



**CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

## **Trustees' Annual Report for the period**

**From** 1/4/2022 **Period start date** **To** 31/3/2023 **Period end date**

**Charity name:** Children of Colombia

**Charity registration number:** 1095987

## **Objectives and Activities**

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<b>To raise funds for three recognised and respected organisations providing care and education for impoverished, sick and disadvantaged young people in Colombia.</b>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<b>Funds have been raised by sponsorship, donations and fundraising events organised by donors and by the charity. These funds have been paid out to the specific foundations supported by Children of Colombia which provide support to disadvantaged young people in line with our charity's objectives.</b>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<b>The guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission has been considered by the trustees. No personal benefit is received by the board, as all funds are used for the support of our three carefully chosen foundations, with whom the trustees maintain close contact to monitor developments.</b>

## **Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	
Other		

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p><b>Funds were donated by a combination of regular and one-off donors.</b></p> <p><b>Children of Colombia was therefore able to distribute over £16,000 to Fundacion Natutama and Fundacion Social Fenix over the year.</b></p> <p><b>Children of Colombia funding has helped Fundacion Fenix to support vulnerable young women and fund education costs, particularly in the social welfare and health care sectors. The girls at Fenix continue to face a number of issues following the Covid 19 pandemic: terrible weather, floods and rocketing street crime, on top of a sharply rising cost of living and decreased opportunities. Funding has helped pay for rent, internet and food to keep particularly vulnerable students safe and in touch with the group so that they could receive essential support and mentoring and continue their studies, with some very high grades and graduations despite the challenges.</b></p> <p><b>Because of the pandemic, Fundacion Natutama received almost no visitor income in 2020-2022, and Children of Colombia was fortunately able to supply some of the deficit. The work to renovate the visitor centre roundhouse which was supported by CoC's Christmas appeal last year has now been completed, so the education and conservation work hosted there can continue. Visitor numbers have recovered, with 4000 visitors to the new centre, and education programmes at the centre and in local schools have been revitalised. There are plans to expand these further next year, with CoC's financial support.</b></p> <p><b>Hogares Luz y Vida continues to strive to offer the highest standards of professional healthcare in a cheerful, happy environment. They are caring for over 220 children and young people who have mental and physical disabilities, serious and chronic illnesses, and others who have been abandoned or orphaned, including some Venezuelan refugees. They run three homes in Bogota and in the countryside outside the city, and are currently building a new, purpose-built</b></p>



		<p>home for chronically ill youngsters in Bogota.</p> <p>All this work has been supported by the funds raised by Children of Colombia.</p>
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### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	We wanted to maintain the level of support to the foundations while they go through a time of change, which we achieved. We also wanted to ensure communication with each of them was both active and effective, and we now have even more engagement with each foundation than previously, particularly with regard to their future plans.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	Although we did not run a specific appeal this year, we continued to receive a high level of donations from regular and new donors. Alex Raikes raised £1000 through participation in the Noosa Triathlon, and Becky Ruttenberg raised over £850 by walking and cycling 100km. We have also had an unusually high number of new donors this year, which suggests that our focus on improving our social media presence and sharing news more regularly may have been fruitful.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

### Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<b>£22,462</b>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	<p>The charity maintains a reserve to cover regular costs eg JustGiving subscriptions and website maintenance.</p> <p>Funds are periodically distributed to the three foundations supported by Children of Colombia when a sufficient balance in excess of this £500 has accumulated to justify the transfer costs, or as requested by the foundations if necessary.</p> <p>It is the trustees' preference to move funds to the foundations as regularly as possible to maximise the funds available to them. Although we fully paid out the cash balance brought forward from the prior year in 2022-23, the level of donations has happily remained high</p>

		<p>while the residual impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and flooding affected the work of the foundations significantly, particularly Natutama. The funds are needed more than ever but we were asked to continue to hold some of them in reserve until they could be distributed effectively as staff return and work resumes. It continued to be deemed better to hold them in the UK than transfer them to Colombia due to the less than optimal rate of exchange.</p> <p>Since the year end, £45,300 has been transferred to Natutama, Fenix and Luz y Vida in 2023/24 to date.</p>
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£500
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	n/a
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	n/a
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	n/a

#### **Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	<p>The charity raises funds from the public, who contribute chiefly via the charity's Just Giving page, or directly to the charity's bank account.</p> <p>Supporters occasionally hold a fundraising event, the proceeds from which are donated to Children of Colombia. The charity itself organises occasional appeals through Just Giving eg the "Save the Amazon Education Centre" for Natutama in 2021-22.</p>
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		



## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	<b>Declaration of trust</b>
How is the charity constituted? (e.g. unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	<b>Trust</b>
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	<b>Appointed by the Board</b>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

### Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Children of Colombia
Registered charity number	1095987
Charity's principal address	97 Kingston Road, Oxford, OX2 6RL

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Ms Kate Seal	Chairman		Board of Trustees
2	Mrs Gwyneth Simmons	Secretary/Publicity		
3	Miss Bryony Simmons	Treasurer		
4	Mrs Francisca Sankson			
5	Miss Alex Raikes			
6	Ms Antonia Bonilla Mora			

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	n/a
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

### Additional information (optional)

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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#### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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## Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

n/a
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## Other optional information

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## Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Bryony Simmons	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Treasurer	
Date	7/1/2024	





CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name  
Children of Colombia

No (if any)  
1095987

CC16a

## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01/04/2022		31/03/2023

### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Donations	7,605	18,558	-	26,163	17,998
Gift Aid	1,098	29	-	1,127	2,234
Legacy				-	2,000
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>8,703</b>	<b>18,587</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>27,290</b>	<b>22,232</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>8,703</b>	<b>18,587</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>27,290</b>	<b>22,232</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Transfers to children's foundations	11,531	4,799	-	16,330	36,050
Website design fees	100	-	-	100	-
Bank transfer fees	70	-	-	70	210
Just Giving fees	216	-	-	216	216
Website hosting	-	-	-	-	-
Ebay charge (refunded)	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>11,917</b>	<b>4,799</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,716</b>	<b>36,476</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>11,917</b>	<b>4,799</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,716</b>	<b>36,476</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>- 3,214</b>	<b>13,788</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,574</b>	<b>- 14,244</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>11,888</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,888</b>	<b>26,132</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>8,674</b>	<b>13,788</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,462</b>	<b>11,888</b>



## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Cleared funds in bank	8,674	13,788	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	8,674	13,788	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees				
	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Bryony Simmons	07/01/2024	