



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From **27/07/24** Period start date To **26/07/25**  
Period end date

**Charity name: Sierra Foundation for Life Skills**

**Charity registration number: 1157293**

## Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<b>Advancement of education and training in Sierra Leone, particularly females facing social exclusion and economic disadvantage. Relief of poverty in Sierra Leone. Advancement of the Christian faith in Sierra Leone.</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>1. SFFLS has paid salaries for tutors and support staff at the Vocational Centre for young women. 2. Rice has been supplied to widows and other families facing hunger and destitution on a regular basis. 3. A perimeter fence has been started around a school and vocational centre to provide security for school children and students and to prevent vandalism. 4. Funding for a graduation ceremony for students has been provided.</b>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<b>Due note has been taken on issues regarding public benefit by the charity.</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	<b>Volunteers have been the key fundraisers for projects supported by SFFLS and remain interested in the work that is being done to support the work of Family Homes Movement.</b>
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>SFFLS works in partnership with Family Homes Movement in Freetown. It is through this charity that projects are established and completed.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>A new cohort of young women have enrolled on catering and tailoring courses which will enable them to gain employment in local hospitality venues and as self employed tailors. The previous cohort have graduated successfully.</b></li> <li>● <b>Bags of rice have been funded every month for the hungry and destitute as distributed by Family Homes Movement.</b></li> <li>● <b>A perimeter fence has been started to provide security for pupils, students and buildings on the campus.</b></li> <li>● <b>Repairs to roof and general upkeep of the Vocational Centre.</b></li> <li>● <b>Supply of materials and machines for the students at the Vocational Centre.</b></li> </ul>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	<b>All objectives are either in progress or completed as set out by the trustees. Two trustees had a 3 week visit to Sierra Leone in April 2025 to support the work of Family Homes Movement and see progress made on projects funded by SFFLS.</b>
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	<b>Fundraising has successfully supported all projects that have been agreed with Family Homes Movement. These include information events giving accounts of the visit completed by trustees in March 2025.</b>
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	<b>Not applicable.</b>

Other		
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## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<b>The charity is in credit with financial assets as seen in attached accounts, with all commitments having been met.</b>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	<b>Reserves of £500 are maintained in the SFFLS account.</b>
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	<b>£3,000 (3 months salaries for staff in Sierra Leone).</b>
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	<b>None</b>
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	

### 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	<b>Individual donations from supporters, largely through regular giving and gift aid where applicable. Fund raising events include summer garden parties in July 2024 and 2025. A thanksgiving service was held in October 2024 reflecting on the work and impact of the charity over the past ten years. A sponsored walk on 18<sup>th</sup> July in Church Stretton was completed by one of the trustees. A grant was given to fund the building of a perimeter fence around a school and vocational centre. This was granted by The Kitchen Table Charities Trust.</b>
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	<b>None..</b>
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	<b>The trustees operate a low risk position regarding the use of funds for distribution.</b>
Other		

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	<b>Constitution</b>
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	<b>Charitable Incorporated organisation</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 existing trustees.</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	<b>Recommendations for attendance of relevant webinars delivered by the Charity Commission.</b> <b>The following policies have been agreed by the trustees:</b> <b>Safeguarding</b> <b>Internal financial controls</b> <b>Social Media</b> <b>Data Protection</b>
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	<b>Family Homes Movement in Freetown is our local partner in Sierra Leone.</b>
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Sierra Foundation for Life Skills
Other name the charity uses	SFFLS
Registered charity number	1157293
Charity's principal address	37, Fairview Drive, Bayston Hill Shrewsbury SY3 0LD

**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)
Verity Lowe	Chair		
Sarah Wolton	Secretary		
Sandra Lloyd	Treasurer		
Caroline Monro	Trustee		
Rev Clive Devonish	Trustee		
Jeremy Nuttall	Trustee		

**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	
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

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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)	Verity Lowe	
Full name(s)	Verity Janet Lowe	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	
Date	01.08.25	

**SIERRA FOUNDATION FOR LIFE SKILLS  
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE PERIOD 27/7/2024 - 26/7/2025**

RECEIPTS	2025		2024	
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Restricted	Unrestricted
DONATIONS		28666.38		16032.51
FUNDRAISING		2647.19		4597.58
PCC		521.82		423.00
STEWARDSHIP		300.00		350.00
GIFT AID		0.00		5414.42
 TOTAL RECEIPTS		 32135.39		 26817.51
 PAYMENTS				
FUNDRAISING COSTS		0.00		40.00
SIERRA LEONE PROJECT COSTS		26261.79		14935.00
INSURANCE		561.87		549.88
PRINTING & POSTAGE		101.98		36.17
FLIGHTS & TRAVEL COSTS		4308.00		3030.00
ACCOUNTANTS FEES		300.00		300.00
WEBSITE / I.T		663.93		533.99
BANK CHARGES & FEES		45.00		40.00
OTHER		0.00		0.00
 TOTAL PAYMENTS		 32242.57		 19465.04
 NET INCOMING/ (OUTGOING)		 (107.18)		 7352.47
RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR				

SIERRA FOUNDATION FOR LIFE SKILLS  
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES  
FOR THE PERIOD 27/7/2024 - 26/7/2025

	2025	2024
CASH FUNDS		
BANK CURRENT ACCOUNT	9854.15	9961.33
TOTAL CASH FUNDS	9854.15	9961.33
FUNDS		
OPENING BALANCE	9961.33	2608.86
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	(107.18)	7352.47
TOTAL FUNDS CLOSING BALANCE	9854.15	9961.33

I have audited the books and financial statements of the Sierra Foundation for Life Skills for the 12 month period ended 26/7/2025. In my view the above accounts are a true and fair record of the Foundations financial affairs during that period.

Signed     R. Harper, Auditor

Date       8th January 2026



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