



Welcome To The Corporate Charity Partnerships Conference

Official Event Programme

Please note that the following timings are flexible. Due to the nature of a live event, the conference chairs and organisers will be updating the timings throughout the day to adapt to speakers running over time, late arrivals, last minute changes and extending popular sessions. Please rest assured we will do our utmost to adapt and to accommodate all live changes.

Organised By:



08.15 Registration & Informal Networking

09.10 GIC Welcome & Morning Co-Chairs' Opening Remarks

Claire Myers, Director Corporate Responsibility, **Invesco EMEA**



Katherine Burgess, Corporate & Community Fundraising Manager, **Rainbow Trust**



Building Strong, Mutually-Beneficial Partnerships – Double Perspective

09.20 Forge, Reinforce & Maintain Resilient & Supportive Partnerships That Drive Growth For All Parties & Stand The Test Of Time

- Amid the ongoing disruptions of geopolitics and the cost-of-living crisis, what can partnerships do from both sides to promote stability and resilience moving forwards?
- What are the key elements that define a truly successful partnership? What should both corporates and charities be looking out for in the quest to find the perfect partner?
- Utilise skill-sharing, volunteering programmes, the latest technologies, and other fresh innovations to make sure that partnerships are truly two-sided with real value on both sides
- Ensure truly alignment of goal and purpose, so that both partners can provide mutual support and assistance without pulling in opposite directions

09.20 Perspective 1

Tracy Jarvis, CSR Manager, **GTR (Govia Thameslink Railway)**



Andrew Berrie, Head of Corporate Partnerships, **Mind**



09.40 Perspective 2

This session will focus on how and why we should prioritise partnerships that are truly win-win and will stand the test of time. We'll explore:

- What should both corporates and charities be looking out for in their quest to find the perfect partner?
- What are the key elements that define a truly successful partnership?
- How do we find the alignment of goal and purpose, so that both partners can reap the benefits, without 'ticking boxes' or pulling in opposite directions?
- What are the lessons learned from our journey so far?

Megan Marsden, Senior Strategic Partnerships Manager, **Bowel Cancer UK**



Sophie Ashton, Consumer Engagement Marketing Manager UK & Ireland, **Kimberley-Clark**



***Kimberly-Clark**

From Tick-Box CSR to True Impact: Why Employees Need to Love It to Live It

10.00

Too many corporate charity partnerships launch with a bang and fizzle fast. Why? Because they're designed top-down for reporting, not bottom-up for engagement. In this energising session, Sanjay Lobo, CEO of OnHand, shows how gamification, hyper-personalisation, and bite-size missions can transform volunteering from a tick-box CSR exercise into a cultural habit. Learn how to spark employee passion, sustain charity support, and create partnerships that truly last.

Key takeaways:

- How corporates can shift from compliance-driven to engagement-first volunteering.
- Practical ways charities can package opportunities that employees *want* to do.
- Why joy, not just dashboards, is the secret to long-term impact.

Sanjay Lobo MBE, CEO & Founder, **OnHand**



OnHand

Tailor Your Day - Select A Hosted Stream

Charity Stream: What Corporates Want – Panel Discussion & Q&A

10.15 Put Yourself In Corporate Shoes To Gain A Better Understanding Of What Criteria They Consider, How You Can Best Position Yourself & What Drives A Successful Long-Term Partnership

- What are corporates truly looking to gain from a charity partnership, and which corporates are the right ones for you? What are you able to offer, above and beyond the rest?
- Analyse the latest roadmap from finding the right corporate partner, through starting the conversation and initial pitches, right through to maintaining a strong collaboration months or years down the line
- How can charities refresh, tailor and revitalise pitches to stand out from the crowd and get right to the heart of corporate purpose goals?
- What are the most common pitfalls and mistakes in establishing partnerships, and how can they be avoided?

Luciano Della Mura, Project Lead For The Bentley Foundation, **Bentley Motors**



Katie Clough, Senior Partnerships Manager, **Dogs Trust**



Jeannet Lingán, Head of Foundation – The Compass Group Foundation, **Compass Group PLC**



Caroline Raines, Director of Corporate Affairs, **Compare The Market**



Faye Ramsson, Head of Partnerships, **Business in the Community**



Stuart Beaver, Head of Social Action, **Aviva**



Corporate Stream: Corporate Social Responsibility – Panel Discussion & Q&A

10.15 Align Your Partnership With Strategic & Impactful Purpose Goals That Embed Corporate Social Responsibility At The Heart Of Business Practices

- How is CSR changing in the modern world? What will Corporate Purpose look like in 2026 and beyond?
- Streamline the road to finding the right charity partner by establishing clearly defined CSR goals, and considering how a charity is best placed to reinforce them
- From ESG to DEI, explore the shifting priorities behind CSR and how they can best be measured, reported and showcased
- With charity budgets stretched to their limits and communities in need of real support, what more can corporates do, in both financial and non-financial terms, to lend their support where it's needed most?

