

Dear Oscr,

The Shetland Charitable Trust is unique.

Formed to pass on the benefits of oil industry income to the inhabitants of the Shetland Islands, it exists to use these funds in the interests of the Shetland Islands and its inhabitants.

When the then Shetland Islands Council Charitable Trust came into being in 1976 it was under the control of councillors – directly accountable to the public it served.

Subsequent reorganisations retained elected members' presence, albeit most recently with a minority of councillor trustees.

The latest proposed constitutional change, will result in the total loss of democratic representation on the board of trustees. This is unacceptable.

There has been no open public consultation on these changes.

Funds held by the trust are there to be used to benefit the public. Trustees must therefore also be accountable to the public.

It is essential that those whom the trust exists to benefit – the inhabitants of the Shetland Islands – have their say on how the trust is administered.

That includes having a say over controversial proposals that would sever the democratic link with the community.

The only way to ensure the trust is accountable is for trustees to be elected.

I/we trust in democracy.

That is why I/we ask you to demand that Shetland Charitable Trust look again at its proposed reforms so the inhabitants of Shetland can regain democratic influence over the future of our trust fund.

Please return completed coupons to Trust Democracy Campaign, The Shetland Times, Gremista, Lerwick, ZE1 0PX by Friday 17th February.



Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

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