

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- [OSCR Online upgrade](#)
- [New videos from The Gathering 2022](#)
- [Interim inquiry report - Free Wheel North](#)
- [4 out of 5 Scottish charities report financial concerns](#)
- [Certificate of registration or incorporation](#)
- [SCVO Lifecycle of a charity webinars](#)

OSCR Online upgrade

Every year, every registered charity in Scotland must send OSCR a set of accounts, a trustees' annual report and an external scrutiny report. Charities do this by completing an online annual return using [OSCR Online](#).



The upgraded version of OSCR Online went live on 25 July 2022.

Logging in for the first time

On 25 July 2022, every person listed with OSCR as a principal contact for a charity received an email with new log in instructions. People who are the principal contact for multiple charities also received a separate email listing all the charities they are associated with.

After logging in to the upgraded OSCR Online system, charity users will have the option to invite up to another two users to access a charity's record.

Please check your email inbox and junk email folders for these invites. If you are a principal contact of a charity and did not receive an invitation to the new system by 31 July 2022, please email info@oscr.org.uk.

When you log in OSCR Online after the upgrade, you will be asked for the Scottish charity number for the charity you want to submit information for. If you do not know this number, you can find it on the [Scottish Charity Register](#) (it begins SC0 [ZERO]).

Although the system looks different, and you log in using new details, the questions we ask as part of a charity's online annual return are currently the same.

Guidance

The easiest place to find out about our new system and how to use it is on our website.

[Our updated OSCR Online guidance for charities can be found here.](#)

New videos from The Gathering 2022



The Gathering, organised by SCVO, is the largest voluntary sector event in the UK. Over two days in June, people from the voluntary sector and beyond came together to enjoy a packed programme of over 80

workshops, seminars, and training sessions.

This year, OSCR hosted three events covering a range of different topics. We filmed the events for those that could not attend, and these are now available to view on our YouTube channel. To watch a video, please click on the links below.

- [Meet the Regulator](#) - OSCR Chief Executive Maureen Mallon discusses OSCR's work and plans for the coming year.
- [Revitalisers of the lost trusts](#) - OSCR and Foundation Scotland discuss their collaborative project to track down inactive charitable trusts and work with their trustees on solutions that will enable the funds to be put back into effective use for public benefit.
- [Casework deep-dive](#) - OSCR's Laura Anderson and Martin Tyson explain how risk based regulation works in practice using examples of our recent casework.

Other videos from OSCR

In addition to our coverage of The Gathering, our [YouTube channel](#) has new recordings of our latest online webinars. Topics discussed include **applying for charitable status** and **independent examination of charity accounts**.

Interim inquiry report - Free Wheel North

We have opened an inquiry into Free Wheel North, Scottish charity number SC039789, following receipt of a significant number of concerns about how the charity is operating.



It is clear to us that there is a substantial level of public interest in our inquiry and we have therefore taken the step of publishing an interim inquiry report to support understanding of our role and our work in relation to this charity at this time.

[Read the report here.](#)

4 out of 5 Scottish charities report financial concerns



80% of Scottish charities have reported that financial issues surrounding funding and running costs were among their top three challenges. This is one of the key findings of new research published in June

by OSCR.

The 2022 edition of the bi-annual Scottish Charity Survey also shows that the Scottish public's faith in the country's charity sector remains high following a sharp increase in confidence at the beginning of the 2020.

This survey represents the first opportunity for observers to understand how the relationship between the Scottish public and the charity sector has evolved since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020.

[View the Scottish Charity Survey findings here.](#)

Certificate of registration or incorporation

We have received some calls and emails requesting a certificate of registration/SCIO certificate of incorporation. These are sometimes requested as part of funding applications.



OSCR does not issue a certificate of registration/incorporation when organisations become a charity. This is because over time your information will change. You might update your purposes or change your principal contract address, for example.

Instead, proof of registration is shown by the charity being entered on the Scottish Charity Register. [You can search for a charity's register here.](#)

Every entry contains up-to-date information about a charity and is updated overnight every working day.

If you need to prove you are a registered charity, you can send a link to the register entry or print the entry webpage.

SCVO Lifecycle of a charity webinars



SCVO have organised a series of free lunchtime webinars that will look at the 'Lifecycle of a charity', focusing on how and why charities begin, how they develop, and then why some come to an end.

Run jointly with the OSCR, they'll have lots of expert speakers from across the sector, including their partners in the SCVO free legal advice service Gillespie Macandrew, The Cranfield Trust, Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council and Foundation Scotland.

The dates for the webinars are as follows:

- **Lifecycle of a charity: Setting up** - 13:00-14:00, 7 September 2022
- **Lifecycle of a charity: Day to day running** - 13:00-14:00, 5 October 2022
- **Lifecycle of a charity: The trustee journey** - 13:00-14:00, 9 November 2022

More information, including how to book yourself on to these events, can be found in a blog by SCVO's Tracey Bird here.

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](#)