

**Annual General Meeting**  
**9th September 2025**  
**NIAB, East Malling, Kent**



**Chair's Report**

First, I'd like to thank Scott Raffle for offering to host and then bringing together this meeting here at NIAB in East Malling. We've already heard about some of the projects and challenges being addressed and tomorrow we will see some of the activities being carried out in the various facilities on site. This is alongside the opportunity to catch up with the latest technology from our commercial members.

Looking back on last year's meeting at NIAB in Cambridge, my thanks to Ben Tea for delivering a successful and informative meeting that provoked some great discussion. I'd also like to thank him for striking the deal with Scott to allow us to be here this year.

Looking forward we have the international meeting in Edinburgh next year for which plans are steadily developing. As an international meeting that will run from the evening of 6<sup>th</sup> September through to mid-afternoon on the 9<sup>th</sup>. The extended period provides the opportunity to visit both Edinburgh University and the James Hutton Institute. My thanks to all those who are involved in bringing that together.

Looking further ahead we have recently secured Oxford for the 2027 meeting where a new building and facilities have just been completed.

The International meetings involve liaising with our colleagues in North America (NCERA 101) and in Australasia (ACEWG) and I'm pleased to say we have recently re-connected with colleagues in Australia after a quiet period which resulted from long standing colleagues retiring. I'm also very pleased to say we have ACEWG members here today.

The CEUG has been running since 1966 and its longevity and success is underpinned by the dedicated support from the Executive Committee. Our Executive not only make things happen to sustain the CEUG but there is a constant drive to improve and ensure the CEUG's integrity. We have seen an increased diversity within our membership and one aspect that has needed careful consideration by the Executive is to provide a code of conduct for all members to ensure the ethos and expectations of the Group are upheld. Equally, keeping our meetings affordable in this world of full economic costing and reduced budgets is important to ensure our members continue to be able to attend. The Executive committee are key in addressing and delivering these and other challenges. On behalf of the membership, I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to the members of our Executive Committee.

Our members are what makes the CEUG so I would like to thank you all for your continued support. The JISCMail continues to be an active forum for providing guidance, expertise and sharing of experiences between members. It is a great resource of expertise especially for new members.

Please do promote the CEUG within your institutions so that the membership continues to grow and other colleagues may benefit from this wealth of experience.

Our commercial members are integral to allowing the CEUG to operate in the way it does and I would like to thank them for the continued support both financially and in actively engaging with the membership. Their presence is central to how we operate so please do take time during the meeting to engage with them and visit their stands to discover what the sector has to offer. Commercial membership has grown and diversified recently, clearly demonstrating the value the sector sees in the group. As new members have joined this has presented a challenge in ensuring everyone is aware of the code of conduct especially in not using JISCMAIL for direct selling. Our commercial members have always embraced the fact our JISCMAIL encourages commercial participation with respect to expertise and experience whilst removing sales from the equation ensures a level playing field and a more harmonious and amicable resource. To reassure our commercial members the Executive have and are taking steps to ensure all commercial members are reminded of the etiquette in using JISCMAIL.

Finally, I would like to thank you all for attending this AGM.

Geoff Holroyd

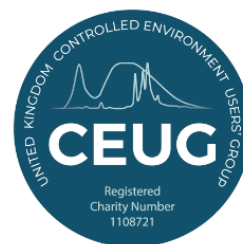
CEUG Chair

9 September 2025

**UK CEUG**

**Annual General Meeting**

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2025**



## **UK CEUG: 2025 Secretary's Report**

### **Introduction**

*At last year's AGM Julian Franklin was re-elected and the membership elected Stephen Andrews back to the exec committee.*

**Incoll Bursaries** - this year we awarded 2 bursaries to:

*Rob Darby                      Aberystwyth University*

*Finlay McLeod                James Hutton*

*This has enabled them to attend the conference with the support of the UK CEUG, all coming from Support functions, who often don't get the funding to attend events in the same way that their academic colleagues do. I believe that one of the great strengths of the UK CEUG is that it has a good mix of members from different backgrounds and gives the opportunity for knowledge updates and networking to a broad and diverse group of people. This is one of our main objectives as a charitable organisation and making bursaries available is a very good way to further that aim.*

### **Summary**

*As mentioned in previous meetings, the guidance is now at the point where it requires editing into a usable format – this is still ongoing.*

*Another of the Executive Committee's tasks this year has been to continue to improve our compliance policies and procedures, including those for liability insurance, health and safety, codes of conduct, data protection (GDPR) and equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI). Garry has carried on leading this vital work, producing compliance checklists, accessibility checklists and UKCEUG logo compliance rules for members to name a few. I would like to thank Garry for his superb work on this.*

