

VSIP TRUSTEES REPORT 2024

The charity is still stuck in the doldrums, trying to find different ways of raising funds.

The proposal of purchasing and using mailing lists of potential donors and the use of telephone canvassers. While on the face both seemed a very effective way of raising funds. However, the cost of printing and postage was very high. As well as the logistics of abiding within the Data Protection legislation proved too time consuming. The risk of falling foul of this legislation was also of concern. We were not happy about having a third part in the shape of teams of canvassers speaking and raising funds on our behalf and the risk of misrepresentation etc.

As mentioned in the previous report, street collections are now not worth the time and effort.

We are looking at going commercial and purchasing art by Zambian artists and selling it on the various commercial internet sites available. Effectively running an online shop. All profits would accrue to the charity. This is an exciting prospect and eliminates the need for a lot of staff. The other advantage is that it is of double benefit, buying the art from Zambian artists helps them and the profit generated selling the art, helps our Zambian schools.

Contacts are already established for the supply of the works of art.

We look forward to a more positive report next year.

Signed

David Hawkins

Head of Trustees

31st August, 2025