

FSCI (UK)

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Charity number: 1170914

CIO number: CE009486

FSCI (UK)
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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FSCI (UK)
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Charity Number | 1170914 |
| Charitable Incorporated Number | CE009486 |
| Registered Office | St Paul's Church Fisherton Street Salisbury Wiltshire SP2 7QW |
| Trustees | Bernard Bentley Ray Flux Steven Parker Elizabeth Pollard Dr Sam Whitmarsh |
| Key management | Chris Mould (Chief Executive) Richard Parsons (Operations Manager) |
| Bankers | Santander 53 Silver Street Salisbury SP1 2NG |
| Independent examiner | Simon Ellingham FCA DChA Fawcetts LLP Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors Windover House St. Ann Street Salisbury SP1 2DR |

FSCI (UK)
TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of FSCI (UK) for the period ended 31 March 2025. The trustees confirm that the annual report and financial statements of the charity comply with current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) FRS102 "Accounting and Reporting by Charities".

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 23 December 2016 and started carrying out its charitable activities on 1 April 2017. This is its eighth accounting period for the 12-month period to 31 March 2025.

FSCI (UK) also trades as House of Opportunity and as the Foundation for Social Change and Inclusion.

The trustees who served during the period and up to the date of this report were:

Bernard Bentley
Ray Flux
Steven Parker
Elizabeth Pollard
Sam Whitmarsh

The charity is managed by the trustees who make strategic decisions and are legally responsible for the management of risks faced by the charity. The day-to-day management of the charity is delegated to the Chief Executive. The Chief Executive attends all meetings of the trustees and regularly reports and updates the Board between their formal meetings.

Any new trustees are identified and selected by current trustees for the knowledge, skills and experience in relevant fields that they can bring to the charity.

Risk Management

The trustees are responsible for identifying and reviewing the risks to which the charity is exposed and for ensuring appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable safeguards against fraud and error.

Objectives and Activities

FSCI combats human-trafficking of at-risk young people and the exploitation of vulnerable communities, focussing on Southeast Europe. Together with grassroots NGOs we work to prevent poverty and modern slavery amongst some of the most marginalised people in Southeast Europe, intervening at key life transitions to deliver effective programmes that build resilience, foster social and economic independence and generate long-term impact.

FSCI aims to:

- Work for the social development of underprivileged individuals, groups and communities.
- Help underprivileged children, young people, adults and families meet their potential as an accepted part of society.
- Promote the rights of underprivileged individuals, groups and communities.
- Demonstrate to local and national authorities, businesses and communities that social problems can be tackled in more effective ways than those currently offered.
- Encourage and popularize voluntary work.

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FSCI operates four programmes:

The House of Opportunity Programme (HOP) is a residential training programme for vulnerable young people at risk of exploitation, particularly those leaving orphanages and foster care. A network of small group homes supports these care leavers through the difficult transition to independence by helping them complete or continue their education, assisting them to find employment and helping them develop vital life skills. In this way they have every opportunity to lead a normal, fulfilling life.

Over the last seventeen years the House of Opportunity Programme has supported 293 young Bulgarians and 253 young people outside of Bulgaria. This year FSCI provided four Houses of Opportunity in Bulgaria and six in other Southeast European countries. Evaluation shows that the programme is highly effective in helping young people establish positive and enduring foundations for life.

The Social Enterprise Programme offers an integrated approach to developing the employment skills of care leavers to equip them with what is required to succeed in the workplace. HOP Belgrade has seen great success with its social enterprise programme, not only developing skills amongst residents, but producing up to 1/3 of the income needed to run the Belgrade HOP.

The Early Years Education Programme provides a vital pathway into education for disadvantaged children from Roma neighbourhoods and other vulnerable communities. Working with the families, this holistic intervention leads to educational integration and the prevention of early school dropout. During 2024/25 FSCI ran kindergartens in Fakulteta, Bulgaria, and Peqin & Rrogozhine, Albania and an Early Child Development Centre in Chisinau, Moldova. Over 400 children benefitted and at least 300 mothers.

The FSCI Development Programme builds the capacity of small, like-minded NGOs in Southeast European countries that share the problems FSCI is seeking to address. FSCI has seven partners in the Development Programme. Together with three of them we ran five Houses of Opportunity in Serbia, Croatia, Albania and Moldova and Early Years Education Programmes in Albania and Moldova during 2024/25. We began the Development Programme in 2015 as proof-of-concept work to test our social franchising approach to replication which is centred on the use of detailed operating manuals, with training, technical support and quality assurance delivered by our central team. The proof-of-concept pilots in Albania, Bosnia Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia worked well, delivering good outcomes for the individual beneficiaries and good value for money.

