

ACT (AFRICAN CHILD TRUST)

England & Wales · Charity number 1158266

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2014-08-18

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 40 Tamworth Road
Croydon
CR0 1XU

Phone 02086880386

Email office@africanchildtrust.org.uk

Website <http://www.africanchildtrust.org.uk>

Activities

Objects: TO RELIEVE THE POVERTY AND ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE CHILDREN OF WIDOWS IN NECESSITOUS CIRCUMSTANCES IN AFRICA THROUGH SUCH CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE UK, AFRICA AND WORLDWIDE AS THE TRUSTEES THINK FIT AND GUIDED BY CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLES.

Activities: African Child Trust (ACT) is working to relieve poverty among disadvantaged children and women-led households in Africa. We are educating children and orphans and empowering widows and women-in-need through training and income generation for sustainable livelihood to support their families. We are engaging UK youths in global citizenship awareness and international development experience.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Overseas Aid/famine Relief, Economic/community Development/employment, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** WITHIN THE UK, AFRICA AND WORLDWIDE
- Burkina Faso
- Congo (Democratic Republic)
- Kenya
- Malawi
- Nigeria
- Tanzania
- Uganda
- Zambia
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-04-30	£204,042	£223,121	-	-
2024-04-30	£256,964	£222,583	-	-
2023-04-30	£210,420	£185,654	-	-
2022-04-30	£202,781	£152,275	-	-
2021-04-30	£174,556	£144,892	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
GWENNETH HOWES	Chair	2022-05-15
Abiola Olufeyimi		2025-09-17
CHIMA AMIAKA		2007-01-30
Dr OLUKUNLE ONABOLU		1998-11-07
Jack Beadle		2025-09-17
Nwabueze Amiaka		2022-05-17

ACT (AFRICAN CHILD TRUST)

England & Wales - Charity number 1158266

Accounts

ACT
(African Child Trust)

**REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2025

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TRUSTEES' REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE AFRICAN CHILD TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2025

PURPOSE AND IMPACT

ACT was formed in 1998 to address poverty among the most marginalised groups in sub-Saharan Africa, notably orphans, fatherless children, and vulnerable widows.

Now, in our third decade, our approach remains rooted in empowering individuals and communities:

- We invest in the future by providing disadvantaged children with access to education, ensuring they have the tools to achieve their full potential.
- We empower widows and women caregivers, typically single mothers or grandmothers, through counselling and comprehensive business and skills training. This crucial support enables them to generate sustainable income and become economically self-sufficient.
- Furthermore, we enrich the communities where we work by executing projects across education, health, and sanitation that yield long-term benefits. As we draw close to 30 years since our founding, we can clearly demonstrate the significant impact and evidence of our achievements towards our overarching mission.

Our projects are funded through a variety of approved charitable activities conducted across the UK, Africa and globally.

By ensuring children have access from primary school through to higher education and into employment, we empower them to become self-sufficient, capable of supporting their own families and contribute to the overall development of their communities. Within the UK, we foster global citizenship through our Youth International Development Experience and Awareness (IDEA) program. We actively partner with schools, churches, and youth organizations to provide young people with an understanding of the work we do and offer them valuable work experience and volunteering opportunities.

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

Demonstrating Our Impact

Our work is invaluable because it directly challenges the negative perceptions surrounding widows in need, as well as, disadvantaged fatherless children, and orphans within African communities. Without this critical support, these vulnerable groups face the prospect of life-long poverty.

The ACT Alumni network now comprises several hundreds of the young people that we have supported all through their education. This is a primary measure of our success. Many of our alumni are now gainfully employed, have started families, and are actively supporting their mothers, guardians, and siblings. Crucially, they are giving back to their communities by providing tangible support and mentoring the younger children engaged with ACT.

Further compelling evidence of our impact is the measurable decrease in absolute poverty rates within the communities where we operate. This demonstrates that our holistic approach yields tangible, long-term results.

ACT's efforts remain highly relevant and urgently needed in the ongoing global effort to alleviate poverty across Africa.

"ACT's work is invaluable to these communities, challenging negative perceptions of widows and providing opportunity for a life that otherwise would have been destitute without the income of the deceased or missing husband/father." (Action Planning 2020)

"ACT is highly impressive with a huge range of services and support that is changing the lives of many more individuals and communities in Africa and has a reach that is typical of a larger charity. The value for money its projects offer is striking." (Action Planning 2020)

We recognise that we have a lot more still to do as we work towards fulfilling our vision.

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Overseas Partners

In Africa we work in collaboration with community-based organisations and Christian churches that share our vision of alleviating poverty and supporting the women and children most in need in their community. We are operating in Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia. Our work in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Malawi have been on hold since 2020. We hope to develop new local partnerships in the two countries when new partnership opportunities arise.

We raise funds from donors to support the education of children and orphans that are disadvantaged, to provide training in whole life skills and income generation for women (widows) and fund development projects in education, health, and sanitation to enrich the communities where we work. We work with local schools to improve the quality of education provided for pupils. We send funds raised to our partners to implement the objectives of the Charity.

When planning the activities of the charity the Trustees have given regard to guidance issued on public benefit by the Charity Commission in December 2008.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

ACT (African Child Trust) is an incorporated charity registered on 18 August 2014, Charity registration, No.1158266. Its address is at 40 Tamworth Road, Croydon, Surrey CR0 1XU. It was previously known as A.C.T. (African Child Trust) constituted by Deed of Trust dated 29 March 1999, Charity registration No.1074911, but was removed from the register of charities on 12 June 2015 after its assets and operations were transferred to the newly incorporated charity on 30 April 2015.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The governing document provides for a minimum of three Trustees, with no maximum. The Trustees are appointed by invitation of the Board of Trustees. Trustees are appointed to serve for a period of three years after which they can be re-appointed by a resolution of the Trustees passed at a special meeting. Before taking up trusteeship a potential Trustee is invited to attend a meeting as an observer. New Trustees are given an induction and provided with an information pack and guidance notes about being a Trustee and about the work of the Charity.

The Charity Trustees during the year ended 30 April 2025 were G. Howes, C. Amiaka, N. Amiaka, and Dr K. Onabolu.

Staff

ACT is volunteer led, with a CEO and two other paid staff in roles coordinating the work of the charity. Volunteering is at the core of our work both in the UK and in Africa. Our model is based on providing opportunities for people interested in the charity sector to join us as volunteers, interns, and placement students, to share their skills and expertise with us. In return they receive the satisfaction of helping to transform the lives of people living in poverty for the better. Our effort in time training them is rewarded with their support for our work and minimises our staff costs. This enables us to use funds raised to support the disadvantaged children, widows and women-led households in need in Africa. The CEO is focussed on operations both in the UK and in Africa. Other staff members in paid roles are focused on donors and supporter care, communications, marketing, events, grant funding, training, and supervising our volunteers.

As of 30 April 2025, ACT had three employed staff in the UK, assisted by five volunteers.

Safeguarding

ACT Safeguarding Policy is firmly integrated into the general operation of the Charity, with a named Trustee assigned as responsible for both policy and procedures. Further evidence of the trustees' commitment is their regular review of any issues arising at Board level. Safeguarding is a standing agenda item at the Trustees bi-monthly meeting. New Trustees are inducted in safeguarding and required to sign the safeguarding policy. UK staff and volunteers are made aware of the policy as part of their induction. Our first international Safeguarding Conference (virtual) was held in January 2023 and brought together trustees and staff in the UK with our overseas partners and their staff responsible for safeguarding. Our aim is to include a session on safeguarding at our 2-3 yearly partner conventions. ACT partners overseas are required to adopt and implement the ACT Safeguarding Policy and be aware of any local or national policies that they may be subject on project monitoring visits overseas are required to review safeguarding with partners, staff and volunteers and follow up on whistleblowing from beneficiaries. Learnings from these are shared across the ACT partnership network. Procedures are reviewed regularly internally and by an external consultant annually.

ACT

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Risk Management and Policies

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, including governance, working overseas, safeguarding, finances, environmental/external, compliance with law and regulation, as well as disaster recovery and risk regulations. These risks are documented in a full risk register and evaluated based on impact and probability using a traffic light system. Changes that might impact a known risk are reported, evaluated, reviewed, and assessed at Trustees bi-monthly meetings, and mitigating action agreed. There is full review of the register every 6 months.

Investment Policy

Our Investment Policy aims to maximise and preserve capital value with a minimum level of risk and to provide income.

Fundraising and Financial Governance

Our work is sustained through a diverse and robust funding model, managed entirely **in-house** to ensure efficiency and alignment with our mission. We are funded by income from:

- Donations from Individuals
- Child Sponsorships
- Fundraising Events and Activities
- Grants secured from Corporate Organisations, Churches, Grant Giving Trusts and Foundations.

Operational Efficiency

We do not delegate our fundraising to professional fundraisers or commercial third parties. This commitment to in-house management ensures that our resources are maximised. Our core costs are tightly controlled, comprising mainly staff salaries with only minor expenditure on office overheads.

Ethical Fundraising and Compliance

The Trustees are committed to open and accountable fundraising practices. They ensure that all activities comply with recognised standards of fundraising and relevant charity law, thereby safeguarding the charity's reputation and assets.

Our fundraising strategy is formally documented and reviewed annually to ensure it consistently reflects the charity's core ethos and values.

Volunteer and Supporter Engagement

Our network of volunteers and supporters plays a vital role in our fundraising success. They participate in events and challenges—both those organised directly by the charity and major national or international events. All participants are guided by our values and code of conduct established at the time of registration.

Responding to the Cost of living Crisis

The Russia-Ukraine invasion in February 2022 triggered significant global inflation, severely impacting the UK and, more so, many African economies through sharp increases in fuel, energy, transportation, and food costs. As is historically the case, the disadvantaged children, orphans, and widows we serve are the most affected by these economic shocks.

In direct response to this crisis, we immediately implemented measures to shield our beneficiaries:

- We have **increased funding allocated to all children and widows**.
- We have **doubled the level of support** provided to children in university and higher education to offset rapidly rising tuition fees, accommodation costs, and essential food expenses.

Financial Resilience

We are proud to report that our finances have withstood the challenge presented by this global cost-of-living crisis. This resilience is a direct testimony to the strong, continued support we receive from our core donors and dedicated sponsors.

ACHIVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Our five-year strategic plan which is set to conclude in December 2025, has demonstrated both resilience and significant achievement despite unprecedented global challenges. While we successfully increased the total number of children and women we support, we did not reach our ambitious initial goal of doubling these beneficiary numbers set in 2020/21. This slower pace was primarily due to the lasting impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, followed by the global cost-of-living crisis, which affected both our operations and progress, as previously detailed.

Exceeding Community Development Goals

Despite these headwinds, we exceeded our targets for community development projects significantly, achieving well over 300% increase on average, in the number of beneficiaries through these projects.

A standout achievement is the success of our Dignity for Girls (Period Poverty) project:

- Total Beneficiaries to date: 5,000 girls from across three countries have benefited from the project, a substantial increase of 500%, from 1,000 in 2020. In 2024/25 a parallel programme, “Leadership for Boys”, was launched in Ipaja, Nigeria and benefitted a first cohort of 1,000 school boys of ages 14 to 18 years old.
- Geographic Reach: Two-thirds of the latest beneficiaries (3,000) are located in Ipaja, Lagos State, Nigeria, with the remaining one-third (1,500) served across the Chato and Kagera regions of Tanzania.

Our overall achievements in 2024/2025 indicate we have made good progress on our strategic goals, demonstrating the relevance of our detailed plan and monitoring indicators. We continue to work diligently through this framework to ensure sustainable impact, even if the pace has been tempered by external economic factors.

Sponsored Children

In 2024/25 three hundred and fifty one (351) orphans and disadvantaged children benefitted and received full education and welfare support. Of these, fifty-three percent (53%) were boys and forty-seven percent (47%) were girls. In addition, about one thousand and fifty (1,050) other children, mostly siblings also benefitted from our welfare support including food, clothing, and health care. In that period, about sixteen percent (15.8%) of the children receiving on-going educational support were attending primary school, sixty-six per cent (65.6%) were in secondary school, eleven per cent (10.9%) were studying for university degrees. Also, about eight per cent (7.8%) were studying for a diploma or certificate at an institution of higher learning. Sixteen (16) children completed tertiary education during this period. Among them were seven (7) university graduates, seven (7) national diplomas while two (2) received certificates of vocational education training. In 2024/25, we spent £82,313 on education and welfare support for the disadvantaged vulnerable children and orphans.

Widows Project

The Women’s whole-life skills programme continues to empower widows in need in the countries where we work. Significant numbers of the women (widows) who benefitted from the training programme have set up their own small enterprises and trades. Our projects in Tanzania combine education support for children with sustainable income generation for households and families. Each family is provided with a male and female goat or pig. Income is generated from sales of the offspring of the animals and milk products of goats. By selling the offspring of their goats, one family was able to buy a cow. In 2024/25 there were 103 new animal births, increasing the total number of animals to more than four-fold and provided significant nett income for the supported families.

Countries of Operation

ACT is currently working with eight (8) partner organisations in eight (8) countries of Africa namely Burkina Faso, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. Our work in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Malawi are currently on hold.

Missions Visits

There was a project monitoring trip to Nigeria in 2024/25.

Expenditure

In 2024/25 the expenditure of the charity was £223,121 compared to £222,583 in the previous year, an increase of £538 (about 0.24%).

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial information

The Charity's statement of financial activities and balance sheet are set out on pages 9 and 10. The Charity's income during the year amounted to £204,042 and the split is as follows:

<i>Donations:</i>	£
Donations - Child Sponsorship (CSP)	58,612
Donations - Other Gifts	56,604
Grants	47,997
Tax Reclaim	13,475
Others	4,612
<i>Other income:</i>	
Fundraising Events	12,475
Interest Received	10,267

There has been a decrease (20.6 percent) in the Charity's income in 2025.

Reserves Policy

The reserves policy is focussed on achieving the outcomes that are integral to the objects of the charity and mitigating the risks that might accrue as a result. Trustees consider the key measure of sustainability of the charity to be current and future liquidity cover rather than the surplus or deficit accounting position. Consequently, trustees have set an appropriate reserves policy, which is reviewed annually relating to liquidity, based on the balance between readily realisable assets and the cash required to settle grant liabilities and sustain ACT operations for an anticipated period. Integral to the grant liabilities is the need to ensure adequate funds are available to support sponsored children that are continuing in education all through from primary, secondary, and up to university or other higher education level. This means that in most cases the Charity commits to support each child on our programme, possibly for 14 years or more, while also continuing to take on additional disadvantaged children in need into our programme as funds permit.

The majority of the charity's income consists of donations and gifts from individuals which can be influenced by predictable factors in the UK such as inflation and the general well-being of the economy. But it is also subject to unexpected events such as the Covid pandemic and the rise in the cost of living due to the on-going war in Ukraine. The risks for the overseas beneficiaries include high inflation resulting in increasing education costs, in addition to rising cost of living, weakness in currencies, climate change factors and political unrest, all of which can affect the intended outcomes, as are currently being experienced by the beneficiaries in the countries where we work in Africa.

Trustees therefore require that sufficient funds are retained to cover the costs of the children's educational support, including university fees for each following year, and in addition, to cover staff salaries for 3 months. Based on the current grants position, this policy requires us to hold between £85k and £90k as funds designated for the children's education support and widows income generation programme in the 2024/25 financial year and 6 months operational running costs.

CSP

CSP is the Child Sponsorship Programme. ACT is contracting for costs in Africa, and to facilitate the process we work through local Partners in-country who must comply with the accounting and reporting requirements, which is reviewed and monitored through the ACT review process in the UK.

ACT funds the education of disadvantaged children and orphans who have completed an application form for support. Children must meet the criteria for child sponsorship as set out in the ACT Operational Handbook which forms part of the collaboration agreement signed with our partners in Africa. Our partners facilitate the child support process, they oversee the care for the families and manage the utilisation of the funds received. We send funds to the partners four monthly at the beginning of each school term. Partners are required to submit accounting returns and reports at the end of each term, using our reporting template. The reports provide updates about the sponsored children and their welfare and progress at school. Approval of the partner return and report triggers release of funds for the following school term.

Below is a summary of the CSP disbursement to ACT partner organisations.

ACT

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CSP spending 2024/25

Country	Number of Partners	Number of children as at end of financial year	Amount Spent	Percent of total CSP spend
Burkina Faso	1	24	4,928	5.6%
Congo DR	-	-	-	-
Kenya	2	41	14,849	16.8%
Malawi	-	-	-	-
Nigeria	1	117	18,504	21.0%
Tanzania	2	122	39,838	45.1%
Uganda	1	31	8,278	9.4%
Zambia	1	5	1,825	2.1%
Total	8	340	88,222	100

In 2024/25 the CSP spending breaks down as follows:

In Burkina Faso the amount spent was as follows: Hope Mission (£4,928).

In Congo - no fund was sent, as partners are in transition (£0)

In Kenya the amount spent were as follows: JTAN, Webuye (£9,185) and I-Afrika, Lusigetti (£5,664)

In Malawi - no fund was sent. We currently have no partnership in country (£0)

In Nigeria the amount spent was as follows: CDLI, Ipaja (£18,504).

In Tanzania the amount spent was as follows: Tanzania Assemblies of God, Chumbageni (£723) and Rhema Jamii, Kagera (£39,115).

In Uganda the amount spent was as follows: Christian Vision/Elim Church, Jinja (£8,278).

In Zambia the amount spent was as follows: Hands of Mercy, Ndola (£1,825).

