

Scottish Out of School Care Network

Policy Newsletter, August 2011



"Supporting play, care and learning"

SOSCN News

SOSCN Seminar

"Getting it right- charity know-how"

Tuesday 27th September 2011, Grand Central Hotel, Glasgow

10am – 2pm (Registration & refreshments from 9.30am)

The Scottish Out of School Care Network (SOSCN), in partnership with the Office for the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR), is hosting a seminar which will provide you with all the information you need to know about an optional new legal structure for charities in Scotland: the Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). The seminar will also provide information about reporting to OSCR and how to make changes to a charity.

There are two workshops, and delegates will be able to attend both:

(1) Reporting to OSCR – accounting regulations, annual and supplementary monitoring returns, plus online reporting options.

(2) Making changes to your charity – understanding the OSCR consents and notifications process. Including mergers and amalgamations, changes to legal form and winding up.

Speakers:

Lorna Edwards, Development Manager, OSCR

Laura Allan, Casework Policy Manager, OSCR



Refreshments and lunch will be provided on the day.

Members		Non-members	
Childcare service worker/ manager	£55	Childcare service worker/ manager	£65
Other individuals	£65	Other individuals	£75

See www.soscn.org for further information or contact Finlay: finlay@soscn.org, 0141 564 1284

SOSCN Training – Autumn Schedule

Following on from the successful Business and Management training sessions in June we are delivering further training sessions in our offices during September and October.

We have also developed a new training session: **"Who's doing what? Management & governance in out of school care"**; this course will help services define the difference in roles and responsibilities between paid managers and voluntary committees; show the importance of clear reporting systems between staff and volunteer committees; assist with continuation planning for changing committees, and ultimately help create a more robust voluntary management committee model within out of school care. This course is aimed at paid managers/co-ordinators/lead practitioners as well as management committee members.

The Scottish Out of School Care Network is a charity registered in Scotland SC 020520

SOSCN, Level 2, 100 Wellington Street, Glasgow G2 6DH

www.soscn.org

0141 564 1284

twitter: soscn

Aims: to understand the need for, and importance of: clear structures, roles of responsibility and reporting systems within voluntary organisations; to learn what should be contained within a committee handbook and codes of conduct for committee members.

1. How are you doing? Conducting staff appraisals	05/09/11
2. Balancing the books: the basics of running OSC in a business-like way	12/09/11
3. What's the plan? How to write a business plan	19/09/11
4. Who's doing what? Management & governance in out of school care	3/10/11

Training costs £40 per person per individual session, or book all 4 and the 4th session is half price. For further information and a booking form see: www.soscn.org

New Training Courses Available from late Autumn:

1. "Not just about treating everyone equally- equal opportunities in OSC" Gain a better understanding of the importance of equal opportunities in practice, and how some people will need more support than others to achieve true equality. This introductory course will look at concepts of diversity and equality; different forms of inequality, as well as the need for equal opportunities monitoring and how this can be carried out.

2. "Different but Equal- developing inclusive rights' based practice" This training session will show how services can develop a fully inclusive service through games and activities which support and promote equal opportunities.

(As session 1 focuses on equal opportunities theory and session 2 focuses on equal opportunities practice it is recommended that both sessions are attended, although they are still useful as individual sessions.)

3. "Making the most of what you have" Many services find themselves limited by premises or resources. This session will provide useful tools and exercises to look at your service with "fresh eyes" in order to identify the barriers and ways of overcoming them. This session is designed at maximising the potential of staff, premises and resources with a minimum amount of extra financial input.

Training can also be purchased for delivery locally across Scotland to networks and groups of services- if you are interested in training being delivered locally please contact Andrew on 0141 564 1284 or info@soscn.org

SOSCN AGM

Tuesday 25th October 12am - 1pm, SOSCN offices- Glasgow
AGM business starts at 12.15pm. Lunch included. AGM papers have been sent out in the recent August membership mailing.

SOSCN Surveys

The deadline has now passed for the returns of our Workforce and Out of School Care Service Surveys- we have had a good response to both, and the information is currently being analysed. We shall be producing a report of results in the autumn. Thank you to all who took part- your participation is greatly appreciated.

