

Does your business want to support a charity, good cause or voluntary organisation(s)?

Yes

Q1. Do you know the cause(s) you would like to support?

Next

Yes

Q2 Do you have a specific named charity in mind?

No

There are over 3,500 good causes operating in our region

**80% of all donations are given to UK's largest (3.4%) organisations in the charity sector*

Q3. Have you undertaken due diligence with your chosen charity?

No

Yes

Q4. Do you need to know how, where and on whom your money is spent?

No

Yes

Q5. Have you agreed a reporting process on how and where your money is spent?

No

Yes

Q6. Do you want your money to meet the needs in your city, town, village, neighbourhood?

No

Yes

**82% of charities are either small (<£100k) or micro (<£10k)*

**Charities with over £100m in funds have grown whilst most have not*

Q7. Do you intend to support larger, national charities?

Next

Q11. Is aligning your giving to your business purpose important to you?

If you would like a conversation about how to help locally with a national voice, get in touch.

Next

Quartet has 'local' reach throughout the country as a member of the UK Community Foundations network.

Next

Q10. Do your employees work from multiple offices or sites in the UK?

Local engagement often means more to local employees than national or arms length activity

Next

If you would like a conversation about meeting some of the requirements for the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012, get in touch.

Next

Q12. Do you handle public sector contracts?

Quartet works with small and large business, individuals, local and national foundations and trusts delivering grants to meet local needs.

Quartet ensures every voluntary organisation meets strict financial and management criteria before approving grants.

Quartet assesses each application to ensure activity is not being duplicated elsewhere.

Quartet applies monitoring and reporting processes to assess grant impact.

Involvement with charity is a known 'feel good' factor within the business environment

Q8. Do your employees normally engage in fundraising for your chosen charity?

Next

Q9. Do you have an employee volunteer programme providing time and/or talent to local good causes?

Next

Whatever you do and however you do it, thank you for supporting the voluntary and charity sector.

If you would like a conversation about how to get the most out of giving to charity, get in touch.

Q13. Is it important to know how much of your donation benefits people?

Between 85% and 90% of all income received at Quartet goes to local good causes

Would you be interested in hearing about how to obtain a report on the value of local giving, tailored to your choices?

Would you be interested in hearing about our plans to create a more coherent and balanced corporate giving programme in our region?

Contact Quartet Community Foundation and let us help you help others
Email: alison.mcdougall@quartetcf.org.uk
Telephone: 0117 989 7700

Consultancy | Revenue Distribution
Effective Research & Reporting
Donor 'Named' Fund Management

*Source: NCVO UK Civil Society Almanac 2017

Get more of your employees engaged with your chosen cause

Lots of companies offer employees the chance to vote for a charity of the year. If you do, your employee engagement has a gaping hole in it. Many of your employees may be disillusioned from the moment your charity is chosen either because the charity they voted for isn't chosen or because they don't empathise with the winning charity. Add to this the tendency for the chosen charity to be a large brand name and your staff are unlikely to see the money raised having a profound effect in their neighbourhood.

Taking on a cause of the year removes many of these barriers. Staying local means significantly more to your employees and choosing a cause increases the number of people identifying with the issues. Asking your employees to vote for a headline cause that covers a broad array of topics means that they can all be engaged in the process – all year long.

The aim is the same – to raise money and support people in need – but choosing a cause rather than a charity provides more employee engagement. It's a different way – try it and see the impact yourself.

