

Charity registration number: 1172378

# The Attachment Research Community CIO

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 5 April 2024



## **The Attachment Research Community CIO**

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## **The Attachment Research Community CIO**

### **Reference and Administrative Details**

<b>Trustees</b>	A R Wright OBE (Chair) R J Parker A M McBlain K M Brooks N R Mort M Salter S Scott J O Brooks J E Cahill OBE J Hickman A Thacker D D Roberts
<b>Senior Management / Leadership Team</b>	Mr M Flowers (Setsquare Creative Solutions Limited), Communication and media management
<b>Charity Registration Number</b>	1172378
<b>Principal Office</b>	c/o Office 1 Shrieves Walk Sheep Street Stratford upon Avon Warwickshire CV37 6GJ
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	CBSL Accountants Limited Chartered Accountant Rowan House North 1 The Professional Quarter Shrewsbury Business Park Shrewsbury Shropshire SY2 6LG

## **The Attachment Research Community CIO**

### **Trustees' Report**

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 5 April 2024.

#### **Trustees**

The Trustees who served during the year are as follows:

A R Wright OBE (Chair)

R J Parker

A M McBlain

K M Brooks

N R Mort

M Salter

S Scott

E A Watt (resigned 26 April 2023)

G Brenton (resigned 30 January 2024)

J O Brooks

J E Cahill OBE

J Hickman

A Thacker

L Miles (resigned 9 October 2023)

D D Roberts (appointed 17 May 2023)

#### **Objectives and activities**

##### ***Objects and aims***

The charity was registered with the Charity Commission as a charitable incorporated organisation on 3 April 2017.

The objects of The Attachment Research Community (ARC) are to advance in life and relieve the charitable needs of children and young people with unmet attachment needs including (but without limitation) by:

1. promoting support to such children and young people in schools and other educational settings, including by promoting such support to families and carers;
2. promoting good practice to improve the outcomes for and opportunities and development of children and young people with unmet attachment needs;
3. promoting good practice to minimise school exclusion of children with identified attachment needs;
4. sharing and disseminating the findings of academic research with schools, the government, regulators, training providers, families, carers, specialist media and the public generally in order to raise awareness of and encourage the development of practises to assist and support children and young people with attachment needs.

## **The Attachment Research Community CIO**

### **Trustees' Report (continued)**

The charity aims to meet its charitable objects through its membership resources, which include a monthly newsletter, access to the website including online tools, case study examples, a webinar programme, regional forums and the Annual Conference.

ARC works in partnership with a number of parties including the National Association of Virtual School Head Teachers (NAVSH), WMVS Children in Care Foundation, the REES Centre for Research in Fostering and Education and the University of Oxford. ARC launched its first learning hub in collaboration with Hope School, Liverpool, which in 2022 began an attachment and trauma project with 10 schools in Liverpool in conjunction with Liverpool Virtual School. ARC is actively launching hub schools across the country and have welcomed further learning hubs with a plan to grow the programme in 24/25.

#### ***Objectives, strategies and activities***

The ARC national conference, held every November, provides a focus and meeting point for members. ARC is currently preparing for the ninth annual conference, which is CPD certified and the largest conference to date with an estimated 600 delegates. Keynote speakers will include Baroness Floella Benjamin, Paul Dix, Belinda Hopkins, Maureen McKenna and Ellie Costello. All conferences, live or online, have been well attended by members and non-members and have stimulated a great deal of interest and promotion of new memberships. Previous keynote speakers have included Ashley John-Baptiste, Edward Tronick, Adam Saenz, Smash Life, Dr Janet Rose, Kate Cairns, Prof Judy Sebba and Kriss Akabusi MBE, with workshops from schools, trainers and other professionals.

ARC continues to promote its objectives:

- Supporting schools to become attachment and trauma aware
- Enhancing existing and potential collaborative communities of support
- Collating and providing a national platform for research and practice
- Helping to provide and extend a national voice for attachment and trauma
- Recognising, celebrating and sharing best practice.

The annual Alex Timpson Award continues to raise interest in attachment and trauma aware schools and at the 2024 annual conference the seventh set of awards will be announced, with categories including Early Years, Primary, Secondary, Post 16, Special and PRU and Collaborative work.