Donors

Our expanding base of individual donors form the core of our Child Sponsorship Programme (CSP) with increasing support received from UK Churches. During the year the charity received grants from UK Trusts and other organisations. The Trustees are grateful to all donors who provided funding during the year in support of the Charity. The Trustees would like to acknowledge the following organisations that made grants and donations during the financial year:

Annies Orphans
 Billingshurst Family Church
 Charles Haywards Foundation
 Corporate Messengers
 The Connop Trust
 Nilec Limited
 3i Group PLC

Amlwch Pentecostal Church, Anglesey
 Chiltern Church, Sutton
 Croydon Tabernacle, Croydon
 Eleanor Rathbone Charitable Trust
 Tobi Adeyemi Foundation
 Samaritan's Purse, Canada

House of Hope International Church
 New Life Christian Centre, Croydon
 RCCG Builders House, Croydon
 RCCG The Sanctuary, London
 RCCG Victory House, London
 St George's Church, Waterlooville
 Wales AOG, Bangor

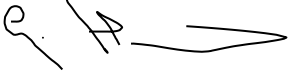
Internal Controls

The Trustees continue to uphold and improve on the charity's system of internal controls and accounting procedures to enhance funds accountability. The Trustees would also like to thank the several volunteers who have contributed to the operation of the charity during the year.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

- Increase numbers of beneficiary children supported to twelve thousand by 2030.
- Increase the numbers of widows and women supported through training in sustainable whole life skills to six thousand by 2030.
- Extend the widows sustainable whole life skills programme to all countries where ACT is operating by 2030.
- Support the expansion of the ACT Alumni Initiative and leadership programme across the countries where are our alumni exist.
- Enhance quality of life in communities by implementing at least one community project each year

ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES:



Mrs G. Howes



Dr. K. Onabolu

Date: 04 February 2026

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of African Child Trust

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of African Child Trust (the Trust) for the year ended 30 April 2025.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the trust are not required to be audited and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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 in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Olaniyon

Olabode Olaniyon (FFA)
Abacus 59 Limited
215 North Street
Romford RM1 4QA

Date: 9th February 2026

ACT

(African Child Trust)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income and endowments					
<i>Donations and legacies</i>					
Donations - Child Sponsorship (CSP)		35,271	23,341	58,612	61,385
Donations - Other Gifts		46,549	10,055	56,604	57,641
Grants		780	47,217	47,997	49,845
Tax Reclaim		13,475	-	13,475	22,461
Others		4,612	-	4,612	8,053
<i>Other Trading Activities</i>					
Fundraising Events		12,475	-	12,475	53,650
<i>Investments</i>					
Interest Received		10,267	-	10,267	3,929
Total income and endowments		123,429	80,613	204,042	256,964
Expenditure					
<i>Expenditure on raising funds</i>					
Fundraising Costs	4	23,378	80	23,458	44,080
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>					
Child Sponsorship Programme (CSP)		33,836	48,477	82,313	77,530
Missions Programme		2,301	-	2,301	-
UK Support Cost of Programmes	5	88,548	376	88,924	80,992
Community Project		160	25,965	26,125	19,981
Total expenditure		148,223	74,898	223,121	222,583
Net income / (expenditure)		(24,794)	5,715	(19,079)	34,381
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(24,794)	5,715	(19,079)	34,381
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		96,107	82,651	178,758	144,377
Total funds carried forward		71,313	88,366	159,679	178,758

The notes on pages 11 to 21 form part of these accounts.

ACT

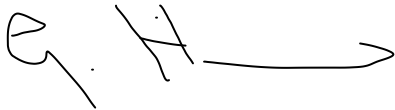
(African Child Trust)

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 30 APRIL 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Current assets			
Debtors	9	1,092	1,307
Cash at bank and in hand		234,896	253,305
		235,988	254,612
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year	10	(76,309)	(75,854)
Net current assets		159,679	178,758
NET ASSETS	11	159,679	178,758
REPRESENTED BY:			
Funds:			
Restricted funds	12	88,366	82,651
Unrestricted funds - Designated	12	70,440	84,491
Unrestricted funds - General	12	873	11,616
		159,679	178,758

**APPROVED BY THE TRUSTEES ON
BEHALF BY:**



Mrs G. Howes

2025 AND SIGNED ON THEIR



Dr. K. Onabolu

The notes on pages 11 to 21 form part of these accounts.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR
THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2025**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies are summarised below.

a) Basis of accounting

These accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) effective from 1 January 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

b) Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

c) Fund accounting

- Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity
- Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for particular purposes
- Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions of their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

d) Income recognition

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount of income can be measured reliably. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Donations are received by way of grants, donations and gifts and are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.
- Income from fundraising events is recognised when received.
- Donated goods, facilities and services are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included in these accounts.
- Interest on funds held on deposit is recognised when receivable.

e) Expenditure recognition

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 the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred:

- Expenditure on raising funds comprise the costs associated with attracting donations and legacies as well as the costs of fundraising events;
- Expenditure on charitable activities comprises those costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities to beneficiaries;
- Programme costs represent UK costs of supporting the programme of work carried out in Africa and costs relating to the governance of the Charity, apportioned on an appropriate basis e.g. estimated percentage allocation of total cost based on estimated usage, time, spent, etc.

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2. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES BY FUND

	Notes	<u>Unrestricted funds</u>		<u>Restricted funds</u>	
		Total	Total	Total	Total
		2025	2024	2025	2024
		£	£	£	£
Income and endowments					
<i>Donations and legacies</i>					
		35,271	37,354	23,341	24,031
		46,549	52,687	10,055	4,954
		780	2,185	47,217	47,660
		13,475	22,461	-	-
		4,612	8,053	-	-
<i>Other Trading Activities</i>					
		12,475	53,650	-	-
<i>Investments</i>					
		10,267	3,929	-	-
Total income and endowments		123,429	180,319	80,613	76,645
Expenditure					
<i>Expenditure on raising funds</i>					
	4	23,378	42,504	80	1,576
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>					
		33,836	25,376	48,477	52,154
		2,301	-	-	-
	5	88,548	74,619	376	6,373
		160	232	25,965	19,749
Total expenditure		148,223	142,731	74,898	79,852
Net income / (expenditure)		(24,794)	37,588	5,715	(3,207)
		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(24,794)	37,588	5,715	(3,207)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		96,107	58,519	82,651	85,858
Total funds carried forward		71,313	96,107	88,366	82,651

3. DONATED GOODS, FACILITIES AND SERVICES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Website site hosting and management	2,700	-
IT management	1,200	-
	3,900	-
	3,900	-

4. COSTS OF RAISING FUNDS

	Basis of Allocation	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2025
		£	£	£
Fund raising costs	100%	-	-	-
Printing, postage and stationery	50%	77	-	77
Travel and subsistence	20%	196	-	196
Telephone, internet and website costs	40%	470	-	470
Marketing, entertainment and related expenses	50%	115	-	115
Office rent & business rates	25%	2,233	-	2,233
Insurance	25%	58	-	58
Computer and related costs	20%	780	-	780
Wages, national insurance and pension	20%	17,945	80	18,025
Subscriptions	50%	68	-	68
Governance costs	25%	275	-	275
Accountancy fees	25%	180	-	180
Office maintenance	25%	411	-	411
Heat, light and water rates	25%	570	-	570
		23,378	80	23,458
		23,378	80	23,458

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	Basis of Allocation	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Fund raising costs	100%	21,555	-	21,555
Printing, postage and stationery	50%	96	-	96
Travel and subsistence	20%	513	-	513
Telephone, internet and website costs	40%	2,450	-	2,450
Marketing, entertainment and related expenses	50%	93	-	93
Office rent & business rates	25%	1,945	-	1,945
Insurance	25%	58	-	58
Wages, national insurance and pension	20%	14,151	1,576	15,727
Training courses	20%	-	-	-
Subscriptions	50%	-	-	-
Governance costs	25%	205	-	205
Accountancy fees	25%	180	-	180
Office maintenance	25%	427	-	427
Heat, light and water rates	25%	831	-	831
		42,504	1,576	44,080

5. UK SUPPORT COSTS OF PROGRAMMES

	Basis of Allocation	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £
Printing, postage and stationery	50%	77	-	77
Travel and subsistence	80%	785	-	785
Telephone, internet and website costs	60%	705	-	705
Marketing, entertainment and related expenses	50%	115	-	115
Office rent & business rates	75%	6,701	-	6,701
Insurance	75%	175	-	175
Computer and related costs	80%	3,120	-	3,120
Wages, national insurance and pension	80%	71,780	320	72,100
Subscriptions	50%	68	-	68
Governance costs	75%	825	-	825
Accountancy fees	75%	540	-	540
Office maintenance	75%	1,232	-	1,232
Bank charges and interest	100%	716	56	772
Heat, light and water rates	75%	1,709	-	1,709
		88,548	376	88,924

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	Basis of Allocation	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Printing, postage and stationery	50%	96	-	96
Travel and subsistence	80%	2,051	-	2,051
Telephone, internet and website costs	60%	3,676	-	3,676
Marketing, entertainment and related expenses	50%	93	-	93
Office rent & business rates	75%	5,834	-	5,834
Insurance	75%	174	-	174
Wages, national insurance and pension	80%	56,603	6,303	62,906
Training courses	80%	-	-	-
Subscriptions	50%	-	-	-
Governance costs	75%	615	-	615
Accountancy fees	75%	540	-	540
Office maintenance	75%	1,281	-	1,281
Bank charges and interest	100%	1,162	70	1,232
Heat, light and water rates	75%	2,494	-	2,494
		<u>74,619</u>	<u>6,373</u>	<u>80,992</u>

6. FEES FOR EXAMINATION OF THE ACCOUNTS

	2025 £	2024 £
Independent examiner's fees	<u>1,100</u>	<u>820</u>

7. STAFF COSTS

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Salaries and wages	84,672	73,941
Social security costs	3,166	2,144
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	2,286	2,547
	<u>90,124</u>	<u>78,632</u>

No staff received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) of more than £60,000 during the year (2024: none).

The monthly average number of staff (including senior management personnel) employed by the charity during the year was as follows:

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	2025	2024
	No.	No.
Full time equivalents of staff employed	<u>3.0</u>	<u>3.4</u>

8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Remuneration	37,100	42,000
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	2,400	2,400
	<u>39,500</u>	<u>44,400</u>
Number of trustees	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

No other Trustee have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits during the year (2024: none).

9. DEBTORS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Accrued income	914	1,133
Prepayments	178	174
	<u>1,092</u>	<u>1,307</u>

10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	1,680	1,540
Child Sponsorship Programme (CSP)	73,586	72,980
Taxation and social security	1,043	1,220
Other creditors	-	114
	<u>76,309</u>	<u>75,854</u>

The trustees have accrued as a liability disbursement payable under its Child Sponsorship Programme based on funding for two school terms and full academic year for university students. Although each child is subject to periodic review, the Charity normally accepts the school or university progress report as the basis for continued funding. Since the progress of the children and the assessment of their progress are both outside of the control of the trustees, a full accrual for this commitment is made.

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Movement in funding commitments for Child Sponsorship Programme during the year	Charitable commitments accrued £
Funding commitments recognised as at 1 May 2024	72,980
New funding commitments charged to the SoFA in the year	82,313
Funds paid during the year	(81,707)
Amount of funding commitments recognised as at 30 April 2025	73,586

11. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS

	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £
Current assets note 9 plus cash	3,596	144,026	88,366	235,988
Current liabilities note 10	(2,723)	(73,586)	-	(76,309)
Net assets	873	70,440	88,366	159,679

	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Current assets note 9 plus cash	14,490	157,471	82,651	254,612
Current liabilities note 10	(2,874)	(72,980)	-	(75,854)
Net assets	11,616	84,491	82,651	178,758

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12. MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS

	As at 1 May 2024 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Net transfers £	As at 30 April 2025 £
Restricted funds					
Anicet Donard Medical Scholarships	26,033	1,400	(1,789)	-	25,644
Individual Donations (Community Proj)	1,725	-	-	-	1,725
Church donations	-	500	-	-	500
Samaritan's Purse (Dignity)	20,803	29,642	(13,466)	-	36,979
Jepthah Mulenga-Mutale	6,840	1,200	-	-	8,040
Individual Donations (Widows Proj)	240	50	-	-	290
IAfrika	1,282	13,970	(14,744)	-	508
CSP Direct	8,592	26,730	(32,722)	-	2,600
Martin Philips Girls' Education Trust	10,086	1,506	(88)	-	11,504
Mummy Fowler Fund	240	-	(240)	-	-
Individual & CAF Donations (CSP)	-	540	(540)	-	-
Austin Bailey (Uganda)	337	-	(337)	-	-
Belaqua Trust	1,000	-	(1,000)	-	-
Samaritan's Purse (Ngara)	5,200	-	(5,200)	-	-
E Rathbone Trust (Uganda)	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
Tobi Adeyemi Foundation	273	4,075	(3,772)	-	576
Total restricted funds	82,651	80,613	(74,898)	-	88,366
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds	84,491	48,484	(36,535)	(26,000)	70,440
General funds	11,616	74,945	(111,688)	26,000	873
Total unrestricted funds	96,107	123,429	(148,223)	-	71,313
Total funds	178,758	204,042	(223,121)	-	159,679

12. MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS (CONTINUED)

	As at 1 May 2023 Restated £	Receipts £	Payments £	Net transfers £	As at 30 April 2024 £
Restricted funds					
Anicet Donard Medical Scholarships	20,583	5,454	(4)	-	26,033
Individual Donations (Community Proj)	4,377	40	-	(2,692)	1,725
Charles Hayward Foundation	1,399	-	(6,314)	4,915	-
Accenture	77	-	-	(77)	-
Investment One (Dignity)	2,225	-	-	(2,225)	-
Samaritan's Purse (Dignity)	10,888	27,476	(17,561)	-	20,803
Jepthah Mulenga-Mutale	5,640	1,200	-	-	6,840
Individual Donations (Widows Proj)	40	200	-	-	240
IAfrika	352	2,101	(1,171)	-	1,282
CSP Direct	8,499	21,998	(21,905)	-	8,592
Martin Philips Girls' Education Trust	9,559	1,274	(747)	-	10,086
Mummy Fowler Fund	240	-	-	-	240
Individual & CAF Donations (CSP)	1,039	720	(824)	(935)	-
Austin Bailey (Uganda)	-	1,000	(663)	-	337
Belaqua Trust	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Samaritan's Purse (Ngara)	-	5,200	-	-	5,200
Gilchrist Trust	-	1,170	(1,170)	-	-
Haramead Trust (Ngara)	7,718	-	(7,718)	-	-
Peter Stebbings (Tanzania)	3,652	-	-	(3,652)	-
Oak Trust	750	1,000	(1,750)	-	-
Souter Trust	2,725	-	(7,275)	4,550	-
Barnabas Trust	-	2,000	(3,108)	1,108	-
A Trust	992	-	-	(992)	-
Tobi Adeyemi Foundation	5,103	4,812	(9,642)	-	273
Total restricted funds	85,858	76,645	(79,852)	-	82,651
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds	58,200	52,115	(25,824)	-	84,491
General funds	319	128,204	(116,907)	-	11,616
Total unrestricted funds	58,519	180,319	(142,731)	-	96,107
Total funds	144,377	256,964	(222,583)	-	178,758

12. MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS (CONTINUED)

RESTRICTED FUNDS

Restricted funds are for the following purposes:

University Students Support

Donations from individual sponsors to support university students in Africa is on-going and was partially expended.

Anicet Donard Medical School Fund

Fund to support disadvantaged children to study medicine and associated subjects at a university in Africa is on-going.

Tobi Adeyemi Foundation

Grant to support exceptionally gifted children in secondary school in Africa is on-going and was partially expended.

Austin Bailey Trust

Grant was made to support the education of children in Uganda and was partly expended.

I.Afrika

Donations from individual towards the welfare support of children at I.Afrika are forwarded as received.

Widows Business Skills Training (WBST)

Donations for skills training of widows in Africa are ongoing and were partially expended.

Samaritan's Purse Canada (Cambridge Global)

Grant for Dignity Project, Summer School and Financial support for the Education of disadvantaged children in Ipaja, Nigeria received late 2023-24, c/f to 2024-25

Charles Hayward Foundation - Grant for Dignity Project, Ipaja, Nigeria.

Jephthah Fund

Fund to support special needs children and those born in extremely unfortunate circumstances. The fund is ongoing.

Martin Phillips Girls Education Fund

Funds to support the education of girls who have received admission to University in Africa was partially expended.

13. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

The Charity leases its office accommodation on non-cancellable operating lease. At 30 April 2025, the charity had annual commitments of £7,488 (2024 - £6,988) under the lease which is renewed yearly.

14. GUARANTEES

No guarantees have been made, which result in an outstanding potential liability as at the year-end date.

15. TRANSACTIONS WITH TRUSTEES AND RELATED PARTIES

a) Trustees' remuneration and benefits

Dr K Onabolu, Trustee received remuneration of £37,100 for the year (2024: £42,000), together with payment of £2,400 to his pension plan (2024: £2,400). Payment to Dr K. Onabolu was approved by the Charity Commission. The sealed Order was signed on 15 January 2007. He is remunerated to manage and develop the Charity, to direct its projects, to oversee the administration, to promote it to other organisations, trusts and companies and to communicate effectively with the Charity's many stakeholders.

No other Trustee have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits during the year (2024: none).

b) Trustees' expenses

	2025	2024
	£	£
Travel	1,818	-
Subsistence	16	52
Accommodation	467	95
	<u>2,301</u>	<u>147</u>
No. of trustees reimbursed for expenses or who had expenses paid by ACT	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

c) Other related party transactions

There were no other related party transactions during the year (2024: none).

ACT (AFRICAN CHILD TRUST)

England & Wales - Charity number 1158266

Accounts

ACT
(African Child Trust)

(AFRICAN CHILD TRUST)

**REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2024

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**TRUSTEES' REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE AFRICAN CHILD TRUST
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2024**

PURPOSE AND IMPACT

ACT was formed in 1998 with the vision to help break the cycles of poverty among some of the most marginalised groups in sub-Saharan Africa, namely disadvantaged orphans, fatherless children and widows. We are doing this by providing the disadvantaged children access to education to enable them to reach their full potential in life. We are empowering the widows in-need, who typically are single mothers, grandmothers and/or female guardians or relatives that look after the children. We are doing this through counselling and business skills training, so that they can generate income sustainably to support themselves and their families. We are enriching the entire community through our work and carrying out projects in education, health and sanitation with long term benefit. More than 25 years on we are able to demonstrate the impact of our work with clear evidence of our achievements in pursuit of the overarching goal.

We fund our projects through such charitable activities within the UK, Africa and worldwide that the trustees approve. By enabling the children to access education from primary school through to higher education and ultimately to employment, they can support their families when they grow up and contribute to the overall development of their communities. In the UK we are engaging young people in global citizenship through our Youth International Development Experience and Awareness (IDEA). We are partnering with schools, churches and youth organisations and providing the young people work experience and volunteering opportunities.

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 and setting goals for the year. Our core activities are:

- Educating disadvantaged children and orphans in Africa from primary school to completion of higher education
- Empowering widows and women-led households in-need (typically grandmothers, single mothers, or guardians) to sustain their families through counselling, literacy, setting up and sustaining their small business enterprises and whole life skills training.
- Enriching entire communities by carrying out projects in education, sanitation, and health to improve the welfare of people in the community.
- Engaging UK youth in international development experience and awareness as global citizens and improving their knowledge and understanding of the world.
- Providing placement, internships and volunteering opportunities for UK youth and mature citizens, to support our projects in the UK and in Africa.