### **Recent Meetings**

#### **I. NIAB, Park Farm, Cambridge & Girton College Cambridge**

##### **Sustainability through Innovation**

*The meeting was held at the Niab's Park farm site. This year's conference Dinner was held at Girton College and Day two included a tour of their Vertical Farm, Pathology Growth Chambers & Glasshouse Facilities. As usual a big thank you goes to Ben Tea (local organiser) and his colleagues for putting on such an enjoyable and successful event.*

### **Future Meetings**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Comments</i>
<i>Sept. 2025</i>	<i>NIAB (Kent)</i>	<i>Local Organiser – Scott Raffle</i>
<i>Sept. 2026</i>	<i>Edinburgh</i>	<i>International Meeting</i>
<i>Sept. 2027</i>	<i>Oxford</i>	<i>Local Organiser – Eric Belfield</i>
<i>Sept. 2028</i>	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>

### **Communications**

#### **1. 'UK-CEUG' JISCMail List**

*JISCMail continues to be used widely, during the last year there were 99 posts. Further details can be found appended to this report.*

#### **2. Website**

*The use of the website continues to develop. One area, which we intend to develop further, is to restrict more content only to members. This will allow us to include more detailed and useful information without having the concern that the content will be publicly available. As mentioned before, any suggestions for new applications and improvements are always welcome.*

#### **3. Facebook**

*We continue to have a presence on Facebook with both a page and a group. Posts on our page automatically appear in the 'Latest News' section of the website. If anyone has any potential posts related to CE then please send them to the Secretary who will vet them and if appropriate, arrange for them to be 'shared' on our Facebook page. This helps keeps the Facebook page and website looking fresh.*

### **Membership**

*The process of tidying up the membership list has progressed a little over the last year. We still need another volunteer to assist Stephen in keeping on top of this task to validate the membership list. If you know any members that are no longer involved with the group, please contact us so we can remove from the database and JISCmail lists.*

*This year we have had 23 new members join.(05/09/25)*

### **To conclude**

*I would again like to give my thanks to all for their continued support & guidance in my 3<sup>rd</sup> year in this role. I would also like to thank my employer, The John Innes Centre, for their support for both myself and the UK CEUG activities in general.*

Rebecca Cordy

5<sup>th</sup> Sept 2025

### **APPENDIX 1 – JISCmail activity 2024/5**

17/09/20 24	david@WILDBIOSCIENCE.COM	Wheat Vernalisation in CE
17/09/20 24	jlh@THEWOODS.MYZEN.CO.UK	Re: Wheat Vernalisation in CE
18/09/20 24	Benjamin.Tea@NIAB.COM	Re: Wheat Vernalisation in CE
18/09/20 24	I.g.doherty@READING.AC.UK	Re: Wheat Vernalisation in CE

18/09/2024	rp62@LEICESTER.AC.UK	Re: Wheat Vernalisation in CE
18/09/2024	mfuller@PLYMOUTH.AC.UK	Re: Wheat Vernalisation in CE
19/09/2024	ben.newberry@TROPIC.BIO	Job opening
25/09/2024	IPatten@GERMAINS.COM	Water softening systems for growth chambers
25/09/2024	Benjamin.Tea@NIAB.COM	Re: Water softening systems for growth chambers
26/09/2024	IPatten@GERMAINS.COM	Re: [External] Re: [UK-CEUG] Water softening systems for growth chambers
26/09/2024	Benjamin.Tea@NIAB.COM	Re: [External] Re: [UK-CEUG] Water softening systems for growth chambers
04/10/2024	esme.clark@TROPIC.BIO	CER Maintenance Contractors
04/10/2024	angusp@UNIGRO.CO.UK	Re: CER Maintenance Contractors
14/10/2024	helen.roberts@BRISTOL.AC.UK	Seed sowing - plant species
14/10/2024	eric.belfield@BIOLOGY.OX.AC.UK	Re: Seed sowing - plant species
16/10/2024	helen.roberts@BRISTOL.AC.UK	seed fridges
16/10/2024	Koehl@MPIMP-GOLM.MPG.DE	Re: seed fridges
16/10/2024	ben.newberry@TROPIC.BIO	Re: seed fridges
16/10/2024	esme.clark@TROPIC.BIO	Re: seed fridges
22/10/2024	helen.roberts@BRISTOL.AC.UK	glass cleaning companies

