

OSCR Management Information – March 2021

****THERE MAY BE CHANGES TO FIGURES FOR MARCH 2020 ONWARDS ****

Due to remote working, from 23 March, OSCR has not had the same access to its systems for processing work. There may be further updates to some figures when we have full access to our systems.

| Measure | | Mar 21 | Feb 21 | Jan 21 | Apr 20-Mar 21 | Apr 19-Mar 20 | |
|--|---|---------|---------|---------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| Charities and OSCR Online | | | | | | | |
| 1. Charities on the Scottish Charity Register | ↑ | 25,230 | 25,198 | 25,184 | ↑ | 25,230 | 24,822 |
| 2. Number of charities that have come off the Register | ↓ | 48 | 58 | 58 | ↓ | 476 | 534 |
| Registration | | | | | | | |
| 3. New applications for charitable status (including new applications to become a SCIO) | ↓ | 96 (58) | 98 (67) | 77 (49) | ↓ | 981 (646) | 1,106 (751) |
| 4. Outcome of applications for charity status | | | | | | | |
| a. applications granted (refused) | ↑ | 77 (0) | 69 (0) | 82 (0) | ↓ | 817 (2) | 874 (9) |
| b. applications for SCIO granted (refused) | ↑ | 54 (0) | 39 (0) | 47 (0) | ↓ | 564 (1) | 590 (6) |
| c. applications closed with no decision made | ↑ | 15 | 7 | 12 | ↑ | 157 | 103 |
| d. applications withdrawn by the applicant | ↑ | 4 | 3 | 4 | ↓ | 35 | 57 |
| 5. Average number of days between receipt of an initial status application and decision | ↑ | 100 | 85 | 91 | ↓ | 90 | 94 |
| 6. Percentage of status applications concluded within 90 days of receipt | ↓ | 63% | 70% | 69% | ↑ | 65% | 56% |
| Consent and Reorganisation | | | | | | | |
| 7. Number of requests for consent to changes | ↓ | 56 | 76 | 57 | ↓ | 640 | 707 |
| 8. Number of requests for charity reorganisation schemes | ↓ | 2 | 7 | 3 | ↓ | 87 | 112 |
| 9. Number of consents granted (refused) | ↑ | 60 (1) | 59 (0) | 60 (1) | ↓ | 590 (9) | 615 (5) |
| 10. Number of reorganisation schemes granted (refused) | ↑ | 10 (0) | 3 (0) | 3 (0) | ↓ | 79 (0) | 121 (1) |
| 11. Percentage of consents that were decided within the statutory deadlines | ↑ | 98% | 96% | 100% | ↓ | 96% | 100% |
| 12. Percentage of reorganisation cases that have met the statutory deadlines | ↑ | 95% | 73% | 89% | ↓ | 92% | 98% |
| Annual returns and annual reports and accounts | | | | | | | |
| 13. Running total of web links to charity accounts published on the Scottish Charity Register | ↑ | 3,182 | 3,147 | 3,136 | ↑ | 3,182 | 2,905 |
| 14. Views of charity annual reports and accounts published on the Scottish Charity Register* | ↑ | 5,656 | 5,357 | 4,704 | ↓ | 54,673 | 61,358 |
| 15. Charities with annual reports and accounts that have been viewed on the Scottish Charity Register* | ↑ | 2,354 | 2,314 | 2,100 | ↓ | 6,542 | 6,888 |
| 16. Percentage of charities failing to provide annual returns and accounts within 12 months of their accounting year | ↔ | 18% | 18% | 22% | !↑ | 13% | 4% |
| 17. Running total of former charities reporting to OSCR under s.19 | ↔ | 66 | 66 | 66 | ↓ | 66 | 131 |
| Concerns and notifiable events | | | | | | | |
| 18. Total number of concerns about charities from external sources (and those where it is appropriate for OSCR to act) | ↑ | 39 (6) | 34 (5) | 35 (1) | ↓ | 428 (43) | 620 (127) |
| 19. Number of notifiable events received | ↑ | 14 | 5 | 5 | ↓ | 147 | 178 |
| Reviews, complaints about OSCR & information requests | | | | | | | |
| 20. Review of OSCR's decisions requested | ↔ | 0 | 0 | 0 | ↓ | 2 | 8 |
| 21. Formal complaints about OSCR procedure or service standards | ↔ | 0 | 0 | 0 | ↓ | 4 | 15 |
| 22. Freedom of Information requests | ↔ | 5 | 5 | 4 | ↓ | 39 | 44 |
| 23. Freedom of information review requests | ↑ | 1 | 0 | 1 | ↓ | 4 | 9 |
| 24. Subject access requests | ↓ | 0 | 1 | 0 | ↑ | 6 | 2 |
| 25. Appeals made to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner regarding OSCR decisions | ↔ | 0 | 0 | 1 | ↔ | 1 | 1 |