Other activities

Each Christmas FSCI delivers thousands of shoeboxes with gifts to poor people in Southeast Europe. In the summer FSCI runs a football camp in Bulgaria for House of Opportunity residents and young men from a youth prison.

FSCI's achievements and performance are the result of the hard work and commitment of a dedicated group of people based in a number of different countries and employed by a number of different organisations who all come together as the FSCI Network. The team during 2024/25 included seven FSCI project staff in Bulgaria, as well as 5 regular volunteers and 50+ one-off volunteers, two staff and an (unpaid) chief executive in the UK and twenty-three project staff and sixteen regular volunteers in FSCI partner organisations. We also benefited from the support of over 300 volunteers in the UK.

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Trustees wish to pay tribute to the resilience and the ongoing professionalism, integrity and personal commitment of the operational leaders in the UK and in Bulgaria and to the leaders of FSCI's partner organisations in the FSCI Development Programme. Their dedication and fortitude are very valuable assets which help to make the charity stand out in its field. We take this opportunity to thank them.

The reputation of the House of Opportunity Programme and of FSCI means government agencies are making more frequent approaches to FSCI and its partners and regularly referring vulnerable individuals, but there is no public funding attached and the often-chaotic political context makes longer term partnerships close to impossible.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Overview

The charity ended the financial year stable.

The FSCI multi-country network remains strong, with positive and effective collaboration. This is particularly encouraging given FSCI's investment over the past five years to build the network. FSCI, with its dedicated and experienced group of partners presents serious practical potential as an agent of change, evidenced through our regional House of Opportunity network and the transformative impact of our Building Resilience in Vulnerable Communities programme, encompassing Moldova, Bulgaria and Albania.

The charity maintained its project portfolio throughout the year providing a full range of services to its beneficiaries.

Nothing explains better why FSCI's work is so important than a story of what it has meant for beneficiaries.

The boy who wants to be a man February 2025.

Growing up is so very hard when you have no one to look up to.

Young Yanislav visited many countries with his family during his childhood, but he never got to see much. Whilst his father and mother sought work on farms and construction sites in Spain, Germany or Greece, Yani was locked up in an apartment with his five older siblings.

When Yani was 13 years old, his family was living in an old barracks near Sofia in Bulgaria, where many undocumented families also made their homes. The community there lived in extreme poverty. They did not even have running water or electricity.

One day Yani got into a big argument with a relative. Fearing the repercussions, Yani ran away. He was picked up by social services and placed in a crisis centre.

Yani began school, but his attendance was patchy, and his behaviour poor. He was constantly arguing or fighting; a child without anyone to show him how he could cope with his emotions or focus on the positives. Yani was moved to a family type home in the town of Dupnitsa, then when he was 15, he was moved again. All the while he was making little headway at school; he had large gaps in his education, and his behaviour was a major factor in his lack of progress. Like so many kids in care, he was bullied and this caused him to miss school or get into more fights. The staff at the home where he lived said

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that he was continually in fight mode there too. Yani was moved to a special school for troubled children.

Just before he turned 18, the local authority got in touch with our team in Sofia to ask if there was a place in the House of Opportunity programme for Yani. The programme exists for young people just like Yani; care leavers who, with no good place to go, end up facing desperate choices about how to survive, or fodder for those who will make choices for them. With a warning about his behaviour from social services ringing in the House of Opportunity team's ears, and just as he started 8th grade at school (Year 9), Yani came to live in one of the Sofia Houses.

It quickly became clear that Yani wanted to change. He has ambitions to finish school and go to university. He does not want to end up like his parents, whose lack of any kind of education led to his childhood being blighted by poverty and negligence. He wanted some responsibility.

Even though he has only been in the programme for a few short weeks, Yani has made some positive progress. He is getting good feedback from school and is showing real focus. He reads and discusses his reading with the team and is working on his own development. He has made friends with two fellow House of Opportunity residents. He cooks and cleans! He has joined a church where he is making friends and receiving encouragement and has had an offer for a job that he can fit around school.

Yani is taking responsibility and is putting his, understandably, childish behaviour behind him. He wants to be a man. There are sure to be challenges ahead, but at House of Opportunity, Yani will have the space, support and all the time he needs to learn how.

