

## **Charity models and changing your business status**

*There are many different models of charitable organisation. Here is a brief overview of the options to aid you in setting them up or changing status (taken from [LawWorks Charitable Entities Factsheet](#)), followed by an example of how to change from a charitable company to a community interest company (CIC).*

**Charitable Limited Company:** *This is a charitable company limited by shares or guarantee. After registering with [Companies House](#) as a Non-Charitable Limited Company, the company must complete the [Charity Commission Registration Application Pack](#).*

**Non-Charitable Limited Company:** *This can operate for charitable purposes without registration as a charitable company. This type of entity is usually intended to be profit-making. The constitutional documents of the company (it's Articles of Association), Form IN01 and the Memorandum of Association are sent to the [Companies Registrar](#).*

**Community Interest Company:** *The purpose of this entity is to provide benefits to a community. This type of entity will be registered in the same way as a non-charitable limited company. However, it will require additional documents to be sent to the [Community Interest Companies Regulator](#).*

**Charitable Unincorporated Association:** *This is an organisation formed by way of constitutional document or rules determined by the members and is typically used by smaller charities. The association must apply to the Charity Commission for charitable status.*

**Charitable Trust:** *This structure consists of trustees who legally hold any property for the benefit of the community for whose benefit it is set up. This type of entity is typically used by small charities with only one or two trustees. Charitable trusts should apply to the Charity Commission for charitable status.*

**Industrial and Provident Societies:** *These are co-operatives and community benefit societies. This type of entity is used for a large variety of purposes, from working men's clubs to charitable societies, and is set up by registering with the [FSA](#).*

### **Changing status: Charitable Company to a Community Interest Company (CIC)**

*To convert an existing charitable company to a CIC, the following documentation must be delivered to the [Registrar of Companies](#): A copy of the special resolutions, notice of change of name by resolution, A printed copy of the articles of the company, A form CIC37 (which contains the community interest statement), prior written consent of the Charity Commission and a fee for £25 payable to 'Companies House'. For further details on how to change from a charity to a CIC please visit the [CIC regulator website](#).*