

## Update Your Consent with FFWPU UK

Michael Balcomb

April 26, 2024

Dear,

We hope this email finds you well.

We recently transitioned from a charitable trust to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), now operating under the name FFWPU (UK): [Introducing FFWPU \(UK\): Our New Name and Entity - FFWPU-UK Community \(familyfedcommunity.org.uk\)](#)

Despite this change, please rest assured that our data processing practices remain consistent.

To ensure that your consent for data processing is up to date, we kindly ask you to take a moment to review and update your preferences using the following form, if you haven't already done so recently: [ffwpu.breezechms.com/form/gdprconsent](https://ffwpu.breezechms.com/form/gdprconsent)

If you ever wish to withdraw your consent, you can easily do so by filling in this form: [ffwpu.breezechms.com/form/unsubscribe](https://ffwpu.breezechms.com/form/unsubscribe)

Thank you for your continued support.

Best regards,

Operations Team



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September 15, 2023 | Articles

## Introducing FFWPU (UK): Our New Name And Entity

We have some exciting news to share with you! Our organisation is undergoing some changes that will help us better serve our mission and vision. We are changing our legal entity from a charitable trust to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). This means that we will have more flexibility in managing our assets and activities, while still being regulated by the Charity Commission. The main reasons for this change are to limit the liability of the trustees in the event that a claim is made against the charity, and to increase the flexibility of the charity from a legal perspective.

The name change is to better reflect our position in relation to our international counterparts and our scope. We are now "Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (UK)" where previously our name was 'The Family Federation for World Peace and Unification' (Charity no. 267917 in England and Wales; SC041240 in Scotland) – only our legal name is changing. This name emphasises our commitment to building a peaceful and harmonious world through the values of family, love and service.

Our new charity numbers are 1202107 in England and Wales, and SC052760 in Scotland. These changes will take place gradually over the next few months, so please bear with us as we update our documents, systems and communications. We will keep you informed of any important updates along the way.

We want to assure you that these changes will not affect the essence of our organisation. We will continue to do the same work that we have been doing for decades, promoting peace, unity and happiness through education, culture and service. We will also continue to uphold the same values and principles that guide our actions and decisions.

### **What this change means for you:**

- There will be no discernible change to you as the purposes, goals, organisational structure, employees, assets and work remain the same – apart from the charity numbers and new bank accounts for donations.
- If you have set up a Direct Debit for your donations or tithing, we recommend that you set the last day of payment as the end of 2023. We will share the details for the new bank accounts by the end of November so you can set up a new Direct Debit to start in the new year.
- If you have left legacies to the unincorporated charity in your will, you should consult with your legal advisor to ensure that the will has been drafted so that the gift will now go to the CIO instead of the trust.

We are very grateful for your support and participation in our activities and events. We hope that you will join us in celebrating this new chapter in our charity's history. Together, we can make a positive difference in the world!

To learn more about the benefits of being a CIO vs a trust, [please click here](#).

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# Should you consider becoming a CIO?

*Last reviewed 13th October 2020*



Many Christian charities (whether churches or other organisations) operate as either a charitable trust or a charitable unincorporated association (CUA). Historically, the only realistic alternative to these structures (other than incorporating the body of trustees, which is relatively uncommon) was for a charity to incorporate as a company limited by guarantee, but this brought with it the burden of dual regulation by the Charity Commission and Companies House which many charities wished to avoid.

Since January 2013, a new structure has been available to charities - the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). Like companies, CIOs are incorporated, but unlike companies, they are only required to register with the Charity Commission. They have certain advantages over trusts and CUAs, and charities should consider whether moving to a CIO structure would be a better alternative than staying as they currently are.

## Benefits of a CIO vs. Trusts and CUAs

A CIO is an incorporated body and, therefore, has a legal personality of its own. This means it can enter into contracts in its own name, allowing it to employ staff for example, rather than requiring trustees to do this in their individual capacity on behalf of the charity. The larger a charity becomes, the more likely it is to need to contract with third parties or employ staff and a CIO may, in those circumstances, be a better alternative to remaining as an unincorporated association.

The fact that neither a charitable trust nor a CUA has a legal personality has two further important implications:

### Property Ownership

A charitable trust and a CUA cannot own property. Instead, property must be held either by a minimum of two individuals or by a trust corporation (often referred to as Holding Trustees).