Christmas Box Appeal 2024

In brief

- 7,167 boxes donated to the appeal this year, an increase of 288 boxes over 2023 (6,879).
- An additional 303 boxes donated by Devon churches were shipped on behalf of World of Worth.
- Participating organisations in UK: 99 schools (up from 83 in 2023), 34 churches (down 1), 6 businesses (6), 10 Community Groups (11).
- UK sorting and packing depot. provided by Woodfalls Methodist Church.
- Used the same shipping agent, and same Sofia warehouse as 2023.
- 60+ organisations/institutions/NGOs/community groups received boxes. Boxes distributed in locations throughout Bulgaria.
- Project finances marginally worse than 2024.

The 2024 Christmas Box Appeal followed much the same pattern as the previous years. Numbers of participating organisations, boxes and associated shipping donations, remain much lower post-COVID. A slight increase in box numbers were offset by higher costs, but all the costs were covered with a small margin. Our volunteers were amazing, again.

Enthusiasm for the project in Bulgaria remains high. Our local partner organisations are very grateful for the boxes, perhaps nearly as much as the ultimate recipients.

2024/25

The majority of FSCI's direct charitable activity was in Bulgaria. The rest is delivered through the FSCI Development Programme with its focus being practical replication of programmes developed by FSCI

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in Bulgaria, and delivered in other Southeast European countries that face similar challenges to those that Bulgaria faces.

Further details about both aspects of FSCI's work follow.

Activity of FSCI Bulgaria

House of Opportunity Programme (HOP)

The House of Opportunity programme (HOP) is a series of family-style homes, providing a lifeline to marginalised young people at risk of modern slavery, exploitation, homelessness and abuse. The project began as a response to seeing vulnerable children dragged into early marriage, exploitation and extreme poverty. We wanted to offer a different pathway, breaking the cycle of poverty for good.

Each House offers:

- stable, family-style home for up to two years
- tailored personal development plan
- relational support from house parents, social workers, psychologists, volunteers
- support to access health services, education, training & employment
- advocacy
- a place to belong, be known and be loved

FSCI operates four Houses with up to six young people each in Sofia (x2), Burgas and Varna - the latter two managed by local civil society organisations with a substantial degree of locally generated funding.

We have seen a notable increase in number of young people who have been assisted by the Programme in recovering lost school years to a point where they have been able to pass missed exams, graduate high school and secure university places. We are adapting to the implications for ongoing support beyond the two years of the House of Opportunity Programme.

Related activity

- Building capacity with regard to Bulgarian national policies on social integration of at-risk youth and marginalised communities, especially Roma.
- Increasing the quality of the HOP.
- Excluded Youth Football Camp: HOP residents and FSCI Bulgaria staff and volunteers visit
- Boychinovtsi Youth Prison for a weekend of football, activities and workshops.

Early Years Education Programme (EYEP) in Bulgaria

The EYEP is designed to increase access to primary level education and beyond for marginalised children at high risk of falling into a life of poverty and exploitation.

- Based in Fakulteta, a large Roma community in Sofia.
- Daily kindergarten is core to provision, with up to 12 children in attendance
- Community workers support families to improve children's attendance and bring a positive, holistic approach to education in the wider community.
- Provide support in applying to and accessing primary school.
- After-school wraparound support for Primary-age children

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Only 25% of Roma children go on to complete their secondary education. Research tells us that kindergarten attendance has a dramatic effect on the chances of completing secondary education (2/3 times higher completion rate) and raises employment levels by 40%.¹ Our results from the past ten years, with all kindergarten graduates still in education demonstrates the effectiveness of our holistic early years approach and continued after-school provision.

FSCI Development Programme

The Balkans is poorer than any other region of Europe. Many of the nations in that area face shared problems as a consequence of a long history of children being abandoned into state care, large, closed communities of marginalised and very poor Roma people, low participation in education by children from those communities and high unemployment. These issues fuel crime and help explain why some of the countries in the region are major source countries for human trafficking and exploitation. The FSCI Development Programme is the outworking of a vision to take what has been achieved by the Foundation for Social Change and Inclusion (FSCI) in Bulgaria and replicate it in other Balkan countries. The central aspects of the FSCI Development Programme include:

- Codification of tried and tested projects, in a shareable manual used to train new partners and replicate the HOP model multi-nationally.
- Careful identification and selection of partner organisations that share a practical passion for poor and marginalised people and a strategic vision for their nation.
- Ongoing capacity building, to increase effectiveness and impact, bolstering social change and inclusion across the region.
- Annual network conference for partners to facilitate the sharing of best practice, new learnings and inspire future progress.

