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Your Voice Matters: The Scottish Charity Survey 2022

During February, we will be asking the public and charities across Scotland to help with an important survey. This is your opportunity to have a say about the charity sector in Scotland and OSCR's work.



We carried out the last Scottish Charity Survey in February 2020, just before the COVID-19 pandemic. Since then, charities have coped and adapted with new ways of working. You can find our previous survey findings, including the results of our COVID-19 impact research, on the [surveys](#) page of our website.

The 2022 findings will be used to improve our work, get a better understanding of what it is like to be a charity in Scotland, and get a clearer picture of the things that contribute to public trust and confidence in Scottish charities. The research will be carried out on our behalf by [DJS Research Ltd](#), an independent market research organisation and member of the Market Research Society.

DJS Research will contact representative samples of Scottish charities and the public to ask them to submit views in an online questionnaire. Charities will be asked for their views on the issues facing Scottish charities and OSCR's work as Scotland's charity regulator. A small number of charities will also be asked to take part in a telephone interview to explore some of the topics in more depth.

The public will be asked about how much they trust charities and the factors that influence trustworthiness. They will also be asked about charity regulation in Scotland and OSCR's role. The findings help us understand how our activities can ensure Scottish charities are well run and trustworthy, and shape the support and guidance we develop and provide.

We realise your time is valuable, but this is your chance to share your views to help improve the way we deliver our regulatory activities. If you are invited to take part, your participation will be greatly appreciated. The results will be published on our website by the end of June 2022.

If you have any queries about the research, please contact OSCR by emailing surveys@oscr.org.uk.

BLOG: Scotland's charities and the COVID-19 pandemic



On 09 December 2021, OSCR gave evidence to the Scottish Parliament's Social Justice and Social Security Committee on Scotland's third sector and the COVID-19 pandemic. During the session, Head of Regulation and Improvement Martin

Tyson discussed how the pandemic has made an impact on charities in Scotland, and in particular on income and funding.

Martin has written a blog for our website that sets out the evidence he presented to the committee on behalf of OSCR. Representatives from sector bodies and a number of charities also gave evidence and anyone with an interest in how the third sector is doing will find the submissions and oral evidence of interest.

[Read 'Scotland's charities and the COVID-19 pandemic' here.](#)

BLOG: I'd like to make a complaint...

Did you know that OSCR currently receives around ten concerns about Scotland's twenty-five thousand charities each week, but that the majority of these issues are not regulatory concerns?



Our Senior Manager Digital and Communications, John Fellows, sets out how we deal with the concerns we receive about charities and what action we take in each case.

[Read 'I'd like to make a complaint...' here.](#)

BLOG: Reading between the lines



Foundation Scotland and OSCR have a shared interest in ensuring that charities in the Register are active in providing benefit to the communities they were established to serve. What if, together, we can identify,

research, and revitalise apparently dormant charitable trusts back into activity again by helping trustees to solve the long and short terms issues they've faced and get much-needed resources back into

Scottish communities? And so, the Revitalising Trusts Project started to take shape.

The Project recently reached a six month milestone, and Steff Bell, (Project Advisor) has shared her insights into what she's learnt so far in a blog.

[View 'Reading between the lines' here.](#)

BLOG: Deciding whether an organisation meets the charity test



In the vast majority of cases, the decision to register new charities to the Register is simple and straightforward, but in a small minority these decisions can be complicated or controversial. When this happens, it's important that OSCR sets

out the basis for our decision making so that the public and our stakeholders can understand the decisions we've taken.

In this blog, OSCR's Head of Regulation and Improvement Martin Tyson explains our role in awarding charitable status and provides further detail into our recent decision to award status to Stanton Healthcare (East of Scotland).

[Read 'Deciding whether an organisation meets the charity test' here.](#)

Vacancy: Office and Records Management Team Leader

We are currently seeking applications for an Office and Records Management Team Leader. This is a permanent and pensionable appointment and new entrants will normally start on the minimum of the pay range. Candidates with a disability who meet the essential criteria will be invited to the assessments.



The Office and Records Management Team Leader is an important role within OSCR, ensuring that appropriate Record Management strategies and processes are in place, that colleagues understand and are following them. They will manage our Quadrant House premises, making changes which facilitate improved working; and promote wellbeing. They also lead a team of Corporate Assistants who deal with mail and telephone contact from the public, along with other administrative duties.

Our office is based in Dundee, however we offer a hybrid work-style allowing staff to work remotely on the understanding that they are able to attend their contractual work location as required.

