



Annual Report and Financial Statements 2024

Charity Reg No: 1113133
Company Reg No: 5570327

The U Foundation
Annual Report
and Financial Statements 2024

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Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees/Directors

Mr R J Beare
Mr H Chikhlia
Mrs S L Elton
Mrs B A Fletcher
Mr C Gwillim
Ms S Thomson

Company Secretary

H Chikhlia

Accountant

JCR Bookkeeping Services
21 Kingsway
Leicester
LE3 2JL

Bankers

Barclays Bank Plc
Town Hall Square
Leicester
LE1 9AA

Registered office

BVM House
Trinity Lane
Hinckley
Leicestershire
LE10 0BL

Registered number

5570327

Charity number

1113133

Trustees Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

The trustees of The U Foundation Limited, who are also directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Trustees/Directors who served during the year:

Mr R J Beare
Mr H Chikhlia
Mrs S L Elton
Mrs B A Fletcher
Mr C Gwillim
Ms S Thomson

Structure, Governance and Management

The U Foundation is a charitable company limited by guarantee. It was incorporated on 21st September 2005 and gained charitable status on 01 March 2006. It is governed by its memorandum and articles of association and is registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

The trustees (also known as directors under company law) are responsible for the overall governance of the charity. No trustee receives any remuneration or has any personal financial interest in the charity's work.

Trustees are appointed at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and meet quarterly to conduct the charity's business. They are committed to upholding the aims and objectives of the charity in accordance with charity law. The day-to-day management of the organisation is delegated to the Charity Administrator. The trustees confirm that they have referred to the relevant guidance provided by the Charity Commission in fulfilling their responsibilities.

The charitable company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. In the event of the company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £10.

In the opinion of the trustees, given the structure of the charitable company, there is no ultimate controlling party.

Objectives and activities

The purpose of the charity is the provision of relief from poverty, sickness, and distress, in particular on the continent of Africa. The principal aim is to provide the tools to educate and empower communities so that they can develop sustainably.

The main activities include the ongoing support and development of specific rural schools, pupil sponsorship and the provision of clean, safe water.

Public benefit

The U Foundation is committed to delivering clear public benefit through all its activities. Its programmes improve access to education, support children and families, and strengthen local communities — ensuring that every resource used creates a lasting positive impact for those who need it most.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Risk management

The trustees have established a risk management strategy which includes regular reviews of the risks the charity faces. Systems and procedures to mitigate those risks have been implemented, designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity's operations.

Review of activities for the year

The charity reported a deficit of (£24,512) for the year (2023): (£38,954).

The detailed results are set out in the attached financial statements.


Reserves Policy

The trustees aim to maintain sufficient reserves to enable the charity to continue its activities for a period of approximately two years. Recognising that the fundraising landscape is evolving, the trustees will keep the reserves policy under regular review to ensure that the charity can meet its long-term commitments to existing programmes.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

This report was approved by the board on 12 September 2025 and signed on its behalf.



Mr H Chikhlia
Trustee (Director)

The U Foundation Limited

A Message from the Board of Trustees

At the heart of The U Foundation's work lies a simple belief: education is the most powerful tool for breaking the cycle of poverty. Despite rising costs, the charity remains steadfast in its mission to empower communities through education.

Our progress is only possible thanks to the dedication of our trustees, to whom we are hugely grateful. Their commitment and hard work form the backbone of everything we do, ensuring decisions are well-informed and our mission remains strong.

Maintaining regular communication with the organisations we support remains a priority. In 2024, our partnerships in Zambia continued to grow, creating lasting impact for children, families, and communities. In May, two trustees travelled from London to Livingstone to spend a week visiting the village of Siankaba, gaining a deeper understanding of the evolving needs of the community and school. As always, their travel was self-funded, with some additional support from sponsors.

