



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## **Trustees' Annual Report for the period**

**From 01 April 2021 To 31 March 2022**

**Charity name: Ayre to Air**

**Charity registration number: 1174164**

## **Objectives and Activities**

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<b>The organisation's purpose is the promotion of efficiency in the Armed Forces of the Crown by the provision of support, facilities and activities for the efficiency and wellbeing of Service Personnel</b>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<b>The aim of the Ayre to Air CIO is to build, maintain and operate a Pitts S2AE aircraft that was bequeathed by the family of the late Sgt Anthony Ayre such that Service Personnel and qualifying civilians may be afforded an opportunity to experience aerobatic flight at minimum personal cost. As a non-profit making organisation, supported by volunteer members of the RAF Sport Aircraft Association (RAFSA), the maintenance and operating costs are kept to the very minimum, thus making the activity of aerobatic flying accessible to those who would otherwise be unable to participate.</b>  <b>Aerobatic Flying is a physically and mentally demanding activity that undoubtedly "stretches" the individual, leading to significant personal and professional flying development. Taking it one step further and entering an aerobatic competition brings with it the immeasurable benefits associated with sporting activity and competition. In turn, these benefits further enhance the individuals' contribution to the efficiency of the defence of the UK.</b>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity	Para 1.18	<b>The guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit was used to assist the Trustees with the Organisation's planning of activities</b>

Commission on public benefit		during 'virtual' online meetings held during the reporting year.
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### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	
Other		

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>The main areas of achievement during the reporting period fall within the following 3 areas:</p> <p><b>Aircraft Build &amp; Initial Operation:</b> The Spirit of Ayre was bequeathed as a part-finished self-build project. The skill sets of volunteers drawn from the RAF Sport Aircraft Association (RAFSA) and external 'friends of the project', proved invaluable as the aircraft was slowly introduced to its operating environ. During this reporting period, a number of issues were identified, such as inadequate avionics in the forward cockpit, making it difficult to monitor a novice pilot's engine settings and actions. The Trustees agreed that an electronic engine management system should be installed in both cockpits to enhance flight safety and improve operating efficiencies. The aircraft was relocated to Nottingham aerodrome to afford greater use given the availability of two runways. During this time, the first beneficiaries of the aircraft were afforded their initial introductions to</p>



		<p>aerobatics. However, a frustrating engine malfunction proved rather limiting and a number of hours of operation were lost. Most of the reporting period was spent trying to identify what was causing the engine issues, and very little flying achieved.</p> <p><b><u>Sourcing and Raising Finance:</u></b> Funding the installation of an engine management system was achieved through a loan to the Charity by AAKOS Ltd. The Charity was delighted to receive a generous donation from the Adrian Swire Charitable Trust and also a grant from QinetiQ. 50% of the loan by AAKOS was repaid within the reporting period. A limited income was generated through flying activities.</p> <p><b><u>Promotion &amp; Engagement:</u></b> The profile of the Spirit of Ayre organisation continued to be raised through the publication of storyboards, brochures, reports and the RAFSA website.</p>
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#### **Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<b>At the end of the period, the Charity had recorded a profit of £8235. However, this is slightly misleading as the engine fault investigations and rectifications had yet to be paid for. Further, 50% of the AAKOS loan remained an outstanding liability. The Charity continues to operate on limited funds and tight margins. It would be fair to say that at the end of the period, the financial position was of concern given the lack of flying; the aircraft must be self-funding through flying activity.</b>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	<b>Nil</b>
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	<b>The Charity does not hold sufficient funds to be able to allocate a reserve.</b>
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	<b>Constitution</b>
How is the charity constituted? (e.g. unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	<b>CIO</b>
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	<b>Appointed by the Chairman in consultation with the Trustees.</b>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Ayre to Air
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1174164
Charity's principal address	C/O RAF Waddington Flying School RAF Waddington Lincs LN5 9WA



### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Alistair James Seymour	Trustee & Chairman		
2	Gary Paul Coleman	Trustee		
3	Christopher Martin Hives	Trustee		
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### Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

### Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

### Additional information (optional)

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

#### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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## Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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## Other optional information

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## Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Christopher M Hives	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Trustee	
Date	23 Jan 2023	