

AUSTRALIAN WILDLIFE CONSERVANCY UNITED KINGDOM
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

TRUSTEES REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Charity Registration No. 1126703
Company Registration No. 06684247



AUSTRALIAN WILDLIFE CONSERVANCY UNITED KINGDOM

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COMPANY INFORMATION:

REGISTERED COMPANY NO. 06684247

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1126703

TRUSTEES: Mark C Mills, BSc (Melbourne)
Anthony Deagan
Chandra Eastwell
Joanne Sawicki
Adam Hains
Louise Mulley

CHAIRMAN: Mark C Mills

REGISTERED OFFICE: 82C Portland Place
London, W1B 1NS

WEBSITE: <https://uk.australianwildlife.org>

BANKERS: Lloyds Bank plc
25 Gresham Street
London, EC2V 7HN

SOLICITORS: BDB Pitmans LLP
One Bartholomew CI
London, EC1A BL

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER Kunal Amin, ACA
9 Firs Avenue
Colney Hatch Lane
London N11 3NE

OBJECTS: The objects of the charity are:

1. For the benefit of the public, to enhance environmental protection by supporting the protection and enhancement of the natural environment in Australia and any aspect of it (including its native flora and fauna); and
2. For the benefit of the public, to advance education by promoting, fostering, developing and assisting the study of the natural environment in Australia or any aspect of it (including its native flora and fauna), and supporting the dissemination of knowledge and information relating to the natural environment in Australia (including its native flora and fauna) or any aspect of it.

TRUSTEES REPORT

The Trustees present their report, together with the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The company is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 21 August 2008.

Trustees

The Trustees during the whole year under review were:

| | |
|----------------|----------|
| Mark C Mills | Chairman |
| Anthony Deagan | |
| Jo Sawicki | |

Organisational Structure

The Trustees of the charity are also the Directors of the company. The Directors as charity Trustees oversee the company. Mark Mills was appointed for an additional term of 5 years from 29 August 2019 to 28 August 2024. Anthony Deagan was appointed from 9th August 2018 and resigned the 16th January 2024. Jo Sawicki was appointed from 15th November 2022. Chandra Eastwell was appointed from 19th November 2020 and resigned 31st October 2023. The intention is that at least two board meetings will be held every year at which the Trustees may raise and discuss various issues. Two board meetings were held in the year under review.

Recruitment and Appointment of New Trustee

Adam Hains was appointed from 12th January 2023.

Louise Mulley was appointed from 18th January 2023.

Trustee Induction and Training

There is no formal induction and training for Trustees. However, the Trustees have all been informed about the charity's mission and vision, so that they may help to set and achieve the goals and objectives of the charity.

Affiliation

The company has no legal affiliation to any other charity however it is made clear to all its donors that most grants will go to Australian Wildlife Conservancy ("AWC"), a large Perth-based Australian charity who owns, manages or influences land for conservancy covering almost 12.9 million hectares for over 30 years.

Risk Management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the company is exposed, in particular those related to the finances of the company, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate their exposure to major risks.

Public Benefit

The charity Trustees as Directors consider they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regards to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

ACTIVITIES

Chairman's Report

2023 was AWC UK's first full year under the stewardship of the new Board and the results were a testimony to the calibre of the team. Once again, a new record was set with donations, including corporate, increasing 100% on the previous year to finish close to £300,000.

Highlights of this year included in-person events only made possible with the help of our donors, our Board, and our volunteers. We were generously hosted by two separate long-term supporters in their homes for an intimate lunch, and for a drinks reception where we learnt about the importance of AWC's First Nations partnerships. The Western Australian Agent-General kindly collaborated with us to raise awareness of the Kimberley, and the challenges associated with undertaking conservation projects in such a remote region. Finally, AWC UK was the beneficiary of a fundraising go-karting event organised by Macquarie Capital, facilitated by AWC UK Board Director Adam Hain. It was a high-adrenaline evening where the Macquarie Foundation matched all funds raised from the event, resulting in a total of £150,000! Proud AWC Ambassador and F1 Champion Mark Webber joined us on the evening and generously donated an auction prize.

Our close contact with AWC continued with CEO, Tim Allard, spending a week with us in March and participating in a number of events organized by Lizzy to further expand our network and profile in the UK. Further, AWC's Chief Development Officer, Amy House, joined us in London in September to work with Lizzy and the Board on AWC UK's fundraising strategy and growth over the next five years.

Another development in AWC's global footprint is the appointment of a new Head of Fundraising in New York, who we have been working closely with to discuss a consolidated approach to unlock additional funding sources in across UK, Europe and USA. AWC USA's new recruit spent three days with Lizzy in London meeting donors and discussing the fundraising horizon across their respective territories. The Boards of AWC UK and AWC USA met each other online in December, and there are plans for the fundraising Boards to work closely together in 2024.

