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2022 in numbers

Welcome to the first OSCR Reporter of 2023!

Throughout 2022, we worked on achieving our objectives and our vision for a trusted and respected Scottish charity sector which positively contributes to society.

Our purpose is to hold charities in Scotland to account and help the charity sector to improve so that the public have trust and confidence in charities. To do this, we have been busy undertaking our regulatory work, doing everything from adding new charities to the Scottish Charity Register, dealing with concerns, enquiries and questions from the public, media and charities, reviewing charitable status, helping charities wind up - and everything in between.

To give you a snapshot of some of the work we've been doing over the last year, we've rounded up some of our key figures and [you can view them here on our website](#).



What type of accounts do charitable companies have to submit to OSCR?

There are several different legal forms a charity can take in Scotland, and each type of charity has different requirements and responsibilities. It's important to know what is required of your type of charity so you can submit the right documents when it's time for your annual return.



A charitable company is one such legal form. Recently, we have seen a number of cases where charitable companies have submitted the wrong format of accounts to us and so we thought it would be a good time to remind charity trustees, and those working with charitable companies, of what the requirements are.

[Find out what type of accounts do charitable companies have to submit to OSCR here.](#)

Resources to help you use OSCR Online to submit your annual return

Here are a few useful resources to help you understand how to use the OSCR Online system to submit your annual return when it is due.



Guidance: How to submit an annual return

On our website you'll find a step-by-step guide which talks you through how to submit an annual return using OSCR Online.

There's detailed guidance on everything from how to log in to the system, to how to upload your accounts documentation.

[View the guidance here.](#)

Webinar: How to use OSCR Online to submit an annual return

We recently held a webinar explaining how to use OSCR Online to submit your annual return. Don't worry if you missed it, as you can view a recording of the event on our Youtube channel.

The webinar covers why we ask for annual information, the recent changes to OSCR Online, and how to use the system to submit your annual return.

[View the webinar here.](#)

OSCR Online tips

On 25 July 2022, we upgraded OSCR Online. This may be the first time you are using OSCR Online to submit an annual return since the upgrade, so we've put together some top tips to help you navigate the new system:

- [Logging in](#)
- [Resetting or changing your password](#)
- [Adding or removing charity users](#)
- [Logging out](#)

FAQs

The FAQs section on our website contains lots of useful information about charity accounting, OSCR Online and annual returns.

Please have a look at the FAQs to try and find an answer to your question before contacting us.

[View the FAQs here.](#)

VIDEO: Learning points for charity trustees webinar



It's both a challenging and rewarding job being a charity trustee, working as part of a team to deliver on the purposes of the charity.

During Trustees' Week 2022 we held an online event called 'Learning points for charity trustees' covering:

- The basics of charity trusteeship
- The trustee experience in practice
- Common problems – what, why and how
- How to avoid issues in running a charity

You can view a recording here. Please visit our **YouTube channel** for more videos from OSCR covering a range of topics related to running a charity.

CyberScotland Week, 27th February – 5th March 2023

CyberScotland Week is Scotland's annual week-long festival of events on cyber awareness, cyber careers and innovation in cyber security.



Throughout the week, you'll have the opportunity to participate in a wide range of interactive sessions, workshops, and panel discussions led by experts in the industry. Events are starting to appear on CyberScotland website, so check them out and **book your space**. Increase your cyber awareness and resilience by attending events throughout the week and sharing the resources available.

There are many ways you can get involved in the week. You could **host an event** and share your knowledge with customers, colleagues or friends. If you are looking for a speaker for your own event, please contact info@cyberscotlandweek.com

Scottish Charity Awards 2023



Now in its 17th year, SCVO's Scottish Charity Awards celebrate the very best of Scotland's vibrant voluntary sector. The awards are designed to highlight the incredible

organisations, inspiring people and innovative projects that have

made an immeasurable difference to the communities they support over the past year.

This year's award categories are Employee of the Year, Trustee of the Year, Community Action, Campaign of the Year, Charity of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, Digital Citizen, Pioneering Project and Climate Conscious. Winners will be decided by a panel of judges and announced at a celebratory awards ceremony in Edinburgh on 23 June 2023.

All of the finalists will also be entered into the running for the People's Choice Award, giving members of the public a chance to vote for their favourite finalist to win.

Applications will close at 12 noon on Friday 17 March 2023, so for more information about applying and helpful tips for your application, **please visit the SCVO website.**

How to successfully apply to become a charity in Scotland



To be a charity in Scotland, an organisation must meet the charity test.

The charity test is the legal set of requirements and is in two main parts:

1. An organisation must have only charitable purposes; and
2. It must provide public benefit in achieving those purposes.

In order for us to understand if your organisation meets the charity test, you must submit an application for charitable status to OSCR.

To avoid your application being delayed or withdrawn, it's really important to complete it as fully as you can.

We want to help you to avoid some of the common mistakes applicants make, and ensure your application can be processed as quickly as possible. **Read our information on becoming a charity in Scotland 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 |

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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