22/10/2024	<i>helen.roberts@BRISTOL.AC.UK</i>	<i>nematode sprayers</i>
22/10/2024	<i>david@BRIDGEGREENHOUSES.CO.UK</i>	<i>Re: glass cleaning companies</i>
02/12/2024	<i>j.iqbal@IMPERIAL.AC.UK</i>	<i>Spectro light meter</i>
02/12/2024	<i>Ann.K@I-GROUPUK.COM</i>	<i>Re: Spectro light meter</i>
02/12/2024	<i>ppm32@CAM.AC.UK</i>	<i>Re: Spectro light meter</i>
02/12/2024	<i>Stephen.Andrews@SLCU.CAM.AC.UK</i>	<i>Re: Spectro light meter</i>
02/12/2024	<i>jack.turner@ROTHAMSTED.AC.UK</i>	<i>Re: Spectro light meter</i>
10/01/2025	<i>david@WILDBIOSCIENCE.COM</i>	<i>Nicotiana benthamiana seeds</i>
10/01/2025	<i>eric.belfield@BIOLOGY.OX.AC.UK</i>	<i>Re: Nicotiana benthamiana seeds</i>
10/01/2025	<i>DeGraafB@CARDIFF.AC.UK</i>	<i>Re: Nicotiana benthamiana seeds</i>
11/01/2025	<i>DeGraafB@CARDIFF.AC.UK</i>	
16/01/2025	<i>ben.newberry@TROPIC.BIO</i>	<i>nitric acid</i>
16/01/2025	<i>Benjamin.Tea@NIAB.COM</i>	<i>Re: nitric acid</i>
16/01/2025	<i>Steven.Guy@NBI.AC.UK</i>	<i>Re: nitric acid</i>
17/01/2025	<i>KKZacharaki@LIVE.HARPER.AC.UK</i>	<i>Re: nitric acid</i>
21/01/2025	<i>hwis40@YAHOO.CO.UK</i>	<i>LED replacements for white fluorescent tubes</i>

21/01/20 25	b.palmer@SHEFFIELD.AC.UK	Re: LED replacements for white fluorescent tubes
21/01/20 25	manuel@COLASSE.BE	Re: LED replacements for white fluorescent tubes
21/01/20 25	Ann.K@I-GROUPUK.COM	Re: LED replacements for white fluorescent tubes
21/01/20 25	tim@TCEELECTRICAL.COM	Re: LED replacements for white fluorescent tubes
22/01/20 25	barry.d.robertson@GMAIL.COM	Tissue Culture Lab
22/01/20 25	markbaker@HETTICHBENELUX.COM	Re: Tissue Culture Lab
22/01/20 25	manuel@COLASSE.BE	Re: Tissue Culture Lab
22/01/20 25	mgilroy@CONVIRON.COM	Re: Tissue Culture Lab
22/01/20 25	info@PLANTCLIMATICS.DE	AW: [UK-CEUG] Tissue Culture Lab
22/01/20 25	Stephen.Andrews@SLCU.CAM.AC.UK	Re: AW: [UK-CEUG] Tissue Culture Lab
22/01/20 25	KFrediani001@DUNDEE.AC.UK	Re: AW: [UK-CEUG] Tissue Culture Lab
22/01/20 25	KFrediani001@DUNDEE.AC.UK	Re: AW: [UK-CEUG] Tissue Culture Lab
22/01/20 25	eric.belfield@BIOLOGY.OX.AC.UK	Re: LED replacements for white fluorescent tubes
22/01/20 25	helen.roberts@BRISTOL.AC.UK	database for plant jobs
22/01/20 25	Koehl@MPIMP-GOLM.MPG.DE	Re: database for plant jobs
22/01/20 25	Mark.Meacham@NOTTINGHAM.AC.UK	Re: Tissue Culture Lab



22/01/2025	DeGraafB@CARDIFF.AC.UK	Re: Tissue Culture Lab
03/02/2025	a.hunter@IMPERIAL.AC.UK	Re: Tissue Culture Lab
03/02/2025	eric.belfield@BIOLOGY.OX.AC.UK	Booking/cross-charging facilities
03/02/2025	Koehl@MPIMP-GOLM.MPG.DE	Re: Booking/cross-charging facilities
03/02/2025	A.Jones18@EXETER.AC.UK	Costing for external users
06/02/2025	Benjamin.Tea@NIAB.COM	Supplementary Lights for Rice (Winter)
06/02/2025	Koehl@MPIMP-GOLM.MPG.DE	Re: Supplementary Lights for Rice (Winter)
06/02/2025	fiona.gilzean@ROTHAMSTED.AC.UK	Re: Supplementary Lights for Rice (Winter)
06/02/2025	jason.daff@YORK.AC.UK	Re: Supplementary Lights for Rice (Winter)
06/02/2025	jason.daff@YORK.AC.UK	Re: Costing for external users
06/02/2025	tim@TCEELECTRICAL.COM	Re: Supplementary Lights for Rice (Winter)
28/02/2025	F.Duvenage@GREENWICH.AC.UK	NRI University of Greenwich - Vacancy Bulletin No 1709
10/03/2025	a.hunter@IMPERIAL.AC.UK	soil, DEFRA licences and visits, vineyards, hops..... University Bioscience Managers' Association Conference 9-11 April
13/03/2025	Peter.Watson@WARWICK.AC.UK	Fitotron SGC 120 Growth Chamber
13/03/2025	penny.turner@SYNGENTA.COM	Re: Fitotron SGC 120 Growth Chamber
13/03/2025	nab59@CAM.AC.UK	Re: Fitotron SGC 120 Growth Chamber

