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Charities – Challenges and Insolvency

Karen Spears 8 June 2017

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Charities – Challenges and Insolvency

Agenda

- What we are seeing in the sector
- Warning signs
- Tipping points
- Issues on insolvency



What we are seeing in the sector

- Loss of major contacts
- Fraud
- Competition for grants
- Conflict issues
- Trustee fatigue
- Funding challenges



Warning signs

Governance

- Qualified audit report
- Changes in directors/trustees
- Key stakeholder concerns
- Lack of communication and exploration from management/trustees
- Poor strategic planning
- Serious incident report



Warning signs

Financial

- Poor cash flow management
- Declining income streams
- Build up of PAYE/NI
- Full cost recovery issues
- Loss of key funders
- Reduction in reserves



Warning signs

Management

- Loss of key personnel
- Late management information
- Skill base of staff and volunteers
- Poor staff morale
- Overtrading/diversification into new areas



Insolvency tests

Cash flow test

The charity cannot pay it's debts as they fall due for payment

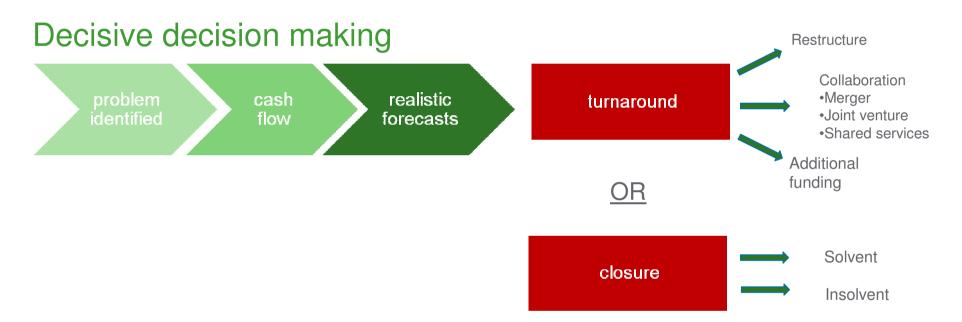


Balance sheet test

The value of the charity's liabilities exceeds the value of it's assets



Tipping Points





Tipping Points

If a charity believes that it could be insolvent...

- Acting in the best interests of the beneficiaries of the charity
- Acting in the best interests of the creditors

Trustee issues...

- Beneficiaries
- Staff and volunteers
- Duties and responsibilities
- Speed of decision making

and

Personal liability



Additional liabilities in the event of insolvency

If a charity believes that it could be insolvent...

if unincorporated

· Personal liability of trustees

if incorporated

- Wrongful trading
- Fraudulent Trading
- · Asset sales caution
- Company Director's Disqualification Act



Insolvency Issues

Insolvency Options

- Solvent liquidation
- Administration
- Creditors voluntary liquidation
- Compulsory liquidation

What is needed

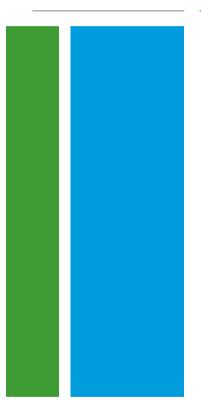
- Early action
- Strong Communication
- Collaboration between advisors
- Key stakeholder support

Issues

- Range of stakeholders
- Restricted funds
- Regulators
- Clawbacks
- Pension funds



Conclusion



- What we are seeing in the sector
- Warning signs
- Tipping points
- Issues on insolvency



Contact



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QUESTIONS?

