

# Pollokshields Development Agency Scottish Charity Number SC033424

## Interim Inquiry Report under Section 33 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005

#### 1. Introduction

The Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) is making inquiries into Pollokshields Development Agency (the charity) under section 28 of the Charities and Trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 (the 2005 Act). OSCR has taken precautionary action by directing the charity trustees in terms of section 28(3) of the 2005 Act not to undertake activities pending further inquiries by OSCR.

OSCR has taken the additional precautionary action of directing the charity's financial institutions, in terms of section 31(7) of the 2005 Act, not to part with property it is holding on behalf of the charity without OSCR's consent.

### 2. Background

Pollokshields Development Agency was awarded charitable status on 16 June 2002. OSCR opened an inquiry into the charity in May 2023 on receipt of information alleging that charity trustees have been removed and new trustees appointed not in accordance with the terms of the constitution. OSCR was also informed that the current trustees have continued to carry on the activities of the charity without access to the charity's funds. These allegations have raised serious concerns that the charity's assets are at risk, OSCR therefore needs to undertake further inquiries to ensure the charity's assets are protected and that the charity trustees are acting in line with their legal duties.

#### 3. Action

As a result of inquiries to date OSCR's concern is that the charity's assets are at risk. OSCR needs to undertake further inquiries into the circumstances surrounding the recent removal and appointment of charity trustees.

Our inquiries are ongoing and these directions do not pre-empt the outcome of those inquiries.

However, given the seriousness of the situation, and the risk of harm to the charity, OSCR consider it appropriate to direct the charity not to undertake the charity's activities whilst our inquiries are ongoing. OSCR also consider it appropriate to direct the charity's bank not to part with property it is holding on

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behalf of Pollokshields Development Agency without OSCR's consent.

These directions are valid for six months and expire on **01 December 2023.** The directions can be revoked or varied by OSCR during that period if we determine it appropriate to do so.

OSCR **01 June 2023** 

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