



Governance updates for Clyde Scouts

Updates to Charity Regulation: Actions Required by Scout Groups and Councils

Following the implementation of the **Charities (Regulation and Administration) (Scotland) Act 2023**, new regulatory requirements now apply to all Scout Groups and Councils registered as charities. These changes are being phased in and will require attention over the coming months.

Trustee Information Submission to OSCR

From **30 June 2025**, OSCR requires all Scottish charities to submit personal details of their trustees via the OSCR Online portal. This is intended to improve regulatory oversight and ensure trustees meet legal eligibility criteria.

Key requirements:

- Trustee details must be submitted by a registered OSCR Online user.
- Trustees must confirm the accuracy of their information and consent to its submission.
- Trustees may apply for an exemption from having their name published on the Scottish Charity Register, but only in cases where safety or security may be compromised. Applications must be made within **28 days** of data entry.

From **early 2026**, the **first and last names of all trustees** will be publicly visible on the Scottish Charity Register.

Groups are encouraged to begin this process now to avoid delays later in the year. Trustee data can be sourced from the Scouting Membership System but should be verified with each individual before submission.

Publication of Annual Reports and Accounts

From **early 2026**, OSCR will begin publishing all submitted annual reports and accounts in full, without redaction. These documents will be publicly accessible for a period of five years.

Points to note:

- Reports must be carefully reviewed to ensure no sensitive personal data is included.
- OSCR no longer requires physical signatures; typed names are sufficient.
- Reports must still be approved by the Trustee Board.

Scout Scotland is currently reviewing templates and will provide updated guidance in due course.

Register of Charity Interests in Property (RCI)

As part of ongoing governance improvements, Scout Groups that own or lease property must ensure their details are correctly recorded in the **Register of Charity Interests in Property (RCI)**. This register is maintained by Registers of Scotland and is designed to improve transparency around property ownership by charities.

A review of current RCI entries is underway, and Groups will be contacted to confirm or update their records. This process is being coordinated centrally to support compliance and ensure that property interests are accurately reflected.

Groups should ensure that:

- Trustee details in the Membership System are up to date.
- Any changes in property ownership or leasing arrangements are communicated promptly.
- They respond to requests for verification of RCI entries when contacted.

Recommended Actions

- Review and update trustee records in the Membership System.
- Ensure trustees are aware of the new requirements and confirm their details.
- Begin uploading trustee information to OSCR Online.
- Prepare for the new reporting standards by reviewing the format and content of annual reports.
- Be ready to support the RCI review process and confirm property-related records.

District Lead Volunteers and District Chairs have received full guidance and should be the first point of contact for support. Groups holding AGMs in the coming weeks should prioritise updating trustee records and ensuring compliance with these new regulations.