

Robert Jenrick MP
Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury
HM Treasury
1 Horse Guards Road
London, SW1A 2HQ

25 May 2018

Dear Minister

I am writing to thank you again for providing the keynote speech at this year's CTG Tax Conference. Our members really appreciated the opportunity to hear your presentation and also your willingness to engage with the concerns of our members. It was particularly appreciated that you were willing to talk directly to some of our members who were able to raise their specific concerns with you – some of which have already been taken up by officials for further discussion.

We welcomed the announcement in your speech that a new free Making Tax Digital solution is being developed for charities and we hope to be involved in the testing process for that option. While this is a welcome development, we remain concerned about the practicality of all charities moving to MTD by next April, as the wider software market does not appear as prepared as it might be, with a general lack of understanding and awareness of what MTD will entail in practice. As part of the HMRC Gift Aid working group, we will also be continuing to support efforts to promote the uptake of eligible Gift Aid, given the huge importance of this relief to the sector. We also welcomed your supportive comments on the need for VAT legislation to maintain pace with the fundraising developments, particularly in respect of online advertising and, as requested, will be following this up with your officials as requested.

As we were talking afterwards, we discussed those issues we would prioritise, one of which would be the need for a review of the trading that charities can undertake directly – the £50,000 limit has not risen and an increase to £100,000 would simplify matters for many smaller organisations as well as reducing costs and administration within HMRC. I would be interested to meet you again to explore some of the other points that we discussed in more detail if that could be arranged.

I found the recent Charity Sector roundtable very useful and look forward to another similar event in the future. If, in the meantime, you or your officials would welcome any further briefings on tax issues relevant to charities, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



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CTG Chairman

The voice of charities on Tax

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