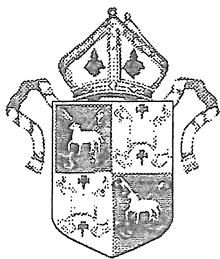


CHURCH OF IRELAND



The Diocesan Council of
Down and Dromore

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The Diocesan Council
of Connor

To: Incumbent, Curate Assistant.
Honorary Secretary & Honorary Treasurer

5 October 2009

NEW CHARITIES LEGISLATION

Dear Sir/Madam

You will no doubt be aware that important new charity legislation – Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 – came into force over a year ago and the Charities Commission for Northern Ireland has recently been established.

It is probable that, in Northern Ireland, each Parish will register individually with the Commission. The Diocesan Office has been working with the Representative Church Body in Dublin to see how best we can provide all Parishes with guidance on what they will be required to do in order to comply with the legislation. To this end, we have decided to provide two information evenings, **Tuesday 20 October 2009** at the Ramada Hotel, Shaws Bridge, Belfast and **Monday 9 November 2009** at the Dunsilly Inn, Antrim. Both evenings will commence at 7.00pm and end with light refreshments around 9.00pm.

At these events staff from the R.C.B. and the Charities Commission will give a presentation and answer questions relating to the Charities registration procedure, the appointment of Trustees and the preparation, auditing and presentation of annual accounts to the Commission. Staff from the Diocesan Office will also be in attendance to address queries and help Parishes in any way possible.

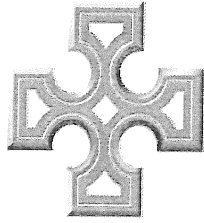
Although one of the information evening venues is in Down and Dromore and the other is in Connor Diocese, these are **NOT** segregated events. Please ensure that at least one person from each Parish attends one of the evenings as it is essential that Parishes are well informed about the future charity requirements. It may be helpful if a number of vestry members, as well as the Rector, were able to attend.

This invitation is being sent to all Rectors, Curates, Honorary Secretaries and Honorary Treasurers in each of the two Dioceses. An invitation is also being extended to the neighbouring Dioceses of Armagh, Clogher and Derry & Raphoe. For catering purposes, please reply **by 19 October** indicating how many from each Parish will be attending on either 20 October or 9 November. You can either email charities@rcbdub.org or telephone 003531 4978422.

I look forward to meeting you and trust that, by the end of the information evening, you will have been reassured that the new charity requirements will not be particularly onerous.

Yours faithfully

E J BUTLER (MRS)
Diocesan Secretary



**The Representative Church Body
Invites Rectors, Secretaries and Treasurers to a briefing for
parishes
on**

New Charities Law in Northern Ireland

20th October at 7.00p.m. in the Ramada Hotel, Shawsbridge

9th November at 7.00p.m. in the Dunsilly Hotel, Antrim

Registration, structure and accounting

How it will work

Timescales

Resources to help

Speakers

Janet Maxwell, Adrian Clements, Niall Jones

Guest Speaker

**20th October – Seamus Murray, Head of Secretariat – Charity
Commission for Northern Ireland**

**9th November – Roy McGivern, Secretariat, Charity
Commission for Northern Ireland**

**RSVP by Monday 19th October to: Charities@rcbdub.org
or telephone 00353 1 4978422**