Under its Development Programme, FSCI is currently partnering with seven like-minded organisations in Southeast Europe. Providing a manual for work on its programmes, regular professional training, supervision, quality assurance and some financial support, FSCI is helping to successfully replicate the House Opportunity Programme (HOP), started in Bulgaria over 16 years ago.

The following FSCI Houses of Opportunity were operated during 2024/25 by partner organisations:

- Belgrade, Kragujevac and Niš, Serbia, operated by Centar Zvezda. 22 residents.
- Varaždin, Croatia, operated by Hoću Život. 6 residents.
- Elbasan, Albania, operated by A2B Albania. 4 residents.
- Comrat, Moldova operated by Beginning of Life - closed at the end of 2024 after key staff members moved away due to circumstances brought on by the war in Ukraine.

FSCI (UK) provided financial, professional and mentoring support to the staff teams of the Houses of Opportunity through regular web-based supervision and training by FSCI's Social Work Department Manager. Partners also attended our annual network conference in Belgrade, Serbia in October 2024. 40 staff & volunteers attended from across the network. Attendees reported a very positive experience, enjoying the chance to reflect, review and share best practice amongst like-minded organisations.

HOP Review

There were 52 young people in the House of Opportunity Programme in 2024/25. Of these, nearly all the young people were in employment, or finishing school, or in further education (including university).

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A review of the impact of our programme over the past seven years yielded encouraging results. Since 2017, we have welcomed over 250 individuals onto our programme. Not all have completed the programme, for some, the trauma of their past is too overwhelming, but for the many that make it past the first six months, we can report incredible, life-changing outcomes.

We routinely compare the levels of confidence among House of Opportunity residents before and after their time in the programme. Of those that graduated the programme after staying in it for more than one year, confidence in their ability to live independently rises to 89%.

One of our programme goals is to enable residents to settle into either education, employment or training throughout their time on the programme and beyond, to live a sustainable, independent adult life. Achieving the necessary education or training is out of reach for many of our residents prior to entering our programme. Only 53% of our residents had completed secondary education on arrival, with 44% never having worked. Of those that had worked, only 30% had done so in a formal/legal environment.

Using the data from 204 surveys over the last ten years, we can see that an impressive 84% of residents engaged with, employment or training during their time on the programme. Of those that stayed beyond six months, this figure rises to 94%. This is an incredible turnaround from where many residents began their time in HOP and gives each resident confidence for the future that they can achieve!

Of residents who stayed beyond 12 months, 96% were in Employment, Education or Training on leaving the programme. Of this group, 98% were in education, employment or training one year after leaving the programme (57 residents).

When we compare these outcomes to successful programmes in the UK delivering EET programmes for care leavers, the HOP outcomes are far superior. We believe this is in large part due to the long-term, stable, family-style environment of the HOP. Supportive relationships and a stable home are key to the long-term impact of this programme.

Another key measure of long-term success is the ability to build and maintain positive relationships - one year after leaving the programme, 87% reported they had positive, lasting relationships in the community, with many seeing an improvement in their relationship with their biological family.

Statistics are not the whole picture of course. The majority of our residents have experienced deep trauma, exploitation, abandonment and abuse by the time they come to us. We rejoice in every small step they take towards independence, as they break free from the chains of their past.

Xhulio's story demonstrates the long-term lasting impact becoming a HOP resident can have on your life, it really is a family affair. Transformative change rarely happens overnight, but at HOP we are in it for the long-run, and it's worth it!

In September, Xhulio turned 23, and the staff and friends at the House threw him a surprise birthday party to celebrate not only his birthday but also his successes. It was a joyful moment that truly reflected the deep bonds formed at HOP, showing just how much it means to those who have been part of this family.

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Back to the family

Xhulio is now living an independent life in Tirana, and we couldn't be prouder! He grew up in an orphanage in Shkoder, and like so many who leave the Albanian care system, faced the challenge of transitioning into the world without the family support many take for granted.

That's where the House of Opportunity programme (HOP) came in.

After leaving the care system, Xhulio came to live at HOP Elbasan for two years, where he learned essential life skills he hadn't picked up during his time in the orphanage. He finished high school alongside training to become a waiter, all while living in a safe and supportive environment. Last year, he took a huge step towards independence, moving into a shared flat in Tirana to begin his new life. This is exactly what HOP's mission is all about—helping young people transition out of the care system into independent living. But for Xhulio, HOP isn't just a stepping stone; it's still the place he calls home. He often returns to visit his 'family' here, feeling safe and supported by the community that helped him along the way.

