**  
Office of the **Third Sector**

# Charities Act 2006: Implementation

Office of the Third Sector

# Implementation: Our aims

- Give time to properly prepare for changes.
- Bring de-regulatory measures into force as quickly as possible.
- Fulfil commitments made in Parliament.
- Communicate forthcoming changes effectively and engage in consultation.



# Implementation: Timetable

- Royal Assent in November 2006
- February 2007 – First tranche
- October 2007 – Second tranche
- Early 2008 – Third tranche
- Provisionally:
  - 2008-09 - New arrangements for regulating exempt and excepted charities
  - 2009-10 Public charitable collections



# February 2007:

- Changes to the Charity Commission
- The Commission to prepare guidance on public benefit for consultation
- Increase in registration threshold for small charities
- Changes to audit thresholds
- Measures relating to trustee liability and insurance
- Other minor measures



# October 2007:

- Merger provisions
- Professional Fundraiser and Commercial Participator statements



# Early 2008

- Changes to the audit and accounting regime for charities:
  - Small charitable companies
  - Group accounts
- The Charity Tribunal – to hear appeals against legal decisions of the Charity Commission
- The new definition of charity, including public benefit requirement



# Early 2008 (contd.)

- New powers for the Charity Commission
- Remuneration of trustees providing a service to the charity
- Extended powers for unincorporated charities
- Changes to the law of Cy Pres



# Later Commencement

- Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Spring / Summer 2008)
- Changes to the rules governing exempt and excepted charities (2008-09)
- New licensing regime for public charitable collections (2009-10)



# Other Commitments

- Plain language guide to the Act (published)
- Consolidation of charity law (2008-09 provisionally)
- Review of financial thresholds (2007-08)
- Review of secondary legislation under the existing Charities Acts (2007-08)
- Review of the impact of the public benefit requirement (2009-10)
- Evaluation of the impact of the Charities Act 2006 within five years (2011)



# Consultations

- March 2007 – Charity Commission consultation on draft public benefit guidance
- June 2007 – Consultation on accounting and reporting changes
- July 2007 – Ministry of Justice consultation on Charity Tribunal practice and procedure rules
- October 2007 – Consultation on professional fundraiser and commercial participator guidance
- October 2007 – Consultation on threshold review proposals
- November 2007 – Consultation on CIO regulations



# Further Information

- Keep a lookout on the following websites:
  - [www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/thirdsector](http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/thirdsector)
  - [www.charitycommission.gov.uk](http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk)
- To receive email updates of progress on implementation:
  - Sign-up on our website