18/03/2025	Peter.Watson@WARWICK.AC.UK	Re: Fitotron SGC 120 Growth Chamber
18/03/2025	Peter.Watson@WARWICK.AC.UK	Re: Fitotron SGC 120 Growth Chamber
02/05/2025	jason.daff@YORK.AC.UK	Compact Vertical Farm - for spares and repairs
20/05/2025	helen.roberts@BRISTOL.AC.UK	disinfectants
12/06/2025	helen.roberts@BRISTOL.AC.UK	reach in seed cabinet
12/06/2025	helen.roberts@BRISTOL.AC.UK	seed traps
12/06/2025	helen.roberts@BRISTOL.AC.UK	seed traps
13/06/2025	Koehl@MPIMP-GOLM.MPG.DE	Re: seed traps
13/06/2025	Rory.Hayden@WARWICK.AC.UK	Re: reach in seed cabinet
19/06/2025	k.e.duffell@BHAM.AC.UK	Cat 2 Greenhouse Temperatures
24/06/2025	jason.daff@YORK.AC.UK	Job Vacancy - UK Vegetable Genebank at Warwick
25/06/2025	Benjamin.Tea@NIAB.COM	Plessey Hyperion 415V (For Sale?)
25/06/2025	tim@TCEELECTRICAL.COM	Re: Plessey Hyperion 415V (For Sale?)
01/07/2025	Alice@KYOMEI.CO.UK	Walk in/ large plant growth chamber
01/07/2025	eric.belfield@BIOLOGY.OX.AC.UK	Re: Walk in/ large plant growth chamber
01/07/2025	tony.walker@EBTECHGLASSHOUSE.CO.UK	Re: Walk in/ large plant growth chamber


01/07/2025	Paul.Barenton@UBI-SYSTEMS.COM	Re: Walk in/ large plant growth chamber
04/07/2025	g.holroyd@LANCASTER.AC.UK	*CEUG Conference 2025*
04/07/2025	M.A.MillanValera@LEEDS.AC.UK	Re: *CEUG Conference 2025*
10/07/2025	Paul.Barenton@UBI-SYSTEMS.COM	Re: *CEUG Conference 2025*
11/07/2025	S.Waite@WARWICK.AC.UK	Re: LED replacements for white fluorescent tubes
17/07/2025	j.iqbal@IMPERIAL.AC.UK	Danish Trolleys
17/07/2025	tim@TCEELECTRICAL.COM	Re: Danish Trolleys
30/07/2025	g.holroyd@LANCASTER.AC.UK	NIAB East Malling Conference 2025
13/08/2025	helen.roberts@BRISTOL.AC.UK	Bleach free germination paper
14/08/2025	ppm32@CAM.AC.UK	Re: Bleach free germination paper
14/08/2025	hwebb@GERMAINS.COM	Re: [External] [UK-CEUG] Bleach free germination paper
14/08/2025	helen.roberts@BRISTOL.AC.UK	coriander and rocket
15/08/2025	g.holroyd@LANCASTER.AC.UK	Re: [External] [UK-CEUG] NIAB East Malling Conference 2025
21/08/2025	barry.d.robertson@GMAIL.COM	Commercial Tissue Culture provider
21/08/2025	Benjamin.Tea@NIAB.COM	Re: Commercial Tissue Culture provider
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
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22/01/20 25	<i><a href="mailto:Koehl@MPIMP-GOLM.MPG.DE">Koehl@MPIMP-GOLM.MPG.DE</a></i>	<i>Re: database for plant jobs</i>
22/01/20 25	<i><a href="mailto:Mark.Meacham@NOTTINGHAM.AC.UK">Mark.Meacham@NOTTINGHAM.AC.UK</a></i>	<i>Re: Tissue Culture Lab</i>
22/01/20 25	<i><a href="mailto:DeGraafB@CARDIFF.AC.UK">DeGraafB@CARDIFF.AC.UK</a></i>	<i>Re: Tissue Culture Lab</i>
03/02/20 25	<i><a href="mailto:a.hunter@IMPERIAL.AC.UK">a.hunter@IMPERIAL.AC.UK</a></i>	<i>Re: Tissue Culture Lab</i>
03/02/20 25	<i><a href="mailto:eric.belfield@BIOLOGY.OX.AC.UK">eric.belfield@BIOLOGY.OX.AC.UK</a></i>	<i>Booking/cross-charging facilities</i>
03/02/20 25	<i><a href="mailto:Koehl@MPIMP-GOLM.MPG.DE">Koehl@MPIMP-GOLM.MPG.DE</a></i>	<i>Re: Booking/cross-charging facilities</i>
03/02/20 25	<i><a href="mailto:A.Jones18@EXETER.AC.UK">A.Jones18@EXETER.AC.UK</a></i>	<i>Costing for external users</i>