Our Impact

Our work is invaluable to the disadvantaged women and children because we are challenging the negative perceptions of widows, fatherless children, and orphans in African communities. Without support many of them will remain in life-long poverty. Our ACT Alumni, comprising several hundreds of youngsters that we supported to completion of their education, is growing. Many of them are gainfully employed, married, having their own children and able to support their mothers or guardians and their siblings. They are also giving back to their communities, materially, providing practical support like mentoring the younger children through their engagement with ACT. Further evidence that our work is having an impact is the decreasing numbers of people living in adjacent poverty in the communities where we work. Our work continues to be relevant and is very much needed in the effort to alleviate poverty in Africa.

“ACT's work is invaluable to these communities, challenging negative perceptions of widows and providing opportunity for a life that otherwise would have been destitute without the income of the deceased or missing husband/father.” (Action Planning 2020)

“ACT is highly impressive with a huge range of services and support that is changing the lives of many more individuals and communities in Africa and has a reach that is typical of a larger charity. The value for money its projects offer is striking.” (Action Planning 2020)

We recognise that we have a lot more still to do as we work towards fulfilling our vision.

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Overseas Partners

In Africa we work in collaboration with community-based organisations and Christian churches that share our vision of alleviating poverty and supporting the women and children most in need in their community. We are currently operating in Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia. Our work in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Malawi have been on hold since 2020 while we work to develop new local partnerships.

We raise funds from donors to support the education of children and orphans that are disadvantaged, provide training in whole life skills and business skills for women (widows) and fund development projects in education, health, and sanitation to enrich the communities where we work. We work with local schools to improve the quality of education provided for pupils. We send funds raised to our partners to implement the objectives of the Charity.

When planning the activities of the charity the Trustees have given regard to guidance issued on public benefit by the Charity Commission in December 2008.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

ACT (African Child Trust) is an incorporated charity registered on 18 August 2014, Charity registration, No.1158266. Its address is at 40 Tamworth Road, Croydon, Surrey CR0 1XU. It was previously known as A.C.T. (African Child Trust) constituted by Deed of Trust dated 29 March 1999, Charity registration No.1074911, but was removed from the register of charities on 12 June 2015 after its assets and operations were transferred to the newly incorporated charity on 30 April 2015.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The governing document provides for a minimum of three Trustees, with no maximum. The Trustees are appointed by invitation of the Board of Trustees. Trustees are appointed to serve for a period of three years after which they can be re-appointed by a resolution of the Trustees passed at a special meeting. Before taking up trusteeship a potential Trustee is invited to attend a meeting as an observer. New Trustees are given an induction and provided with an information pack and guidance notes about being a Trustee and about the work of the Charity.

The Charity Trustees during the year ended 30 April 2024 were G. Howes, C. Amiaka, N. Amiaka, A. Olufeyimi, and Dr K. Onabolu. Mrs A Olufeyimi resigned as a trustee on 18 January 2024.

Staff

ACT is volunteer led, with a CEO and two paid staff in roles coordinating the work of the charity. Volunteering is at the core of our work both in the UK and in Africa. Our model is based on providing opportunities for people interested in the charity sector to join us as volunteers, interns, and placement students and learn from our work. Our effort in time training them is rewarded with their support for our work and minimises our staff costs. We are then able to use funds raised to support the disadvantaged children, widows and women-led households in need in Africa. The CEO is focussed on operations both in the UK and in Africa. Other staff members in paid roles are focused on our supporters' care, communications, marketing, events, grant funding, training, and supervising our volunteers.

As of 30 April 2024, ACT had one employed staff in the UK, assisted by five volunteers.

Two additional staff members have since taken up their roles in the 2024/25 financial year.

Safeguarding

ACT Safeguarding Policy is firmly integrated into the general operation of the Charity, with a named Trustee assigned as responsible for both policy and procedures. Further evidence of the trustees' commitment is their regular review of any issues arising at Board level. Safeguarding is a fixed agenda item at the Trustees bi-monthly meeting. New Trustees are inducted in safeguarding and required to sign the safeguarding policy. UK staff and volunteers are made aware of the policy as part of their induction. Our first international Safeguarding Conference (virtual) was held in January 2023 and brought together trustees and staff in the UK with our overseas partners and their staff responsible for safeguarding. A safeguarding conference will be held each year. ACT partners overseas are required to adopt and implement

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the ACT Safeguarding Policy and be aware of any local or national policies that they may be subject to. Trustees and staff on project monitoring visits overseas are required to review safeguarding with partners, staff and volunteers and follow up whistleblowing from beneficiaries. Learnings from these are shared across the ACT partnership network. Procedures are reviewed regularly internally and by an external consultant annually.

Risk Management and Policies

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, including governance, working overseas, safeguarding, finances, environmental/external, compliance with law and regulation, as well as disaster recovery and risk regulations. These risks are documented in a full risk register and evaluated based on impact and probability using a traffic light system. Changes that might impact a known risk are reported, evaluated, reviewed, and assessed at Trustees bi-monthly meetings, and mitigating action agreed. There is full review of the register every 6 months.

Investment Policy

Our Investment Policy aims to maximise and preserve capital value with a minimum level of risk and to provide income.

Fundraising

We fund our work with income from individual donations, child sponsorships, fundraising events, grants from corporate organisations, churches, trusts and foundations. Our fundraising is not delegated to professional fundraisers or commercial third parties but is managed in-house. Our core costs are mainly staff salaries, with minor expenditure on office costs.

Our volunteers and some supporters participate in events and challenges which are organised by the charity or other major national or international events and are guided by our values and code of conduct at the time of registering their participation in such events and challenges.

The Trustees ensure that the charity's fundraising activities comply with recognised standards of fundraising and charity fundraising law and is open and accountable to protect the charity's reputation and other assets.

Our fundraising strategy is documented and updated annually and ensures that it reflects the charity's ethos and values.

Covid-19

The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on our work in the UK has reduced to a very low level. We now operate a hybrid office with staff working two days in the Croydon office and three days remotely. We have adapted our systems and now operate with remote technology, enabling staff to carry out their work remotely or from the office. Our staffing level is back to normal, with new volunteers and interns joining our team. Trustees have resumed overseas project monitoring visits to meet up with our partners and beneficiary women and children.

Feedback and reports from our partners and from our recent visits overseas indicated that while the spread of the Covid disease is mostly over, the negative economic impact that resulted remains and is compounded by the high cost-of-living crisis.

Cost of living Crisis

Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 is the cause of the current global Inflation which has crippled the economy of many African countries and led to the high cost of fuel, energy, transportation costs and food inflation. As is often the case, it is the disadvantaged children, orphans and widows who are affected most by these crises. We have increased our funding for the children and widows and doubled the amount of support we give to children at university and higher education, as tuition fees, accommodation and cost of food have gone up. So far our finances have withstood the challenge of the cost-of-living crisis. This is testimony to the strong support we continue to receive from our core donors and child sponsors.

ACHIVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

We marked our 25th anniversary in 2023. Our 5-year plan to 2025 is to increase the number of children, widows, and community projects we carry out by over 100% of its provision in 2020/21. We continue to work through the plan that

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sets out how we will reach our goals and monitoring the indicators that tell us whether we are making progress. Our achievements in 2023/24 indicate that we are making progress towards this end, but at a slower pace than we had hoped due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic followed by the recent cost of living crisis. These have impacted on our work and affected our progress as described above.

Sponsored Children

In 2023/24 we increased the numbers of orphans and disadvantaged children benefitting directly from our support. Ninety-four (94) additional children received full education and welfare support, bringing the number of children in this category to one thousand eight hundred and twenty-six (1,826), an increase of six percent (6%). The newly supported children are in Nigeria. Fifty-six percent are girls (56%) which is the same as in the previous year. In 2023/24 nineteen percent (19%) of children receiving on-going educational support were attending primary school, sixty per cent (60%) were in secondary school, nearly thirteen per cent (12.8%) in universities and seven and half per cent (7.5%) were studying for a diploma or certificate at a tertiary institution. Twenty two (22) children completed tertiary education in this period. Among them were thirteen (13) university graduates, six (6) received national diplomas and three (3) received certificates of learning. In addition to children receiving education and welfare support, five thousand three hundred and seventy two (5,372) siblings received welfare support including food, clothing, and health care support. In 2023/24 £77,530 was spent on educational and welfare support for the disadvantaged vulnerable children and orphans.

Widows Project

The Women's whole-life skills programme continues to empower widows in need in the countries where we work. Significant numbers of the women (widows) who had benefitted from the training programme have set up their own small enterprises and trades. Our project in Tanzania combines education support for children with sustainable income generation for families. Each family is provided with a male and female goat or pig. Income is generated from sales of the offspring of the animals and milk products of goats. By selling the offspring of their goats, some families have been able to buy a cow. In 2023/24 there were 109 new animal births, increasing the total number of animals to more than four-fold and provided significant nett income for the supported families.

Countries of Operation

ACT is currently working with eight (8) partner organisations in eight (8) countries of Africa namely Burkina Faso, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. Our work in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Malawi are currently on hold.

Missions Visits

There was a monitoring missions' trip to Nigeria in 2023/24.

Expenditure

In 2023/24 the expenditure of the charity was £222,583 compared to £254,751 in the previous year, a decrease of £32,168 (-12.6%). The decrease was mainly attributable to the adoption of SORP FRS 102. ACT had to make a prior year adjustment by providing for the constructive obligation liability of £69,350 in 2022/23 (see Note 11).

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial information

The Charity's statement of financial activities and balance sheet are set out on pages 9 and 10. The Charity's income during the year amounted to £256,964 and the split is as follows:

<i>Donations:</i>	£
Donations - Child Sponsorship (CSP)	61,385
Donations - Other Gifts	57,641
Grants	49,845
Tax Reclaim	22,461
Others	8,053
 <i>Other income:</i>	
Fundraising Events	53,650
Interest Received	3,929

There has been an increase (21.7 percent) in the Charity's income in 2024, fundraising events increased compared to 2023.

Reserves Policy

The reserves policy is focussed on achieving the outcomes that are integral to the objects of the charity and mitigating the risks that might accrue as a result. Trustees consider the key measure of sustainability of the charity to be current and future liquidity cover rather than the surplus or deficit accounting position. Consequently, trustees have set an appropriate reserves policy, which is reviewed annually relating to liquidity, based on the balance between readily realisable assets and the cash required to settle grant liabilities and sustain ACT operations for an anticipated period. Integral to the grant liabilities is the need to ensure adequate funds are available to support sponsored children that are continuing in education all through from primary, secondary, and up to university or other tertiary level. This means that in most cases the Charity commits to support each child on our programme, possibly for 14 years or more, while also continuing to take on additional disadvantaged children in need into our programme, as funds permit.

The majority of the charity's income consists of donations and gifts from individuals which can be influenced by predictable factors in the UK such as inflation and the general well-being of the economy. But it is also subject to unexpected events such as the Covid pandemic and the recent rise in the cost of living due to the war in Ukraine. The risks for the overseas beneficiaries include high inflation resulting in increasing education costs, in addition to rising cost of living, weakness in currencies, climate change factors and political unrest, all of which can affect the intended outcomes, as are currently being experienced by the beneficiaries in the countries where we work in Africa.

Trustees therefore require that sufficient funds are retained to cover the costs of the children's educational support, including university fees for each following year. In addition to cover staff salaries for 3 months. Based on the current grants position, this policy requires us to hold between £82k and 88k as funds designated for the children's educational support in the 2023/24 financial year. Trustees have also designated £36,000 to account for 6 months' salary for two new staff expected to take up their roles in July 2023 as part of the strategic investment for growth and 3 months operational running costs.

CSP

CSP is the Child Sponsorship Programme. ACT is contracting for costs in Africa, and to facilitate the process we work through local Partners in-country who must comply with the accounting and reporting requirements, which is reviewed and monitored through the ACT review process in the UK.

ACT funds the education of disadvantaged children and orphans who have completed an application form for support. Children must meet the criteria for child sponsorship as set out in the ACT Operational Handbook which forms part of the collaboration agreement signed with our partners. Our partners facilitate the child support process, oversee care for the families and manage utilisation of the funds received. We send funds to the partners at the beginning of each school term (four monthly). Partners are required to submit accounting returns and reports at the end of each term, using our reporting template. The reports provide updates about the sponsored children and their welfare and progress at school. Approval of the partner return and report triggers release of funds for the following school term.

ACT

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Below is a summary of the CSP disbursement to ACT partner organisations.

CSP spending 2023/24

Country	Number of Partners	Number of children as at end of financial year	Amount Spent	Percent of total CSP spend
Burkina Faso	1	25	5,299	6.9%
Congo DR	-	-	-	-
Kenya	2	57	14,235	18.7%
Malawi	-	-	-	-
Nigeria	1	161	17,540	23.0%
Tanzania	2	156	24,998	32.7%
Uganda	1	37	9,915	13.0%
Zambia	1	5	4,376	5.7%
Total	8	441	76,363	100

In 2023/24 the CSP spending breaks down as follows:

In Burkina Faso the amount spent was as follows: Hope Mission (£5,299).

In Congo - no fund was sent, as partners are in transition (£0)

In Kenya the amount spent were as follows: JTAN, Webuye (£9,239) and I-Afrika, Lusigetti (£4,996)

In Malawi - no fund was sent. We currently have no partnership in country (£0)

In Nigeria the amount spent was as follows: CDLI, Ipaja (£17,540).

In Tanzania the amount spent was as follows: Tanzania Assemblies of God, Chumbageni (£4,376) and ADA, Kagera (£20,622).

In Uganda the amount spent was as follows: Christian Vision/Elim Church, Jinja (£9,915).

In Zambia the amount spent was as follows: Hands of Mercy, Ndola (£4,376).

Donors

Our expanding base of individual donors form the core of our Child Sponsorship Programme (CSP) with increasing support received from UK Churches. During the year the charity received grants from UK Trusts and other organisations. The Trustees are grateful to all donors who provided funding during the year in support of the Charity. The Trustees would like to acknowledge the following organisations that made grants and donations during the financial year:

Annies Orphans	Amlwch Pentecostal Church, Anglesey	House of Hope International Church
Billingshurst Family Church	Chiltern Church, Sutton	New Life Christian Centre, Croydon
Belacqua Trust	Croydon Tabernacle, Croydon	RCCG Builders House, Croydon
Corporate Messengers	The Oak Trust	RCCG The Sanctuary, London
The Connop Trust	Thriplow Charitable Trust	RCCG Victory House, London
Gilchrist Educational Trust	Tobi Adeyemi Foundation	St George's Church, Waterlooville
Nilec Limited	Samaritan's Purse Canada	Wales AOG, Bangor

ACT

(African Child Trust)

Internal Controls

The Trustees continue to uphold and improve on the charity's system of internal controls and accounting procedures to enhance funds accountability. The Trustees would also like to thank the several volunteers who have contributed to the operation of the charity during the year.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

- Increase numbers of beneficiary children supported to twelve thousand by 2025.
- Increase the numbers of widows and women supported through training in sustainable whole life skills to five thousand by 2025.
- Extend the widows sustainable whole life skills programme to all countries where ACT is operating by 2025.
- Support the expansion of the ACT Alumni Initiative and leadership programme across the countries where our alumni exist.
- Enhance quality of life in communities by implementing at least one community project each year

ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES:



Mrs G. Howes

Kunle Onabolu

Dr. K. Onabolu

Date: 7 / 10 / 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of African Child Trust.

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 April 2024, which comprise the statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the related notes.

Responsibilities and basis of report

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act'). The Charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act, follow the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Independent examiner's statement

As the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants which is one of the listed bodies.

(1) In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which give 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 the accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Report) Regulation 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of independent examination.

(2) 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 in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Chaweevan Williams FCCA
Verdant Accountants Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
20-22 Wenlock Road,
London N1 7GU

Date: 08 October 2024

ACT

(African Child Trust)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2024	Total 2023 Restated
		£	£	£	£
Income and endowments					
<i>Donations and legacies</i>					
Donations - Child Sponsorship (CSP)		37,354	24,031	61,385	65,919
Donations - Other Gifts		52,687	4,954	57,641	59,537
Grants		2,185	47,660	49,845	61,625
Tax Reclaim		22,461	-	22,461	20,161
Others		8,053	-	8,053	50
<i>Other Trading Activities</i>					
Fundraising Events		53,650	-	53,650	2,980
<i>Investments</i>					
Interest Received		3,929	-	3,929	880
Total income and endowments		180,319	76,645	256,964	211,152
Expenditure					
<i>Expenditure on raising funds</i>					
Fundraising Costs	3	42,504	1,576	44,080	18,414
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>					
Child Sponsorship Programme (CSP)		25,376	52,154	77,530	136,301
Missions Programme		-	-	-	4,748
UK Support Cost of Programmes	4	74,619	6,373	80,992	68,738
Community Project		232	19,749	19,981	26,550
Total expenditure		142,731	79,852	222,583	254,751
Net income / (expenditure)		37,588	(3,207)	34,381	(43,599)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		37,588	(3,207)	34,381	(43,599)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		58,519	85,858	144,377	187,976
Total funds carried forward		96,107	82,651	178,758	144,377

The notes on pages 11 to 22 form part of these accounts.

ACT

(African Child Trust)

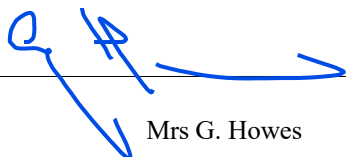
BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 30 APRIL 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Current assets			
Debtors	7	1,307	2,015
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>253,305</u>	<u>214,320</u>
		<u>254,612</u>	<u>216,335</u>
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year	8	(75,854)	(71,958)
Net current assets		<u>178,758</u>	<u>144,377</u>
NET ASSETS	9	<u>178,758</u>	<u>144,377</u>
REPRESENTED BY:			
Funds:			
Restricted funds	10	82,651	85,858
Unrestricted funds - Designated	10	84,491	58,200
Unrestricted funds - General	10	11,616	319
		<u>178,758</u>	<u>144,377</u>

**APPROVED BY THE TRUSTEES ON
BEHALF BY:**

2024 AND SIGNED ON THEIR



 Mrs G. Howes

Kunle Onabolu

 Dr. K. Onabolu

The notes on pages 11 to 22 form part of these accounts.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR
THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2024**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies are summarised below.

a) Basis of accounting

These accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) effective from 1 January 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 for the first time. Therefore, the preceding period accounts have been restated for consistency. Please refer to Note 11 for reconciliations between the accounts previously prepared using Receipts and Payments basis and the accounts prepared in accordance with Charities SORP (FRS 102).

