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OSCR publishes interim safeguarding guidance

The Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) has published interim guidance on safeguarding.



Safeguarding is the action that an organisation takes to promote the welfare of children and vulnerable adults to protect them from harm. This includes making sure that the appropriate policies and procedures are put in place. Safeguarding includes child protection but goes further and extends to all vulnerable beneficiaries.

Safeguarding Guidance: Keeping vulnerable beneficiaries safe explains what is meant by safeguarding and highlights key steps charity trustees can take to make sure that it is considered in an appropriate way. The guidance also looks at how charity trustee duties set out in the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 relate to safeguarding issues.

[View the interim safeguarding guidance here.](#)

Our survey says... public trust remains stable



Two surveys published by OSCR show that the public's score for trust in charities has remained the same since 2016 and confirms support from both the public and charities for OSCR and its work.

We commissioned the surveys to see how attitudes compared to 2016. In the reports, independent research organisation Progressive presents the views of 1,000 members of the public and 1,200 charity representatives as well as findings from public focus groups and in-depth telephone interviews with charities.

[Read the survey results here.](#)

Meet the Scottish Charity Regulator events

We are currently travelling across Scotland to give charity trustees and staff the opportunity to hear about our latest developments, meet OSCR staff and ask questions.



In our 2018 round of events we are discussing a range of topics, including:

- who we are and what we do
- the role of the charity trustee
- safeguarding
- our latest guidance.

We've already been to Perth and Peterhead, with Stirling being our next destination on 13 June. There are still some spaces left in our upcoming **Edinburgh, Motherwell and Oban** events, and they are **FREE** to attend. However, we do ask that you should only book a place if you are making your attendance a priority due to the limited spaces available.

[To book a place at one of our remaining events, please click here.](#)

GDPR is here!



General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is a new, Europe-wide legislation that sets out requirements for how organisations will need to handle personal data from 25 May 2018.

We know that charities have been preparing for this and may have a number of questions.

Our website contains links to useful sources of information and answers some queries we have been receiving about GDPR's impact on SCIO registers.

[Click here to find out more.](#)

OSCR to hold open Board meeting

We will be holding our first open Board meeting on 12 June 2018.

The meeting will be held in Quadrant House, Dundee at 10:30am and will give attendees a chance to see our Board make decisions on OSCR's direction of travel.



This step is part of OSCR's commitment to being as transparent as possible about its operations, and the majority of the Board's discussions will take place during the open session. However, there will also be some confidential subjects, such as specific inquiry matters, discussed in private.

[Read more about our open Board meeting here.](#)

Charity Tax Commission launches public call for evidence



The Charity Tax Commission has launched a consultation seeking views on whether and how the tax treatment of charities – estimated to be worth around £3.7bn a year – needs to be reformed.

The review, the first systematic look at charity tax reliefs in over 20 years, will examine the role charities play in society, and seek to identify ways to improve the efficiency and efficacy of the current system.

The call for evidence will close on Friday 6 July. As part of the consultation, the commission will also be holding a series of public evidence-gathering meetings across the UK during the consultation period.

[Read more information on the consultation here.](#)

Consultation open on disclosure regime

Disclosure Scotland has launched a public consultation asking for feedback about proposals to simplify and modernise the Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) scheme.



The 12-week consultation closes on 18 July 2018. It is seeking views from stakeholders on a set of proposals, including how a mandatory PVG scheme would work, as well as membership duration and fees.

[Read more information on the consultation here.](#)

Publicising that you are a charity



All charities registered in Scotland must publicise the fact that they are a charity. Charity trustees must make sure that certain charity details are on specific external documents.

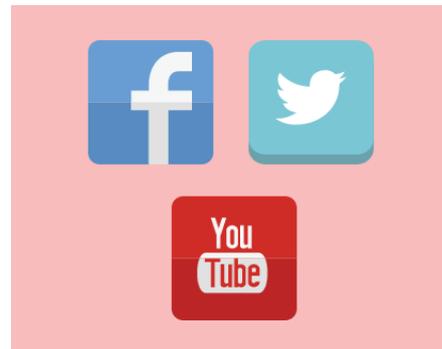
These rules also apply to any third parties who publish documents on behalf of your charity, for example legal advisors, accountants, or organisations working on your behalf.

[Learn more about how to publicise your charitable status here.](#)

We're on social media!

Do you or your charity use social media?

Following us is a great way to be kept up-to-date with our latest news. It's also a good opportunity for you to share your experiences and views with the regulator and, through us, the wider sector.



In addition to our ever growing library of [YouTube videos](#), we put regular updates out on our [Facebook](#), [Linkedin](#) and [Twitter](#) channels.

Why not give us a follow?

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

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