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	UK Controlled Environment Users' Group			1108721		CC16a
	Receipts and payments accounts					
	For the period from	Period start date 01/08/2024	To	Period end date 31/07/2025		
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 £	
A1 Receipts						
2023 Aberystwyth Conference	-	-	-	-	5,888	
2024 NIAB Conference	5,560	-	-	5,560	9,592	
2025 NIAB Conference	9,580	-	-	9,580	-	
Trade Stands	-	-	-	-	-	
Commercial Membership	9,958	-	-	9,958	2,939	
Bank Interest	253	-	-	253	107	
Travel refund	-	-	-	-	77	
Light package	-	-	-	-	120	
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	25,350	-	-	25,350	18,723	
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).						
	-	-	-	-		
	-	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	
Total receipts	25,350	-	-	25,350	18,723	
A3 Payments						
2023 Aberystwyth Conference		-	-	-	7,850	
2023 Aberystwyth meeting - committee costs		-	-	-	303	
NAIB meeting deposit		-	-	-	2,376	
2024 Delegate refund	195	-	-	195		
2024 NIAB Conference	15,980	-	-	15,980		
2025 NIAB Conference	845	-	-	845		
2025 Edinburgh meeting deposit	2,500	-	-	2,500		
Stationary and postage	-	-	-	-	117	
Exec meeting	1,460	-	-	1,460	504	
Design Monkey	1,136	-	-	1,136	790	
Insurance	284	-	-	284	274	
Account audit	-	-	-	-	29	
	-	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	22,400	-	-	22,400	12,241	
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)						
	-	-	-	-		
	-	-	-	-		
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	
Total payments	22,400	-	-	22,400	12,241	
Net of receipts/(payments)	2,950	-	-	2,950	6,482	
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-	
A6 Cash funds last year end	61,621	-	-	61,621	55,139	
Cash funds this year end	64,571	-	-	64,571	61,621	



## 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>	Bank Account: Central	15,780	-	-
	Bank Account: Conference	26,235	-	-
	Bank Account: Savings	22,557	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>64,571</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		<b>Unrestricted funds to nearest £</b>	<b>Restricted funds to nearest £</b>	<b>Endowment funds to nearest £</b>
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Details</b>	<b>Fund to which asset belongs</b>	<b>Cost (optional)</b>	<b>Current value (optional)</b>
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
	<b>Details</b>	<b>Fund to which asset belongs</b>	<b>Cost (optional)</b>	<b>Current value (optional)</b>
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	Light Package	Central	-	90
	Spectrometer #1	Central	-	1,000
	Spectrometer #2	Central	-	300
	Spectrometer #3 (UV) & sensors	Central	-	3,494
	270 Glasshouse guideline booklets		-	270
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
	<b>Details</b>	<b>Fund to which liability relates</b>	<b>Amount due (optional)</b>	<b>When due (optional)</b>
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Robert Darby	18/05/2026	



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's  
report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

UK CONTROLLED ENVIRONMENT USER'S GROUP

On accounts for the year  
ended

31<sup>st</sup> July, 2025

Charity no  
(if any)

1108721

Set out on pages

18 and 19

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above  
charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation  
of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act  
2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out  
under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I  
have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission  
under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent  
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have  
come to my attention (other than that disclosed below \*) in connection with  
the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material  
respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of  
the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection  
with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a  
proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

M. Egan

Date:

18/05/2026

Name:

MICHAEL EGAN LRB AC11

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

Address:

14 WOODLAND CLOSE, MARKFIELD,  
LEICS. LE67 9QH

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.