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

b) Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

c) Fund accounting

- Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity
- Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for particular purposes
- Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions of their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

d) Income recognition

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income can be measured reliably. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Donations are received by way of grants, donations and gifts and are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.
- Income from fundraising events is recognised when received.
- Donated goods (assets) and services are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included in these accounts.
- Interest on funds held on deposit is recognised when receivable.

d) Expenditure recognition

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 the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred:

- Expenditure on raising funds comprise the costs associated with attracting donations and legacies as well as the costs of fundraising events;
- Expenditure on charitable activities comprises those costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities to beneficiaries;
- Programme costs represents UK costs of supporting the programme of work carried out in Africa and costs relating to the governance of the Charity, apportioned on an appropriate basis e.g. estimated percentage allocation of total cost based on estimated usage, time, spent, etc.

e) Fixed Assets

The costs of minor additions or those costing below £750 are not capitalised. Tangible assets over £750 are capitalised and included at costs. Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost on a straight line bases over their expected useful economic lives as follows;

Computer equipment	over 3 years
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f) Pension

The charity has defined contribution arrangements for some of its employees and the costs of the contributions are accounted for as they are payable for the year of employment.

ACT

(African Child Trust)

2. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES BY FUND

	Notes	<u>Unrestricted funds</u>		<u>Restricted funds</u>	
		Total 2024 £	Total 2023 Restated £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 Restated £
Income and endowments					
<i>Donations and legacies</i>					
Donations - Child Sponsorship (CSP)		37,354	38,720	24,031	27,199
Donations - Other Gifts		52,687	43,322	4,954	16,215
Grants		2,185	6,024	47,660	55,601
Tax Reclaim		22,461	19,661	-	500
Others		8,053	50	-	-
<i>Other Trading Activities</i>					
Fundraising Events		53,650	2,980	-	-
<i>Investments</i>					
Interest Received		3,929	880	-	-
Total income and endowments		180,319	111,637	76,645	99,515
Expenditure					
<i>Expenditure on raising funds</i>					
Fundraising Costs	3	42,504	18,299	1,576	115
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>					
Child Sponsorship Programme (CSP)		25,376	95,404	52,154	40,897
Missions Programme		-	4,748	-	-
UK Support Cost of Programmes	4	74,619	68,026	6,373	712
Community Project		232	1,289	19,749	25,261
Total expenditure		142,731	187,766	79,852	66,985
Net income / (expenditure)		37,588	(76,129)	(3,207)	32,530
Transfers between funds		-	703	-	(703)
Net movement in funds		37,588	(75,426)	(3,207)	31,827
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		58,519	133,945	85,858	54,031
Total funds carried forward		96,107	58,519	82,651	85,858

3. COSTS OF RAISING FUNDS

	Basis of Allocation	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Fund raising costs	100%	21,555	-	21,555
Printing, postage and stationery	50%	96	-	96
Travel and subsistence	20%	513	-	513
Telephone, internet and website costs	40%	2,450	-	2,450
Marketing, entertainment and related expenses	50%	93	-	93
Office rent & business rates	25%	1,945	-	1,945
Insurance	25%	58	-	58
Wages, national insurance and pension	20%	14,151	1,576	15,727
Training courses	20%	-	-	-
Subscriptions	50%	-	-	-
Governance costs	25%	205	-	205
Accountancy fees	25%	180	-	180
Office maintenance	25%	427	-	427
Heat, light and water rates	25%	831	-	831
		42,504	1,576	44,080

	Basis of Allocation	Unrestricted funds Restated £	Restricted funds Restated £	Total 2023 Restated £
Fund raising costs	100%	307	-	307
Printing, postage and stationery	50%	22	-	22
Travel and subsistence	20%	135	-	135
Telephone, internet and website costs	40%	322	-	322
Marketing, entertainment and related expenses	50%	132	-	132
Office rent & business rates	25%	2,060	-	2,060
Insurance	25%	58	-	58
Wages, national insurance and pension	20%	14,017	115	14,132
Training courses	20%	14	-	14
Subscriptions	50%	68	-	68
Governance costs	25%	225	-	225
Accountancy fees	25%	180	-	180
Office maintenance	25%	474	-	474
Heat, light and water rates	25%	285	-	285
		18,299	115	18,414

4. UK SUPPORT COSTS OF PROGRAMMES

	Basis of Allocation	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Printing, postage and stationery	50%	96	-	96
Travel and subsistence	80%	2,051	-	2,051
Telephone, internet and website costs	60%	3,676	-	3,676
Marketing, entertainment and related expenses	50%	93	-	93
Office rent & business rates	75%	5,834	-	5,834
Insurance	75%	174	-	174
Wages, national insurance and pension	80%	56,603	6,303	62,906
Training courses	80%	-	-	-
Subscriptions	50%	-	-	-
Governance costs	75%	615	-	615
Accountancy fees	75%	540	-	540
Office maintenance	75%	1,281	-	1,281
Bank charges and interest	100%	1,162	70	1,232
Heat, light and water rates	75%	2,494	-	2,494
		74,619	6,373	80,992

	Basis of Allocation	Unrestricted funds Restated £	Restricted funds Restated £	Total 2023 Restated £
Printing, postage and stationery	50%	22	-	22
Travel and subsistence	80%	538	-	538
Telephone, internet and website costs	60%	483	-	483
Marketing, entertainment and related expenses	50%	132	-	132
Office rent & business rates	75%	6,180	-	6,180
Insurance	75%	174	-	174
Wages, national insurance and pension	80%	56,068	459	56,527
Training courses	80%	57	-	57
Subscriptions	50%	68	-	68
Governance costs	75%	675	-	675
Accountancy fees	75%	540	-	540
Office maintenance	75%	1,422	-	1,422
Bank charges and interest	100%	812	253	1,065
Heat, light and water rates	75%	855	-	855
		68,026	712	68,738

ACT

(African Child Trust)

5. STAFF COSTS

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries and wages	73,941	66,206
Social security costs	2,144	1,772
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	2,547	2,681
	<u>78,632</u>	<u>70,659</u>

No staff received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) of more than £60,000 during the year (2023: none).

The monthly average number of staff (including senior management personnel) employed by the charity during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
Full time equivalents of staff employed	<u>3.4</u>	<u>2.0</u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Remuneration	42,000	42,000
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	2,400	2,400
	<u>44,400</u>	<u>44,400</u>
Number of trustees	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

No other Trustee have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits during the year (2023: none).

7. DEBTORS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accrued income	1,133	1,841
Prepayments	174	174
	<u>1,307</u>	<u>2,015</u>

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8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	1,540	1,620
Child Sponsorship Programme (CSP)	72,980	69,350
Taxation and social security	1,220	988
Other creditors	114	-
	75,854	71,958

The trustees have accrued as a liability disbursements payable under its Child Sponsorship Programme based on funding for two school terms and full academic year for university students. Although each child is subject to periodic review, the Charity normally accepts the school or university progress report as the basis for continued funding. Since the progress of the children and the assessment of their progress are both outside of the control of the trustees, a full accrual for this commitment is made.

Movement in funding commitments for Child Sponsorship Programme during the year

**Charitable
commitments
accrued
£**

Funding commitments recognised as at 1 May 2023	69,350
New funding commitments charged to the SoFA in the year	77,530
Funds paid during the year	(73,900)
Amount of funding commitments recognised as at 30 April 2024	72,980

9. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS

	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Current assets note 7 plus cash	14,490	157,471	82,651	254,612
Current liabilities note 8	(2,874)	(72,980)	-	(75,854)
Net assets	11,616	84,491	82,651	178,758

	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Current assets note 7 plus cash	2,927	127,550	85,858	216,335
Current liabilities note 8	(2,608)	(69,350)	-	(71,958)
Net assets	319	58,200	85,858	144,377

10. MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS

	As at 1 May 2023 Restated £	Receipts £	Payments £	Net transfers £	As at 30 April 2024 £
Restricted funds					
Anicet Donard Medical Scholarships	20,583	5,454	(4)	-	26,033
Individual Donations (Community Proj)	4,377	40	-	(2,692)	1,725
Charles Hayward Foundation	1,399	-	(6,314)	4,915	-
Accenture	77	-	-	(77)	-
Investment One (Dignity)	2,225	-	-	(2,225)	-
Samaritan's Purse (Dignity)	10,888	27,476	(17,561)	-	20,803
Jepthah Mulenga-Mutale	5,640	1,200	-	-	6,840
Individual Donations (Widows Proj)	40	200	-	-	240
IAfrika	352	2,101	(1,171)	-	1,282
CSP Direct	8,499	21,998	(21,905)	-	8,592
Martin Philips Girls' Education Trust	9,559	1,274	(747)	-	10,086
Mummy Fowler Fund	240	-	-	-	240
Individual & CAF Donations (CSP)	1,039	720	(824)	(935)	-
Austin Bailey (Uganda)	-	1,000	(663)	-	337
Belaqua Trust	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Samaritan's Purse (Ngara)	-	5,200	-	-	5,200
Gilchrist Trust	-	1,170	(1,170)	-	-
Haramead Trust (Ngara)	7,718	-	(7,718)	-	-
Peter Stebbings (Tanzania)	3,652	-	-	(3,652)	-
Oak Trust	750	1,000	(1,750)	-	-
Souter Trust	2,725	-	(7,275)	4,550	-
Barnabas Trust	-	2,000	(3,108)	1,108	-
A Trust	992	-	-	(992)	-
Tobi Adeyemi Foundation	5,103	4,812	(9,642)	-	273
Total restricted funds	85,858	76,645	(79,852)	-	82,651
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds	58,200	52,115	(25,824)	-	84,491
General funds	319	128,204	(116,907)	-	11,616
Total unrestricted funds	58,519	180,319	(142,731)	-	96,107
Total funds	144,377	256,964	(222,583)	-	178,758

10. MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS (CONTINUED)

	As at 1 May 2022 Restated £	Receipts £	Payments £	Net transfers £	As at 30 April 2023 Restated £
Restricted funds					
Anicet Donard Medical Scholarships	15,147	6,636	(1,200)	-	20,583
Individual Donations (Community Proj)	1,882	2,495	-	-	4,377
Charles Hayward Foundation	7,713	-	(6,314)	-	1,399
Accenture	278	-	(201)	-	77
Investment One (Dignity)	3,839	550	(2,164)	-	2,225
Samaritan's Purse (Dignity)	-	10,888	-	-	10,888
Jepthah Mulenga-Mutale	3,440	2,200	-	-	5,640
Jesus House Church (WSBT Malawi)	703	-	-	(703)	-
Individual Donations (Widows Proj)	365	200	(525)	-	40
IAfrika	697	2,670	(3,015)	-	352
IAfrika (Mazars)	-	15,000	(15,000)	-	-
CSP Direct	5,341	23,723	(20,565)	-	8,499
Martin Philips Girls' Education Trust	1,945	8,760	(1,146)	-	9,559
Mummy Fowler Fund	240	-	-	-	240
Individual & CAF Donations (CSP)	159	880	-	-	1,039
Ashworth Trust (CSP Nigeria)	197	-	(197)	-	-
Haramead Trust (Ngara)	-	10,000	(2,282)	-	7,718
Peter Stebbings (Tanzania)	5,000	-	(1,348)	-	3,652
Oak Trust	-	750	-	-	750
Souter Trust	5,000	5,000	(7,275)	-	2,725
A Trust	-	2,100	(1,108)	-	992
Tobi Adeyemi Foundation	2,085	7,663	(4,645)	-	5,103
Total restricted funds	54,031	99,515	(66,985)	(703)	85,858
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds	133,340	53,124	(103,717)	(24,547)	58,200
General funds	605	58,513	(84,049)	25,250	319
Total unrestricted funds	133,945	111,637	(187,766)	703	58,519
Total funds	187,976	211,152	(254,751)	-	144,377

10. MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS (CONTINUED)

RESTRICTED FUNDS

Restricted funds are for the following purposes:

University Students Support

Donations from individual sponsors to support university students in Africa is on-going and was partially expended.

Anicet Donard Medical School Fund

Fund to support disadvantaged children to study medicine and associated subjects at a university in Africa is on-going and was partially expended.

Tobi Adeyemi Foundation

Grant to support exceptionally gifted children in secondary school in Africa is on-going and was partially expended.

Austin Bailey Trust

Grant was made to support the education of children in Uganda and was partly expended.

I.Afrika

Donations from individual towards the welfare support of children at I.Afrika are forwarded as received.

Widows Business Skills Training (WBST)

Donations for skills training of widows in Africa are ongoing and were partially expended.

Community Project

Samaritan's Purse - Dignity Project, summer schools and general support ongoing.

Charles Hayward Foundation - Support for Dignity Project ongoing

Accenture - Work team Support completed - balance transferred to University funding

Donations from individual towards Community Projects partially expended.

Jephthah Fund

Fund to support special needs children and those born in extremely unfortunate circumstances. The fund is ongoing.

Martin Phillips Girls Education Fund

Funds to support the education of girls who have received admission to University in Africa was partially expended.

Mummy Fowler Fund

Fund to support the education of a university student in Nigeria was partially expended.

Samaritan's Purse (Cambridge Global)

Grant for Education in Ngara received late 2023-24, c/f to 2024-25

11. PRIOR YEAR ADJUSTMENTS

On adoption of SORP FRS 102, the Charity has restated the comparative year's figures and reconciled with the previous Receipts and Payments basis of accounting.

Reconciliation of funds per previous receipts and payments basis to funds determined under SORP FRS 102

	At 1 May 2022 £	At 30 April 2023 £
Funds balances as previously stated	189,554	214,320
Adjustments for:		
Constructive obligation provision	-	(69,350)
Accrued tax reclaim income	1,109	1,841
Prepayments	174	174
Accruals	(2,861)	(2,608)
Fund balance as restated	<u>187,976</u>	<u>144,377</u>

Reconciliation of net (payments) / receipts per previous receipts and payments basis to net (expenditure) / income under SORP FRS 102

	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total at 30 April 2023 £
Net (payments) / receipts as previously stated	(1,271)	(5,790)	31,827	24,766
Adjustments for:				
Constructive obligation provision	-	(69,350)	-	(69,350)
Accrued tax reclaim income	732	-	-	732
Prepayments	-	-	-	-
Accruals	253	-	-	253
Net (expenditure) / income as restated	<u>(286)</u>	<u>(75,140)</u>	<u>31,827</u>	<u>(43,599)</u>

12. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

The Charity leases its office accommodation on non-cancellable operating lease. At 30 April, the charity had annual commitments of £6,988 (2023 - £6,988) under the lease which is renewed yearly.

13. GUARANTEES

No guarantees have been made, which result in an outstanding potential liability as at the year-end date.

14. TRANSACTIONS WITH TRUSTEES AND RELATED PARTIES

a) Trustees' remuneration and benefits

Dr K Onobolu, Trustee received remuneration of £42,000 for the year (2023: £42,000), together with payment of £2,400 to his pension plan (2023: £2,400). Payment to Dr K. Onobolu was approved by the Charity Commission. The sealed Order was signed on 15 January 2007. He is remunerated to manage and develop the Charity, to direct its projects, to oversee the administration, to promote it to other organisations, trusts and companies and to communicate effectively with the Charity's many stakeholders.

No other Trustee have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits during the year (2023: none).

b) Trustees' expenses

	2024	2023
	£	£
Travel	-	3,080
Subsistence	52	74
Accommodation	95	868
Visas	-	44
Vaccines	-	106
	147	4,172
No. of trustees reimbursed for expenses or who had expenses paid by ACT	1	1

c) Other related party transactions

There were no other related party transactions during the year (2023: none).

ACT (AFRICAN CHILD TRUST)

England & Wales - Charity number 1158266

Accounts

ACT

(AFRICAN CHILD TRUST)



**REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023

ACT

(African Child Trust)

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ACT

(AFRICAN CHILD TRUST)



REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

TRUSTEES: G. HOWES - CHAIR
C. AMIAKA
A. OLUFEYIMI
N. AMIAKA (from July 2022)
DR. K. ONABOLU (DIRECTOR)

ADDRESS: 40 TAMWORTH ROAD
CROYDON
SURREY
CR0 1XU

BANKERS: HSBC BANK PLC
9 WELLESLEY ROAD
CROYDON
SURREY
CR9 2AA

METRO BANK PLC
CENTRALE SHOPPING CENTRE
CROYDON
SURREY
CR0 1TY

CHARITY REGISTRATION NO: 1158266

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER: CHAWEEVAN WILLIAMS FCCA
Verdant Accountants
20-22 Wenlock Road
London N1 7GU

ACT

(African Child Trust)

TRUSTEES' REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE AFRICAN CHILD TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023

PURPOSE AND IMPACT

Widows, fatherless children, and orphans in women-led households are among the poorest and the most vulnerable group in rural African communities. African Child Trust (ACT) celebrates this year its 25th anniversary. It was formed in 1998 specifically with the vision to support this disadvantaged group, alleviate their poverty and give them hope of a better future. We are delighted that 25 years on, we can demonstrate with clear evidence our achievements and how we are meeting this overarching goal. We are advancing the education of the disadvantaged children and orphans and empowering the widows and women in need through training in sustainable income generation programmes to enable them to support their families. We are able to do this through such charitable activities within the UK, Africa and worldwide that the trustees approve. Our goal is to help the children reach their full potential in life by enabling them to access education from primary school through to higher education and ultimately to employment. In this way, the children can support their families when they grow up and contribute to the overall development of their communities. In the UK we are engaging young people in global citizenship through our Youth International Development Experience and Awareness (IDEA). We are partnering with schools, churches and youth organisations and providing the young people work experience and volunteering opportunities.

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 and setting goals for the year. Our core activities are:

- Educating disadvantaged children and orphans in Africa from primary school to completion of higher education
- Empowering widows and women-led households in-need (typically grandmothers, single mothers, or guardians) to sustain their families through counselling, literacy, setting up and sustaining their small business enterprises and whole life skills training.
- Enriching entire communities by carrying out projects in education, sanitation, and health to improve the welfare of people in the community.
- Engaging UK youth in international development experience and awareness as global citizens and improving their knowledge and understanding of the world.
- Providing placement, internships and volunteering opportunities for UK youth and mature citizens, to support our projects in the UK and in Africa.

Our Impact

Our work is invaluable to the disadvantaged women and children because we are challenging the negative perceptions of widows, fatherless children, and orphans in African communities. Without support many of them will remain in life-long poverty. Our ACT Alumni, comprising several hundreds of youngsters that we supported to completion of their education, is growing. Many of them are gainfully employed, married, having their own children and able to support their mothers or guardians and their siblings. They are also giving back to their communities, materially, providing practical support like mentoring the younger children through their engagement with ACT. Further evidence that our work is having an impact is the decreasing numbers of people living in adject poverty in the communities where we work. Our work continues to be relevant and is very much needed in the effort to alleviate poverty in Africa.