The closing date for applications is 25/02/2022. The salary for this post is £31,266.00/Per Annum.

[Find out more and apply here.](#)

Video - Meet the Scottish Charity Regulator



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, OSCR held its 'Meet the Scottish Charity Regulator' event virtually again this year.

[A recording of the event is now available on our YouTube channel here.](#)

The event contains a summary of our work and a question and answer session with charity trustees.

The channel also contains a number of other helpful videos covering different aspects of charity life.

Workplace Equality Fund

In partnership with the Scottish Government, Advice Direct Scotland are delighted to be administering the delivery of the latest iteration of the Workplace Equality Fund – a source of



financial support for Scottish businesses and organisations striving to improve equality-related outcomes for priority groups within the workplace. The goal of the fund is to support employers in identifying, addressing, and diminishing longstanding barriers facing particular priority groups in entering and progressing within the labour market.

The fund is aimed at employers – both private sector organisations and public sector organisations based in Scotland are invited to apply. To be considered, these organisations must apply with a third sector partner (e.g. a registered charity); the partner should have knowledge and expertise with respect to the specific equality issue that the employer is seeking to address. Third sector organisations – including registered charities – that are based in Scotland are also eligible to apply. To be considered, these organisations must partner with another organisation.

Applications will be accepted from the 17th of January 2022 until the 11th of April 2022.

[Find out more.](#)

Scottish Fundraising Standards Panel now Scottish Fundraising Adjudication Panel



SCOTTISH
FUNDRAISING
ADJUDICATION
PANEL

Scottish Fundraising Standards Panel are now officially known as the Scottish Fundraising Adjudication Panel and have

updated their website: www.goodfundraising.scot

Now five years old, the Panel have chosen to rebrand to better reflect their purpose and create a simpler, clear identity for the public and charities that they serve.

The Scottish Fundraising Adjudication Panel has been established for the purposes of overseeing enhanced self-regulation of fundraising in Scotland, to be responsible for fundraising standards in Scotland and to handle fundraising complaints related to Scottish registered charities. Their core functions are:

- to oversee fundraising standards in Scotland; and
- to oversee fundraising complaints.

If you have a fundraising complaint which you have been unable to resolve with the charity, you can escalate the complaint to the Panel as part of a 3-stage process.

Analytical Exchange Programme 2022

The Analytical Exchange programme matches analysts working in Scotland with voluntary sector organisations requesting help around data, analysis, statistics and research on very short, sharp projects.

These can be anywhere between an afternoon to 10 working days. Individuals or small groups of statisticians, economists or researchers then act as analytical consultants to collect and analyse data, solve problems and evaluate impact.

Since its inception in 2012, the scheme has supported projects in over 230 organisations and provided a total of over 900 days of support to voluntary sector organisations. Since 2020, the scheme has been opened up to analysts beyond the public sector, with people across a number of private sector organisations participating.

If this is something that you think your organisation could benefit from, please contact Roger Halliday, Chief Statistician. The email address can be found by clicking on the link below. However, to ensure they get the best fit between your needs and the skills of the



analysts in the scheme, to be considered you need to compete a short application by Friday 04 March 2022.

[You can find more information and the application form here.](#)

Scottish Charity Awards open for nominations



The Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) is calling for charities and individuals across the country to [apply for its annual charity awards](#).

Now in its 16th year, the Scottish Charity Awards highlight the best, most innovative and effective charities, social enterprises, community groups and individuals from the past year and celebrates those who make a difference in our communities.

The Awards are designed to celebrate the best of the voluntary sector, and applications are now being accepted for 2022.

The award categories are Employee of the Year, Trustee of the Year, Community Action, Campaign of the Year, Charity of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, Digital Citizen, Pioneering Project and Climate Conscious - with the winners to be decided by a panel of judges.

For the last two years the Awards has been hosted online, but COVID restrictions and safety considerations allowing, the SCVO have announced the return of a ceremony hosted at Glasgow's Crowne Plaza hotel on June 15.

Applications are open until March 18 2022.

Workshop: Managing Relationships In The Third Sector

The SCVO HR & Employment Support Service in partnership with Scottish Mediation are providing an online workshop to explore how best to manage and resolve conflict with a view to avoiding stressful, time-consuming and potentially destructive disputes. The workshop provides techniques that are used in mediation and gives an insight into how mediation works and when it might be helpful.



It takes place on Tuesday 8 March 2022 from 13:30 to 16:30 GMT.

[You can find more information and sign up here.](#)

Scotland's charity regulator: OSCR is the independent registrar and regulator of Scotland's 23,000 charities

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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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