During their visit, trustees reviewed the school's operations, teaching, and facilities, observed classroom activities, and met with staff. They assessed how the school is delivering the Zambian curriculum, completed staff appraisals, and reviewed contracts and policies to ensure clarity and support effective school management. Site inspections confirmed that school buildings and teacher housing are generally in good condition, with some maintenance needs and planned improvements. Meetings with staff and local leaders strengthened community relationships and provided valuable insight into local priorities.

The U Foundation is committed to delivering clear public benefit through all its activities. Its programmes improve access to education, support children and families, and strengthen communities, ensuring that every resource is used to create lasting positive impact.

As a small charity with minimal overheads, The U Foundation ensures that funds go directly to projects on the ground, maximising impact and maintaining transparency and accountability.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all supporters, whose generosity enables us to provide vital education, empowerment, and opportunities to children and communities in Zambia.



Sarah Elton
Founder Trustee

Achievements and Impact

Siankaba Community Trust, Southern Province, Zambia

The Charity's primary focus is its partnership with the rural village of Siankaba in Southern Zambia, a community where homes are built from mud and lack access to electricity or sanitation. Over nearly two decades, it has built strong, enduring relationships within the village and remains deeply committed to supporting Siankaba and the wider area for the long term. The following section highlights the year's key achievements, ongoing challenges, and future priorities.

Education

- **Siankaba Community Trust School:** Continued to maintain this fully operational primary school with essential facilities, including electricity, running water, and daily hot meals for every child. In 2024, the school enrolled 186 pupils, demonstrating strong community trust and demand.
- **Staff Excellence:** Maintained a qualified and dedicated team of 10 teachers (9 fully qualified) and 2 maintenance staff, ensuring high-quality education and well-maintained facilities.
- **Parental Engagement:** Strengthened community involvement through an active PTA, fostering meaningful parent participation in school activities.
- **Academic Achievements:**
 - Secured secondary school placements for all Grade 7 leavers: 2 at Kazungula Boarding School and the remainder at Day Secondary Schools in Livingstone or Mandia Secondary School.
 - Achieved a 100% pass rate for the Grade 7 cohort in 2024, earning a commendation and special recognition from the local authority.

Infrastructure

- **Classroom Expansion:** Constructed 4 new classrooms, replacing a sub-standard block, bringing the total to 8 fully equipped classrooms. The youngest students successfully adapted by using the canteen area during the transition.
- **Sanitation Improvements:** Built a new toilet and shower block to meet local government standards and accommodate the growing school population.
- **Maintenance Excellence:** Implemented a proactive maintenance action plan, ensuring long-term durability of school facilities.

Programmes and Student Support

- **School Feeding Programme:** Delivered 37,600 nutritious daily meals, improving student attendance, supporting learning outcomes, and alleviating household food burdens.
- **Girls' Club:** Empowered female students through workshops, mentorship, and life skills training in leadership, health, education, and gender equality, fostering confident, informed young women.
- **Sponsor a Child Programme:** Provided critical support to vulnerable pupils, securing their education and long-term well-being.
- **University Sponsorships:** Supported tertiary education for two former pupils, now studying Banking & Finance and Business & Marketing, demonstrating the school's lasting impact on students' futures.

- **Grade 8 Sponsorship Programme:** Enabled smooth transitions to secondary education for pupils requiring financial assistance, ensuring continued access to quality schooling.

Challenges

- **Load Shedding:** Limited electricity affected the school pump and water supply, impacting sanitation and the school garden. To address this, additional water storage has been installed.
- **Cholera Outbreak:** Schools opened a month later than usual due to an outbreak of cholera. A challenging time for staff and pupils with difficulties covering the curriculum.
- **Staff retention and salaries:** The school employs fully qualified teachers to ensure high educational standards. While salaries and allowances are not always at government rates, we strive to offer competitive pay to retain skilled staff. This year, three teachers left for government schools, highlighting the ongoing challenge of retaining good staff to give pupils the best possible education.