“ACT's work is invaluable to these communities, challenging negative perceptions of widows and providing opportunity for a life that otherwise would have been destitute without the income of the deceased or missing husband/father.” (Action Planning 2020)

“ACT is highly impressive with a huge range of services and support that is changing the lives of many more individuals and communities in Africa and has a reach that is typical of a larger charity. The value for money its projects offer is striking.” (Action Planning 2020)

We recognise that we have a lot more still to do as we work towards fulfilling our vision.

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(African Child Trust)

Overseas Partners

In Africa we work in collaboration with community-based organisations and Christian churches that share our vision of alleviating poverty and supporting the women and children most in need in their community. We are currently operating in Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia. Our work in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Malawi have been on hold since 2020 while we work to develop new local partnerships.

We raise funds from donors to support the education of children and orphans that are disadvantaged, provide training in whole life skills and business skills for women (widows) and fund development projects in education, health, and sanitation to enrich the communities where we work. We work with local schools to improve the quality of education provided for pupils. We send funds raised to our partners to implement the objectives of the Charity.

When planning the activities of the charity the Trustees have given regard to guidance issued on public benefit by the Charity Commission in December 2008.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

ACT (African Child Trust) is an incorporated charity registered on 18 August 2014, Charity registration, No.1158266. Its address is at 40 Tamworth Road, Croydon, Surrey CR0 1XU. It was previously known as A.C.T. (African Child Trust) constituted by Deed of Trust dated 29 March 1999, Charity registration No.1074911, but was removed from the register of charities on 12 June 2015 after its assets and operations were transferred to the newly incorporated charity on 30 April 2015.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The governing document provides for a minimum of three Trustees, with no maximum. The Trustees are appointed by invitation of the Board of Trustees. Trustees are appointed to serve for a period of three years after which they can be re-appointed by a resolution of the Trustees passed at a special meeting. Before taking up trusteeship a potential Trustee is invited to attend a meeting as an observer. New Trustees are given an induction and provided with an information pack and guidance notes about being a Trustee and about the work of the Charity.

The Charity Trustees during the year ended 30 April 2022 were G. Howes, C. Amiaka, A. Olufeyimi, Dr K. Onabolu. A new Trustee, Mr Nwabueze Amiaka has been appointed and joined the board in July 2022.

Staff

ACT is volunteer led, with a CEO and two paid staff in roles coordinating the work of the charity. Volunteering is at the core of our work both in the UK and in Africa. Our model is based on providing opportunities for people interested in the charity sector to join us as volunteers, interns, and placement students and learn from our work. Our effort in time training them is rewarded with support for our work and minimises our staff costs, so that we can use most of the money raised to support the disadvantaged children, widows and women-led households in need in Africa. The CEO is focussed on operations both in the UK and in Africa. Other staff members in paid roles are focused on our supporters' care, communications, marketing, events, grant funding, training, and supervising our volunteers.

As at 30 April 2023, ACT had one employed staff in the UK, assisted by seven volunteers.

Funds designated for the recruitment of new staff in 2022/23 will come into use in the new financial year with the employment of two new staff members who have taken up their role in July 2023 in the 2023/24 financial year.

Safeguarding

ACT Safeguarding Policy is firmly integrated into the general operation of the Charity, with a named Trustee assigned as responsible for both policy and procedures. Further evidence of the trustees' commitment is their regular review of any issues arising at Board level. Safeguarding is a fixed agenda item at the Trustees bi-monthly meeting. New Trustees are inducted in safeguarding and required to sign the safeguarding policy. UK staff and volunteers are made aware of the policy as part of their induction. Our first international Safeguarding Conference (virtual) was held in January 2023 and brought together trustees and staff in the UK with our overseas partners and their staffs responsible for safeguarding. A safeguarding conference will henceforth be held each year. ACT partners overseas are required to adopt and implement

ACT

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the ACT Safeguarding Policy and be aware of any local or national policies that they may be subject to. Trustees and staff on project monitoring visits overseas are required to review safeguarding with partners, staff and volunteers and follow up whistleblowing from beneficiaries. Learnings from these are shared across the ACT partnership network. Procedures are reviewed regularly internally and by an external consultant annually.

Risk Management and Policies

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, including governance, working overseas, safeguarding, finances, environmental/external, compliance with law and regulation, as well as disaster recovery and risk regulations. These risks are documented in a full risk register and evaluated based on impact and probability using a traffic light system. Changes that might impact a known risk are reported, evaluated, reviewed, and assessed at Trustees bi-monthly meetings, and mitigating action agreed. There is full review of the register every 6 months.

Investment Policy

Our Investment Policy aims to maximise and preserve capital value with a minimum level of risk and to provide income.

Fundraising

We fund our work with income from individual donations, child sponsorships, fundraising events, grants from corporate organisations, churches, trusts and foundations. Our fundraising is not delegated to professional fundraisers or commercial third parties but is managed in-house. Our core costs are mainly staff salaries, with minor expenditure on office costs.

Our volunteers and some supporters participate in events and challenges which are organised by the charity or other major national or international events and are guided by our values and code of conduct at the time of registering their participation in such events and challenges.

The Trustees ensure that the charity's fundraising activities comply with recognised standards of fundraising and charity fundraising law and is open and accountable to protect the charity's reputation and other assets.

Our fundraising strategy is documented and updated annually and ensures that it reflects the charity's ethos and values.

Covid-19

The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on our work in the UK is gradually reducing. We now operate a hybrid office with staff working two days in the Croydon office and three days remotely. We have adapted our systems and now operate with remote technology, enabling staff to carry out their work remotely or from the office. Our staffing level is back to normal, with new volunteers and interns joining our team. Lockdowns have been lifted in all the countries of Africa where we work. Trustees have resumed overseas project monitoring visits to meet up with our partners and beneficiary women and children.

Schools are open and children have returned to school. The school academic years were adjusted to enable the children to catch up with the curriculum, with shorter holidays and longer school terms imposed. The postponed school leaving exams have been completed and students who passed to go to higher education institutions have been able to resume their studies. Normality within the academic system had resumed in most of the countries where we work by the start of 2023. Feedback and reports from our partners and from our recent visits overseas indicated that while the spread of the Covid disease is mostly over, the negative economic impact that resulted remains and, rather unfortunately, is compounded by the global cost-of-living crisis.

Cost of living Crisis

Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 is the cause of the current global Inflation which has crippled the economy of many African countries and led to the high cost of fuel, energy, transportation costs and food inflation. As is often the case, it is the disadvantaged children, orphans and widows who are affected most by these crises. We have increased our funding for the children and widows and doubled the amount of support we give to children at university and higher education, as tuition fees, accommodation and cost of food have gone up. Despite the loss of about 10 percent of our income from cancelled fundraising events, our finances have withstood the challenge of the cost-of-living crisis. This is testimony to the strong support we continue to receive from our core donors and child sponsors.

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(African Child Trust)

ACHIVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Our 5-year plan to 2025 is to increase the number of children, widows, and community projects we carry out by over 100% of its provision in 2020/21. We continue to work through the plan that sets out how we will reach our goals and monitoring the indicators that tell us whether we are making progress. Our achievements in 2022/23 indicate that we are making progress towards this end, but at a slower pace than we had hoped due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic followed by the recent cost of living crisis. These have impacted on our work and affected our progress as described above.

Sponsored Children

In 2022/23 we increased the numbers of orphans and disadvantaged children benefitting directly from our support. Thirty-two (32) additional children received full education and welfare support, bringing the number of children in this category to one thousand seven hundred and twenty-seven (1,727), an increase of nearly two percent (1.9%). The newly supported children are in Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya. Fifty-six percent are girls (56%) which is an increase of 6% from the previous year. In 2022/23 twenty-one percent (21%) of children receiving on-going educational support were attending primary school, fifty-eight per cent (58%) were in secondary school, nearly ten per cent (9.7%) in universities and eight per cent (8.1%) were studying for a diploma or certificate at a tertiary institution. Nearly three percent (2.9%) of the children completed their studies in this period. Among them two (2) graduated from university, nine (9) received national diplomas and three (3) received certificates of learning. In addition to children receiving education and welfare support, five thousand one and twenty (5,120) siblings received welfare support including food, clothing, and health care support. In 2022/23 £66,951 was spent on educational and welfare support for the disadvantaged vulnerable children and orphans.

Widows Project

The Women's whole-life skills programme continues to empower widows in need in the countries where we work. Significant numbers of the women (widows) who had benefitted from the training programme have set up their own small enterprises and trades. Our project in Tanzania combines education support for children with sustainable income generation for families. Each family is provided with a male and female goat or pig. Income is generated from sales of the offspring of the animals and milk products of goats. By selling the offspring of their goats, some families have been able to buy a cow. In 2022/23 there were 136 new animal births, increasing the total number of animals to more than four-fold and provided significant nett income for the supported families.

Countries of Operation

ACT is currently working with ten (10) partner organisations in eight (8) countries of Africa namely Burkina Faso, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.

Missions Visits

There were monitoring missions' trips to Nigeria and Tanzania in 2022/23.

Expenditure

In 2022/23 the expenditure of the charity was £185,654 compared to £152,275 in the previous year, an increase of £33,379 (21.92%). Expenditure on our Dignity (Period Poverty) community project in Nigeria accounts for much of the increase.

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(African Child Trust)

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial information

The Charity's financial activities are set out on pages 8 and 9. The Charity's income during the year amounted to £210,420 and the split is as follows:

<i>Donations:</i>	£
Donations - Child Sponsorship (CSP)	65,919
Donations - Other Gifts	59,537
Grants	61,625
Tax Reclaim	19,429
Others	50

Other income:

Fundraising Events	2,980
Interest Received	880

There has been an increase (3.77 percent) in the Charity's income in 2023, voluntary donations increased compared to 2022.

Reserves Policy

The reserves policy is focussed on achieving the outcomes that are integral to the objects of the charity and mitigating the risks that might accrue as a result. Trustees consider the key measure of sustainability of the charity to be current and future liquidity cover rather than the surplus or deficit accounting position. Consequently, trustees have set an appropriate reserves policy, which is reviewed annually relating to liquidity, based on the balance between readily realisable assets and the cash required to settle grant liabilities and sustain ACT operations for an anticipated period. Integral to the grant liabilities is the need to ensure adequate funds are available to support sponsored children that are continuing in education all through from primary, secondary, and up to university or other tertiary level. This means that in most cases the Charity commits to support each child on our programme, possibly for 14 years or more, while also continuing to take on additional disadvantaged children in need into our programme, as funds permit.

The majority of the charity's income consists of donations and gifts from individuals which can be influenced by predictable factors in the UK such as inflation and the general well-being of the economy. But it is also subject to unexpected events such as the Covid pandemic and the recent rise in the cost of living due to the war in Ukraine. The risks for the overseas beneficiaries include high inflation resulting in increasing education costs, in addition to rising cost of living, weakness in currencies, climate change factors and political unrest, all of which can affect the intended outcomes, as are currently being experienced by the beneficiaries in the countries where we work in Africa.

Trustees therefore require that sufficient funds are retained to cover the costs of the children's educational support, including university fees for each following year. In addition to cover staff salaries for 3 months. Based on the current grants position, this policy requires us to hold between £82k and 88k as funds designated for the children's educational support in the 2023/24 financial year. Trustees have also designated £36,000 to account for 6 months' salary for two new staff expected to take up their roles in July 2023 as part of the strategic investment for growth and 3 months operational running costs.

CSP

CSP is the Child Sponsorship Programme. ACT is contracting for costs in Africa, and to facilitate the process we work through local Partners in-country who must comply with the accounting and reporting requirements, which is reviewed and monitored through the ACT review process in the UK.

ACT funds the education of disadvantaged children and orphans who have completed an application form for support. Children must meet the criteria for child sponsorship as set out in the ACT Operational Handbook which forms part of the collaboration agreement signed with our partners. Our partners facilitate the child support process, oversee care for the families and manage utilisation of the funds received. We send funds to the partners at the beginning of each school term (four monthly). Partners are required to submit accounting returns and reports at the end of each term, using our reporting template. The reports provide updates about the sponsored children and their welfare and progress at school. Approval of the partner return and report triggers release of funds for the following school term.

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Below is a summary of the CSP disbursement to ACT partner organisations.

CSP spending 2022/23

Country	Number of Partners	Number of children as at end of financial year	Amount Spent	Percent of total CSP spend
Burkina Faso	1	26	4,496	5.0%
Congo DR	1	0	0	0%
Kenya	2	56	29,001	32.4%
Malawi	1	0	0	0%
Nigeria	1	86	19,637	21.9%
Tanzania	2	260	21,992	24.6%
Uganda	1	43	9,776	10.9%
Zambia	1	12	4,656	5.2%
Total	10	483	89,558	100

In 2022/23 the CSP spending breaks down as follows:

In Burkina Faso the amount spent was as follows: Hope Mission (£4,496).

In Congo - no fund was sent, as partners are in transition (£0)

In Kenya the amount spent were as follows: JTAN, Webuye (£6,747) and I-Afrika, Lusigetti (£22,254)

In Malawi - no fund was sent. We currently have no partnership in country (£0)

In Nigeria the amount spent was as follows: CDLI, Ipaja (£19,637).

In Tanzania the amount spent was as follows: Tanzania Assemblies of God, Chumbageni (£1,111) and ADA, Kagera (£20,881).

In Uganda the amount spent was as follows: Christian Vision/Elim Church, Jinja (£9,776).

In Zambia the amount spent was as follows: Hands of Mercy, Ndola (£4,656).

Donors

Our expanding base of individual donors form the core of our Child Sponsorship Programme (CSP) with increasing support received from UK Churches. During the year the charity received grants from UK Trusts and other organisations. The Trustees are grateful to all donors who provided funding during the year in support of the Charity. The Trustees would like to acknowledge the following organisations that made grants and donations during the financial year:

Annies Orphans
Billingshurst Family Church
Corporate Messengers
Nilec Limited
The Connop Trust
The Forrester Family Trust
The Haremead Trust

Amlwch Pentecostal Church, Anglesey
Chiltern Church, Sutton
Samaritan's Purse Canada
The Oak Trust
The Souter Charitable Trust
Thriplow Charitable Trust
Tobi Adeyemi Foundation
Warwick African Society

Croydon Tabernacle, Croydon
New Life Christian Centre, Croydon
House of Hope International Church
RCCG Builders House, Croydon
RCCG The Sanctuary, London
RCCG Victory House, London
St George's Church, Waterlooville
Wales AOG, Bangor

Internal Controls

The Trustees continue to uphold and improve on the charity's system of internal controls and accounting procedures to enhance funds accountability. The Trustees would also like to thank the several volunteers who have contributed to the operation of the charity during the year.

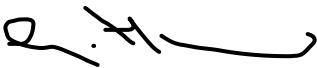
ACT

(African Child Trust)

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

- Increase numbers of beneficiary children supported to twelve thousand by 2025.
- Increase the numbers of widows and women supported through training in sustainable whole life skills to five thousand by 2025.
- Extend the widows sustainable whole life skills programme to all countries where ACT is operating by 2025.
- Support the expansion of the ACT Alumni Initiative and leadership programme across the countries where our alumni exist.
- Enhance quality of life in communities by implementing at least one community project each year

ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES:



Mrs G. Howes

Kunle Onabolu

Dr. K. Onabolu

Date: 22 November 2023

ACT

(African Child Trust)

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of African Child Trust

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of African Child Trust (the Trust) for the year ended 30 April 2023.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the trust are not required to be audited and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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 in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Chaweevan Williams FCCA
Verdant Accountants
20-22 Wenlock Road
London
N1 7GU

Date: 23 November 2023

ACT

(African Child Trust)

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
		£	£	£	£
Receipts					
<i>Voluntary receipts</i>					
		38,720	27,199	65,919	61,889
		43,322	16,215	59,537	52,281
		6,024	55,601	61,625	58,756
		18,929	500	19,429	19,211
		50	-	50	30
<i>Other Trading Activities</i>					
		2,980	-	2,980	9,123
<i>Investments</i>					
		880	-	880	1,491
Total receipts		110,905	99,515	210,420	202,781
Payments					
<i>Cost of raising funds</i>					
	3	18,369	115	18,484	15,725
<i>Costs of charitable activities</i>					
		26,054	40,897	66,951	62,613
		4,748	-	4,748	-
	4	68,209	712	68,921	51,033
		1,289	25,261	26,550	22,904
Total payments		118,669	66,985	185,654	152,275
Net (payments) / receipts		(7,764)	32,530	24,766	50,506
		703	(703)	-	-
Net movement in cash funds		(7,061)	31,827	24,766	50,506
Reconciliation of cash funds					
Total cash funds brought forward		135,523	54,031	189,554	139,048
Total cash funds carried forward		128,462	85,858	214,320	189,554

The notes on pages 11 to 15 form part of these accounts.

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(African Child Trust)


STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

AS AT 30 APRIL 2023

	Notes	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Cash funds						
Cash on deposit		795	108,500	31,300	140,595	-
Cash at bank and in hand		117	19,050	54,558	73,725	189,554
	5	912	127,550	85,858	214,320	189,554
Other monetary assets						
Tax reclaim		-	-	-	-	-
Grants		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
Assets retained for the charity's own use						
Donated computer equipment		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
Liabilities						
PAYE - Tax and NIC		988	-	-	988	845
		988	-	-	988	845

APPROVED BY THE TRUSTEES ON
BEHALF BY:

2023 AND SIGNED ON THEIR



Mrs G. Howes

Kunle Onabolu

Dr. K. Onabolu

The notes on pages 11 to 15 form part of these accounts.

ACT

(African Child Trust)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies are summarised below.

a) **Basis of accounting**

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 using the Receipts and Payments basis.

b) **Fund accounting**

- Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.
- Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for particular purposes.
- Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions of their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

2. TRUSTEE REMUNERATION

Dr. K Onabolu, Trustee received remuneration of £42,000 for the year, together with payment of £2,400 to his pension plan. Payment to Dr K. Onabolu was approved by the Charity Commission. The sealed Order was signed on 15 January 2007. He is remunerated to manage and develop the Charity, to direct its projects, to oversee the administration, to promote it to other organisations, trusts and companies and to communicate effectively with the Charity's many stakeholders. No other Trustee received a remuneration during the year.

