

Charity Commission calls for general power of disqualification of trustees

15 OCTOBER 2013

CATEGORY:
ARTICLE

In a statement accompanying the Charity Commission's response to the Public Accounts Committee's report, the Chief Executive of the Charity Commission has confirmed the Commission wants to be armed with a general power of disqualification of charity trustees.

The Charity Commission published a statement from Sam Younger, the Chief Executive, to accompany the Commission's response to the Public Accounts Committee report, in which Mr Younger commented that the Commission had sometimes '*been too reticent*' in using its powers during investigations, and that it had '*often given trustees too many chances to put things right before taking action*'.

Mr Younger emphasised that the Commission needs stronger powers to deal with the most serious cases of abuse in charities and stated that having a general power of disqualification would improve the Commission's ability to disqualify individuals whom it suspects of wrongdoing from acting as trustees. Mr Younger hopes that this will address the current problem of trustees resigning when the Commission starts the process of removing them, leaving them free to act as trustees for other charities.