Aalia Kazi, Corporate Responsibility & Sustainability Partner, **Roche**



Lisa Mallinson, Giving Strategy & Programmes Manager, **NatWest Group**



Toby Wyithe, Community & Engagement Business Partner, **Legal & General**



Flynn Lebus, Social Impact Director, **AXA XL**



Kiera Guthrie, Social Value Lead, **London Borough of Camden**



10.55 Morning Refreshment Break With Informal Networking & Informal Breakout Discussions

A) Corporate Social Responsibility

Ana Merchant, Head of Strategic Charity Partnerships (UK), **Amazon**



B) Employee Engagement

Keira Meadus, Events & Promotions Coordinator, **Utilita**



C) Payroll Giving

Lindsay Turner, Account Management Lead, Corporate Partnerships, **British Red Cross**



D) Pitching

Andrew Barnes, Head of Corporate Partnerships, **Sense**



Beyond The Grant: Sage's Partnership Model For Nonprofits

11.25 Beyond The Grant: Sage's Partnership Model For Nonprofits

Join Helen Devanny from Sage and Chris Robak from Benevity to explore how companies and nonprofits can go beyond traditional funding. Learn how Sage is building deeper, capacity-focused partnerships — and how Benevity's platform tools help scale strategic giving with secure disbursement and impact-driven insights that benefit organisations and the nonprofits they support.

Chris Robak, Senior Account Executive, **Benevity**



Helen Devanny, VP, **Sage Foundation**



Volunteering & Skill-Sharing

11.40 Update & Upgrade Your Volunteering Programmes To Drive Genuine Engagement, Utilise Relevant Skillsets & Showcase Real Value

- Deep-dive into the various ways that a corporate can provide added-value, non-financial support – what works best for your partnership?
- More than the sum of its parts! Identify potential skill gaps within your workforce, and seek out opportunities for skill-sharing within your partnership to create cohesion and mutual benefit
- How can volunteering programmes avoid box-ticking exercises and PR stunts to provide real and meaningful value?
- Engage employees on both sides of the partnership to foster a genuine passion for volunteering and supporting a clear purpose

Katy Hartley-Ross, Corporate Affairs & Volunteering Manager, **Leeds Building Society**



Richard Hore, Development Officer, **Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust**





Purpose is a powerful perk

With **Benevity**, you can:

-  Manage giving, volunteering and grants from one secure platform
-  Access the world's largest network of validated nonprofits
-  Demonstrate impact with real-time, enterprise-grade reporting



Interested to find out more?
request a **demo!**

Pick Your Own Adventure in Social Impact

12.00

How to stop waiting patiently for the perfect partnership and put the problems first.

Gareth Breeze, Innovation Lead & Senior UX Designer, **Reason Digital**



Sustainability & Health Equity

12.15 Be Part Of The Solution With Long-Term ESG Strategies That Align Corporate Purpose With Charity Goals To Deliver Real Change

Sustainability covers a wide range so what specific issues can a corporate or charity home in on with meaningful effect?

AstraZeneca and Plan International will talk about how they've aligned corporate and charity goals with a clear and easy-to-define sustainability agenda to advance health equity and address climate-health challenges at the heart of the partnership strategy.

They'll explore the practical and relevant steps that both partners can take to assist and steer corporate sustainability goals, and will share how they've have built a hugely impactful partnership that is heading into its 16th year.

Roos Bruggink, Global Community Investment Senior Manager, **AstraZeneca**



Sam Davies, Head of Major Partnerships, **Plan International UK**



Charity Pitching Panel – Panel Discussion & Q&A

12.35 Learn By Example! Hear Live Pitches From Experienced Charity Speakers,
With Immediate Feedback & Key Insights From Our Expert Panel

Pitching:

Beatrice Sayer, Partnership Development Lead, **Magic Breakfast**



Feedback Panel:

Toby Wyithe, Community & Engagement Business Partner, **Legal & General**



Henry Gosling, Community Manager – Fruit & Veg for Schools, **Tesco**



Kiera Guthrie, Social Value Lead, **London Borough of Camden**



Allison Kahn, International Community Relations, Community Investing &
Development, **Citi**



Building The Future Of Volunteering: The 90-Year-Old Charity Driving A Culture Of Digital Innovation

13.05

Emma Gervasio from Royal Voluntary Service reveals how the charity is building a digital start-up from within - and reshaping the future of volunteering with GoVo, a new platform designed to make volunteering frictionless, flexible and inclusive. Emma shares the evolving story behind GoVo, and the impact it's designed to make.

- Establishing a high growth commercial tech startup within a decades-old charity — building new teams in product, UX, engineering, and design, as well as corporate consulting and customer experience
- The role of deep user research and testing, to create a platform people genuinely want to use
- Navigating rapid culture change and capability growth
- How GoVo bridges the needs of charities, businesses and volunteers, designed to enable mass participation as well as flexible, skilled, employee volunteering at scale

Emma Gervasio, Chief Operating Officer, **Royal Voluntary Service**



13.20 Topic Generation Submission

We would love to hear your thoughts on potential topics or ideas for one-day brand-led conferences – please do submit any thoughts or ideas via the QR code on the screen. Many thanks in advance!