ACT

(African Child Trust)

3. COSTS OF GENERATING VOLUNTARY INCOME

	Basis of Allocation	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
		£	£	£	£
Fund raising costs	100%	307	-	307	1,273
Printing, postage and stationery	50%	22	-	22	92
Travel and subsistence	20%	135	-	135	284
Telephone, internet and website costs	40%	322	-	322	1,099
Marketing, entertainment and related expenses	50%	132	-	132	217
Office rent & business rates	25%	2,060	-	2,060	2,073
Insurance	25%	58	-	58	58
Wages, national insurance and pension	20%	13,988	115	14,103	8,989
Training courses	20%	14	-	14	180
Subscriptions	50%	68	-	68	38
Governance costs	25%	324	-	324	578
Accountancy and examiner's fees	25%	180	-	180	180
Office maintenance	25%	474	-	474	480
Bank charges and interest	0%	-	-	-	-
Heat, light and water rates	25%	285	-	285	184
		<u>18,369</u>	<u>115</u>	<u>18,484</u>	<u>15,725</u>

4. UK SUPPORT COSTS OF PROGRAMMES

	Basis of Allocation	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
		£	£	£	£
Printing, postage and stationery	50%	22	-	22	92
Travel and subsistence	80%	538	-	538	1,134
Telephone, internet and website costs	60%	483	-	483	1,648
Marketing, entertainment and related expenses	50%	132	-	132	217
Office rent & business rates	75%	6,180	-	6,180	6,220
Insurance	75%	174	-	174	174
Wages, national insurance and pension	80%	55,954	459	56,413	35,957
Training courses	80%	57	-	57	720
Subscriptions	50%	68	-	68	38
Governance costs	75%	972	-	972	1,734
Accountancy and examiner's fees	75%	540	-	540	540
Office maintenance	75%	1,422	-	1,422	1,439
Bank charges and interest	100%	812	253	1,065	568
Heat, light and water rates	75%	855	-	855	552
		<u>68,209</u>	<u>712</u>	<u>68,921</u>	<u>51,033</u>

ACT

(African Child Trust)

5. MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS

	As at 1 May 2022 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Net transfers £	As at 30 April 2023 £
Restricted funds					
Anicet Donard Medical Scholarships	15,147	6,636	(1,200)	-	20,583
Individual Donations (Community Proj)	1,882	2,495	-	-	4,377
Charles Hayward Foundation	7,713	-	(6,314)	-	1,399
Accenture	278	-	(201)	-	77
Investment One (Dignity)	3,839	550	(2,164)	-	2,225
Samaritan's Purse (Dignity)	-	10,888	-	-	10,888
Jepthah Mulenga-Mutale	3,440	2,200	-	-	5,640
Jesus House Church (WSBT Malawi)	703	-	-	(703)	-
Individual Donations (Widows Proj)	365	200	(525)	-	40
IAfrika	697	2,670	(3,015)	-	352
IAfrika (Mazars)	-	15,000	(15,000)	-	-
CSP Direct	5,341	23,723	(20,565)	-	8,499
Martin Philips Girls' Education Trust	1,945	8,760	(1,146)	-	9,559
Mummy Fowler Fund	240	-	-	-	240
Individual & CAF Donations (CSP)	159	880	-	-	1,039
Ashworth Trust (CSP Nigeria)	197	-	(197)	-	-
Hamead Trust (Ngara)	-	10,000	(2,282)	-	7,718
Peter Stebbings (Tanzania)	5,000	-	(1,348)	-	3,652
Oak Trust	-	750	-	-	750
Souter Trust	5,000	5,000	(7,275)	-	2,725
A Trust	-	2,100	(1,108)	-	992
Tobi Adeyemi Foundation	2,085	7,663	(4,645)	-	5,103
Total restricted funds	54,031	99,515	(66,985)	(703)	85,858
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds	133,340	53,124	(34,367)	(24,547)	127,550
General funds	2,183	57,781	(84,302)	25,250	912
Total unrestricted funds	135,523	110,905	(118,669)	703	128,462
Total funds	189,554	210,420	(185,654)	-	214,320

ACT

(African Child Trust)

RESTRICTED FUNDS

Restricted funds are for the following purposes:

Souter Trust

Grant awarded towards the support of 6 students at university in Africa has been expended.

University Students Support

Donations from individual sponsors to support university students in Africa is on-going and was partially expended.

Anicet Donard Medical School Fund

Fund to support disadvantaged children to study medicine at a university in Africa is on-going and was partially expended.

Tobi Adeyemi Foundation

Grant to support exceptionally gifted children in secondary school in Africa is on-going and was partially expended.

A. Trust

Grant was made to support the education of 8 children was partly expended.

I.Afrika

Donations from individual towards the welfare support of children at I.Afrika are forwarded as received.

Widows Business Skills Training (WBST)

Donations for skills training of widows in Africa were brought forward from the previous year and were partially expended.

Individual Donations (Community Project)

Donations from individual towards Community Projects were partially expended.

Jephthah Fund

Fund to support children born in extremely unfortunate circumstances to an ACT supported school girl. The fund was partially expended.

Martin Phillips Girls Education Fund

Funds to support the education of girls who have received admission to University in Africa was partially expended.

Mummy Fowler Fund

Fund to support the education of a university student in Nigeria was partially expended.

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(African Child Trust)

6. LIABILITIES

There are no outstanding debts at the date of the statement of assets and liabilities, which are owed, and which are secured by an express charge on any of the assets of the charity.

7. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

The Charity leases its office accommodation on non-cancellable operating lease. At 30 April, the charity had annual commitments of £6,988 (2022 - £6,988) under the lease which is renewed yearly.

8. GUARANTEES

No guarantees have been made, which result in an outstanding potential liability as at the year-end date.

9. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Dr. K Onabolu, a Trustee, received remuneration of £42,000 for the year (2022: £42,000), together with payment of £2,400 to his pension plan (2022: £2,400). Further details can be found in note 2 above.

There were no other related party transactions for the year (2022: none).

ACT (AFRICAN CHILD TRUST)

England & Wales - Charity number 1158266

Accounts



ACT

(AFRICAN CHILD TRUST)

**REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

**Maurice William Brindley BSc FCA
For and on behalf of Brindley Millen Ltd
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors
167 Turners Hill
Cheshunt
Hertfordshire
EN8 9BH**

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ACT

(African Child Trust)

TRUSTEES' REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE AFRICAN CHILD TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022

PURPOSE AND IMPACT

Widows, fatherless children, and orphans in women-led households are among the poorest and the most vulnerable group in rural African communities. African Child Trust (ACT) was set up 24 years ago with the vision to support this group, alleviate their poverty and give them hope of a better future. ACT is doing this by advancing the education of the disadvantaged children and orphans and empowering the women in need through training in sustainable income generation programmes to enable them to support their families. We are doing this through such charitable activities within the UK, Africa and worldwide as the trustees think fit. Our goal is to help the children reach their full potential in life by enabling them to access education from primary school to higher education. In this way, they can support their families when they grow up and contribute to the overall development of their communities. In the UK we are engaging young people in global citizenship through our Youth International Development Experience and Awareness (IDEA). We are partnering with schools, churches and youth organisations and providing the young people work experience and volunteering opportunities.

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 and setting goals for the year. Our core activities are:

- Educating disadvantaged children and orphans in Africa from primary school to completion of higher education
- Empowering widows and women-led households in-need (typically grandmothers, single mothers, or guardians) to sustain their families through counselling, literacy as well as business and whole life skills training
- Enriching entire communities by carrying out projects in education, sanitation, and health to improve the welfare of people in the community.
- Engaging UK youth in international development experience and awareness as global citizens and improving their knowledge and understanding of the world.
- Providing placement and volunteering opportunities for UK citizens to support our projects in the UK and in Africa.

Our Impact

Our work is invaluable to the disadvantaged women and children because we are challenging the negative perceptions of widows, fatherless children, and orphans in African communities. Without support many of them will remain in life-long poverty. Our ACT Alumni, comprising several hundreds of youngsters that we supported to completion of their education, is growing. Many of them are gainfully employed, married, and having their own children. Evidence of the impact that our work is making is that so many people within these communities are no longer living in poverty. Many of the children are now able to support their mothers/guardians and siblings. They are also engaged with ACT in giving back to their communities through mentoring and financial support for other disadvantaged children. Our work continues to be relevant and is needed in Africa.

External third-party review of ACT, including a report by Action Planning (2020) have graded our work as *“highly impressive with a huge range of services and support that is changing the lives of many more individuals and communities in Africa and has a reach that is typical of a larger charity.”* Furthermore, the report stated that *“the value for money its projects offer is striking.”*

We recognise that we have a lot more still to do to be able to fulfil our vision.

Overseas Partners

In Africa we work in collaboration with community-based organisations and Christian churches that share our vision of alleviating poverty and supporting the women and children most in need in their community. We are currently operating in Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. In the past two years, our work in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Malawi have been on hold, while we work to develop new local partnerships.

We raise funds from donors to support the education of children and orphans that are disadvantaged, provide training in whole life skills and business skills for women (widows) and fund development projects in education, health, and sanitation to enrich the communities where we work. ACT works with local schools to improve the quality of education provided for pupils. We send funds raised to our partners to implement the objectives of the Charity.

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When planning the activities of the charity the Trustees have given regard to guidance issued on public benefit by the Charity Commission in December 2008.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

ACT (African Child Trust) is an incorporated charity registered on 18 August 2014, Charity registration, No.1158266. Its address is at 40 Tamworth Road, Croydon, Surrey CR0 1XU. It was previously known as A.C.T. (African Child Trust) constituted by Deed of Trust dated 29 March 1999, Charity registration No.1074911, but was removed from the register of charities on 12 June 2015 after its assets and operations were transferred to the newly incorporated charity on 30 April 2015.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The governing document provides for a minimum of three Trustees, with no maximum. The Trustees are appointed by invitation of the Board of Trustees. Trustees are appointed to serve for a period of three years after which they can be re-appointed by a resolution of the Trustees passed at a special meeting. Before taking up trusteeship a potential Trustee is invited to attend a meeting as an observer. New Trustees are given an induction and provided with an information pack and guidance notes about being a Trustee and about the work of the Charity.

The Charity Trustees during the year ended 30 April 2022 were G. Howes, C. Amiaka, A. Olufeyimi, Dr K. Onabolu. Revd P Edwards resigned on 17 May 2022. A new Trustee, Mr Nwabueze Amiaka has been appointed and will join the board in July 2022.

Staff

ACT is volunteer led, with a CEO and two other staff in paid roles coordinating the work of the charity. Volunteering is at the core of how we operate both in the UK and in Africa. Our model is based on minimising our costs, so that we can use most of the money raised to support the disadvantaged children, widows and women-led households in need in Africa. The CEO is focussed on operations both in the UK and in Africa. The other staff in paid roles are focused on our supporters' care, communications, marketing, events, grant funding and supervise our volunteers in support.

As at 30 April 2022, ACT had one employed staff, and a part-time staff in the UK, assisted by seven volunteers.

Funds have been designated for the recruitment of a Business Development Manager, a new senior role responsible for fundraising activities, including grant funding and events. Although widely advertised, the charity was unsuccessful in recruiting for the position, possibly because of a shortage of suitable qualified people and the increased demand for experienced personnel for similar positions. The designated funds will be carried over to the 2022/23 financial year.

Safeguarding

ACT Safeguarding Policy is firmly integrated into the general operation of the Charity, with a named Trustee assigned as the responsible person for both policy and procedures. This commitment is further evidenced by the regular review of any issues at Board level and is a fixed agenda item at the Trustees bi-monthly meeting. New Trustees are inducted in safeguarding and required to sign the safeguarding policy and retain a copy. UK staff and volunteers are made aware of the policy as part of their induction. ACT partners overseas are required to adopt and implement the ACT Safeguarding Policy and be aware of any local or national policies that they may be subject to. Trustees and staff on project monitoring visits overseas are required to review safeguarding with partners, staff and volunteers and follow up whistleblowing from beneficiaries. Learnings made are shared across the ACT partnership network and procedures are regularly reviewed internally and by an external consultant annually.

Risk Management and Policies

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, including governance, working overseas, safeguarding, finances, environmental/external, compliance with law and regulation, as well as disaster recovery and risk regulations. These risks are documented in a full risk register and evaluated based on impact and probability using a traffic light system. Changes that might impact a known risk are reported, evaluated, reviewed and assessed at Trustees bi-monthly meetings, and mitigating action agreed. There is full review of the register every 6 months.

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Investment Policy

Our Investment Policy aims to maximise and preserve capital value with a minimum level of risk and to provide income.

Fundraising

We fund our work with income from individual donations, child sponsorships, fundraising events, grants from corporate organisations, churches, trusts and foundations. Our fundraising is not delegated to professional fundraisers or commercial third parties but is managed in-house. Our core costs are mainly staff salaries, with minor expenditure on office costs.

Our volunteers and some supporters participate in events and challenges which are organised by the charity or other major national or international events and are guided by our values and code of conduct at the time of registering their participation in such events and challenges.

The Trustees ensure that the charity's fundraising activities comply with recognised standards of fundraising and charity fundraising law and is open and accountable in order to protect the charity's reputation and other assets.

Our fundraising strategy is documented and updated annually and ensures that it reflects the charity's ethos and values.

Covid-19

The Covid-19 pandemic impacted our work in several ways. We operated a virtual office and our staff had to work from home in line with government directives. A consequence of this was reduced staffing, as some of our volunteers struggled to adapt to virtual working and some suffered mental health issues. Lockdowns across countries in Africa hindered our ability to travel to monitor projects and meet our beneficiaries and partners in-country. Feedback and reports from our partners indicated that the children, widows, and the households we support were adversely affected by the pandemic. Children's loss of school time disrupted the school calendar when schools reopened late in 2021/early 2022, with consequence for the educational advancement of the children. There were some pregnancies among the girls with consequences for their education and long-term future. The widows/women trades were hindered and affected their ability to generate income to support their family, amidst rising cost of food, which has been compounded by the war in Ukraine, rising cost of fuel and high inflation. Our offices reopened in March 2022. We now operate flexible working with staff and volunteers able to choose which days they work from the office. Despite the loss of about 10 percent of our income from cancelled fundraising events, our finances have withstood the challenge of the pandemic. This is testimony to the strong support we continue to receive from our core donors and child sponsors.

ACHIVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Our 5-year plan to 2025 is to increase the number of children, widows, and community projects we carry out by over 100% of its provision in 2020/21. We are following the roadmap that sets out how we plan to reach our goals and the indicators we monitor to tell us whether we are making progress. Our achievements in 2021/22 continues our progress towards this end, but at a slower pace than we had hoped, due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on our work as described above.

Sponsored Children

In 2021/22 we increased the numbers of orphans and disadvantaged children benefitting directly from our support. A hundred and thirty (130) additional children received full education and welfare support, bringing the number of children in this category to one thousand six hundred and ninety-five (1,695), an increase of nearly three percent (8.3%). The newly supported children are in Tanzania and Burkina Faso. Just under fifty percent are girls (49.7%) which is a small decrease of 0.6% from the previous year. In 2021/22 just under twenty-five percent (24.7%) of children receiving on-going educational support were attending primary school, fifty-eight per cent (58.1%) were in secondary school, five per cent (5%) in universities and nine per cent (9.2%) were studying for a diploma or certificate at a tertiary institution. Just over three percent (3.3%) of the children completed their studies in this period. Among them five (5) graduated from university, eight (8) received national diplomas and two (2) received certificates of learning. In addition to children receiving education and welfare support, nearly five thousand (4,971) siblings received welfare support including food, clothing, and health care support. In 2021/22 £62,613 was spent on educational and welfare support for the disadvantaged vulnerable children and orphans.

Widows Project

The Women's whole-life skills programme continues to empower needy widows in the countries where we work. Significant numbers of the women (widows) who had benefitted from the training programme have set up their own enterprises and trades. Our project in Tanzania combines education support for children with sustainable income generation for families. Each family is provided with a male and female goat or pig. Income is generated from sales of the offspring

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of the animals and milk products of goats. By selling the offspring of their goats, some families have been able to buy a cow. In 2021/22 there were 116 new births of pigs and goats, increasing the total number of animals four-fold and provided significant income for the supported families.

Countries of Operation

ACT is currently working with ten (10) partner organisations in eight (8) countries of Africa namely Burkina Faso, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.

Missions Visits

There were no mission trips in 2021/22 due to the Covid pandemic.

Expenditure

In 2021/22 the expenditure of the charity was £152,275 compared to £144,892 in the previous year, an increase of £7,383 (5.1%). Our expenditure would have been higher had staff and trustees been to carry out monitoring and missions' visits which had to be cancelled because of the Covid pandemic lockdowns in some of the African countries and UK travel restrictions for the same reasons. For these reasons there was also less spend on community projects and reduced cost of fundraising due to cancellation of all our fundraising events.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial information

The Charity's financial activities are set out on pages 8 and 9. The Charity's income during the year amounted to £202,781 and the split is as follows:

<i>Donations:</i>	£
Donations - Child Sponsorship (CSP)	61,889
Donations - Other Gifts	52,281
Grants	58,756
Tax Reclaim	19,211
Others	30
<i>Other income:</i>	
Fundraising Events	9,123
Interest Received	1,491

There has been an increase (16.2 percent) in the Charity's income in 2022, voluntary donations increased compared to 2021.

Reserves Policy

The Reserves policy is focussed on achieving the outcomes the charity is focussed upon and mitigating the risks that might accrue to this program. Trustees are aware of the need to ensure adequate funds are available to support all sponsored children throughout their primary, secondary and university or other tertiary education. This has required that in some cases the Charity will commit to support a child for upwards of 14 years, while continuing to take on additional children into our programme.

The majority of the charity's income is from individuals gifts and donations which can be influenced by predictable factors in the UK such as inflation and the general well-being of the economy. But it is also subject to unexpected events such as the Covid pandemic and the recent rise in the cost of living due to the war in Ukraine. The risks for the overseas beneficiaries include weakness in currencies, climate change factors and political unrest, all of which can affect the intended outcomes.

Trustees therefore require that sufficient funds are retained to cover cost of child sponsorship and university students support for each following year and staff salaries for 3 months. For this reason, a total of £85,000 has been designated for the 2022/23 financial year for this purpose of which, £3,000 will go towards educational support for 15 additional children in Uganda. A further £10,000 is being held to complete on going Community Projects. Trustees have also set aside £42,000 to increase our staffing needs from one to two full time and one part-time staff to improve our capacity and support our growth to deliver our 5-year plan. Furthermore, £3,000 is earmarked for our CRM service fee and £3,000 for our alumni leadership training project.

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CSP

CSP is the Child Sponsorship Programme. ACT is contracting for costs in Africa, and to facilitate the process we work through local Partners in-country who must comply with the accounting and reporting requirements, which is reviewed and monitored through the ACT review process in the UK.

ACT funds the education of disadvantaged children and orphans who have completed an application form for support. Children must meet the criteria for child sponsorship as set out in the ACT Operational Handbook which forms part of the collaboration agreement signed with our partners. Our partners facilitate the child support process, oversee care for the families and manage utilisation of the funds received. We send funds to the partners at the beginning of each school term (four monthly). Partners are required to submit accounting returns and reports at the end of each term, using our template. The reports provide updates about the sponsored children and their welfare and progress at school. Approval of the partner return and report triggers release of funds for the following school term.

