

LOUTH VOLUNTEER CENTRE – CHARITIES REGULATOR REGISTRATION HUB

What is the Charities Regulator?

The Charities Regulator is Ireland's national statutory regulator for charitable organisations. The Charities Regulator is an independent authority and was established on the 16th of October 2014 under the Charities Act 2009.

The key functions of the Regulator are to establish and maintain a **public register of charitable organisations** operating in Ireland and **ensure their compliance with the Charities Acts**. On **19th September** a strategic alliance between the Charities Regulator and the national network of Volunteer Centres was launched.

What is this strategic alliance?

Volunteer Centres are **Regulator Registration Hubs** for the Charities Regulator (CR). This means that we are available to organisations who wish to get support in registering with the Charities Regulator at set times. This is currently Wednesday from 9.30 – 1.00pm in both our Drogheda and Dundalk offices. You will need to speak to the designated CR Hub team member about this.

What type of support do we offer?

Most of the supports we provide are **practical support** such as:

- ICT access for organisations who do not have PCs/Laptops or access to good broadband (eg rural groups)
- Access to scanners, printers, etc for uploading required documents to the CR website
- Support and guidance through the registration process – we can submit queries directly to the CR on behalf of organisations
- In time we may be offering support to new organisations to decide whether they should register or not

What organisations do we offer this support to?

1. Organisations who the CR have tried to contact but from whom they **have not received a response** will be informed that the Regulator Registration Hubs are open and given contact details and drop in times. We will be given a list of these organisations, it is likely that some may no longer exist.
2. **Type A** organisations who wish to register with the regulator.

A **Type A** organisation is usually run by volunteers; operate on a budget of €10,000 per year, or less (although may have a larger income); they are often not incorporated.

Who needs to register with the Charities Regulator?

- All charities holding charitable tax status (CHY number) on 16 October 2014 are 'deemed' registered but must complete information on the register and an annual return
- All charitable organisations in existence prior to 16 October 2014 but not holding charitable tax status must apply for registration (deadline for applications was 16 April 2016)
- All new charitable organisations must apply for registration and cannot operate as a charity until approved

For further information on our Regulator Registration Hub: Contact **Gráinne Berrill**, Louth Volunteer Centre manager at **041 9809008** or **grainne@volunteerlouth.ie**