Policy Focus

Policy Consultations

From time-to-time SOSCN publicises policy consultations; these are usually run by the Scottish Government but other organisations such as SCSWIS and the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) also undertake consultations. These consultations are the mechanisms for gathering public opinion, from organisations and individuals, on specific topics. Once consultation responses are collated and analysed; policy, practice or even legislation are then shaped with consideration to the findings.

Consultations are the public's opportunity to express ideas and opinions on a specific topic; once these consultation processes are passed then there are usually no other opportunities to shape policy, practice or legislation. Once policy, practice or legislation is agreed it is very difficult to implement a change- don't miss out on these opportunities to have your voice heard.

SOSCN responds to consultations on behalf of the sector and our responses always try to be balanced: it is important that services provide us with information so that we can send in informed responses. However, it is also vital that individual out of school care services and even individuals respond to consultations for a couple of reasons: your individual service's opinions may differ from the national opinion and also, there is a greater strength to arguments if many people respond saying the same or similar things. We have a louder voice supporting out of school care when many of us are responding.

SOSCN publicises draft responses to consultations on our website which can be used as a template or guidance. SOSCN also highlights consultations through our website, twitter, policy newsletter and emails. However, consultations are placed on the Scottish Government's website (<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Consultations/Current>) as well as SCWIS and the SSSC.

There are often consultations on the government website which may not only relate to you in a professional capacity but also in a personal one, so please keep an eye out.

Other Events

Improving Life Chances for Children and Young People: engagement events NHS Scotland **FREE EVENTS**

Register your interest to attend one of a series of engagement events around the country to help shape Scottish Ministers' plans for policy and new legislation aimed at bringing added impetus to the delivery of improved outcomes for children and young people. The events will use a mix of presentations, group discussions and electronic voting to allow participants to help shape the emerging agenda.

The engagement events aim to:

- set out Ministers' ambitions for improving children's life chances;
- allow participants to consider and inform the Scottish Government on the most effective approaches to delivering those ambitions;
- identify barriers to effective delivery, how they might be removed and how current activity might be enhanced;
- allow participants to identify legislative changes that would make a difference to the delivery of more effective services and improved life chances for Scotland's children.

Who should attend?

The events may be of particular interest to:

- directors of social work, education and public health;
- children's service managers and planners in local authorities and NHS Boards;
- private and voluntary sector children's service providers;
- managers and practitioners from organisations representing children's interests;
- community planning partnership managers.

Where and when?

20 September - Glasgow, Thistle Hotel

27 September - Edinburgh, King James Thistle Hotel

29 September - Dundee, West Park Conference Centre

4 October - Inverness, Ramada Hotel

5 October - Glasgow, Beardmore Hotel

The organisers will try to accommodate everyone who wants to come, however numbers at each event will have to be strictly limited in order to maximise participation. The organisers will ensure a good mix of interests is represented at each event.

Register NOW if you would like to attend an event and confirmation whether you have a place will follow in due course.

How much will it cost?

There is **no charge** but if you book a place and then find you cannot come, you must tell the organisers, as they will be maintaining a reserve list.

To register please go to <http://bookings.shscevents.co.uk/all/2787> and click 'register now'.

Children in Europe 10th Anniversary Conference

"Working with Wāhnau: place, space and connectedness in early childhood"

11th October, Stirling Business Management Centre

Ten years after the launch of Children in Europe magazine this anniversary conference explores some of the key issues raised over the decade and their implications for the workforce. Leading international and UK experts will consider how services contribute to children's sense of belonging and connectedness with families and community. It will consider the skills and competences required by professionals, parents and communities to best develop the potential of the child during the formative years.

Costs:

Delegate rate (inc Early Bird Discount): **£171.00**

Discounted rate: non-member individuals and small organisations (inc Early Bird Discount): **£144.00**

Discounted rate: member statutory and large voluntary organisations (inc Early Bird Discount): **£144.00**

Discounted rate: member individuals and small organisations (inc Early Bird Discount): **£117.00**

For further information: <http://www.childreninScotland.org.uk/html/trashow.php?ref=1560>