Below is a summary of the CSP disbursement to ACT partner organisations.

CSP spending 2021/22

Country	Number of Partners	Number of children as at end of financial year	Amount Spent	Percent of total CSP spend
Burkina Faso	1	26	2,915	3.4%
Congo DR	1	0	0	0%
Kenya	2	58	26,926	31.6%
Malawi	1	0	0	0%
Nigeria	1	109	23,073	27.1%
Tanzania	2	243	22,560	26.5%
Uganda	1	38	5,992	7.0%
Zambia	1	14	3,788	4.4%
Total	10	488	85,254	100

In 2021/22 the CSP spending breaks down as follows:

In Burkina Faso the amount spent was as follows: Hope Mission (£2,915).

In Congo - no fund was sent, as partners are in transition (£0)

In Kenya the amount spent were as follows: JTAN, Webuye (£6,262) and I-Afrika, Lusigetti (£20, 664)

In Malawi - no fund was sent. We currently have no partnership in country (£0)

In Nigeria the amount spent was as follows: CDLI, Ipaja (£23,073).

In Tanzania the amount spent was as follows: Tanzania Assemblies of God, Chumbageni (£1,113), Justice & Peace, Kagera (£19,210) and Rwinyana Orphans Support Project (£2,237)

In Uganda the amount spent was as follows: Christian Vision/Elim Church, Jinja (£5,992).

In Zambia the amount spent was as follows: Hands of Mercy, Ndola (£3,788).

Donors

Our expanding base of individual donors form the core of our Child Sponsorship Programme (CSP) with increasing support received from UK Churches. During the year the charity received grants from UK Trusts and other organisations. The Trustees are grateful to all donors who provided funding during the year in support of the Charity. The Trustees would like to acknowledge the following organisations that made grants and donations during the financial year:

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Annies Orphans
Corporate Messengers
Charles Hayward Foundation
Gilchrist Educational Trust
Nilec Limited
The Ashworth Trust
The Connop Trust

Amlwch Pentecostal Church, Anglesey
Chiltern Church, Sutton
Croydon Tabernacle, Croydon
KAO Project Solutions Limited
The Betty Messenger Charitable Trust
The Souter Charitable Trust
The Peter Stebbings Memorial Charity
Tobi Adeyemi Foundation

City Hill, London
New Life Christian Centre, Croydon
House of Hope International Church
RCCG Builders House, Croydon
RCCG The Sanctuary, London
RCCG Victory House, London
St George's Church, Waterlooville
Wales AOG, Bangor

Internal Controls

The Trustees continue to uphold and improve on the charity's system of internal controls and accounting procedures to enhance funds accountability. The Trustees would also like to thank the several volunteers who have contributed to the operation of the charity during the year.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

- Increase numbers of beneficiary children supported to twelve thousand by 2025.
- Increase the numbers of widows and women supported through training in sustainable whole life skills to five thousand by 2025.
- Extend the widows sustainable whole life skills programme to all countries where ACT is operating by 2025.
- Support the ACT Alumni Initiative and leadership programme across all countries so that they are operational and able to contribute to the growth plans significantly by 2025.
- Enhance quality of life in communities by implementing at least one community project each year

ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES:



Gwenneth HoWes (Nov 1, 2022 14:46 GMT)

Mrs G. Howes

Date: Nov 1, 2022 2022



K. Onabolu (Nov 1, 2022 13:17 GMT)

Dr. K. Onabolu

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Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of African Child Trust

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of African Child Trust (the Trust) for the year ended 30 April 2022.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the trust are not required to be audited and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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 in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.


mwbrindley (Nov 1, 2022 15:29 GMT)

Maurice Brindley BSc FCA

**For and on behalf of Brindley Millen Ltd
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors
167 Turners Hill
Cheshunt
Hertfordshire
EN8 9BH**

Date: Nov 1, 2022 2022

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RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
		£	£	£	£
Receipts					
<i>Voluntary receipts</i>					
Donations - Child Sponsorship (CSP)		38,626	23,263	61,889	68,374
Donations - Other Gifts		42,780	9,501	52,281	55,118
Grants		10,143	48,613	58,756	21,994
Tax Reclaim		19,211	-	19,211	21,020
Others		30	-	30	-
<i>Other Trading Activities</i>					
Fundraising Events		9,123	-	9,123	8,050
<i>Investments</i>					
Interest Received		1,491	-	1,491	-
Total receipts		121,404	81,377	202,781	174,556
Payments					
<i>Cost of raising funds</i>					
Fundraising Costs	3	15,629	96	15,725	17,259
<i>Costs of charitable activities</i>					
Child Sponsorship Programme (CSP)		24,134	38,479	62,613	64,512
Missions Programme		-	-	-	-
UK Support Cost of Programmes	4	50,589	444	51,033	57,496
Community Project		190	22,714	22,904	5,625
Total payments		90,542	61,733	152,275	144,892
Net (payments) / receipts		30,862	19,644	50,506	29,664
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in cash funds		30,862	19,644	50,506	29,664
Reconciliation of cash funds					
Total cash funds brought forward		104,661	34,387	139,048	109,384
Total cash funds carried forward		135,523	54,031	189,554	139,048

The notes on pages 10 to 14 form part of these accounts.

ACT


(African Child Trust)

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

AS AT 30 APRIL 2022

	Notes	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Cash funds						
Cash on deposit		-	-	-	-	80,000
Cash at bank and in hand		2,183	133,340	54,031	189,554	59,048
	5	2,183	133,340	54,031	189,554	139,048
Other monetary assets						
Tax reclaim		-	-	-	-	-
Grants		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
Assets retained for the charity's own use						
Donated computer equipment		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
Liabilities						
PAYE - Tax and NIC		845	-	-	845	815
		845	-	-	845	815

APPROVED BY THE TRUSTEES ON Nov 1, 2022 2022 AND SIGNED ON THEIR BEHALF BY:


Gwenneth Howes (Nov 1, 2022 14:46 GMT)

Mrs G. Howes


K. Onabolu (Nov 1, 2022 13:17 GMT)

Dr. K. Onabolu

The notes on pages 10 to 14 form part of these accounts.

ACT

(African Child Trust)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies are summarised below.

a) **Basis of accounting**

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 using the Receipts and Payments basis.

b) **Fund accounting**

- Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.
- Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for particular purposes.
- Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions of their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

2. TRUSTEE REMUNERATION

Dr. K Onabolu, Trustee received remuneration of £42,000 for the year, together with payment of £2,400 to his pension plan. Payment to Dr K. Onabolu was approved by the Charity Commission. The sealed Order was signed on 15 January 2007. He is remunerated to manage and develop the Charity, to direct its projects, to oversee the administration, to promote it to other organisations, trusts and companies and to communicate effectively with the Charity's many stakeholders. No other Trustee received a remuneration during the year.

ACT

(African Child Trust)

3. COSTS OF GENERATING VOLUNTARY INCOME

	Basis of Allocation	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
		£	£	£	£
Fund raising costs	100%	1,273	-	1,273	-
Printing, postage and stationery	50%	92	-	92	130
Travel and subsistence	20%	284	-	284	756
Telephone, internet and website costs	40%	1,099	-	1,099	212
Marketing, entertainment and related expenses	50%	217	-	217	1,780
Office rent & business rates	25%	2,073	-	2,073	2,488
Insurance	25%	58	-	58	88
Wages, national insurance and pension	20%	8,893	96	8,989	10,935
Training courses	20%	180	-	180	-
Subscriptions	50%	38	-	38	38
Governance costs	25%	578	-	578	360
Accountancy and examiner's fees	25%	180	-	180	182
Office maintenance	25%	480	-	480	30
Bank charges and interest	0%	-	-	-	137
Heat, light and water rates	25%	184	-	184	123
		<u>15,629</u>	<u>96</u>	<u>15,725</u>	<u>17,259</u>

4. UK SUPPORT COSTS OF PROGRAMMES

	Basis of Allocation	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
		£	£	£	£
Printing, postage and stationery	50%	92	-	92	130
Travel and subsistence	80%	1,134	-	1,134	3,023
Telephone, internet and website costs	60%	1,648	-	1,648	318
Marketing, entertainment and related expenses	50%	217	-	217	1,780
Office rent & business rates	75%	6,220	-	6,220	5,805
Insurance	75%	174	-	174	133
Wages, national insurance and pension	80%	35,573	384	35,957	43,742
Training courses	80%	720	-	720	-
Subscriptions	50%	38	-	38	38
Governance costs	75%	1,734	-	1,734	1,080
Accountancy and examiner's fees	75%	540	-	540	545
Office maintenance	75%	1,439	-	1,439	70
Bank charges and interest	100%	508	60	568	546
Heat, light and water rates	75%	552	-	552	286
		<u>50,589</u>	<u>444</u>	<u>51,033</u>	<u>57,496</u>

ACT

(African Child Trust)

5. MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS

	At 1st May 2021	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	30th April 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds:					
Anicet Donard Medical Scholarships	12,769	3,250	(872)	-	15,147
Individual Donations (Community Proj)	1,892	-	(10)	-	1,882
Charles Hayward Foundation	-	15,000	(7,287)	-	7,713
Accenture	-	278	0	-	278
Investment One	-	3,839	0	-	3,839
Jepthah Fund	2,452	1,200	(212)	-	3,440
Jesus House Church (WBST)	703	-	0	-	703
Individual & CAF Donations (WBST)	-	775	(410)	-	365
IAfrika	1,034	1,720	(2,057)	-	697
IAfrika (Mazars)	-	15,000	(15,000)	-	-
CSP Direct	6,022	20,293	(20,974)	-	5,341
Martin Philips Girls' Education Trust	2,246	400	(701)	-	1,945
Mummy Fowler Fund	240	-	0	-	240
Individual & CAF Donations (CSP)	81	1,010	(932)	-	159
Gilchrist Educational Trust	-	1,500	(1,500)	-	-
Ashworth Trust (CSP Nigeria)	-	3,000	(2,803)	-	197
B. Trust (Kenya)	1,600	-	(1,600)	-	-
The Peter Stebbings Memorial Charity	-	5,000	0	-	5,000
Tobi Adeyemi Foundation	3,348	4,112	(5,375)	-	2,085
Souter Trust	-	5,000	0	-	5,000
Thriplow Charitable Trust (Uni)	2,000	-	(2,000)	-	-
Total Restricted funds:	34,387	81,377	(61,733)	-	54,031
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated Funds	95,604	62,286	(24,550)	-	133,340
General Funds	9,057	59,118	(65,992)	-	2,183
Total Unrestricted funds:	104,661	121,404	(90,542)	-	135,523
Total Funds:	139,048	202,781	(152,275)	-	189,554

ACT

(African Child Trust)

RESTRICTED FUNDS

Restricted funds are for the following purposes:

Souter Trust

Grant awarded towards the support of 6 students at university in Africa has been expended.

University Students Support

Donations from individual sponsors to support university students in Africa is on-going and was partially expended.

Anicet Donard Medical School Fund

Fund to support disadvantaged children to study medicine at a university in Africa is on-going and was partially expended.

Tobi Adeyemi Foundation

Grant to support exceptionally gifted children in secondary school in Africa is on-going and was partially expended.

B. Trust

Grant was made to support the education of 8 children in Kenya was partly expended.

I.Afrika

Donations from individual towards the welfare support of children at I.Afrika are forwarded as received.

Widows Business Skills Training (WBST)

Donations for skills training of widows in Africa were brought forward from the previous year and were partially expended.

Individual Donations (Community Project)

Donations from individual towards Community Projects were partially expended.

Thriplow Charitable Trust

Grant to support education of university students in Africa is expended.

Jephthah Fund

Fund was partially expended.

Martin Phillips Girls Education Fund

Funds to support the education of girls who have received admission to University in Africa was partially expended.

Mummy Fowler Fund

Fund to support the education of a university student in Nigeria was partially expended.

ACT

(African Child Trust)

6. LIABILITIES

There are no outstanding debts at the date of the statement of assets and liabilities, which are owed, and which are secured by an express charge on any of the assets of the charity.

7. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

The Charity leases its office accommodation on non-cancellable operating lease. At 30 April, the charity had annual commitments of £6,988 (2021 - £6,988) under the lease which is renewed yearly.

8. GUARANTEES

No guarantees have been made, which result in an outstanding potential liability as at the year-end date.

9. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Dr. K Onabolu, a Trustee, received remuneration of £42,000 for the year (2021: £42,000), together with payment of £2,400 to his pension plan (2021: £2,240). Further details can be found in note 2 above.

There were no other related party transactions for the year (2021: none).

ACT (AFRICAN CHILD TRUST)

England & Wales - Charity number 1158266

Accounts



ACT

(AFRICAN CHILD TRUST)

**REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2021

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

**Maurice William Brindley BSc FCA
For and on behalf of Brindley Millen Ltd
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors
167 Turners Hill
Cheshunt
Hertfordshire
EN8 9BH**

ACT

(African Child Trust)

ACT

(African Child Trust)

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ACT

(AFRICAN CHILD TRUST)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

TRUSTEES: REVD P. EDWARDS - CHAIR
C. AMIAKA
G. HOWES
A. OLUFHEYIMI
DR. K. ONABOLU (DIRECTOR)

ADDRESS: 40 TAMWORTH ROAD
CROYDON
SURREY
CR0 1XU

BANKERS: HSBC BANK PLC
9 WELLESLEY ROAD
CROYDON
SURREY
CR9 2AA

METRO BANK PLC
CENTRALE SHOPPING CENTRE
CROYDON
SURREY
CR0 1TY

CHARITY REGISTRATION NO: 1158266

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER: MAURICE W. BRINDLEY BSc FCA

ACT

(African Child Trust)

TRUSTEES' REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE AFRICAN CHILD TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2021

PURPOSE AND IMPACT

Widows, fatherless children, and orphans in women-led households are among the poorest and the most vulnerable group in rural African communities. African Child Trust (ACT) was set up 23 years ago with the vision to support this group, alleviate their poverty and give them hope of a better future. ACT is doing this by advancing the education of the disadvantaged children and orphans and empowering the women in need through training in sustainable income generation programmes to enable them to support their families. We are doing this through such charitable activities within the UK, Africa and worldwide as the trustees think fit. By enabling them to access education from primary school to higher education, our goal is to help the children to reach their full potential in life, so that they can support their families when they grow up and contribute to the overall well-being and development of their communities. In the UK we are engaging young people in global citizenship by raising awareness of our work in schools and youth organisations and providing them with experience of international development through our work.

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 and setting the goals for the year. Our core activities are:

- Educating disadvantaged children and orphans in Africa from primary school to completion of higher education
- Empowering widows and women-led households in-need (typically grandmothers, single mothers, or guardians) to sustain their families through counselling, literacy and business skills training
- Enriching entire communities by providing technical and material support and carrying out projects in education, sanitation and health to improve the welfare of people in the community.
- Engaging UK youth in international development experience and awareness as global citizens and improving their knowledge and understanding of the world.
- Providing international placement and volunteering opportunities for UK citizens to support our projects in Africa.

Our Impact

Our work is invaluable to the disadvantaged women and children because we are challenging the negative perceptions of widows, fatherless children, and orphans in African communities. Without support many of them will remain in life-long poverty. Our ACT Alumni, comprising several hundreds of youngsters that we supported to completion of their education, is growing. Many of them are gainfully employed, married, and having their own children. That they are no longer living in poverty is evidence of the impact of our work. They are now able to support their mothers/guardians and siblings. They are also actively engaged with ACT and giving back to their communities through mentoring and financial support for other disadvantaged children in their communities. Our work continues to be relevant and is needed in Africa.

An externally commissioned organisational review and growth plan report in 2020 stated as follows:

“ACT is a highly impressive charity providing a huge range of services and support that is changing the lives of many more individuals and communities in Africa. The current turnover shows ACT is a small charity, but its reach is typical of a larger charity, the value for money its projects offer is striking.” (Action Planning)

We recognise that we have a lot more still to do to be able to fulfil our vision.

Overseas Partners

In Africa we work in collaboration with community-based organisations and Christian churches that share our vision of alleviating poverty and supporting the women and children most in need in their community. We are currently operating in Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.

We raise funds from donors to support the education of children and orphans that are disadvantaged, provide training in whole life skills and business skills for women (widows) and fund development projects in education, health, and sanitation to enrich communities where we work. In particular, ACT supports local schools to improve the quality of education provided for pupils. We send funds raised to our partners to implement the objectives of the Charity.

When planning the activities of the charity the Trustees have given regard to guidance issued on public benefit by the Charity Commission in December 2008.

ACT

(African Child Trust)

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

ACT (African Child Trust) is an incorporated charity registered on 18 August 2014, Charity registration, No.1158266. Its address is at 40 Tamworth Road, Croydon, Surrey CR0 1XU. It was previously known as A.C.T. (African Child Trust) constituted by Deed of Trust dated 29 March 1999, Charity registration No.1074911, but was removed from the register of charities on 12 June 2015 after its assets and operations had been transferred to the newly incorporated charity on 30 April 2015.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The governing document provides for a minimum of three Trustees, with no maximum. The Trustees are appointed by invitation of the Board of Trustees. Trustees are appointed to serve for a period of three years after which they can be re-appointed by a resolution of the Trustees passed at a special meeting. Before taking up trusteeship a potential Trustee is invited to attend a meeting as an observer.

New Trustees are given an induction and provided with an information pack and guidance notes about being a Trustee and about the work of the Charity.

The Charity Trustees during the year ended 30 April 2021 were:

Revd P Edwards	A. Olufeyimi
C. Amiaka	Dr K. Onabolu
G. Howes	

Staff

ACT is volunteer led, with a CEO and an Office Manager in paid roles coordinating the work of the charity. Volunteering is at the core of how we operate both in the UK and in Africa. Our model is based on minimising our costs, so that we can use most of the money raised to support the disadvantaged children, widows and women-led households in need in Africa. The CEO is focussed on our work in Africa and oversees fundraising and operations. The Office Manager is focused on supporters' care and supervises our volunteers in communications, marketing, events, and grant funding support.

As at 30 April 2021, ACT had one employed staff in the UK assisted by seven volunteers.

Risk Management and Policies

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, including governance, working overseas, safeguarding, finances, environmental/external, compliance with law and regulation, as well as disaster recovery and risk regulations. These risks are reviewed and assessed by Trustees at their bi-monthly meetings.

ACT has a Safeguarding Policy which is reviewed regularly. Our partners in Africa are required to adopt and implement this policy. Our Investment Policy aims to maximise and preserve capital value with a minimum level of risk and to provide income.