If the property is held by individuals, the charity will need to go through a conveyancing process (transferring the property to new trustees) every time those individuals change, for

example when a trustee retires. If the property is held by a trust corporation, the charity will need to consult with the trust corporation whenever it wants to enter into a mortgage, grant a lease or sell the property. This can cause delays. However, using a trust corporation can be a better alternative to individual trustees as some trust corporations have expert advisors who can provide advice and assistance with any property transactions.

Given that a CIO is an incorporated body with its own legal personality, it can own property in its own name, avoiding the need either for a Holding Trustee or to transfer the property each time the trustees change.

### **Liability**

The trustees of a charitable trust or CUA (and in some cases the members of the CUA) are personally liable for the obligations of the charity. If the charity's funds and assets are insufficient to meet its obligations, a claim could be brought against some or all of the trustees (and in some cases the members), and they would be required to make up the shortfall from their own personal assets if the claim succeeded. Whilst trustee indemnity insurance is available, it is unlikely to cover all liabilities.

As trustees (and, where relevant, members) are jointly and severally liable for the charity's obligations, a claim could be brought against only one of the charity's trustees or members if the person making the claim thought a particular trustee or member had sufficient assets to meet the liability.

In contrast, as a CIO has its own legal personality, if it incurs a liability, only the assets held by the charity are at risk. The liability of trustees and members is limited, and members would only be liable to contribute to the assets of a CIO if it is wound up to the degree specified in the CIO's constitution (either up to a specified amount or with no liability at all).

## **Association or Foundation CIO?**

If an unincorporated charity decides to convert to a CIO structure, its trustees must decide whether the Association or Foundation structure is most appropriate.

A Foundation CIO is one in which the *only* members of the charity are the charity trustees and vice versa. An Association CIO has a separate voting membership to the trustee body (although trustees can still be members and vice versa).

Which CIO structure is most appropriate will depend on the current membership structure of the unincorporated charity and what rights the charity wishes to give to its members. This is best explained using churches as an example.

### **Association Model**

Some churches are structured so that the church membership and the charity membership are essentially one and the same thing. Therefore, when a person becomes a member of the church they also become a member of the charity. This means that a person cannot become a member of the church without accepting the legal responsibilities and potential liabilities that go with being a member of the charity.

ECS provides two alternative model constitutions for the Association model depending on the extent of voting rights provided to members:

- **CG1** – the members have formal voting rights that extend beyond the appointment

- **CG1** - the members have formal voting rights that extend beyond the appointment and removal of the church leadership and approving changes to the constitution.
- **CG2** - members' formal voting rights are limited to the appointment and removal of the church leadership and approving changes to the constitution. Members may be consulted on other issues, but may not formally vote.

### Foundation Model

Churches may be structured so that the members of the church are not members of the charity in a formal, legal sense and will not, therefore, have rights to vote on any matters affecting the church unless the trustees choose to consult them. Such consultation rights may be set out in a church handbook or rules, but will not be formally enshrined in the church's constitution.

This model is suitable for those churches where the legal responsibility for decision-making rests with the church leaders. The congregation may be consulted on decisions but they are not part of the decision-making process as outlined in the constitution for example, appointing a new church leader. Many churches without a formal membership structure choose this model of CIO, as do many church plants, to make decision making more straightforward.

ECS provides a model constitution for this Foundation model (**CG3**).

### Process for converting to a CIO

There is no automatic process for a charity currently operating as a charitable trust or CUA to convert to a CIO. In order to become a CIO the charity must set up a new charity (the CIO) and then transfer all of the staff, assets, liabilities and members (as appropriate) from the existing charity to the new charity. Whilst in theory this is relatively straightforward, a charity's existing trusts may contain certain restrictions which can make the process more complicated. The advantages associated with CIOs set out above will, therefore, need to be weighed against the potential time and cost required to set up the new CIO.

### Should you keep a shell charity?

When an unincorporated charity decides to move to a CIO structure, it will usually close down the existing charity following the transfer of its assets etc. to the CIO. However, there is currently a gap in the law relating to legacies which means that in some cases, gifts made to a charity will fail if the structure used by the charity when the will was drafted is no longer in existence on the date when the donor dies.

