

Interim report under section 33 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 on The Teddy Bear Foundation (SC035698)

Introduction

The Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (“OSCR”) is making inquiries into The Teddy Bear Foundation under section 28 of the Charities and Trustee Investment Scotland Act 2005 (“the 2005 Act”). OSCR has issued a direction in terms of section 31(7) of the 2005 Act as a result of its inquiries.

Background

The Teddy Bear Foundation (“the charity”) is a Scottish registered charity. It is a charitable trust and was awarded charitable status on 29 July 2004. The purposes of the charity are ‘to relieve the needs of children resident in Scotland who suffer from mental and/or physical disability, illness or impairment.’

In January 2021 OSCR opened an inquiry into the charity following receipt of concerns about payments made by the charity to company connected to one of its charity trustees.

Action

To date OSCR’s inquiries into the charity have given us concern surrounding both the governance of the charity and financial controls within the charity.

Based on the information we have obtained throughout the course of our inquiry, which remains ongoing, we are concerned that there has been misconduct in the administration of the charity and consider it necessary and desirable to take protective action in respect of the charity’s property. We have therefore issued a formal direction to the charity’s bank preventing it from parting with any property of the charity without OSCR’s consent.

The direction is valid for six months and expires on 27 October 2022. The direction can be revoked or varied by OSCR during that period if we determine it appropriate to do so.

Our inquiries into the charity are ongoing and this direction does not pre-empt the outcome.

OSCR
10 May 2022