Regional workshops have created further opportunities for education leaders to learn of the benefits, systems and processes required to develop a nurturing, inclusive, attachment and trauma aware environment.

The trustees have future plans to develop ARC across the UK with regional operational groups and events as well as webinars and podcasts introducing audiences to learn more about ARC and its mission. Additionally, ARC has launched the first regional conference in 2024, for the London, South & East Region. The launch of the Call-to-Action campaign, which began in May 2021, was followed by a campaign film, parliamentary petition and linking with members of Parliament to discuss the recommendations:- Better support for a core understanding of attachment and trauma to enable school leaders and the whole workforce, to create a culture that supports vulnerable children to build trusting relationships and the resilience to achieve their potential.

#### ***Fundraising disclosures***

The ARC trustees thank the Alex Timpson Trust (ATT) for the generous support in 2023/24 and for the forthcoming year.

The charity does not carry out significant fundraising activities with the general public and does not use a professional fundraiser or commercial participator to carry out fundraising.



## **The Attachment Research Community CIO**

### **Trustees' Report (continued)**

#### ***Public benefit***

ARC has developed an online infrastructure called the Matrix which works together with the ARC pathway to support schools and settings audit their current practice, create development plans and implement action research projects, within their settings or across multiple settings.

The Matrix is a detailed assessment and planning structure for understanding and developing a setting's work on attachment and trauma. It has three strands: individual, institutional and community, three foci: people, process and outcomes and will support the ARC awards through its three levels: bronze, silver and gold, which recognises the steps that have been taken; from training staff through to offering support to others. It has been aligned to the Ofsted Education Inspection Framework (EIF) and the National Professional Qualifications (NPQ) framework to ensure it supports both school strategic self-evaluation form (SEF) and school development plan (SDP/SIP), and individual staff planning.

An extensive monthly newsletter goes out to all members and the wider community with the aim of both updating and reporting on regional developments.

Further investment has been made in website development with the aim of ensuring that all practitioners can share learning as widely and as easily as possible. ARC's website offers support to anyone interested in being an attachment aware school or setting with additional benefits for members.

The ARC Audit, ARC Pathway and ARC Matrix, a range of self assessment tools that will align schools to Ofsted grading criteria and allow senior leadership teams to work in a concise manner when approaching attachment and trauma, launched to members in the 2022 Autumn term. The extended membership offer creates further professional development opportunities and raising ARC's profile within the education community. At the start of 2023/24, ARC introduced a training provider sign-posting service on the website.

The public website offers advice on commissioning training - what to look for from a trainer, what is attachment and why does it matter? - with written and filmed explanation and examples.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

#### **Financial review**

The charity's income increased for the year ended 5 April 2024 with the Annual Conference held in November 2023 generating income of £80,552 (2023 - £91,601) and the Regional Conference in March 2024 £38,099 (2023 - £nil). Membership numbers at 5 April 2024 totalled 1,450 (2023 - 430) and income from memberships for the year totalled £101,218 (2023 - £73,250).

Overall the charity made a surplus for the year of £39,091 (2023 - deficit of £9,677).

Net assets at 5 April 2024 totalled £106,200 (2023 - £67,109).

#### ***Policy on reserves***

The trustees recognise the need for a reasonable level of financial reserves in order to protect the charity from the possibility of any adverse or unforeseen circumstances that could arise.

Unrestricted reserves held at 5 April 2024 enable the charity to continue for at least a further 12 months in the event that there was a significant drop in income. The trustees are taking appropriate steps over the next financial year to maintain the level of these reserves to meet the future needs of the charity.

## **The Attachment Research Community CIO**

### **Trustees' Report (continued)**

#### **Structure, governance and management**

##### ***Nature of governing document***

The charity is a charitable incorporated organisation - association and is governed by the constitution dated 3 April 2017, as amended by a written resolution dated 14 September 2017.

The charity was registered as The Attachment Response Community and renamed during the year ended 5 April 2019 to The Attachment Research Community.

##### ***Recruitment and appointment of trustees***

As set out in the constitution, there must be at least three charity trustees. At every annual general meeting of the members of ARC, one third of the charity trustees shall retire from office but will be eligible for reappointment. Each new trustee will receive a copy of the constitution and the latest annual report and statement of accounts prior to their appointment.

##### ***Organisational structure***

The members of ARC have no liability to contribute to the charity's assets and no personal responsibility for the settlement of its debts.