This year Anthony Deagan completed his 5-year term as a Director of AWC UK and since he had returned to Australia during this period, he elected not to seek reappointment. Anthony played a significant role in the rebuilding of AWC UK and with his infectious enthusiasm and passion for nature oversaw the provision of office space for Lizzy, the hosting of a number of events, and introductions to key people who support AWC in a variety of ways. I would like to thank Anthony for his terrific contribution and personal support during this period. I would also like to thank Chandra Eastwell who, unfortunately, had to cut short her tenure as a Board Member due to her relocation to the Middle East.

With a complete and talented Board working in harmony with Lizzy and our Treasurer, we have a terrific team that is keen to build further on the progress we made this year. I would like to express my thanks to all of our team members. In addition, I am grateful to our independent examiner, Kunal Amin, who kindly volunteered his services for an additional year.

Finally, I would like to thank our growing band of loyal financial supporters who, together with their counterparts around the world, make the critical work of AWC possible.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Review of Business

The results for the year and financial position of the company are as shown in the annexed financial statements.

Incoming resources exceeded expended resources by £69,478 (£12,129 in 2022) which is an increase of 472.8%. The increased profit for the year, compared to the smaller profit in 2022, is mainly due to revenue being up by 78.7% to £315,500 (£176,560 in 2022) offset by expenditure increase by 49.6% to £246,022 (£164,431 in 2022).

The 2023 revenue includes donations, gift-aid recovery and interest. The donations have risen this year to a record £297,783, an increase of £147,053 (97.6%) compared to 2022. This increase derives mainly from a large corporate event. Higher received donations resulted in increased gift-aid recovery, which are up by 45.4% from £11,251 to £16,360. The majority of donations are from corporates, which does not attract gift-aid. There was no event income in 2023. Interest rose from £92 to £1,357, which predominately reflects a mixture of more cash held in deposit and market interest rate increase throughout 2023.

Total resources expended increased from 2022 to 2023 by 49.6% from £164,431 to £246,022. This is mainly due to a higher grant of £155,105 (£91,883 in 2022) to Australian Wildlife Conservancy. The higher grant is due to the increase in received donations. The grant is decided by the Board and is based on incoming donations for the 12 month's period from the 1st November to 31st October the following year. It is agreed by individual donors to exclude certain donations from the grant to cover the charity's future running costs. Another expenditure increase in 2023 is in payroll costs (£63,513), which is higher compared to 2022 (£54,081) by 17.4%. AWC UK continues to benchmark staff salary to the sector in line with the market, which means that there was a payroll increase at around 15.6% in 2023. A further increase from 2022 to 2023 is Event costs (150.4%) from £5,004 to £12,529. This increase is due to more events, including one large corporate event, held in the year. The rise in event activity resulted in increased staff travel costs which are up by 128.4% from £878 to £2,005. Computer costs rose from £0 to £1,729 due to essential hardware acquisition, which is used at events.

Cash increased by 5.1% from £97,655 to £102,637 leaving a good level of liquidity.

Principal Funding Sources

The company receives most of its funding from donations made by individuals and organisations, supplemented in some (but not all) cases by gift-aid.

Reserves

Over the year under review the company's reserves increased by £69,478 from £91,943 to £161,421. The reserves relate to unrestricted funds.

The Trustees seek to maintain reserves of at least £10,000. It is the ongoing company plan to make grants, if possible, towards the end of each financial year.

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

On Behalf of the Board

.....


Mark Mills, Chairman

17 April 2024

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES AND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS

| | Notes | 2023 £ | 2022 £ |
|---|-------|----------------|----------------|
| Incoming resources | | | |
| Donations | 1 | 297,783 | 150,731 |
| Gift Aid | 1 | 16,360 | 11,251 |
| Events Income | 1 | 0 | 14,486 |
| Sponsorship | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Bank Interest | 1 | 1,357 | 92 |
| Total Incoming Resources | | <u>315,500</u> | <u>176,560</u> |
| <u>Resources expended</u> | | | |
| Costs of Generating Funds | 2 | 90,904 | 72,505 |
| Costs of Charitable Activities | 3 | 155,105 | 91,883 |
| Governance Costs | 4 | 13 | 43 |
| Total Resources Expended | | <u>246,022</u> | <u>164,431</u> |
| Net incoming / (outgoing) resources for the year | | <u>69,478</u> | <u>12,129</u> |

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

There are no other recognised gains and losses.

