

This is of course an issue for Parliament to decide. However a complete charity exemption has some practical implications that need to be considered. In particular, an exemption would create a difference in the requirements that non-charitable and charitable organisations would have to meet. Any organisation seeking to avoid the Lobbying Bill requirements might potentially exploit this difference; one way in which they might try to do so is by seeking to apply for charitable status before an election period. We would need to be extra vigilant in order to guard against this. We hope that there will be a full discussion of the wider implications of this, and any other amendment.