## **The Attachment Research Community CIO**

### **Trustees' Report (continued)**

#### **Statement of Responsibilities**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.


The law applicable to charities requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 31/12/24 and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
A R Wright OBE (Chair)  
Trustee



## **The Attachment Research Community CIO**

### **Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of The Attachment Research Community CIO**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Attachment Research Community CIO for the year ended 5 April 2024.

#### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of The Attachment Research Community CIO 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 The Attachment Research Community CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of The Attachment Research Community CIO as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting 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.



.....  
Mrs L J Osselton FCA  
Chartered Accountant  
ICAEW

Rowan House North  
1 The Professional Quarter  
Shrewsbury Business Park  
Shrewsbury  
Shropshire  
SY2 6LG

Date: 2 January 2025

## The Attachment Research Community CIO

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 5 April 2024

	Note	Unrestricted £	Total 2024 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>			
Donations and legacies	2	22,956	22,956
Charitable activities	3	219,869	219,869
Investment income	4	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
Total Income		<u>242,826</u>	<u>242,826</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Charitable activities	5	<u>(203,735)</u>	<u>(203,735)</u>
Total Expenditure		<u>(203,735)</u>	<u>(203,735)</u>
Net movement in funds		39,091	39,091
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>			
Total funds brought forward		<u>67,109</u>	<u>67,109</u>
Total funds carried forward	16	<u><u>106,200</u></u>	<u><u>106,200</u></u>

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2023 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>			
Charitable activities		<u>164,851</u>	<u>164,851</u>
Total income		<u>164,851</u>	<u>164,851</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Charitable activities		<u>(174,528)</u>	<u>(174,528)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(174,528)</u>	<u>(174,528)</u>
Net expenditure		<u>(9,677)</u>	<u>(9,677)</u>
Net movement in funds		(9,677)	(9,677)
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>			
Total funds brought forward		<u>76,786</u>	<u>76,786</u>
Total funds carried forward	16	<u><u>67,109</u></u>	<u><u>67,109</u></u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.  
The funds breakdown for 2023 is shown in note 16.


# **The Attachment Research Community CIO**

**(Registration number: 1172378)**

**Balance Sheet as at 5 April 2024**

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	13	63,894	40,866
Cash at bank and in hand	14	<u>110,734</u>	<u>93,766</u>
		174,628	134,632
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	15	<u>(68,428)</u>	<u>(67,523)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>106,200</u>	<u>67,109</u>
<b>Funds of the charity:</b>			
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds		<u>106,200</u>	<u>67,109</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	16	<u>106,200</u>	<u>67,109</u>

The financial statements on pages 8 to 16 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 31/03/24 and signed on their behalf by:

  
 .....  
 A R Wright OBE (Chair)  
 Trustee

## **The Attachment Research Community CIO**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 5 April 2024**

#### **1 Accounting policies**

##### **Statement of compliance**

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 UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

##### **Basis of preparation**

The Attachment Research Community CIO meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The 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.

##### **Going concern**

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

##### **Income and endowments**

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

##### ***Donations and legacies***

Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

##### ***Grants receivable***

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

##### ***Deferred income***

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which, it has been received. Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

##### ***Investment income***

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

##### ***Charitable activities***

Income from charitable activities is recognised when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.



## **The Attachment Research Community CIO**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 5 April 2024 (continued)**

#### **Expenditure**

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

#### ***Charitable activities***

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

#### ***Grant provisions***

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

#### **Support costs**

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

#### **Governance costs**

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

#### **Taxation**

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

#### **Fund structure**

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.



## The Attachment Research Community CIO

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 5 April 2024 (continued)

#### 2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Donations and legacies;			
Donations from individuals	956	956	-
Grants, including capital grants;			
Grants from other charities	<u>22,000</u>	<u>22,000</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>22,956</u>	<u>22,956</u>	<u>-</u>

Grants from other charities relates to £12,000 from NAVSH CIO for Call to Action campaign and £10,000 from the Alex Timpson Trust for the ARC Alex Timpson Awards.

