

'Unincorporated Association' is the simplest available legal structure and is the most common structure for small groups.

This simple structure allows small not for profit groups to operate without a complex legal structure or associated costs.

This structure is most appropriate for groups which:

- Have low incomes
- Do not intend to employ staff, acquire property or enter into contracts
- Want a simple, low maintenance structure

Pros

- Quick and affordable to set up
- Not required to report to a regulatory body, so relatively easy to run
- Offers a democratic structure with flexible procedures

Cons

- Cannot hold property or enter into contracts in its own name
- Members may be held personally liable for the group's debts or legal action against the group

Governing Document

An association's governing document is usually called a constitution. Please see an example of an [Articles of Association Constitution Template](#).