Xhulio's story is a testament to the lasting impact the House of Opportunity Programme has on the young people it supports; we couldn't be happier to see him thriving in his new life. We look forward to seeing what the future holds for him, and we'll always be here to cheer him on!

Early Years Education Programme Review

As well as a House of Opportunity, our Albanian partner, A2B, also operated a children's centre in Peqin and opened a new EYE in Rrogozhine as part of the FSCI Early Years Education Programme. The main goal of the centres is to prevent early school dropout, increase the rate at which Roma children successfully integrate into the Albanian education system and ensure the overall welfare of Roma children.

Activities across the two centres:

- Preschool Education for children 3-6 years old.
- Education for children 6-10 years old who have dropped out of school.
- Healthy meals (breakfast and lunch).
- Parents' meetings – training about positive parenting; including child rights training, life skills, positive discipline, forms of abuse etc.
-

Achievements:

The early years & community centre in Peqin has been at the heart of the community for 9 years. Nothing speaks louder or more truthfully than the voices of mothers sharing about the impact the centre has had on their lives:

'I can't speak for others, but for myself, I can't see anywhere else I would or could send my children to. My daughter came here for 8 years; she is now married and her children come here. She has learned such good and positive things.'

"You can't imagine how helpful this place is for us as mothers. This place is safe and treats our children with love and compassion. For us it enables us to do essential housework and even to find a job."

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"I really hope and wish for my kid's lives to be different from mine. I grew up in poverty with no chance to go to school. It is my strongest desire that my children go to school, go to university and break out of this poverty."

With the new centre only opened in late October, we hope the Roma & Egyptian community in Rrogozhine will be able to share similar stories in the years to come.

In Moldova, our partner Beginning of Life runs its Early Years Development Centre for vulnerable children, with enhanced services for single parents and guardians of children whose parents work abroad, and refugees.

Achievements:

Moldova:

- 155 children & 54 parents supported through our EYEP in Moldova
- 133 teenagers attending 'Urban Teens' programme in Chisinau
- 4 local Moldovan schools engaged in 'Way to Success' curriculum
- 86 vulnerable mothers reached through Urban PAS
- 200 Ukrainian refugees supported holistically

Beyond Moldova

- Progressio programme now delivered by 38 centres in 7 countries
- 2,500 users have accessed the Progressio education portal from across the globe

Here is a story from Moldova to show what's at stake.

No place to grow - Christina & Sofia

Sofia was three months old when the fighting in Ukraine started. She and her mother Christina were forced to flee their home in Eastern Ukraine. Christina had not even received birth documents for her daughter when they set out.

As they moved from place to place and from refugee camp to refugee camp over the next few months, Christina kept her daughter very close. The camps were no place for an infant. Every day there was the challenge to find the appropriate food, the crush of so many children and women looking for a share of limited resources, and a lack of safe spaces to let children just be children. Sofia was not developing in the normal way. She wasn't rolling over, then she wasn't crawling, or pulling herself up. Christina was holding her close to keep her baby protected, but Sofia wasn't growing. Christina was getting more and more distressed.

Mother and daughter made it to Moldova, but the lack of documentation for Sofia was a serious problem. The Ukrainian region in which she was born had become disputed territory, and nobody could say who was really in charge there, or for how long. There was no Local Authority which could be appealed to in order to sort out the paperwork. Christina couldn't register her child. The Moldovan authorities were threatening to take Sofia away.

Not long after Sofia's first birthday, Christina was welcomed to the Early Years Child Development Centre run by House of Opportunity partners, Beginning of Life. The team made Christina welcome and began a dialogue with the relevant Moldovan authorities on her and Sofia's behalf. The war goes on, and there is no way to get documents from home, so resolution may take a long time.

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Christina is not on her own though, and she is feeling a lot more upbeat now that she has support from the Beginning of Life team. Things are more settled after the interminable months of searching for a place safe enough for her child. She has been able to bring Sofia to the Centre to join in with other young mums from Ukraine who find themselves in similar circumstances. There is fellowship in their shared trials. And at the Centre Christina can play with Sofia, and Sofia has some time and space with her mum and other children to be normal at last. Some space to stretch. Some place to grow.

Financial Review

The charity generated income of £438K (2023/24 £453KK) and spent £423K (2023/24 £401K).

