



Queen's University
Belfast

CENTRE FOR NOT-FOR-
PROFIT AND PUBLIC-
SECTOR RESEARCH



Conference: Charities, nonprofits and NGOs: (re)building trust and legitimacy

**Centre for Not-for-profit and Public Sector Research (CNPR),
Queen's University Belfast**

Tuesday 3rd /Wednesday 4th September 2019

Charities, nongovernmental organisations (NGOs) and nonprofit organisations are pervasive in our society. They are mission driven and often exist to provide public benefit; benefit that may perhaps not be provided, or not provided in the same way or to the same extent, without the existence of such organisational forms. They are organisations where the fact and perception of the linked concepts of accountability, legitimacy, trust, transparency and ethical behaviour are particularly important. Common expectations are that they will both 'do good' (create positive change – do things that society values) and 'be good' (spend wisely, act ethically). While these expectations hold, society continues to place trust in and support them; when these don't hold, trust is lost and damage results.

Given this, governance, management practices, accounting and accountability systems are important in building (and maintaining) public trust and legitimacy. The conference aims to provide a timely and comprehensive overview of issues that impact on perceptions of trust and legitimacy in the sector. It is envisaged that contributions (from sector regulators and specialists, thought leaders and leading academics researching the area) will not only highlight the need for the sector to be aware of, and manage, factors that impact on trust and legitimacy, but also provide evidence to evaluate and guide the introduction of new practices and processes. In addition, the conference will provide opportunities (including at a round table question time) for those attending to engage in discussions with presenters on these key issues.

Some Key Presentations at the Conference:

Debra Allcock Tyler who will speak on: **‘Trust but verify’**



Debra is Chief Executive of the Directory of Social Change, the UK-based support organisation for the charity sector which conducts research relating to the sector as a basis for challenging and debating government policy, trust funding, and other issues which threaten the independence of charities.

Andrew Hind CB who will speak on: **‘The days of unconditional public trust are over. What should the charity sector do about it?’**

Andrew is Visiting Professor of charity governance and finance at Cass Business School, London. He was Chief Executive of the Charity Commission for England and Wales from 2004 to 2010.



Kieran Donnelly who will speak on: **‘Building effective partnerships between government and the charity sector’**



Kieran has been Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) for Northern Ireland since 2009 with responsibility for overseeing spending of £26 billion in over 100 public sector organisations. He is a member of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy and, since his appointment as C&AG, has produced over 80 public reports on a wide range of value for money, governance and financial management issues.

Frances McCandless who will speak on: **‘Getting it right: what inspires public trust and confidence?’**

Frances has been Chief Executive of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland since 2010. Prior to taking up this post, Frances was employed as Director of Policy at NICVA, an umbrella body which provides advice, information and policy analysis to the 5,000 voluntary and community organisations in Northern Ireland.



Helen Martin who will speak on: **‘Charities Regulatory Authority, Ireland – the journey so far and current regulatory priorities’**

Helen was appointed interim Chief Executive Officer of the Charities Regulatory Authority, Ireland in 2018, having previously been Director of Regulation. A solicitor by training, formerly she had worked in the in the Office of the Attorney General after several years in the private sector.



Conference fee is £120 (includes food and attendance at conference dinner on 3rd September).

Register online:

To register please [click here](#)

Organising Committee (all from the Centre for Not-for-profit and Public-sector Research, Queen’s University Belfast):

Professor Noel Hyndman, Professor Mariannunziata Liguori, Professor Donal McKillop and Dr Danielle McConville

Any queries: gumsresearch.support@qub.ac.uk – addressed to Karen McAuley and/or Karon McIlroy

PLEASE NOTE:

The conference is scheduled to finish at 1.00 p.m. on Wednesday 4th September