13.25 Lunch & Informal Networking For Speakers, Delegates & Partners

13.55 Informal Breakout Discussions During The Lunch Break

A) From Application to Allocation: What's Working (and What's Not)?

Share and learn best practices for streamlining the grantmaking process, improving transparency, and reducing friction for nonprofits.

Gabby Crouch, Business Development Executive, **Foundant + SmartSimple**



B) Geopolitics

James Jackson, Head of Corporate Partnerships, **British Red Cross**



C) Fundraising

Jonathan Tebble, Corporate Partnerships Manager, **Age UK**



D) Diversity & Inclusion In The Charity Sector: An Open Conversation

Alicia Jumman, Head of Partnerships, **War Child UK**



14.25 Afternoon Co-Chairs' Opening Remarks

Michael Duncan, Head of Giving Strategy & Programmes, **NatWest Group**



Dougy Palarm, Director Partnerships, Fundraising & Communications, **The Conservation Volunteers**



Bonus Session; Reserved For Conference Partner, Blackbaud

14.35

In a world where purpose matters more than ever, embedding community impact into your business strategy isn't just good ethics - it's smart business. In this inspiring session, discover how Leeds Building Society has made CSR a true business priority.

Gavin Miller, Strategic Partnerships Lead at YourCause from Blackbaud, sits down with Katy Hartley-Ross, Corporate Affairs & Volunteering Manager at Leeds Building Society, to explore how they deliver meaningful support to charities and non-profits through innovative grant making and employee volunteering - streamlined by technology that transforms clunky processes into seamless, scalable action.

Gavin Miller, Strategic Partnerships Lead, **YourCause from Blackbaud**



Katy Hartley-Ross, Corporate Affairs & Volunteering Manager, **Leeds Building Society**



Showcasing Impact & Roi – New Measurement

14.50 Engaging Shared Audiences To Make Cultural Change:

- How to work in partnership to identify and recruit shared audiences
- Working together to agree shared measurement metrics and demonstrate impact
- How to scale messages across different platforms and projects – ranging from community activity to digital campaigns
- The importance of demonstrating impact through storytelling as well as metrics

Guy Mason, Head of Public Affairs & Responsibility, **HEINEKEN UK Limited**



Michael Beeson, Head of Partnerships, **Drinkaware**



National Grid & Catch22: Navigating Real-World Constraints Together

15.10

Fergus Hynd, UK Manager/US Director – Social Mobility, **National Grid**



Melissa Milner, Director of External Affairs & Partnerships, **Catch22**



Employee Donation Wallets: Re-Thinking Corporate Giving

15.30

How Benefact Group and givestar boosted employee giving, reduced admin overhead and supported hundreds of charities with mobile Donation Wallets. Learnings and opportunities for CSR teams thinking about the connection between giving and employee engagement.

Alex Coleridge, Founder, **givestar**



Chris Pitt, Group Impact Director, **Benefact Group**



15.45 Evaluation Form & Feedback

We would love to hear your thoughts on potential topics or ideas for one-day brand-led conferences – please do submit any thoughts or ideas via the QR code on the screen. Many thanks in advance!

15.50 Afternoon Refreshment Break With Informal Networking

National Partnership, Local Impact

16.20 National Partnership, Local Impact – How Premier League Football Is Providing Opportunities For All

Nick Perchard, Director of Community, **The Premier League**



Alex White, Chief Operating Officer, **The Premier League Charitable Fund**



16.40 Winner Announcement

The afternoon co-chairs will announce the delegate who has won a donation to their chosen charity!

Partnership Innovations & The Future Of Corporate Partnerships – Panel Discussion & Q&A

16.45 Get Inspired! Spark New Ideas & Approaches By Deep-Diving Into The Latest Innovations & Forward-Looking Partnership Strategies

- With an ever-changing landscape both in the UK and across the globe, what will corporate charity partnerships look like in 2026 and beyond?
- Cutting-edge techniques and inspiring outside-the-box innovations to supercharge your partnerships, foster passion in your workforce and promote real change and growth
- Update your volunteering and skill-sharing programmes to promote your social purpose goals and keep your impact results front and centre
- How can you adapt your partnership strategies, to encompass everything from remote workforces to the latest automation technologies?

Michelle Leavesley, Chief Sustainability Officer, **Admiral Group Plc**



Christopher Shearer-Wright, Senior EDI & Community Partnerships Manager, **Oliver Bonas**



Liz Roche, Head of Foundation & Sustainable Business, **Vodafone**



Tom Clarke-Forrest, Founder & CEO, **Sport 4 Life UK**



17.15 Afternoon Co-Chairs' Closing Remarks & Close Of Conference

Michael Duncan, Head of Giving Strategy & Programmes, **NatWest Group**



Dougy Palarm, Director Partnerships, Fundraising & Communications, **The Conservation Volunteers**



Many Thanks For Joining Us Today!