



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1st June 2022 to 31st May 2023

Charity name: Royal Air Force Cranwell College Hall OACTU Officers' Mess

Charity registration number: 1129825

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>Service Funds objects are concerned with, 'The promotion of military efficiency of the Armed Forces of the Crown'.</p> <p>This object presents the Trustee with wide powers, enabling them to provide charitable assistance to all elements of the Royal Air Force Community; internal subsidy of mess activities and grant-making are the Royal Air Force College Cranwell, College Hall OACTU Officers' Mess (CHOOM) principal means of delivering this charitable assistance.</p> <p>The Royal Air Force College Cranwell CHOOM has three aims set by the Trustee:</p> <p>Encourage esprit de corps by enabling serving Mess members to mix together in both formal dining situations, and informal social activities so as to help keep service traditions alive and encourage the well-being of the Mess community.</p> <p>ii. Encouraging, supporting and facilitating the development of sport to raise standards and to promote the link to fitness, teamwork and personal development through sporting activity and opportunities.</p>

		Supporting facilities and capital projects to enable the best possible provision for the Royal Air Force Cranwell community.
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	This Fund derives public benefit as it assists in providing Royal Air Force personnel with the necessary skills to carry out the Royal Air Force contribution to the Defence of the United Kingdom and its interests. Service Funds are established for the benefit of Service personnel to promote military efficiency which underpins esprit de corps and team working, and they help to encourage personnel to develop the character, spirit and attitude to face challenges and danger associated with military service. As a result the Fund derives a benefit to the general public in helping to provide personnel who are motivated, have high morale and are willing to serve the needs of their country and that of its public, at all times.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The above statement has been agreed by RAF Air Command HQ Service Funds staff and the Charity Commission. With assistance issued from Air Command staff, the trustee has paid due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	The Mess committee meets monthly to decide on the support given to requests for assistance. Requests for assistance for activities are decided based on the merits or the individual bids. Activities requesting assistance are asked to provide financial details of an fund held by them.

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>The Mess arranged a number of formal and informal functions including Service 'Dining-In' or Dinner nights, Dinner nights for Mess Members and spouses/partners, and Graduation balls for newly commissioned officers in the royal air force, in order to meet the aim of promoting <i>esprit de corps</i>. These activities received subsidies to the overall cost with members attending paying the remaining cost of the function or event. Guests of members paid the full economic cost for attending these functions, receiving no subsidies from Mess funds but a number of guests of the Mess were invited free of charge and the attendees to the function subsidies the cost of their attendance.</p> <p>CHOOM hosted functions for the benefit of its members with a total of £46,055 in subsidies towards the costs.</p> <p>The following grants were made for the collective benefit of all members and supporting the morale of Station personnel; Battle of Britain £800, Oktoberfest £200, Burns Night £400.00, Christmas Draw £2875.</p>

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p>Is the fund a going concern? Yes</p> <p>Has it made unplanned surplus or loss? No</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	<p>The Royal Air Force Cranwell College Hall OACTU Officers' Mess Funds needs a low level of reserve due to its role as a grant making charity and having few operational or staff commitments.</p> <p>Operating reserves are held to cover day to day running costs.</p> <p>The Fund holds a Contingent Liability that was provided by the Royal Air Force, Central Fund (RAFCF) as a start-up fund. This permanent endowment is</p>

		to maintain its value and be returned to the RAFCF should the Fund close or is requested back.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	See CC17A
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	At the date of approving the report and accounts, there are no uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

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 principal funding is received from subscriptions from Mess members while further are received from bar trading.</p> <p>Additional monies are occasionally pooled with contributions from the Royal Air Force College Cranwell WOs' & Sgts; Mess, other Officers' Messes and Junior Ranks' Welfare Fund where joint projects are conducted.</p>
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	The primary purpose of investing funds is to protect the fund's capital, which includes the contingent liability to the RAF Central Fund and to show growth broadly in line with the prevailing overall rate of inflation each year.

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	A Constitution.
How is the charity constituted? (e.g. unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Unincorporated Association.
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	The Station Commander at Royal Air Force College Cranwell is appointed as ex officio Trustee of all Service Funds at Royal Air Force College Cranwell. Appointment of Station Commander is controlled by the Royal Air Force Personnel Manning organisation, currently based at Headquarters Air Command, Royal Air Force High Wycombe.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

<p>Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees</p>	<p>Para 1.51</p>	<p>The Trustee delegates the day to day management and control of College Hall Officers' Mess together with the authority for the disbursement of grants to a management committee chaired by the President of the Mess Committee who is appointed by the Trustee. Members of the committee are appointed from each of the functional areas or sections on the unit. However, all management decisions, acquisitions and expenditure are subject to the Trustees' approval.</p> <p>Committee meetings take place each month. The budget for the next financial year is set in May by the committee for approval by the mess members at a General Meeting. The Annual General Meeting ratifies the annual accounts of the Mess. Minutes are taken at each Committee and General meeting and circulated electronically to reach the Trustee within 10 working days of the meeting for her approval.</p> <p>As Trustee of all Service Funds at Royal Air Force College Cranwell, the Station Commander also has responsibility for other separately run Service Fund registered charities, including York House Officers' Mess, Daedalus Officers' Mess, WOs' & Sgts' Mess and a number of other sport/society/welfare funds termed 'banked funds', which are excepted charities.</p> <p>The Trust has considered the major risks to which the charity is exposed and satisfied herself that systems or procedures are established in order to manage these risks. This is done through the means of a Service Funds Internal Audit Board, convened at the start of each financial year, to carry out an internal arithmetical and management audit of the charity. In addition, the Trustee maintains and reviews a risk register detailing those areas which may give rise to concern presently and into the future.</p>
---	------------------	---

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Royal Air Force Cranwell College Hall OACTU Officers' Mess
Other name the charity uses	CHOOM
Registered charity number	1129825
Charity's principal address	College Hall Officers' Mess — Service Funds Royal Air Force College Cranwell Sleaford Lincolnshire NG34 8HB

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	Dr. J Campbell	Stn Commander	From January 2021 To 26 January 2023	Appointment of Station Commander is controlled by the Royal Air force Manning organisation at HQ Air Command.
2	T Jessup	Stn Commander	From January 2023 To date	

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	None
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	None
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	None

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
-----------------	------	---------

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

--

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

--


Other optional information

--

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)	Grp Capt Tina Jessup	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	RAF College Cranwell Station Commander	
Date	29 Apr 24	



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the Managing
Trustee

RAF CRANWELL COLLEGE HALL OFFICERS' MESS

On accounts for the year
ended

31st May 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1129825

Set out on pages

CC17a & TAR

I report to the Managing Trustee on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Charity") for the year stated.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

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

Independent
examiner's statement

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a Fellow member of the Association of Charity Independent Examiners.

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Signed: *Original signed*

Date: 30.04.2024

Name: Howard Neil Sanderson

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

FCIE

(if any):

Address:

Accountancy Compliance Solutions (UK) Limited, 1 Endcliffe Avenue,
Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire, DN17 2RB

Section B	Disclosure
------------------	-------------------

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material 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.

--