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Charity trustee information and guidance pack - BETA



Our website has a suite of guidance available for charity trustees covering many different aspects of charity life.

To help trustees know what guidance is most suitable for them, we are trialling a new **Charity trustee**

information and guidance pack.

Before downloading a pack, you need to answer a short questionnaire to tell us what guidance may be most relevant to you.

In addition to detailing what guidance you should read, the BETA pack contains:

- information on what charity trustees need to do
- an overview of annual monitoring
- 10 key points to running a charity
- sources of help and advice
- information on publicising that you are a charity
- information on when to tell us about changes to your charity.

We hope that the pack provides you with the information that can help be an effective charity trustee. We've tried hard to tailor it for you because we know there is a lot of information out there and it can be hard to know what is relevant for you. However, to make the pack as useful as possible we would really appreciate your feedback. Please let us know what you think by emailing communications@oscr.org.uk with any views.

You can access the Charity trustee information and guidance pack BETA here.

Alternative OSCR Registration logo

In July 2017, we created a new personalised 'charity registration' logo to help you show the public that you're entered in the Scottish Charity Register.



This can be downloaded free of charge and used on your charity's website, email signatures and publications.

The logo has been downloaded over 30,600 times since launch. This has been a huge uptake and we want to keep the momentum going. That is why we are introducing a landscape version of the logo that may be more suitable for certain charities depending on their website/publication layouts. Like the current logo, it will come in three colours (including monochrome) and different file formats.

To download your charity's logo pack, which contains all of the different options, just visit your entry on the [Scottish Charity Register](#). We have also produced [guidelines for using the logo correctly](#).

Meet the Scottish Charity Regulator in Fort William



Every year, OSCR holds events across the country to give charity trustees and staff the opportunity to hear about our latest developments, meet our staff and board and have a chance to ask us questions.

There is still some limited spaces available for our event in Fort William on 01 October.

We will discuss a range of topics, including:

- who we are and what we do
- key updates for charity trustees
- trustee recruitment
- our latest guidance.

The event is 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 please click here.](#)

BLOG: Making progress on notifiable events

When a notifiable event happens in a charity, we ask them to contact us to let us know about what has happened and tell us about any action the charity will take in light of the event.



In our latest blog, OSCR's Head of Engagement, Jude Turbyne, speaks about why notifiable events are important to charities and the regulator.

[Read Jude's blog here.](#)

Annual Report and Accounts 2018-19



OSCR has published our **Annual Report and Accounts 2018-19**.

As well as providing a financial summary, the document, laid in Parliament on 31 July 2019, sets out our strategic objectives, performance and

achievements for the year, and provides highlights from our work.

It includes information on:

- Our proactive risk-based business model, with delivery and engagement centred around a digital first approach
- The steps we are taking to deliver our digital ambition
- Key issues and risks affecting OSCR, such as legislative change, funding and staff retention
- Significant increases in engagement through our website and other channels.

In the coming weeks, OSCR will also publish an Annual Review webpage that be an easy-to-read summary - highlighting key facts and figures on our role and impact in the period.

[You can view all of our Annual Reports and Accounts, and previous Annual Reviews here.](#)

Scottish Governance Code and checkup

The **Scottish Governance Code for the third sector** sets out five core principles and key elements of good governance for the boards of charities, voluntary organisations and social enterprises, whatever their shape, size or activities. The

Code encourages trustees to look at, and improve, their governance, and is supported by practical resources. It is a tool to support continuous improvement and strengthen the effectiveness of governance across the third sector in Scotland.



SCVO have created a Good Governance Checkup document to be used in conjunction with the Code to help trustees regularly review their governance. Your board can use the checkup to identify areas for improvement and monitor and record your journey to good governance.

[You can view the Good Governance Checkup document here.](#)

Trustees' Week Conference 2019: A Recipe for Success



Scotland's Third Sector Governance Forum will be holding their **Trustees' Week** conference on Monday, 4 November 2019 at John McIntyre Conference Centre, Edinburgh.

The free conference aims to provide you with we can give you a recipe for successful governance, as well as the space to reflect with governance experts and other trustees about what success might look like for your organisation; and how you can achieve it.

To book and find out more information please [click here](#).

Families and Communities Fund

The Scottish Government's Families and Communities Fund will run from April 2020 to March 2023, with up to £16m being available annually.



The funding is targeted at registered Scottish charities (that are also a company limited by guarantee or a SCIO) which deliver work of national significance.

The fund will support the delivery of activities which contribute to improved outcomes for children, young people and their families.

Applications must be received by 2pm on 24 September 2019. Only online applications received by this time will be accepted.

More information can be found [here](#).

Charity SORP must change to meet “new public expectations”, review panel says



A panel set up to review the future development of charity reporting and accounting has published its final report making a number of recommendations under five key themes. These recommendations are being made in order to ensure that

the way that charities report on their work and account for their income under the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) can meet new public expectations and are fit for the future.

[Read more about the report here.](#)

Cyber Essentials Grant of up to £1,000 and SCVO Cyber Grant Event

With the support of the Scottish Government, SCVO are providing a small grants scheme to enable third sector organisations to achieve **Cyber Essentials accreditation**.



Cyber Essentials is like an MOT test for your car – it confirms that your IT systems have passed a key set of standards. If you can show that your organisation is meeting the security standards in Cyber Essentials, you can be confident that you have some protection against the most common types of cyber attack.

[Apply for the Cyber Essentials Grant here.](#) The deadline for this grant round is Friday 30 August at 5pm.

SCVO Cyber Grant Event - 7 August 2019

This free event in Glasgow will give you an overview of the Cyber Essentials accreditation scheme, and will help you prepare for an application to the Cyber Grants fund. SCVO are bringing together current grantees who are still in the process of achieving accreditation, along with organisations who are about to apply to the 4th round of the scheme.

The event will give you more information and background about the scheme, and will feature a Q & A where you can get expert input to help prepare your application to the scheme.

[Register for the Cyber Grant Event here.](#)

Inquiry Reports



We have published two new inquiry reports on our website.

A brief description of each report is below.

1. Interim Inquiry Report – SC045522, Aspire Community Solutions

OSCR has issued a formal direction to the bank holding property on behalf of Aspire Community Solutions, a community regeneration charity based in Paisley, preventing it from parting with any property of the charity without OSCR's consent. This action was taken based on information we have obtained through an inquiry into the charity. OSCR are concerned that there has been misconduct in the

administration of the charity, and our inquiry remains ongoing. [Read the interim section 33 report here.](#)

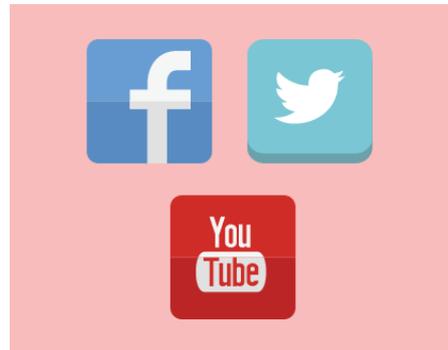
2. Inquiry Report – SC043257 Heart Space Dundee (SCIO)

During an ongoing inquiry into the charity Heart Space Dundee (SCIO), we received a Notifiable Event from the charity trustees which indicated that the charity's assets might be at imminent risk of misuse. In December 2018 we issued a formal direction to the charity's bank as a protective measure while the charity trustees made arrangements to address the risk identified. The direction was revoked on receipt of information that the charity trustees took action to remove the risk to the charitable assets. [Read the section 33 report 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

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