Development and Growth

- **Future talent:** Bridget, a former pupil, returned for a paid internship and plans to pursue an Early Childhood Diploma, hopefully qualifying as a teacher.
- **Educational Standards:** We remain committed to employing fully qualified teachers to maintain high educational standards, ensuring children in rural areas have access to the best possible education.
- **Garden Expansion:** Extra space was allocated by a local farmer, allowing an expansion of the school garden.

Fundraising

This year, the charity did not organise any major fundraising events. However, our long-term supporters continued to make a significant impact through annual initiatives, including multi-day walking challenges and themed dinners. In addition, the annual fundraising drives raised funds to enable the pupils to enjoy a Christmas party and a significant contribution towards the feeding programme.

The Sponsor a Child programme remains central to our fundraising efforts. It helps cover some of the running costs and supplies, while ensuring that vulnerable children have access to the education they deserve. Each sponsorship contributes not only to the growth and stability of the Siankaba Community Trust School but also to the long-term futures of these children. Despite the positive impact this brings, we are struggling to grow the programme.

As fundraising becomes increasingly challenging, the charity has decided to engage a professional grant funding company to support the preparation and submission of funding bids.

Looking Ahead to 2025

The U Foundation's principal aim remains to provide the tools for education and empowerment, fostering sustainable development in the communities it serves. Its primary focus continues to be the Siankaba Community Trust School, reflecting a long-standing commitment to this community.

In 2024, a major investment was made to rebuild four classrooms, a significant financial outlay. With the main school infrastructure now in place, future efforts and resources will focus on running costs, ongoing maintenance, and pupil sponsorship, ensuring that the school can continue to deliver high-quality education and support for years to come.

Raising funds has become increasingly challenging due to rising costs and a competitive charitable landscape. Despite this, The U Foundation remains committed to its mission, relying on the generosity of supporters and the dedication of its trustees to ensure that resources continue to reach the communities and children who need them most.

Looking ahead, The U Foundation is excited to continue growing its impact, creating opportunities for more children and families to thrive, and ensuring that education remains a powerful tool for lasting change.

Financial Review

Overview

For the reporting period, The U Foundation's income totalled £46,936 plus an additional £2,415, as Custodian Trustees, compared to £92,885 (of which £4,670 was as Custodian Trustees) in the previous year. Expenditure amounted to £71,448 (plus £2,415 as Custodian Trustees), compared to £131,839, which included £4,670 as Custodian Trustees in the previous year. This resulted in a deficit of £24,512 for the year. The charity's cash reserves stood at £139,933 at year-end.

Income

General donations were slightly lower than in the previous accounting period. There was a residual income from the Four Countries event the previous year. Otherwise, the charity held no direct fundraising events. The Sponsor a Child programme brought an income of £5587, a slight reduction on the previous accounting period.

Expenditure

The total expenditure amounted to £71,448, the majority of which relates to grants payable. Of this, £64,925 was paid to the Siankaba Community Trust, £44,907 to cover school running costs, £16,865 towards capital expenditure and £3,153 for pupil sponsorship.

In addition to general administration costs (£1,523, including insurance and accountancy), the only other significant expense was £5,000 for a professional bid writer, engaged to help increase revenue from other grant funders. The charity administrator's salary and expenses are covered by a local business, helping to keep overheads low.

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

A total of £2,415 of the income was held by TUF as custodian trustees on behalf of others during the accounting period. £775 was received on behalf of Conservation South Luangwa (CSL), whose mission is 'to work with community and conservation partners in the protection of the wildlife and habitats of the South Luangwa ecosystem'. As restricted funds, these donations were communicated to CSL and documented throughout the year. These monies were transferred at the end of the accounting period.

£1,640 was received on behalf of Time and Tide Foundation to be ringfenced and held as restricted funds towards their Kapani School Project in Mfuwe. Time and Tide Foundation 'aim is to give education to children who would otherwise not be able to go to school'. These funds were transferred during this accounting period.

