

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- How to manage your charity during tough times
- How can you improve your charity's annual reports and accounts?
- What happens when a charity doesn't submit their annual report and accounts on time?
- Revitalising Trusts project tracks down millions for public benefit
- Inquiry reports: The World's Big Sleep Out Trust & Social Bite Fund
- How OSCR carries out investigations
- VIDEO: Safeguarding webinar
- When should charities make a referral to Disclosure Scotland?
- VACANCY: Corporate Assistant
- Children in Scotland membership offer
- Protect UK workshop for the voluntary sector

How to manage your charity during tough times

Many charities across Scotland are feeling the effects of the current economic crisis.

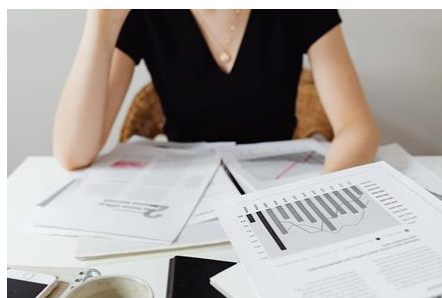
Rising inflation is increasing running costs for services, while some charities are experiencing a loss of income due to budget pressures on national and local government. At the same time, we know that many organisations are experiencing increased demand for their services, while finding it difficult to recruit new staff.



We know that managing your charity during tough times like these can be extremely challenging. That's why we have provided some guidance and advice to help you understand your legal obligations, navigate challenging circumstances, and find out where to turn for support.

[Read the guidance here.](#)

How can you improve your charity's annual reports and accounts?



As a regulator, part of our work is to monitor whether charities across Scotland are carrying out their duties properly. That's why we require charities to maintain financial records, prepare annual accounts and submit them to OSCR on time.

To help us understand how well charities are carrying out this requirement, we recently undertook a review of the accounts submitted by 90 charities, which were selected at random from the 25,000 organisations on the Scottish Charity Register. This work has helped us to identify areas where improvement is required and where we may want to provide additional support for charities.

[Read more about our key findings and how to improve your charity's annual report and accounts.](#)

(SC049124).

These reports are now available to view on our website.

[View the reports here.](#)



How OSCR carries out investigations



OSCR's role is to support a Scottish charity sector which is trusted and respected, and positively contributes to our society. That's why one of our statutory functions is to undertake inquiries into charities where something has gone wrong.

These inquiries are carried out to help charities and their trustees comply with their legal responsibilities under charity law and, in some instances, to protect charitable assets.

Find out more about how we assess concerns, why we might undertake an inquiry and what action we can take.

[Read the information here.](#)

VIDEO: Safeguarding webinar

Safeguarding is a key responsibility for charity trustees and senior leaders. If you don't get it right, failure can not only have a devastating impact on your charity's beneficiaries, employees and supporters, it can also damage your

reputation and that of the wider voluntary sector. Safeguarding needs to be proactive and go over and above the minimum legal responsibilities to make sure the culture within your organisation respects and protects the people there.



We recently joined SCVO for a webinar to explain more about the importance of safeguarding, covering topics such as:

- Trustee duties and good governance
- Employer responsibilities
- What OSCR expects from charities
- Reporting Notifiable Events to OSCR

[View a recording of the webinar here.](#)

When should charities make a referral to Disclosure Scotland?



Volunteers play such a crucial role in today's society and make an excellent contribution to enhancing the lives of children and protected adults, however, what happens when this goes wrong? Would you know how

to make a referral?

If your organisation has individuals doing regulated work (people who work with vulnerable children and adults) you have a legal duty to report any harmful behaviour carried out by them to Disclosure Scotland.

Your duty to refer to Disclosure Scotland exists even when your organisation reports the same issue to regulators or the police.

Find out more about what your duties are, how to refer to Disclosure Scotland and where to find more help and support.

[Read the information here.](#)

VACANCY: Corporate Assistant

We are currently seeking a Corporate Assistant to join the team at OSCR.

This is a flexible customer focussed role, which is critical to ensuring that OSCR internal and external

stakeholders receive the support they need to operate effectively, and have a positive experience when interacting with us. In addition, the Corporate Assistant will help ensure that OSCR meets a variety of external and internal service standard targets, working with and supporting colleagues to deliver this.

Our office is based in Dundee and we offer hybrid working arrangements. The post is full time and permanent, with a salary of £25,713.00 per annum.

The closing date for the vacancy is 10 May 2023.

[Find out more and apply here.](#)



Children in Scotland membership offer

Children in Scotland are currently offering free membership to:

- Charities with an annual income under £50,000; or
- Organisations that primarily work with minority ethnic children, young people and families in Scotland.



Membership provides organisations with a range of benefits including access to learning opportunities on things like safeguarding, UNCRC and GIRFEC, plus networking opportunities and opportunity to influence policy.

This offer will be open until 31 May 2023 and the membership will last for a 12-month period.

[Find out more here.](#)

Protect UK workshop for the voluntary sector

On Monday 19 December, the Government announced details for the Protect Duty, now to be known as 'Martyn's Law'. The Homeland Security

ProtectUK

Group has provided a factsheet for organisations in order to explain what the law will do, what the tier system is and how the law will be managed. [More information can be found here.](#)

Following the launch of the National Counter Terrorism Policing's 'ProtectUK' platform and app, a virtual awareness workshop is being held for those in the voluntary sector.

The session will help you to understand:

- more about the ProtectUK platform, its uses and benefits
- the benefits of undertaking the e-learning and how it can enhance your staff's awareness of countering terrorism
- how the ProtectUK app will benefit your organisation in countering terrorism and developing your protective security and preparedness
- how you can deploy the e-learning and app across your organisation

The virtual workshop will be held from 12-1pm on Wednesday 24 May 2023. It is open to charities of all sizes.

[Find out more and reserve your free ticket.](#)

Scotland's charity regulator: OSCR is the independent registrar and regulator of Scotland's 23,000 charities

www.oscr.org.uk | info@oscr.org.uk | General enquiries: 01382 220446 | Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) 2nd Floor, Quadrant House, 9 Riverside Drive, Dundee, DD1 4NY |

Follow us on twitter [@ScotCharityReg](https://twitter.com/ScotCharityReg)

Find us on facebook [OSCR](https://www.facebook.com/OSCR)

OSCR Online makes it easier for charities to report to OSCR, and improves transparency for the public. For more information, or to register, visit www.oscr.org.uk

[Unsubscribe](#)