What do these figures show?

Charities and OSCR Online

1. The size of the charity sector in Scotland.
2. The number of charities that have come off the Scottish Charity Register. This includes voluntary removals and charities found to no longer meet the charity test, including removals resulting from our search processes finding a charity no longer to be active.

Registration

3. The number of organisations that have applied for charitable status. This number includes applications from UK-wide or 'cross border' charities. The figure in brackets refers to the number of applications to become a SCIO that are included in the overall figure.
4. Outcome of applications for charity status -
 - (a) the number of organisations granted charitable status and the number refused (shown in brackets).
 - (b) the number of applications for SCIO status granted (refused) that are included in the figures above.
 - (c) applications closed without a decision being made because the applicant has failed to respond to a request for information, or because there is likely to be a long delay in providing the information needed to make a decision.
 - (d) applications for charity status where the applicant has withdrawn the application.
5. How long the status application process has taken on average, from start to finish (this includes time with the applicant as well as time with OSCR).
6. The percentage of status applications in which the process from start to finish has taken less than 90 days (our non statutory target is to conclude 80% within 90 days and this includes time with applicant as well as time with OSCR).

Consent and Reorganisation

7. How many requests we received for consent under s.11, s.12 and s.16.
8. How many requests we received for approval of charity reorganisation schemes under s.39.
9. How many requests for s.11, s.12 and s.16 consents have been granted (number of refusals in brackets).
10. How many requests for s.39 reorganisation where approval was given (refused).
11. **Percentage of s.11, s.12 and s.16 consents cases that were decided within the statutory deadline of 28 days (of receipt of a complete application).**
12. **Percentage of reorganisation cases in which the statutory deadlines to acknowledge receipt within 14 days and issue a final decision within the required timescale (dependent of the type of reorganisation) have been met.**

Annual returns and Accounts

13. The number of charities on the Scottish Charity Register that have provided a web link to their published accounts in their most recent annual return. This is a running total.
14. The number of views of charity annual report and accounts documents published on the Scottish Charity Register
15. The number of charities that have had their annual report and accounts documents viewed on the Scottish Charity Register
16. The percentage of charities each month that are failing to submit their annual return and accounts within 12 months of their accounting end date. This is one measure of charity compliance.
17. Charities which are removed from the register but have remaining charity assets still have a duty to report to OSCR.

Concerns about charities

18. The total number of concerns received from external sources. This includes concerns from the public and referrals from other Regulators. The figure in brackets refers to concerns where it is appropriate for OSCR to act.
19. The number of notifiable events received. Included in our monthly management information from October 2018.

Reviews, complaints about OSCR and Freedom of Information Requests

20. The number of challenges to decisions made by OSCR, indicating disagreement with OSCR's judgements and decisions.
21. An indication of dissatisfaction with OSCR's internal processes.
22. The number of Freedom of Information requests received in the month
23. Freedom of Information review requests received in the month.
24. The number of subject access requests received in the month
25. Appeal requests made to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner in relation to OSCR decisions

Notes –

- Figures 11 & 12 (in bold) show whether the statutory deadlines described in the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and Charities Reorganisation (Scotland) Regulations 2007 (as amended) have been met.

The arrows are intended to draw attention to general trends over the last few months, or when compared to the previous year.