**Independent Examiner's Report
to the Trustees of The U Foundation Limited**

I report to the trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) on the accounts of The U Foundation Limited for the year ended 31 December 2024, set out in the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 145 (1) of the Charities Act 2011) and an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

Examine the accounts (under section 145(3)(a) of the 2011 Act); to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiners' report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking an explanation from you as trustees concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention: i) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act 2011, have not been met; or

ii) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



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12 September 2025

The U Foundation Limited
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2024

Notes	2024	2023
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Income from charitable activities and generated funds	46,936	92,885
Resources expended		
Fundraising and direct charitable activities		
Costs	- 71,448	- 131,839
Net incoming resources	- 24,512	- 38,954
Other recognised gains/(losses)	-	-
Net incoming resources for the financial year	- 24,512	- 38,954

The U Foundation Limited
Balance Sheet
as at 31 December 2024

The directors are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 and that members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

	Notes	2024		2023
Current assets				
Cash at bank and in hand		139,933		165,266
Current Liabilities		-		-
Net current assets		139,933		165,266
Net assets		139,933		165,266
Reserves				
General Accumulated Funds	4	139,933		165,266
Net funds		139,933		165,266



H Chikhlia

Director

Approved by the board on 12 September 2025

The U Foundation Limited
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2024

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with FRS 102 Section 1A and the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued by the Charity Commissioners in England and Wales.

Income

All incoming resources, including donations, gifts and grants, are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Income receivable under gift aid includes the related income tax recoverable. Investment income comprising interest receivable is included when receivable.

Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accrual's basis, inclusive of the irrecoverable VAT, which is aggregated to the cost to which it relates.

Fund accounting

Funds comprise unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the directors in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Foreign currencies

Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling on the date of the transaction. Exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at the operating results.

2. Debtors	2024	2023
	£	£
Other debtors	-	-
(Irrecoverable debtor)		

3. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

Other creditors	-	-
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4. General funds

At 1 January 2023		165,266
Surplus(deficit) for the year		-24,512
Irrecoverable debt (other)		-
Exchange Rate conversion loss		-822
As at 31 December 2024		139,932

The U Foundation Limited
Income and Expenditure Account
for the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024		2023
	£		£
Incoming Resources	46,936		92,885
Resources Expended	- 71,448		- 131,839
Net Incoming Resources	- 24,512		- 38,954

The U Foundation Limited
Schedule to the Income and Expenditure Account
for the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Incoming Resources		
General Donations (note 1)	41,760	47,349
Fund raising events (note 2)	3,213	39,250
Bank interest	1,963	1,616
	46,936	88,215
Other income as Custodian Trustees		
Time & Tide	1,640	3,020
CSL	775	1,650
Resources Expended		
Fundraising activities (note 3)	-	19,155
Grants payable (note 4)	64,925	106,265
Accountancy and administration fees	89	69
Bank charges	234	114
Insurance	577	895
Bid Writing	5,000	-
Enthuse Online Charges	479	360
Misc (Website/IT)	144	311
	71,448	127,169
Other Expenditure as Custodian Trustees		
Time & Tide	1,640	3,020
CSL	775	1,650

The U Foundation Limited
Schedule to the Income and Expenditure Account
for the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024		2023
Note 1 : General Donations	£		£
Donations received	8,381		23,732
Gift Aid income tax	834		9,038
Sponsor a Child	5,587		5,766
Online Platform sales	127		312
Siankaba	22,310		5,451
Siankaba Xmas	4,006		2,676
Calendars	515		374
	41,760		47,349
Other Income received as Custodian Trustees			
Time & Tide	1,640		3,020
CSL	775		1,650
	2,415		4,670
Note 2 : Fundraising Events			
Four Countries	3,213		39,250
-	-		39,250
Note 3 : Fundraising Activities			
Four Countries	-		19,155

Note 4: Grants payable	2024		2023
Siankaba Community Trust – General running costs	44,907		37,030
Siankaba – Capital Expenditure	16,865		55,686
Siankaba – Pupil Sponsorship	3,153		2,553
Mfuwe – Bore Hole			10,996
	64,925		106,265