Fundraising has remained challenging. FSCI's approach to fundraising is to ensure as far as possible diversity in income streams. Our place-based proposals for a wide-ranging resilience building programme centred on Moldova won support back in 2021. This has offered a degree of multi-year security. This multiyear project provides FSCI with a strong backbone of sustained finance on which to build.

We continue to aim for a multi-country approach to generating funds and, having some experience of generating support for FSCI in both Germany and Switzerland, we still intend to register FSCI as a charity in Germany, a process which has been delayed by the Covid 19 crisis and the limited capacity of the small team subsequently. Germany has a strong culture of philanthropy. Additionally, FSCI registration in Germany will enable FSCI to continue post Brexit to submit applications for EU grant funding where applicants from two member states are a minimum requirement.

Sustainability is important to FSCI. For this reason, we focus on capacity building within Bulgaria and with our partner organisations. We aim to generate an increasing proportion of the revenue required to sustain FSCI programmes locally, (Varna Municipality is a public sector example and Christian Broadcasting Network/Orphans' Promise which provides support towards the Houses of Opportunity in Serbia is a philanthropic example) enabling centrally generated funds to be applied primarily to the support of programme expansion and start up, to research and development, to the development programme and of course to essential core costs associated with a professional and high-quality organisation.

Reserves policy

The trustees' policy is to manage its finances so as to achieve budget surpluses when it is reasonably able to, thereby building the strategic reserve until any target which trustees set from time to time is reached.

Taking into account inflation pressures and other risk factors, the level of the reserve target will be regularly reviewed from time to time.

That said, FSCI is operating in a very challenging environment where the needs and their urgency have increased, but simultaneously, so too has the intensity of competition for philanthropic resources. During 2020/21 the trustees applied for a government backed Bounce Back loan of £31,000 which was generally available as part of the government's response to Covid. After accounting for the Bounce Back loan, at the year-end the charity had a small reserve of £4K (2023/24 -£11K) which was unrestricted.

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The charity's financial history has its origins in decisions trustees took in 2018/19 to introduce funds constituted as long-term interest free loans. Trustees took these decisions to avoid the unplanned disruption to beneficiaries which immediate reductions in expenditure would create and did so, having given reasonable consideration to known future funding and in the light of that consideration. The financial restructuring and recovery plan implemented during 2019/20 which involved some reductions in project expenditure and some redundancies included a loan repayment schedule. Largely as a consequence of the impact of Covid, loan repayments did not begin when planned. However significant progress has now been made.

Approved by the trustees on22/01/2026.....

and signed on their behalf by:

 SAM WHITMARSH.

Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF
FSCI (UK)**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are set out on pages 14 to 21.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

Simon J L Ellingham

Simon Ellingham FCA DChA
Fawcetts LLP Chartered Accountants
Windover House
St. Ann Street
Salisbury
SP1 2DR

Date: 27 January 2026

FSCI (UK)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

| | | Funds | | 2025 | 2024 |
|------------------------------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| | | Unrestricted | Restricted | Total | Total |
| | Note | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM: | | | | | |
| Donations and legacies | 2 | 301,609 | - | 301,609 | 336,169 |
| Charitable activities | 3 | 136,449 | - | 136,449 | 116,510 |
| | | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Total income | | 438,058 | - | 438,058 | 452,679 |
| EXPENDITURE ON: | | | | | |
| Raising funds | | 2,715 | - | 2,715 | 5,033 |
| Charitable activities | 4 | 420,294 | - | 420,294 | 395,842 |
| | | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Total expenditure | | 423,009 | - | 423,009 | 400,875 |
| NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) | | 15,049 | - | 15,049 | 51,804 |
| Transfers between funds | | - | - | - | - |
| | | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS | | 15,049 | - | 15,049 | 51,804 |
| RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS: | | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | (11,046) | - | (11,046) | (62,850) |
| | | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD | | 4,003 | - | 4,003 | (11,046) |

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.

There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.