QUESTION NO.	NOTES	YOUR COMMENTS
Q1. Cause?	We recommend choosing the cause(s) that resonates with your business and employees before you think about specific charities (see our Vital Signs themes for headline causes). This provides a broader range of causes for employee engagement. You can also be specific about groups you wish to support by age, gender, ethnicity, location, etc.	Health would be good... looks like we can cover physical and mental health
Q2. Charity?	Not every charity has the ability or the funds to ensure their name is known and recognised. We can help you find less well known organisations where your support will have great impact.	
Q3. Due diligence?	Perhaps uniquely, charities are often just handed money without any questions asked or answered. It's important to assess management and governance, financial provisions and delivery of the project you aim to support.	Do we do this? Check with finance, HR, charity committee?
Q4. Money spent?	Asking for information on how and where and on whom the money is to be spent is not unreasonable. Setting expectations and aims is valuable and will ensure that the money raised by your business is spent as you wish.	What are we told? How is this managed?
Q5. Reporting process?	Asking for an update on what was achieved with your money is also a positive move but should be relative to the amount of money given. The results – analytical and personal – can be shared with employees.	Do we get regular updates? How is this shared?
Q6. Local?	There are over 3,500 good causes operating in the West of England. You can choose to support all or just your preferred region, city, town, village or neighbourhood. This can be aligned to where your office is based, or where your employees live.	
Q7. National or Large?	80% of all income is given to the UK's 3.4% largest charities. Whilst most good causes have struggled with growth, charities with over £100m annual income have grown. Smaller charities are more likely to work in the local arena.	
Q8. Fundraising?	Understanding the cause and specific need for which fundraising is taking place is known to generate an increased net good factor and may even produce bigger funds for the same effort.	
Q9. Skills	Smaller charities find it difficult to manage non-specific volunteers as they often have few full time employees. They are, however, often in need of real world expertise such as financial planning, marketing, HR knowledge etc. Volunteering as a trustee is often a positive experience for those undertaking fast-track leadership programmes.	Do we need to re-think how we do our volunteer days? Check take-up %.
Q10. Multiple sites	Quartet is one of 46 community foundations in the UK. Each of these foundations meets the 'local needs' within their own region. A 'Cause of the Year' rather than 'Charity of the Year' will allow engagement within each of your sites to be local and relevant to each site's employees.	
Q11. Business purpose	Aligning your giving to your business purpose can be effective and meaningful. If employees are not involved in a voting process then they can better understand the reason when a certain cause is chosen.	How do we do this? Speak to HR / CSR?
Q12. Public sector?	Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 is being implemented throughout the public sector. If your business is involved with tender contracts it is likely you will need to demonstrate direct support for local 'needs'. Quartet is working with the local councils to ensure businesses have access to information to help meet their specific tender requirements.	Speak to procurement?
Q13. Governance	Money spent on governance and income generation is listed on the Charity Commission website to allow clarity. 100% of donations go to charity; 90% is distributed to good causes we support with the smallest amount being retained covering our charity's costs.	Do we check? What is acceptable for us? How do we find out?

This is an example form only showing our notes and typical comments to help with the process of choosing a charity or cause.

The Choices Toolkit will guide you to make better decisions about supporting charities. Use the notes below, in conjunction with our decision tree, to clarify your thinking and pinpoint the questions you may need to ask within your business.

