About Us

Our team is Ireland’s dominant provider of legal services to the Charity and Not-for-Profit sector. Our lawyers have an unparalleled knowledge and experience of the sector and a deep appreciation of the mission and vision of our clients. We provide well-known international charities, Ireland’s principal national charities, and many local organisations with bespoke, specialist legal services, including advice on charity law and a host of other legal areas of relevance to our clients.

Why Choose Us?

Our team appreciates the pressures faced by charities and not-for-profit bodies in carrying out their activities within today’s commercial world, while keeping up-to-date with modern governance practices, regulatory regimes and charity law. We regularly assist our clients with the many complex and strategic issues faced by the sector and we have been lead advisors on the most high profile charity transactions and cases in recent years.

Our Goal

The objective of all our advice is to enable our clients to deliver their charitable services in an efficient and effective way. We will always go the extra mile to tailor our advice to the particular client’s objectives, enabling them to navigate the matter at hand successfully. We take the time to provide a personal service, recognising that complex legal issues require a comprehensive explanation.

Practical Experience

To fulfil the role of trusted advisor to our charity clients, our lawyers have immersed themselves in the sector. They have gained practical in-charity experience by:

- acting as directors of charities
- volunteering for charities
- participating in policy formation with the Charities Regulatory Authority
- speaking & presenting at seminars for charities
- active membership of the leading charity associations and networks.

We believe that this immersion approach enables us to provide extremely practical advice and support to our clients.

Key Practice Areas

- New charity applications
- Legal structures
- Compliance with governing instruments
- Compliance with the Charities Act
- Interactions with the Charities Regulatory Authority and the Revenue Commissioners
- Annual reporting
- Advice to religious organisations
- Charitable trusts
- Corporate governance advice and training
- Board policies and procedures
- Compliance with the Charities Regulatory Authority guidance and policies
- Best practice and legal requirements re fundraising
- Obtaining grant funding and other finance
- Mergers and restructures
- Advices to HSE-funded (section 38 and section 39) agencies
- Advices to social enterprises
- Regulation of Approved Housing Bodies

About Our Firm
Sectoral Focus

Education

Our dedicated team of Education law specialists provide tailored advice on every aspect of law in the education sector. Since the vast majority of education providers in Ireland are registered charities, our Charities and Not-for-Profit team assists these clients with a range of charity-related matters.

Our clients include primary and secondary schools, universities, institutes of technology, other third level colleges and educational institutions. We also act for primary and secondary school management bodies.

Housing

Social housing is a national priority and solutions are being brought forth on several fronts to meet the demand. In addition to increased activity by local authorities, much needed interest in investment is developing and new legal mechanisms and structures are emerging.

Since most of the housing associations are charities in Ireland, our team is assisting them to navigate the complex legal frameworks that govern the sector. In addition to regulation by the Charities Regulatory Authority this cohort of charities are also subject to parallel regulation by the Housing Agency as well as having to meet the requirements of the HSE and/or Local Authorities if in receipt of their funding.

Healthcare Providers

With unrivalled depth of experience in the Irish healthcare sector, we advise voluntary hospitals and many other healthcare providers operating in the areas of hospice care, intellectual and physical disability, mental health and non-acute healthcare on structuring, corporate governance and charity law issues.

We regularly assist section 38 and 39 (HSE-funded) healthcare providers to meet the governance standards required of them, including obligations arising under their contracts with the HSE. We assist hospitals and other organisations on proposed mergers and changes to the structure within which they provide their services.

Religious Organisations

Working with religious organisations for many years has provided us with an excellent insight into the environment within which they carry out their activities. We understand and appreciate the importance of the history, vision, mission, charism and ethos of each of our religious clients.

We have acted for many decades for a majority of Ireland’s many Religious Orders and Congregations, as well as for the Roman Catholic Hierarchy and its Dioceses, other denominations, and other faiths. In working with our religious clients, we are conscious of the specific issues that concern many of them today.
Core Charities and Not-for-Profit Team

Edward Gleeson
Head of Charities & Not-for-Profit
+353 1 614 2438
egleeson@mhc.ie

Niamh Callaghan
Partner
+353 1 614 5048
ncallaghan@mhc.ie

Kevin Hoy
Chairman
+353 1 614 2124
khoy@mhc.ie

Alice Murphy
Partner
+353 1 614 2392
alicemurphy@mhc.ie

Broader Team of Experts

Tom Davy
Head of Charities Real Estate
+353 1 614 5265
tdavy@mhc.ie

Ian O’Herlihy
Partner, Head of Education
+353 1 614 2434
ioherlihy@mhc.ie

Ger Connolly
Partner, Employment
+353 1 614 2409
gconnolly@mhc.ie

Elizabeth Ryan
Partner, Employment
+353 1 614 5283
eryan@mhc.ie

Helen Ferguson
Partner, Private Client
+353 1 614 2309
hferguson@mhc.ie

Niamh Keogh
Partner, Tax
+353 1 614 5848
nkeogh@mhc.ie

Catherine Allen
Partner, GDPR
+353 1 614 5254
callen@mhc.ie

Gerard Kelly
Partner, Head of Intellectual Property
+353 1 614 5093
gkelly@mhc.ie

Wendy Hederman
Partner, Commercial Contracts
+353 1 614 5857
whederman@mhc.ie

Stephen Gillick
Partner, Pensions
+353 1 614 2198
sgillick@mhc.ie

Susan Bryson
Partner, Construction
+353 1 614 5214
sbryson@mhc.ie

Kevin Power
Partner, Head of Healthcare
+353 1 614 2398
kpower@mhc.ie

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