

Board Members present: The Very Rev Dr Graham Forbes (Chair), Prof. David Harrison (Vice Chair); Pat Armstrong, Dr. Sophie Flemig, Prof. Stuart Cross, Jessica Wade, Shona Ulrichsen

OSCR attendance: David Robb, CEO; Martin Tyson, Head of Casework; Judith Turbyne, Head of Engagement & Targeted Response Unit; Judith Hayhow, Head of Support Services; Laura Anderson, Head of Professional Advice & Intelligence; Moira Cathcart, Senior Legal Advisor.

Board Secretary: Nicola McBain, Engagement Manager

Preliminaries		
Agenda item	Area	Action
1.	<p>Chairman’s introduction</p> <p>Graham welcomed the Board members.</p> <p>Board members met prior to meeting to review appraisal procedures.</p>	
2.	<p>Declarations of interest</p> <p>Declarations of interest were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof Stuart Cross: one of the charities noted under Registration & Enforcement cases • Higher Education Institutions : Prof Stuart Cross, The Very Rev Graham Forbes, Prof David Harrison, Dr Sophie Flemig • ALEO’s: Shona Ulrichsen <p>The chair indicated that he would actively manage this during the meeting, and should it become necessary, would ask a specific person to leave. It was agreed by consensus that these interests would not preclude these members from taking part in any subsequent discussions.</p>	
3.	<p>Minutes of previous meetings: 21 June 2017 (480)</p> <p>Approved. Minutes to be uploaded to website.</p>	NM
4.	<p>Matters arising & environmental scanning</p> <p>The Board members gave updates on issues of</p>	

	<p>relevance to OSCR’s work from their recent experience and personal perspectives.</p> <p>Themes discussed included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forthcoming SCVO Budget Roundtable covering issues on sustainable development goals and public service reform • Positive progress of Trustee Week plans • Frank’s Law announcement • Governance of student associations 	
5.	<p>Chief Executive’s report (481)</p> <p>The Board noted the content of the paper.</p> <p>Registration and Enforcement cases: Verbal updates were given on significant cases and recent developments.</p> <p>In respect of one potential Court matter, it was agreed that Counsel’s advice be obtained and the Board briefed on the balance of risks.</p> <p>Engagement: Verbal updates were given on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The full set of OSCR’s Meet the Charity Regulator events have now completed. Videos will be available soon on OSCR website • Trustee Week • Fundraising Guidance is currently out for a 3 month consultation <p>Targeted Response: Verbal updates were given on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Random sampling is ongoing and a report on the outcomes of this will be brought to the Board • Trust Research is ongoing • Charities of Interest has been taken forward using a multi-disciplinary approach and team are now considering how to continue momentum once pilot is complete • A report on our approach to non submission will be submitted to the Board in due course <p>Online applications project: Project is progressing well and a decision on the appropriate procurement route is expected by the end of September.</p> <p>Housing Bill: Legislation is being introduced to limit the changing powers of Scottish Housing Regulator (SHR) on Registered Social Landlords with the aim of</p>	<p>MT/JT/MC</p> <p>JT</p>

	<p>reversing their re-classification as public bodies by Office National Statistics. We are liaising with SG and SHR as this works through parliament.</p> <p>CCEW: The Chief Executive has plans to meet with the new Chief Executive of CCEW.</p> <p>SORP: Consideration of the results of the SORP research has concluded and issues identified will impact the development of next Charities SORP. Recent accounting standards changes have little impact on charities and therefore the current SORP will be updated by a Bulletin as opposed to a brand new edition.</p> <p>Staffing: Verbal updates were given.</p>	
6.	<p>Performance Management Report (482)</p> <p>The Board noted the contents of the paper. Specific points covered include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted an increase in FOI requests based on previous years. Staff are also being trained on GDPR • Casework demand remains stable • Noted the positive increase in number of charities that publish charity accounts • Mid-year review of budget is scheduled 	
7.	<p>Barclay Review of Non-Domestic Rates (483)</p> <p>The Head of Engagement introduced the paper and outlined the key areas that need to be considered as a result of this review.</p> <p>These included :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential issues around the charity test • Whether the review levels the playing field • Specific issues relating to sports clubs, ALEO's and Local Authorities <p>The Government had issued a statement the previous day saying that further engagement and consultation would be taken on these issues before an implementation plan is finalised.</p> <p>The Board noted these issues and expressed concern over the lack of engagement to date with OSCR. It was agreed that we should note this concern to SG, and also offer our initial view and engage with further consultation.</p>	DR/JT

8.	<p>Holding Board meetings in public (484)</p> <p>The Head of Support Services introduced this paper.</p> <p>The Board discussed the various implications of holding meetings in public, taking account of how other public bodies deal with this and the role of our current Meet the Charity Regulator events.</p> <p>The Board were keen to explore this further and agreed that a further paper on resource implications should be prepared. This should be based on holding a full set of open meetings in 2018.</p>	JH
9.	<p>Digital Journeys for Regulators: report back from the sub group (485)</p> <p>Dr Sophie Flemig introduced this paper. The group met in August 2017, and used service design tools to consider OSCR's services and how digital could support this.</p> <p>The main theme was moving away from a one-size fits all service to a more customised and personalised approach, with the goal of integrated systems. There was an acknowledgment however that this needs further consideration and consultation and that resource is an issue.</p> <p>The group is expected to meet again once a decision is taken on the procurement of the technical partner for the online application for charitable status.</p>	Digital Sub-Group
10.	<p>Other business</p> <p>Dr Flemig introduced an item on the Local Government Pension Scheme and the financial impact on charities where employer members of the Scheme want to, or are forced to, exit from the Scheme.</p> <p>A possible loan fund may be established to help charities through this and OSCR have been feeding into this as appropriate.</p> <p>The Board agreed this was a serious issue with implications for both large and small charities and agreed to continue liaising with and supporting those taking forward the fund.</p>	LA