The notes on pages 7 to 9 form part of these financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET

| | Notes | 2023 | 2022 |
|---|-------|----------------|----------------|
| Current Assets | | | |
| Cash at Bank and in Hand | | 102,637 | 97,655 |
| Debtors | 5 | 85,722 | 10,733 |
| Prepayments | 5 | 797 | 911 |
| Total Current Assets | | 189,156 | 109,299 |
| | | <u>189,156</u> | <u>109,299</u> |
| Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year | 6 | 27,735 | 17,356 |
| | | <u>161,421</u> | <u>91,943</u> |
| Net Current Assets | | | |
| | | <u>161,421</u> | <u>91,943</u> |
| Net Assets | | <u>161,421</u> | <u>91,943</u> |
| Funds | | | |
| Unrestricted funds | | <u>161,421</u> | <u>91,943</u> |

The notes on pages 7 to 9 form part of these financial statements.

For the year ended 31 December 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Trustees' responsibilities:

1. the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the period in question in accordance with section 476;
2. the Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts; and
3. these accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

For the year ended 31 December 2023 the Trustees consider an audit is not required under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

Approved by the board of Trustees on and signed on its behalf


.....
Trustee / Director

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis and under the historical cost convention. They have also been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities effective from 1 January 2015 (Charities SORP FRSSE 2015), applicable accounting standards and the Companies Act 2006.

The company has taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard No. 1 from the requirement to produce a cashflow statement on the grounds that it is a small company.

Limited Company

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. Every member of the company guarantees to contribute a maximum of £1 on winding up, up to one year after ceasing to be a member.

Incoming Resources

Donations and legacy income are recognised in the year which the charity is entitled to receipts and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of obligation can be measured reliably. Irrecoverable value added tax (VAT) is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

Taxation

The Charity is registered as a charity under the Charities Act 2011 and is not liable for UK tax on its charitable activities.

Trustees

The Trustees were paid no remuneration during the period and no Trustees' expenses have been reimbursed.

Funds

Funds held by the Charity consist of unrestricted funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

Financial instruments

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised costs using the effective interest methods. The Charity does not currently have any bank loans.

2. COSTS OF GENERATING FUNDS

| | Notes | 2023 | 2022 |
|------------------------|-------|---------------|---------------|
| | | £ | £ |
| Payroll | | 56,856 | 47,540 |
| Employers NI | | 1,008 | 1,190 |
| Pension | | 4,472 | 4,255 |
| Payroll admin charges | | 1,177 | 1,097 |
| Training & Development | | 1,536 | 350 |
| Consultant | | 6,000 | 6,000 |
| Event costs | | 12,529 | 5,004 |
| Memberships | | 810 | 651 |
| Subscriptions | | 1,001 | 894 |
| Legal | | 0 | 2,400 |
| Insurance | | 261 | 235 |
| Meetings | | 228 | 422 |
| Travel | | 2,005 | 878 |
| Website | | 122 | 122 |
| Office Expenses | | 20 | 121 |
| Postage | | 82 | 63 |
| Printing | | 789 | 1,038 |
| Stationery | | 0 | 40 |
| Telephone | | 279 | 205 |
| Computer | | 1,729 | 0 |
| | | <u>90,904</u> | <u>72,505</u> |

There was 1 full time employee in both 2023 and 2022.

3. COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

| | 2023 | 2022 |
|--|----------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Grant to Australian Wildlife Conservancy | <u>155,105</u> | <u>91,883</u> |
| | <u>155,105</u> | <u>91,883</u> |

The Grant is accrued monthly as a liability as soon as it is received as a donation or gift-aid.

**Trustees Report and Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st December 2023**

4. GOVERNANCE COSTS

| | 2023 | 2022 |
|----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Companies House Fees | <u>13</u> | <u>43</u> |
| | <u><u>13</u></u> | <u><u>43</u></u> |

Governance Costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity.

5. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

| | 2023 | 2022 |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Other Debtors | 85,722 | 10,733 |
| Prepayments and Accrued Income | <u>797</u> | <u>911</u> |
| | <u><u>86,519</u></u> | <u><u>11,644</u></u> |

Of the '2023 Other debtors', £81,537 was a donation committed in 2023 and received in January 2024.

6. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

| | 2023 | 2022 |
|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Payroll | 3,679 | 1,566 |
| Consultancy | 500 | 500 |
| Grant | 23,556 | 15,247 |
| Other | <u>0</u> | <u>43</u> |
| Total Creditors | <u><u>27,735</u></u> | <u><u>17,356</u></u> |

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Australian Wildlife Conservancy UK

I report to the trustees on my examination of Australian Wildlife Conservancy UK for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner

The Trustees (who are also the Directors of the charity for the purposes of the Charity's Act) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to be audited under part 16 of the 2006 Act and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility:

- to examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 explanations 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed the examination. I can confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities effective from 1 January 2015 (Charities SORP FRSSE 2015).

have not been met; or

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

Name: Kunal Amin ACA
Address: 9 Firs Avenue, Colney Hatch Lane
London N11 3NE

Date: 2 June 2024

Signature: *Kunal Amin*