

I have over 30 years' experience of solving problems and developing opportunities for organisations with a social purpose, particularly in the fields of legal structures and governance. I offer a rare combination of four complementary areas of expertise—

- a wide-ranging understanding and experience of governance matters in the charitable and social enterprise sectors – i.e. ownership, control and accountability issues;
- an in-depth knowledge of relevant legal matters, such as company, charity and trust law;
- the ability to apply this knowledge practically and effectively to things that people actually want to do;
- a personal lifelong immersion in the values and principles that drive the charity and social enterprise sectors.

I have worked as a freelance consultant since 1996. My main areas of work are—

- explaining in non-legal language what a group's options are in terms of legal structure, and helping them decide which to adopt;
- drafting constitutions, Articles of Association, special resolutions, partnership agreements, trust deeds and all manner of governing documents;
- advising on the availability and impact of charitable status, including the power to trade;
- analysing and explaining existing constitutions;
- designing suitable legal structures for mergers, consortia and collaborative ventures;
- support with due diligence exercises;
- setting up trading subsidiaries for charities;
- setting up charitable arms for trading social enterprises;
- amending, up-dating and improving legal structures;
- re-writing archaic documents in plain English.

I operate my own registration services for charities, limited companies and community interest companies with a 100% success rate over many years.

A sample list of clients will be found on my website – www.charliecattell.net