

06 July 2012

Competition, Trade and Investment Branch  
Ministry of Economic Development  
P O Box 1473  
WELLINGTON

**Assurance for Larger Registered Charities.**

I am a Trustee of a Charitable Trust which I have set up for the purpose of separating a proportion of my income for charitable purposes. The sole source of funds for the Trust is from donations from my own funds.

I disagree with the idea that any Charity which receives no public funds nor grants should be required to be audited, regardless of size.

The cost of an audit for my Trust would be a complete waste due to the single stream of income and limited exposure to the public. The unnecessary cost would only serve to reduce the amount of money which I am able to make available for charitable purposes, which would run counter to the public benefit.

The fact that a Charity does not have any accountability to the public for the use of its funds means that it should not be required to have its accounts made available to the public. I submit that the only accountability my Trust has is to the Charities Commission which has the responsibility to ensure that the Trust operates for the charitable purposes for which it has been created.

I therefore submit that the requirement for audit of charities should be mandatory only for those charities which receive funds from the public or government and for which the donors or grantors should have the right to check that the charity has used the funds for the intended purposes.

Yours faithfully

Joan Craig  
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