

OSCR Reporter - March 2024

Welcome to the OSCR Reporter newsletter, your regular update of the latest charity sector news from the Scottish Charity Regulator.



Coming soon: changes to charity law and the way we regulate

Legislation was laid in the Scottish Parliament recently to bring into effect some of the changes contained in the Charities (Regulation and Administration) (Scotland) Act 2023. These changes will take effect on 1 April 2024. OSCR has been working hard to make sure charities and the public get maximum benefit from the improvements these changes will bring.

While there is no immediate action required on the part of charities or charity trustees, we want to make sure that the sector and those who advise it know what changes are coming up.

We have published a summary of the changes coming on 1 April, as well as details of further measures which will be introduced later in the year.

Read more



Top tips to improve your charity's cyber safety and security

Organisations of every size have become very dependent on digital tools and platforms – to communicate, to collaborate, and to store vital data. And more and more charities are being targeted by cyber criminals.

It's really important to be aware of cyber security issues and ensure you take steps to make sure your charity is safe and secure.

Alison Brogan, SCVO's Cyber Resilience Co-ordinator has shared two articles with her top tips and expert advice. Read them here:

- [Five tips to improve your charity's cyber safety and security](#)
- [More help available for charities as cyber threats persist](#)



Latest version of the Sector Overview Report now available

A new version of our Sector Overview Report has been released. The report provides a snapshot of the charity sector in Scotland, based on the information provided by charities on the Scottish Charity Register.

Some of the key figures from the latest report include:

- **194** charities have been registered in the last quarter, and **283** charities have been removed from the Scottish Charity Register.
- Charities employ **213,389** people as paid staff however **69%** of charities employ no paid staff and are run entirely by volunteers, including the charity trustees.
- Over two fifths (**41%**) of Scottish charities operate locally within a specific place, community or neighbourhood. A further **25%** operate within one local authority area.
- Edinburgh and Glasgow have the highest number of charities (**2,951** and **2,810** respectively), followed by the Highland region (**1,847**).

[Read more](#)



There's a new Register of Persons Holding a Controlled Interest in Land in Scotland.



Does your charity own land and property in Scotland?

If your charity owns, or has an interest in, land and property in Scotland, there is new legislation which may apply to you.

The Register of Persons with a Controlled Interest in Land (RCI) is a new public register managed by the Registers of Scotland (RoS), and it aims to improve transparency of land ownership in Scotland.

If your charity is an unincorporated association or a trust, and land or property is held on its behalf by the committee or trustees, you might need to register. Further information and support is available on the RoS website to help you understand whether you need to register.

[Read more](#)



The Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR)
2nd Floor
Quadrant House
9 Riverside Drive
Dundee
DD1 4NY

www.oscr.org.uk

You are receiving this email because you have subscribed to [OSCR Reporter](#).

[Preferences](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)