In most cases, the risk of a legacy failing is best dealt with by the charity making an announcement explaining that people who have left legacies to the unincorporated charity should consult their advisor to ensure that the will has been drafted so that the gift will now go to the CIO. However, there may be occasions where some charities (especially those likely to receive significant funding through legacies) may choose to retain the existing charity as a shell once all of the assets have been transferred to the new CIO, in order to ensure that the charity can still receive the gift under the will.

### What should you do now?

If you think that your charity may benefit from converting to a CIO, please have a look at our booklet "[Charitable Incorporated Organisations](#)" for more information. If you would like more specific advice on what converting to a CIO would mean for your charity, please do get in touch at [info@edwardconnor.com](mailto:info@edwardconnor.com) or by calling 01858 411 568.

*This information has been provided by solicitors working for Edward Connor Solicitors. It is designed for the purpose of knowledge sharing only and does not constitute legal advice.*

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## Caroline Eade, Deputy Managing Director, Senior Solicitor and Head of Charities



Caroline leads our Charities team which specialises in Christian organisations and churches, on charity law and regulation, including governance and constitutional matters.

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Please complete this form to update your profile information and confirm your consent to the FFWPU (UK) Privacy Policy.

## Main

### Name \*

### Gender \*

- Male  
 Female  
 Prefer not to say

### Date of Birth (dd-mm-yyyy) \*

### Community \*

- River South (South London, Bromley, Maidstone)  
 North of Thames (Central London, North London, East London and East Anglia)  
 WWW (Wales, West Country, West Midlands)  
 North England  
 Scotland  
 Other

### Other Community (please specify)

### Country of Residence \*

### Generation \*

### Blessing Status \*

- Single  
 Matched  
 Blessed

### Blessing Date (dd-mm-yyyy)

### Blessing Group

### Other Blessing Group

## Contact



### Phone \*

### Additional Phone

### Email \*

*This address will receive a confirmation email*

### Address \*

## Interests

We would like to connect you to projects and activities that interest you. To help us do that, please select any or all of the areas that you would like to be connected to.

This is entirely optional and you can always remove/change any information given at anytime by contacting us at [privacy@ffwpu.org.uk](mailto:privacy@ffwpu.org.uk).

### Are you interested in...

- Volunteering
- Witnessing & Outreach
- Fundraising
- Spiritual Education
- Heavenly Tribal Messiahship
- Youth Ministry
- Young Adults
- Matching & Blessing
- HJ CheonBo (Ancestor Liberation & Blessing, 430 couples)

## Skills & Talents

We organise many events and activities throughout the year, many of which could give you an opportunity to showcase/hone your skills and talents through participation or volunteering.

Would you like to share your skills and talents with us so we can contact you about relevant events/activities you may be interested in participating in?

This is entirely optional, you will not be committing to volunteering by giving us this information and you can always remove/change any information given at anytime by contacting us at [privacy@ffwpu.org.uk](mailto:privacy@ffwpu.org.uk).

### Areas of Skills & Talents

- Photography (Shooting, Editing etc.)
- Film (Shooting, Editing, Sound etc.)
- Writing (Articles, Stories, Blogs, Reports etc.)
- Cooking (Roasting, Barbecuing, Baking etc.)
- Art & Design (Painting, Drawing, Illustration, Animation etc.)
- Social Media
- Sports (Football, Ultimate Frisbee etc.)
- Tech (Programming, Web Building, Computing etc.)
- Music (Playing an Instrument, Singing etc.)
- Other

### Other Skills & Talents (give details):

### Do you have any formal qualifications in these skills and talents?

- Yes
- No
- Not Yet (Studying)

### If yes, please list your qualifications:

## GDPR

### Please let us know how you would like to receive communications from us (choose one or more). \*

- Email
- Telephone and Mobile (including Text/WhatsApp)
- Social Media
- Post

By completing this form I am consenting to have my personal data stored and used by FFWPU (UK) as outlined in the [Privacy Policy](#).

I also confirm that I meet or am above the legal minimum age for data consent, which in the UK is 13.

I am aware that I may contact FFWPU (UK) ([privacy@ffwpu.org.uk](mailto:privacy@ffwpu.org.uk)) for a copy of the data they hold on me and/or to have my data removed at any

time and that I must allow up to 30 days from the request being made for this to be carried out.

**Do you agree and consent to the Privacy Policy? \***

Yes, I have read, understood and agree with the FFWPU (UK) Privacy Policy

Submit



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### Options \*

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## Description

Please allow up to 30 days for your request to be completed.