

OSCR Reporter - December 2023

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



Is your online annual return deadline coming up?

Each year, every registered charity in Scotland must complete an annual return using [OSCR Online](#) within 9 months of their financial 'year-end' date. A significant number of charities have a deadline between December and January.

It is clearly marked on a charity's entry in the [Scottish Charity Register](#) if they have missed their deadline. This can affect your reputation with the public and others, such as funders.

If your charity's deadline is coming up soon, please ensure you are ready to submit your online annual return. We have a range of guidance and support available on our website.

[Read more](#)



Top tips on what makes a good, well-managed charity

In order to have a strong, resilient and well-managed charity, it's really important for trustees to understand their duties and responsibilities, and behave in a way that promotes good governance.

At The Gathering 2023 last month, we held a session to share our top tips on what makes a good, well-managed charity and how trustees can effectively deal with some of the difficulties that often arise when managing a charity. If you missed it, you can watch a recording of this session on our website.

[Read more](#)



UK charity regulators write to banks over charity banking

The Chief Executive Officers of the UK Charity Regulators have jointly penned an open letter directed at the UK's main high street banks. This letter, a collaborative effort representing the collective concerns of charity regulators, highlights pressing issues faced by charitable organisations in their interactions with banking services.

Among the challenges outlined in the letter are a reduction in bespoke banking services, experiences of administrative delays and feedback that online banking is not designed to match the way charities operate.

[Read more](#)



Festive period opening hours

Our office will be closed during the festive period between Christmas and New Year.

Our phone lines will close at 3pm on Friday 22 December 2023. The office will then be closed from Monday 25 December 2023 to Tuesday 2 January 2024. OSCR offices will reopen at 9.30am on Wednesday 3 January 2024.

Our phone lines will not be available when the office is closed. If you need to contact us during this time, please use our [online contact form](#).

[Read more](#)

More news from the Scottish charity sector

- [OSCR has removed a further 30 charities from the Scottish Charity Register](#) as they no longer meet the charity test.
- OSCR has published an interim inquiry report for [AK McCosh Trust for Coulter Church \(SC006875\)](#).



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