

# Larking Gowen

## Services to the charity sector

As experienced advisors to the sector, Larking Gowen have a dedicated team with the in-house expertise to cover all of your potential needs. Whether your organisation is large or small, our team is committed to providing the support you are looking for.

The Larking Gowen Charities team will offer you:

- Proactive advice and service
- Demonstrable expertise in this sector
- A practical approach to understanding your organisation
- Constructive advice on future development
- Absolute commitment to client care and service
- A commitment to meet your reporting timetable
- A competitive fee structure

### Technical support and expertise

The service we deliver is tailored to an individual client's needs and timetables. As a result, we place great emphasis on developing a detailed understanding of operations, systems and controls and maintaining on-going dialogue throughout the year. We consider that this is essential in building a strong, progressive relationship, where service and advice continue to develop in line with a client's changing needs and expectations.

Our commitment to client care and service is paramount. We believe that charity clients can only be advised by specialist advisors and for this reason, at Larking Gowen, charities are only dealt with by our specialist, experienced team.

We believe that effective advice needs to look beyond compliance matters and that charity advisors need to be available to provide prompt advice and support throughout the year and not limit this to the period of the annual audit fieldwork. We give clients an absolute commitment to adhere to reporting timetables and to give prompt notice of information requirements. We also give an undertaking to maintain a fair and competitive fee structure.

The dedicated charity service team works closely with the other specialists within the firm and you can therefore be assured that we have the resources and in-house expertise to cover not just annual accounts matters but to provide proactive advice on key matters such as VAT, charity trading and Gift Aid etc.

## How we can help

As a full service firm, in addition to financial reporting, audit and examination services we are able to assist charities in the following areas:

- Advice on selecting the appropriate charitable entity
- Charity formation services
- Companies House and Charity Commission documentation and filing
- Company secretarial services
- Cost effective payroll services
- VAT risk reviews and specialist VAT advice
- Tax and use of trading and enterprise companies
- Advice on Gift Aid
- Tax fee protection service covering VAT, PAYE, Gift Aid or Minimum Wage
- PAYE health checks, advice on benefits and dispensations
- Assistance with HM Revenue & Customs negotiations
- Governance advice
- Trustee training and guidance
- Topical newsletters
- Ad hoc accounting support (e.g. to cover unexpected staff absences)
- Advice on systems development including internal reporting and controls
- Financial forecasting and modelling
- Due diligence and advice on mergers and combinations
- Assistance with dissolution, strike-off and de-registration

## About us

Established for over 125 years, Larking Gowen is a major independent partnership and one of the UK's top 50 accountancy firms. Our absolute commitment to client care and service is what differentiates us from other firms. The firm is regularly ranked in the Charity Finance Magazine National Survey of UK Charity Auditors. The 2012 survey saw the firm in 3rd place nationally for overall client service.

A team of almost 300 people throughout our network of regional offices is there to support you and your organisation. We place great emphasis on understanding a client's mission, objectives and development plans. We consider that this is a key part of delivering a service truly tailored to specific needs and concerns and ensuring that service continues to develop as the organisation evolves.

The firm regards the relationship with charity sector clients very much as a partnership and we therefore seek to maintain a continuing dialogue during the year. We consider that this proactive approach is an essential part of maintaining an effective service and a competitive fee structure.

## The next step

We would be very pleased to meet you for a free initial consultation, without obligation and at a time convenient to you. In handling your affairs, we believe you will find that we represent true value for money. To take advantage of this initial free consultation, either at your premises or at one of our offices, please contact one of our charity sector specialists on 0845 2472\*.

Larking Gowen is a member of MHA, an association of independent firms.



An independent member of Baker Tilly International

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