Fundraising

We fund our work with income from individual donations, child sponsorships, fundraising events, grants from corporate organisations, churches, grant giving trusts and foundations. Our fundraising is not delegated to professional fundraisers or commercial third parties, it is managed in-house. Our core costs are mainly staff salaries, with minor expenditure on office costs.

Our volunteers and some supporters participate in events and challenges which are organised by the charity or other major national or international events and are guided by our values and code of conduct at the time of registering their participation in such events and challenges.

The Trustees ensure that the charity's fundraising activities comply with recognised standards of fundraising and charity fundraising law and is open and accountable in order to protect the charity's reputation and other assets.

Our fundraising strategy is documented and updated annually and ensures that it reflects the charity's ethos and values.

ACT

(African Child Trust)

Covid-19

The Covid-19 pandemic has impacted our work in several ways. Our staff have been working from home since the first UK locked down in March 2020, in line with government directives to ensure the safety of our staff and volunteers. We have been operating a virtual office, a consequence of which is reduced staffing, as some of our volunteers have no access to computers or laptops, which we were unable to provide. This has made access to files and documents more difficult. Lockdowns across countries in Africa has hindered our ability to travel to monitor projects and meet our beneficiaries and partners in-country. Feedback and reports from our partners indicated that the children, widows, and the households we support have been adversely affected by the impact of the pandemic. Children's loss of school time has meant the school year had to be extended in some countries, with consequence for the educational advancement of the children. There has been an increase in pregnancies among the girls, with consequences for their education and long-term future. The widows/women trades were hindered and affected their ability to generate income to support their family, amidst rising cost of food. The children are hungry, they miss the daily school meal which for most of them is their main meal for the day. We were able to provide all the families with palliative support through our partners, who responded brilliantly to support the most desperate in their community. Despite the loss of about 10 percent of our income from cancelled fundraising events, our finances withstood the challenge of the pandemic. This is testimony to the strong support we continue to receive from our core donors and child sponsors.

ACHIVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Our new 5-year plan to 2025 is to increase the number of children, widows, and community projects we carry out by over 100% of its current provision. We have a roadmap that sets out how we plan to reach our goals and the indicators we monitor to tell us whether we are making progress. Our achievements in 2020/21 continues our progress towards this end, but at a slower pace than we had hoped, due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on our work as described above.

Sponsored Children

In 2020/21 we increased the numbers of orphans and disadvantaged children receiving full educational support and support. In total forty-seven (47) additional children received full educational support, bringing the number of children in this category to one thousand five hundred and sixty-five (1,565), an increase of nearly three percent (3.1%). The newly supported children are mainly in Nigeria, Tanzania, and Kenya. Just over fifty percent are girls (50.2%) which is unchanged from the previous year. In 2020/21 twenty-two percent (22.4%) of children receiving on-going educational support were attending primary school, sixty-one per cent (61.3%) were in secondary school, four per cent (4%) in universities and nearly nine per cent (8.6%) were studying for a diploma or certificate at a tertiary institution. Among the children who had completed their studies in this period, five (5) graduated from university, two (2) received national diplomas and ten (10) others were awarded certificates of learning from a tertiary institution. In addition to the children receiving educational support, a further four thousand, four hundred and ninety (4,490) siblings of the fully sponsored kids received welfare (food, clothing, and health) support. In 2020/21 £64,512 was spent on educational and welfare support for the disadvantaged vulnerable children and orphans.

Widows Project

The Women's whole-life skills programme continues to empower needy widows in the countries where we work. Significant numbers of the women (widows) who had benefitted from the training programme have set up their own enterprises and trades. Our project in Kagera, Tanzania combines education support for children with sustainable income generation for families. Each family is provided with a male and female goat or pig. Income is generated from sales of the offspring of the animals and milk products of goats. By selling the offspring of their goats, some families have been able to buy a cow. In 2020/21 there were 116 new births of pigs and goats, increasing the total number of animals three-fold and provided significant income for the supported families.

Countries of Operation

ACT is currently working with ten (10) partner organisations in eight (8) countries of Africa namely Burkina Faso, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.

ACT

(African Child Trust)

Missions Visits

There were no mission trips in 2020/21 due to the Covid pandemic.

Expenditure

In 2020/21 the expenditure of the charity was £144,892 compared to £150,143 in the previous year, a decrease of £5,251 (3.5%). This was due mainly to staff and trustees' inability to carry out any missions' trip because of the Covid pandemic and lockdowns less spend on community projects and reduced cost of fundraising due to cancellation of all our fundraising events.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial information

The Charity's financial activities are set out on pages 8 and 9. The Charity's income during the year amounted to £174,556 and the split is as follows:

<i>Donations:</i>	£
Donations - Child Sponsorship (CSP)	68,374
Donations - Other Gifts	55,118
Grants	21,994
Tax Reclaim	21,020
<i>Other income:</i>	
Fundraising Events	8,050

There has been an increase (3.16 percent) in the Charity's income in 2021, voluntary donations increased compared to 2020.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees are aware of the need to ensure adequate funds are available to support all sponsored children throughout their primary, secondary and university or other tertiary education. This has required that in some cases the Charity will commit to support a child for upwards of 14 years, while continuing to take on additional children into our programme. The Trustees therefore require that sufficient funds are retained to cover cost of child sponsorship and university students support for each following year and staff salaries for 3 months. For this reason, a total of £70,000 has been designated for the 2021/22 financial year for this purpose. Trustees have set aside £26,000 for funding additional staff position to increase our capacity and be able to deliver our 5-year plan.

CSP

CSP is the Child Sponsorship Programme. ACT is contracting for costs in Africa, and to facilitate the process we work through local Partners in-country who must comply with the accounting and reporting requirements, which is reviewed and monitored through the ACT review process in the UK.

ACT funds the education of disadvantaged children and orphans who have completed an application form for support. Children must meet the criteria for child sponsorship as set out in the ACT Operational Handbook which forms part of the collaboration agreement signed with our partners. Our partners facilitate the child support process, oversee care for the families and manage utilisation of the funds received. We send funds to the partners at the beginning of each school term (four monthly). Partners are required to submit accounting returns and reports at the end of each term, using our template. The reports provide updates about the sponsored children and their welfare and progress at school. Approval of the partner return and report triggers release of funds for the following school term.

ACT

(African Child Trust)

Below is a summary of the CSP disbursement to ACT partner organisations.

CSP spending 2020/21

Country	Number of Partners	Number of children as at end of financial year	Amount Spent	Percent of total CSP spend
Burkina Faso	1	0	0	0%
Congo DR	1	4	430	0.6%
Kenya	2	59	13,368	19.1%
Malawi	1	4	0	0%
Nigeria	1	103	22,115	31.5%
Tanzania	3	239	22,670	32.4%
Uganda	1	46	8,443	12.0%
Zambia	1	16	3,112	4.4%
Total	11	471	70,138	100

In 2021/22 the CSP spending breaks down as follows:

Burkina Faso – no fund was sent. We are transitioning to a new partner (£0).

In Congo DR the amount spent was as follows: Lighthouse, Lubumbashi (£430).

In Kenya the amount spent were as follows: JFAN, Webuye (£6,152) and I-Afrika, Lusigetti (£7,216)

In Malawi - no fund was sent as partner did not submit an accounting return (£0)

In Nigeria the amount spent was as follows: ICL, Ipaja (£22,115).

In Tanzania the amount spent was as follows: Tanzania Assemblies of God, Chumbageni (£2,236), Justice & Peace, Kagera (£16,018) and Rwinyana Orphans Support Project (£4,416)

In Uganda the amount spent was as follows: Christian Vision/Elim Church, Jinja (£8,443).

In Zambia the amount spent was as follows: Hands of Mercy, Ndola (£3,112).

Donors

Our expanding base of individual donors form the core of our Child Sponsorship Programme (CSP) with increasing support received from UK Churches. During the year the charity received grants from UK Trusts and other organisations. The Trustees are grateful to all donors who provided funding during the year in support of the Charity. The Trustees would like to acknowledge the following organisations that made grants and donations during the financial year:

Annies Orphans	Amlwch Pentecostal Church, Anglesey	City Hill, London
Connop Trust	Chiltern Church, Sutton	New Life Christian Centre, Croydon
Corporate Messengers	Croydon Tabernacle, Croydon	RCCG Builders House, Croydon
KAO Project Solutions Limited	St James's Place Foundation	RCCG The Sanctuary, London
Thriplow Charitable Trust	Tobi Adeyemi Foundation	RCCG Victory House, London
	Wales AOG, Bangor	St George's Church, Waterlooville

ACT

(African Child Trust)

Internal Controls

The Trustees continue to uphold and improve on the charity's system of internal controls and accounting procedures to enhance funds accountability. The Trustees would also like to thank the several volunteers who have contributed to the operation of the charity during the year.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

- Increase numbers of beneficiary children supported to twelve thousand by 2025.
- Increase the numbers of widows and women supported through training in sustainable whole life skills to five thousand by 2025.
- Extend the widows sustainable whole life skills programme to all countries where ACT is operating by 2025.
- Support the ACT Alumni Initiative and leadership programme across all countries so that they are operational and able to contribute to the growth plans significantly by 2025.
- Enhance quality of life in communities by implementing at least one community project each year

ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES:


Pauline Edwaeds (Sep 30, 2021 13:23 GMT+1)

Revd. P. Edwards

Date: Sep 30, 2021 2021


Kunle Onabolu (Sep 30, 2021 19:08 GMT+1)

Dr. K. Onabolu

ACT

(African Child Trust)

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of African Child Trust

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of African Child Trust (the Trust) for the year ended 30 April 2021.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the trust are not required to be audited and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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 in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.


mwbrindley (Oct 5, 2021 11:23 GMT+1)

Maurice William Brindley BSc FCA

**For and on behalf of Brindley Millen Ltd
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors
167 Turners Hill
Cheshunt
Hertfordshire
EN8 9BH**

Date: Oct 5, 2021 2021

ACT

(African Child Trust)

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
		£	£	£	£
Receipts					
<i>Voluntary receipts</i>					
		40,606	27,768	68,374	59,110
		48,172	6,946	55,118	57,027
		744	21,250	21,994	21,321
		20,077	943	21,020	20,955
<i>Other Trading Activities</i>					
		8,050	-	8,050	9,223
<i>Investments</i>					
		-	-	-	1,579
Total receipts		117,649	56,907	174,556	169,215
Payments					
<i>Cost of raising funds</i>					
	3	17,129	130	17,259	26,078
<i>Costs of charitable activities</i>					
		21,866	42,646	64,512	65,479
		-	-	-	-
	4	56,976	520	57,496	58,386
		-	5,625	5,625	200
Total payments		95,971	48,921	144,892	150,143
Net (payments) / receipts		21,678	7,986	29,664	19,072
		-	-	-	-
Net movement in cash funds		21,678	7,986	29,664	19,072
Reconciliation of cash funds					
Total cash funds brought forward		82,983	26,401	109,384	90,312
Total cash funds carried forward		104,661	34,387	139,048	109,384

The notes on pages 10 to 14 form part of these accounts.

ACT

(African Child Trust)

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

AS AT 30 APRIL 2021

Notes	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Cash funds					
Cash on deposit	-	69,000	11,000	80,000	71,376
Cash at bank and in hand	9,057	26,604	23,387	59,048	38,008
5	9,057	95,604	34,387	139,048	109,384
Other monetary assets					
Tax reclaim	-	-	-	-	-
Grants	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Assets retained for the charity's own use					
Donated computer equipment	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Liabilities					
PAYE - Tax and NIC	815	-	-	815	754
	815	-	-	815	754

APPROVED BY THE TRUSTEES ON Sep 30, 2021 2021 AND SIGNED ON THEIR
BEHALF BY:


Pauline Edwaeds (Sep 30, 2021 13:23 GMT+1)

Revd. P. Edwards


Kunle Onabolu (Sep 30, 2021 19:08 GMT+1)

Dr. K. Onabolu

The notes on pages 10 to 14 form part of these accounts.

ACT

(African Child Trust)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies are summarised below.

a) **Basis of accounting**

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 using the Receipts and Payments basis.

b) **Fund accounting**

- Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.
- Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for particular purposes.
- Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions of their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

2. TRUSTEE REMUNERATION

Dr. K Onabolu, Trustee received remuneration of £42,000 for the year, together with payment of £2,240 to his pension plan. Payment to Dr K. Onabolu was approved by the Charity Commission. The sealed Order was signed on 15 January 2007. He is remunerated to manage and develop the Charity, to direct its projects, to oversee the administration, to promote it to other organisations, trusts and companies and to communicate effectively with the Charity's many stakeholders. No other Trustee received a remuneration during the year.

ACT

(African Child Trust)

3. COSTS OF GENERATING VOLUNTARY INCOME

	Basis of Allocation	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
		£	£	£	£
Fund raising costs	100%	-	-	-	4,363
Printing, postage and stationery	50%	130	-	130	138
Travel and subsistence	20%	756	-	756	556
Telephone, internet and website costs	40%	212	-	212	485
Marketing, entertainment and related expenses	50%	1,780	-	1,780	-
Office rent & business rates	30%	2,488	-	2,488	3,416
Insurance	40%	88	-	88	95
Wages, national insurance and pension	20%	10,839	96	10,935	14,916
Training courses	20%	-	-	-	406
Subscriptions	50%	38	-	38	38
Governance costs	25%	360	-	360	112
Accountancy and examiner's fees	25%	182	-	182	540
Office maintenance	30%	30	-	30	422
Bank charges and interest	20%	103	34	137	55
Heat, light and water rates	30%	123	-	123	536
		<u>17,129</u>	<u>130</u>	<u>17,259</u>	<u>26,078</u>

4. UK SUPPORT COSTS OF PROGRAMMES

	Basis of Allocation	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
		£	£	£	£
Printing, postage and stationery	50%	130	-	130	138
Travel and subsistence	80%	3,023	-	3,023	2,226
Telephone, internet and website costs	60%	318	-	318	727
Marketing, entertainment and related expenses	50%	1,780	-	1,780	-
Office rent & business rates	70%	5,805	-	5,805	5,124
Insurance	60%	133	-	133	143
Wages, national insurance and pension	80%	43,358	384	43,742	44,749
Training courses	80%	-	-	-	1,624
Subscriptions	50%	38	-	38	38
Governance costs	75%	1,080	-	1,080	336
Accountancy and examiner's fees	75%	545	-	545	1,620
Office maintenance	70%	70	-	70	633
Bank charges and interest	80%	410	136	546	224
Heat, light and water rates	70%	286	-	286	804
		<u>56,976</u>	<u>520</u>	<u>57,496</u>	<u>58,386</u>

ACT

(African Child Trust)

5. MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS

	As at 1 May 2020 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Net transfers £	As at 30 April 2021 £
Restricted funds					
Aniceth Donard Medical School Fund	11,119	3,250	(1,600)	-	12,769
Individual Donations (Community Proj)	1,792	100	-	-	1,892
St James's Place Foundation (SJPF)	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Accenture	-	528	(528)	-	-
Kagera	498	-	(498)	-	-
Jephthah Fund	-	2,694	(242)	-	2,452
Individual & CAF Donations (WBST)	468	-	(468)	-	-
Jesus House Church (WSBT Malawi)	1,568	-	(865)	-	703
I.Afrika	2,074	3,859	(4,899)	-	1,034
CSP Direct	-	19,135	(13,113)	-	6,022
Edet Family Appeal	378	-	(378)	-	-
Mummy Fowler Fund	-	1,600	(1,360)	-	240
Martin Philips Girls' Education Trust	-	2,362	(116)	-	2,246
Individual & CAF Donations (CSP)	1,805	1,529	(3,253)	-	81
B. Trust (Kenya)	1,600	1,600	(1,600)	-	1,600
Tobi Adeyemi Foundation	2,328	5,250	(4,230)	-	3,348
Souter Trust	1,671	3,000	(4,671)	-	-
Thriplow Charitable Trust (Uni)	-	2,000	-	-	2,000
Westcroft Trust	1,100	-	(1,100)	-	-
Total restricted funds	26,401	56,907	(48,921)	-	34,387
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds	82,979	54,783	(22,158)	(20,000)	95,604
General funds	4	62,866	(73,813)	20,000	9,057
Total unrestricted funds	82,983	117,649	(95,971)	-	104,661
Total funds	109,384	174,556	(144,892)	-	139,048

ACT

(African Child Trust)

RESTRICTED FUNDS

Restricted funds are for the following purposes:

Souter Trust

Grant awarded towards the support of 4 students at university in Africa has been expended.

University Students Support

Donations from individual sponsors to support university students in Africa is on-going and was partially expended.

Anicet Donard Medical School Fund

Fund to support disadvantaged children to study medicine at a university in Africa is on-going and was partially expended.

Tobi Adeyemi Foundation

Grant to support exceptionally gifted children in secondary school in Africa is on-going and was partially expended.

B. Trust

Grant was made to support the education of 8 children in Kenya was partly expended.

I.Afrika

Donations from individual towards the welfare support of children at I.Afrika are forwarded as received.

Widows Business Skills Training (WBST)

Donations from Jesus House Church and other individual donors for skills training of widows in Africa were brought forward from the previous year and were partially expended.

Individual Donations (Community Project)

Donations from individual towards sanitation project at Nyezerera Primary School, Malawi were partially expended.

Angels Orphanage

Funds received to provide facilities for the Angel Orphanage, Kagera, Tanzania is on-going and was partially expended.

Thriplow Charitable Trust

Grant to support education of university students in Africa was partially expended.

Edet Family Appeal

Funds raised to provide accommodation for the Edet Family in Ipaja, Nigeria has been fully expended.

SJPF

Grant for summer school project in Ipaja, Nigeria was fully expended.

Jephthah Fund

Fund to support an orphan child, baby Jephthah Mulenga, in Zambia was partially expended.

Martin Phillips Girls Education Fund

Fund to support the education of girls who have received admission to University in Africa was partially expended.

Mummy Fowler Fund

Fund to support the education of a university student in Nigeria was partially expended.

ACT

(African Child Trust)

6. LIABILITIES

There are no outstanding debts at the date of the statement of assets and liabilities, which are owed, and which are secured by an express charge on any of the assets of the charity.

7. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

The Charity leases its office accommodation on non-cancellable operating lease. At 30 April 2021, the charity had annual commitments of £6,988 (2020 - £6,988) under the lease which expires after five years.

8. GUARANTEES

No guarantees have been made, which result in an outstanding potential liability as at the year-end date.

9. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Dr. K Onabolu, a Trustee, received remuneration of £42,000 for the year (2020: £35,000), together with payment of £2,240 to his pension plan (2020: £1,440). Further details can be found in note 2 above.

There were no other related party transactions for the year (2020: none).