



Department for
Digital, Culture,
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21st February 2022

Dear Jeff Smith MP,

Thank you for your continued engagement during the Second Reading and Public Bill Committee of the Charities Bill. I am grateful for the continued support of you and your colleagues and I look forward to progressing the Bill through its remaining stages.

I am writing to respond to the point you made at the Committee session on 25 January 2022 regarding the government's plans for the Bill's implementation.

As you know, the Bill will make a number of important changes that will be of great benefit to the charity sector. However, some of these changes are complex, therefore I recognise the importance of giving charities a clear timeline of the changes, to ensure they can prepare for implementation and therefore fully benefit from the changes.

We plan to phase in changes over a 12-18 month period to ensure charities are not overburdened by too many changes at once. We have been working very closely with the Charity Commission, and other organisations, who will need to update systems and produce new or updated guidance that is clear and straightforward, alongside targeted communications for charities.

There are a number of considerations that will determine the phasing of implementation and we are planning to prioritise the changes that are of most benefit to charities, whilst taking into account the adjustments needed in the Charity Commission's systems and processes to support the new measures.

Following Royal Assent we will publish a timeline, on GOV.UK, with more detail about what changes will be implemented and when. However, at this stage, I hope you find it useful to know our intention is to implement the Bill within 12-18 months of Royal Assent.

I will lay a copy of this letter in the Libraries of the House of Commons and the House of Lords.

Yours Sincerely,

Nigel Huddleston MP, Minister for Sport, Tourism, Heritage & Civil Society



