

OSCR Reporter - October 2023

Welcome to the new-look OSCR Reporter newsletter, your regular update of the latest charity sector news from the Scottish Charity Regulator.



VIDEOS: Regulating Scotland's Charities 2023

On 17 August 2023, OSCR hosted 'Regulating Scotland's Charities', an event to bring together stakeholders from across the third sector and explain more about OSCR's work, our priorities and how we regulate.

The sessions have been recorded and are now available to view:

- [How does OSCR handle concerns about Scottish charities?](#) Laura Anderson explains more about how OSCR carries out an inquiry.
- [OSCR's Regulatory Priorities 2023-26.](#) Martin Tyson discusses how we regulate and what our priorities are for the next three years.

- [OSCR's refreshed approach to our inquiries](#). Laura Anderson and Kenny Mathers explain the updates we have recently made to OSCR's inquiry process and the way people can raise concerns about Scottish charities.
- [OSCR's vision for the next three years](#). Board Chair Marieke Dwarshuis talks through our Corporate Strategy and how we plan to deliver this work.



Join us at The Gathering 2023

The Gathering, the UK's largest free voluntary sector event, returns to Edinburgh on 7 and 8 November 2023. With over 70 events, workshops, seminars and activities, it's a place for people across the third sector to network, showcase what they do and learn from each other.

We are delighted to be hosting several OSCR events as part of the programme. Book your free place now:

- [Top tips on what makes a good well-managed charity](#) (Tuesday 7 November, 9.30-10.30am)
- [What OSCR does when it receives concerns](#) (Tuesday 7 November, 3-4pm)
- [Your date with our data: insights from our sector and the Scottish public](#) (Wednesday 8 November, 9.30-10.30am)

[Read more](#)



OSCR removes 31 charities from the Scottish Charity Register

We have [removed 31 charities from the Scottish Charity Register](#) as they no longer meet the charity test. They appear to be undertaking no activity and have not engaged with communications from us.

These organisations have failed, over a number of years, to submit annual accounting information. This is one of the primary ways of a charity demonstrating it is providing public benefit.

By identifying and removing charities which are undertaking no activity and are failing to meet they charity test, we hope this will:

- Increase the proportion of charities on the register that are actively providing public benefit and reporting transparently to the public.
- Maintain public confidence in charities and OSCR.
- Reduce OSCR resources required to pursue non-compliant charities, allowing us to focus on other important work.

[Read more](#)



Become a member of OSCR's Charities Reference Group

The [Charities Reference Group](#) (CRG) is a group set up by OSCR that provides an opportunity for charities to engage and interact directly with us. By sharing your thoughts and feedback as part of the group, you can help to shape OSCR's work and ensure we provide the information and support that charities need.

We are looking for new members to join the group. The CRG meets three or four times per year to discuss key projects under way at OSCR, and the meetings are held online. We are keen to welcome members from a wide range of charities across the whole of Scotland.

Please contact charles.willis@oscr.org.uk for more information or to express your interest in joining. **Closing date: Friday 20 October 2023.**

[Read more](#)

More news from the Scottish charity sector

- [**OSCR has published an updated Sector Overview Report.**](#) Covering the period from July to September 2023, the report provides a snapshot of the charity sector in Scotland based on the information provided by charities on the Scottish Charity Register.
- [**The Scottish Third Sector Tracker is looking for new members.**](#) This growing research community aims to provide a clear and up-to-date picture of the health of the third sector in Scotland and enable SCVO and the Scottish Government to shape decision-making and identify where more support is needed.
- OSCR has published interim inquiry reports for [**Pollokshields Development Agency \(SC033424\)**](#) and [**ZesT Football Club \(SC052039\)**](#).



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