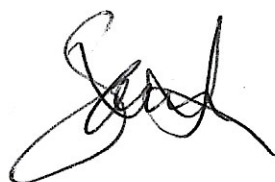
The notes form part of these accounts

**FSCI (UK)
BALANCE SHEET**

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

| | Note | 2025 £ | 2024 £ |
|---|------|--------------|-----------------|
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 43,906 | 34,337 |
| | | 43,906 | 34,337 |
| CREDITORS: AMOUNTS DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR | 7 | (15,932) | (12,270) |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS | | 27,974 | 22,067 |
| CREDITORS: AMOUNTS DUE AFTER ONE YEAR | 8 | (23,971) | (33,113) |
| NET ASSETS | | <u>4,003</u> | <u>(11,046)</u> |
| FUNDS | | | |
| Unrestricted funds | 9 | 4,003 | (11,046) |
| Restricted funds | 9 | - | - |
| TOTAL FUNDS | 10 | <u>4,003</u> | <u>(11,046)</u> |

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 22/01/26 and were signed on its behalf by:



Sam WHITMARSH

Trustee

The notes form part of these accounts

FSCI (UK)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 BASIS OF PREPARATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt over the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the accounts. The charity has significantly reduced its dependence on the support of the trustees who are aware of known future funding and have indicated that they will introduce funds up to £50,000 should they be required to meet the charity's liabilities. The trustees therefore consider that the going concern basis is appropriate. The accounts do not contain any adjustments that might be necessary were the going concern basis to be no longer appropriate.

The Coronavirus outbreak has left the charity with a large liability in the form of a bounce back loan received, this continues to be repaid in line with the agreement in place with the lender.

The charity has applied Update Bulletin 1 as published on 2 February 2016 and does not include a cash flow statement on the grounds that it is applying FRS 102 Section 1A.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these accounts are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

1.2 INCOME

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The financial statements are prepared in Sterling (£) which is the functional currency of the charity.

1.3 EXPENDITURE

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure includes attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

Grants payable are payments made to third parties in furtherance of the charitable objects of the Charity. The grants are accounted for where the trustees have agreed to pay the grant without condition and the recipient has a reasonable expectation that they will receive a grant.

1.4 FUND ACCOUNTING

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund where allowable. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.5 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Debtors are measured at their recoverable amount. Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

FSCI (UK)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1.6 TAXATION

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

2. Donations and legacies

| | Unrestricted £ | Restricted £ | Total 2025 £ | Total 2024 £ |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| General donations | 144,476 | - | 144,476 | 140,830 |
| Christmas Box Appeal donations | 18,199 | - | 18,199 | 17,339 |
| MDF - Moldova Development Fund | 120,000 | - | 120,000 | 178,000 |
| A2B UK | 18,934 | - | 18,934 | - |
| | <u>301,609</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>301,609</u> | <u>336,169</u> |
| <i>Total 2024</i> | <i>336,169</i> | <i>-</i> | <i>336,169</i> | |

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - INCOME

| | Unrestricted £ | Restricted £ | Total 2025 £ | Total 2024 £ |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Grants | 107,070 | - | 107,070 | 95,000 |
| Gift aid | 28,093 | - | 28,093 | 20,429 |
| Other income | 1,286 | - | 1,286 | 1,081 |
| | <u>136,449</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>136,449</u> | <u>116,510</u> |
| <i>Total 2024</i> | <i>116,510</i> | <i>-</i> | <i>116,510</i> | |

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - EXPENDITURE

| | Unrestricted £ | Restricted £ | Total 2025 £ | Total 2024 £ |
|--|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Project expenses | - | - | - | 40 |
| Wages and salaries (note 5) | 54,072 | - | 54,072 | 56,026 |
| Accountancy and Independent Examination fees | 2,586 | - | 2,586 | 694 |
| Grants to partner organisations | 341,573 | - | 341,573 | 317,379 |
| Insurance | 1,883 | - | 1,883 | 1,918 |
| IT software and office consumables | 2,372 | - | 2,372 | 2,526 |
| Motor vehicle expenses | 3,217 | - | 3,217 | 1,827 |
| Postage and carriage | 5,261 | - | 5,261 | 5,070 |
| Rent | 3,220 | - | 3,220 | 2,300 |
| Telephone and internet | 72 | - | 72 | 72 |
| International travel | 5,417 | - | 5,417 | 6,608 |
| Bank fees | 109 | - | 109 | 105 |
| Returns | - | - | - | 45 |
| Loan interest | 415 | - | 415 | 501 |
| Charitable donations | - | - | - | 150 |
| Miscellaneous expenses | 97 | - | 97 | 581 |
| | <u>420,294</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>420,294</u> | <u>395,842</u> |
| <i>Total 2024</i> | <i>395,842</i> | <i>-</i> | <i>395,842</i> | |

FSCI (UK)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The grants to partner organisations represents £57,095 (2024: £26,358) paid to A2B (Albania), £102,320 (2024: £146,344) paid to Beginning of Life Moldova (Moldova), £30,441 (2024: £25,587) paid to Center Star (Serbia), £131,480 (2024: £107,080) paid to FSCI Bulgaria (Bulgaria), and £20,238 (2024: £12,010) to Hocu Zivot (Croatia)

5. STAFF COSTS

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Charitable Activities: | | |
| Salaries and wages | 52,898 | 55,286 |
| Pension contributions | 1,174 | 740 |
| | <u>54,072</u> | <u>56,026</u> |

The above also represents the key management personnel remuneration.

