

Object Clause Change: FAQs

My U3A's current object clause includes 'the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure-time occupation in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom they are intended'. Therefore, do I need this?

Your current object clause does cover most of the activities that you may want to undertake, except for any that go beyond 'social and leisure'. For example some U3As are developing interest groups based on mindfulness, confidence building, buddying people who have been bereaved which would fit within personal development.

Can you give some examples as to what would be included in the new object clause?

- Lunches and coffee mornings to help people feel comfortable about taking part.
- Trips to educational establishments galleries, museums, places of local interest, places of heritage.
- Trips to the theatre.
- Trips with the purpose of enabling people feel comfortable with other members and therefore taking part in the education by getting to know other members and to feel confident.
- Christmas lunch, with the purpose of being able to take part in the education activities.
- Disability inclusion group.
- Mental health inclusion group so that people can be supported to be involved.
- Access to technological support in terms of education participation.
- Buddy support to accompany members traveling to and from U3A meetings.
- Buddy support to ensure members can be welcomed and included in U3A activities.

Do you need to have your AGM before March 20th 2018?

No, you just need to notify us that you intend to put the change to your next AGM to be held in the 12 month period following 1st April.

Do U3As only have to provide annual reports and annual accounts when they register with the Charity Commission?

As charities, all U3As must produce an annual report and set of accounts, whether or not they are registered with the Charity Commission. Once you have a turnover of £25,000 or more, you must submit the accounts and annual report to the Charity Commission.

Our current object clause includes a description of the area in which we live (eg 'residing in anytown'). Will the new object clause have a geographical descriptor?

Yes, it will have 'in anytown' added on the end.

The information appeared to indicate that groups that did not have income flowing through U3A financial accounts, such as walking groups, would not be insured. Is this true?

No, as long as the activities are covered by your object clause they will be covered by the public liability insurance regardless of whether they raise income or incur expenditure. If you plan to undertake any activity that could be considered to have a greater risk please contact the National Office for advice on insurance before committing to run it.

What is my object clause?

It can also be called your 'charitable purpose' in your constitution. You will find it near the beginning of your constitution.

- Link to the trustee
- This will show the purpose of existing groups and compare it with their members and members taking part in the education by getting to know other members and to find confidence
- Charities funds with the purpose of heavy side to take part in the education activities
- Charities inclusion group
- Mental health inclusion group so that people can be included to be involved
- Access to technological support in terms of education participation
- Study support to accompany members traveling to and from USA meetings
- Study support to ensure members can be welcomed and included in USA activities

Do you need to have your AUM before March 2017?

If you still need to apply we that you intend to put the change to your trust AUM to be held in the 12 month period following 1st April

Do I need to have to provide annual reports and financial statements when I register with the Charity Commission?

As a charity, all USA must provide an annual report and set of accounts, whether or not they are registered with the Charity Commission. Once you have a turnover of £25,000 or more you must submit the accounts and annual report to the Charity Commission

The current object clause includes a description of the way in which we are to be run. Will the new object clause have a geographical restriction?

Yes it will have no geographical restriction on the way