QUESTION NO.	NOTES	YOUR COMMENTS
Q1. Cause?	We recommend choosing the cause(s) that resonates with your business and employees before you think about specific charities (see our Vital Signs themes for headline causes). This provides a broader range of causes for employee engagement. You can also be specific about groups you wish to support by age, gender, ethnicity, location, etc.	
Q2. Charity?	Not every charity has the ability or the funds to ensure their name is known and recognised. We can help you find less well known organisations where your support will have great impact.	
Q3. Due diligence?	Perhaps uniquely, charities are often just handed money without any questions asked or answered. It's important to assess management and governance, financial provisions and delivery of the project you aim to support.	
Q4. Money spent?	Asking for information on how and where and on whom the money is to be spent is not unreasonable. Setting expectations and aims is valuable and will ensure that the money raised by your business is spent as you wish.	
Q5. Reporting process?	Asking for an update on what was achieved with your money is also a positive move but should be relative to the amount of money given. The results – analytical and personal - can be shared with employees.	
Q6. Local?	There are over 3,500 good causes operating in the West of England. You can choose to support all or just your preferred region, city, town, village or neighbourhood. This can be aligned to where your office is based, or where your employees live.	
Q7. National or Large?	80% of all income is given to the UK's 3.4% largest charities. Whilst most good causes have struggled with growth, charities with over £100m annual income have grown. Smaller charities are more likely to work in the local arena.	
Q8. Fundraising?	Understanding the cause and specific need for which fundraising is taking place is known to generate an increased feel good factor and may even produce bigger funds for the same effort.	
Q9. Skills	Smaller charities find it difficult to manage non-specific volunteers as they often have few full time employees. They are, however, often in need of real world expertise such as financial planning, marketing, HR knowledge etc. Volunteering as a trustee is often a positive experience for those undertaking fast-track leadership programmes.	
Q10. Multiple sites	Quartet is one of 46 community foundations in the UK. Each of these foundations meets the 'local needs' within their own region. A 'Cause of the Year' rather than 'Charity of the Year' will allow engagement within each of your sites to be local and relevant to each site's employees.	
Q11. Business purpose	Aligning your giving to your business purpose can be effective and meaningful. If employees are not involved in a voting process then they can better understand the reason when a certain cause is chosen.	
Q12. Public sector?	Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 is being implemented throughout the public sector. If your business is involved with tender contracts it is likely you will need to demonstrate direct support for local 'needs'. Quartet is working with the local councils to ensure businesses have access to information to help meet their specific tender requirements.	
Q13. Governance	Money spent on governance and income generation is listed on the Charity Commission website to allow clarity. At Quartet, 100% of donations goes to charity; 90% is distributed to good causes we support with the smallest amount being retained covering our charity's costs.	

1. Cause (by category)	2. Includes sectors/needs
FAIRNESS	Bullying
	Disability and access issues
	Poverty and disadvantage
	Social inclusion and fairness
	Social services and activities
	Stigma and discrimination
	Financial exclusion and financial illiteracy
SAFETY	Anti-social behaviour
	Crime and safety
	Domestic violence
	Emergency/rescue services
	Gangs
	Harmful practice (eg FMG)
	Offending / at risk of offending
	Sexual abuse
	Violence and exploitation
HEALTH	Caring responsibilities
	Counselling, advice and mentoring
	Health, wellbeing and serious illness
	Sport and recreation
	Substance abuse and addiction
	Mental health
	Reducing isolation
STRONG COMMUNITIES	Community support and development
	Volunteering
	Stronger communities
	Supporting family life
	Language, culture and racial integration
	Religion
	Refugees, asylum and immigration
	Isolation

Cause of the year

Choosing a (1) cause of the year means your business and employees can fundraise and engage (2) supporting the needs in your community today.

1. Cause (by category)	2. Including sectors/needs
WORK & LOCAL ECONOMY	Employment and labour
	Building skills and improving access to employment
	Economy
	Social enterprises
HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS	Homelessness
	Housing
LEARNING & EDUCATION	Education
	Learning
	Training
ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE	Arts
	Culture
	Heritage
ENVIRONMENT	Environment and improving surroundings
	Recycling
	Renewable energies

There are lots of good causes, but which ones create strong feelings within your business? Take a look at the sectors/needs and see what resonates with your business.

Are you going to align your giving to your business purpose...or to factors that may affect the neighbourhood in which your business operates...or to a beneficiary group defined by age or ethnicity.

Working in the West of England, Quartet Community Foundation provides a range of services to business and individuals from general donation management and distribution, where your money simply flows through us, to a detailed philanthropy advice and consultancy services.

Whichever service you may need, Quartet provides the knowledge, and experience and due diligence to ensure your donations make the world of difference to our local good causes.

“Opportunities to be involved with ‘good causes’ at the local level, many of which are enabled by employers, provide millennials with a greater feeling of influence.”

Source: The 2017 Deloitte Millennial Survey