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|--------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | No. | No. |
| Project management | <u>2</u> | <u>2</u> |

There were no employees who earned in excess of £60,000 per annum or more (including taxable benefits) during the year.

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

None of the trustees received any remuneration or reimbursement of expenses in respect of their duties as trustees during the year.

As at 31 March 2025 the charity owed £20,000 to its trustees and key management personnel for interest free loans (2024: £20,000).

During the year 2 trustees made donations to the charity totalling £21,499 (2024: 4 - £17,123).

There were no other related party transactions during the year.

7. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Accruals and deferred income | 995 | 945 |
| Social security and other taxes | 3,244 | 5,099 |
| Other creditors | 3,802 | - |
| Loans | 7,891 | 6,226 |
| | <u>15,932</u> | <u>12,270</u> |

FSCI (UK)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

| 8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS DUE AFTER ONE YEAR | 2025 | 2024 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Other loans | 23,971 | 33,113 |
| | <u>23,971</u> | <u>33,113</u> |
| Other loan repayments: | 2025 | 2024 |
| | £ | £ |
| Less than 1 year | - | - |
| Between 2 and 5 years | 23,971 | 33,113 |
| In 5 years or more | - | - |
| | <u>23,971</u> | <u>33,113</u> |

£20,000 of the loans are interest free with no fixed repayment terms, the remaining £3,971 is repayable over 4 years with an interest rate of 2.5%.

| 9. FUNDS | Balance b/fwd | Incoming resources | Outgoing resources | Transfers | Balance c/fwd |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Unrestricted funds | | | | | |
| General fund | (11,046) | 438,058 | (423,009) | - | 4,003 |
| | <u>(11,046)</u> | <u>438,058</u> | <u>(423,009)</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>4,003</u> |
| Total funds | <u>(11,046)</u> | <u>438,058</u> | <u>(423,009)</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>4,003</u> |

Comparative statement of funds for the period ended 31 March 2024:

| | Balance b/fwd | Incoming resources | Outgoing resources | Transfers | Balance c/fwd |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Restricted funds | | | | | |
| Salary Funding | - | | | - | - |
| | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| Unrestricted funds | | | | | |
| General fund | (62,850) | 452,679 | (400,875) | - | (11,046) |
| | <u>(62,850)</u> | <u>452,679</u> | <u>(400,875)</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>(11,046)</u> |
| Total funds | <u>(62,850)</u> | <u>452,679</u> | <u>(400,875)</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>(11,046)</u> |

Unrestricted funds

General fund:

This represents funds which have been accumulated for the general purposes of the charity.

FSCI (UK)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

10. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

| | Net current assets £ | Total £ |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Restricted funds | - | - |
| Unrestricted general funds | 4,003 | 4,003 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Net Assets at the end of the year | <u>4,003</u> | <u>4,003</u> |

Comparative statement of net assets between funds for the period ended 31 March 2024:

| | Net current assets £ | Total £ |
|--|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Restricted funds | - | - |
| Unrestricted general funds | (11,046) | (11,046) |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Net Assets at the end of the year | <u>(11,046)</u> | <u>(11,046)</u> |

FSCI (UK)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

11. COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

| | Funds | | 2024 |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| | Unrestricted | Restricted | Total |
| | £ | £ | £ |
| INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM: | | | |
| Donations and legacies | 336,169 | - | 336,169 |
| Charitable activities | 116,510 | - | 116,510 |
| | | | |
| Total income | 452,679 | - | 452,679 |
| EXPENDITURE ON: | | | |
| Raising funds | 5,033 | - | 5,033 |
| Charitable activities | 395,842 | - | 395,842 |
| | | | |
| Total expenditure | 400,875 | - | 400,875 |
| NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) | 51,804 | - | 51,804 |
| Transfers between funds | - | - | - |
| | | | |
| NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS | 51,804 | - | 51,804 |
| RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS: | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | (62,850) | - | (62,850) |
| | | | |
| TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD | (11,046) | - | (11,046) |

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.

There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.