#### 3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Conferences	118,651	118,651	91,601
Membership	<u>101,218</u>	<u>101,218</u>	<u>73,250</u>
	<u>219,869</u>	<u>219,869</u>	<u>164,851</u>

#### 4 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

## The Attachment Research Community CIO

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 5 April 2024 (continued)

#### 5 Expenditure on charitable activities

		Unrestricted		
	Note	General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Conferences		115,396	115,396	89,726
Membership	6	32,622	32,622	23,811
Grant funding of activities	8	6,000	6,000	1,000
Allocated support costs	7	35,470	35,470	35,970
Governance costs	7	14,247	14,247	24,021
		<u>203,735</u>	<u>203,735</u>	<u>174,528</u>

The support costs associated with grant-making are £Nil (5 April 2023 - £Nil).

#### 6 Analysis of membership activity costs

		Unrestricted		
	Note	General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Telephone and fax		3,539	3,539	1,291
IT costs		6,310	6,310	8,910
Training and development		-	-	2,047
Communication, media management and office costs		22,773	22,773	10,063
Matrix framework costs		-	-	1,500
		<u>32,622</u>	<u>32,622</u>	<u>23,811</u>

#### 7 Analysis of governance and support costs

##### Other resources expended

	Unrestricted		
	General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Administrative support costs	35,157	35,157	35,618
Bank charges	313	313	352
	<u>35,470</u>	<u>35,470</u>	<u>35,970</u>

## The Attachment Research Community CIO

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 5 April 2024 (continued)

#### Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Independent examiner fees			
Examination of the financial statements	1,477	1,477	1,070
Legal fees	850	850	-
Other governance costs	11,920	11,920	22,951
	<u>14,247</u>	<u>14,247</u>	<u>24,021</u>

Other governance costs relate to: administrative support and provision of governance advice to the Trustees £7,834 (2023 - £6,919), Strategy development and Call to Action costs of £1,417 (2023 - £15,625), travel costs reimbursed to Trustees and Trustee meeting costs £2,234 (2023 - £nil) and insurance £435 (2023 - £407).

#### 8 Grant-making

##### Analysis of grants

The charity made grants of £6,000 (2023 - £1,000) in respect of ARC Alex Timpson Awards.

#### 9 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any other benefits from the charity during the year.

Trustees were reimbursed £1,526 (2023 - £nil) in respect of expenses incurred during the year.

#### 10 Staff costs

The charity had no employees during the period.

The charity receives support with administrative matters from Mr P Cox, a self-employed consultant. Costs of £15,668 (2023 - £13,838) were paid to Mr P Cox during the period and classified as administrative support costs.

#### 11 Independent examiner's remuneration

	2024 £	2023 £
Examination of the financial statements	<u>1,477</u>	<u>1,070</u>

## The Attachment Research Community CIO

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 5 April 2024 (continued)

#### 12 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

#### 13 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	45,633	21,575
Prepayments	18,261	19,291
	<u>63,894</u>	<u>40,866</u>

#### 14 Cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash at bank	110,734	93,766

#### 15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	26,117	34,687
VAT payable	8,615	2,952
Accruals	1,475	1,434
Deferred income	32,221	28,450
	<u>68,428</u>	<u>67,523</u>

	2024 £
Deferred income at 6 April 2023	28,450
Resources deferred in the period	32,221
Amounts released from previous periods	<u>(28,450)</u>
Deferred income at 5 April 2024	<u>32,221</u>

Deferred income as at 5 April 2024 relates to conference income for the 2024 Annual Conference invoiced during the period to be released in the year ended 5 April 2025.

## The Attachment Research Community CIO

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 5 April 2024 (continued)

#### 16 Funds

	Balance at 6 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 5 April 2024 £
<b>Unrestricted</b>				
General	<u>67,109</u>	<u>242,826</u>	<u>(203,735)</u>	<u>106,200</u>
	Balance at 6 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 5 April 2023 £
<b>Unrestricted</b>				
General	<u>76,786</u>	<u>164,851</u>	<u>(174,528)</u>	<u>67,109</u>

#### 17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds at 5 April 2024 £
Current assets	174,628	174,628
Current liabilities	<u>(68,428)</u>	<u>(68,428)</u>
Total net assets	<u>106,200</u>	<u>106,200</u>
	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds at 5 April 2023 £
Current assets	134,632	134,632
Current liabilities	<u>(67,523)</u>	<u>(67,523)</u>
Total net assets	<u>67,109</u>	<u>67,109</u>

#### 18 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.