

TRUSTEE'S REPORT

The trustees present their report with the impact of the work and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31st December 2022. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (FRSSE).

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Number: 1184273

Registered Office: 57 Kingsley Road
Southsea
PO4 8HL

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, foundation model constitution, and constitute a Charitable Incorporate Organisation (CIO).

Recruitment and Appointment of a new Trustee

Future Trustees must be appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.

In selecting individuals for appointment as charity Trustees, the charity Trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

Upon appointment new trustees will receive a copy of the constitution, a copy of the most recent year impact report and a copy of the charity's latest report and statements of accounts.

Induction and training of new Trustees

Upon joining the organisation, the new Trustees are inducted through spending time with the CEO to have a better understanding of the charity's activities and how it operates. The training provided for Trustees follows Charity Commission training guidelines.

Risk management

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud, error and volunteers health and safety when supporting the charity. A risk analysis form is in place and is utilised prior to volunteer involvement in any activities, events, and trips.

Objective and activities

The Charity was founded for the primary purpose of helping local communities to integrate and support each other in overcoming key issues affecting society. In the UK, URBOND is working to advance diversity and equality, thereby promoting a community which is strong, cohesive, and inclusive of all beliefs, backgrounds, and ideologies.

Through its Youth Development Programme, the Charity is driving opportunities, wellness and success for the youth and their future.

The Charity works in conjunction with local partners to engage with residents and deliver real impact via a range of workshops, activities and events specifically aimed at improving the community and wellbeing of its residents. The Charity's activities and events are designed to encourage togetherness, provide a sense of belonging and embrace and celebrate the differences of all those who take part.

In the Republic of Guinea, the Child Education Programme is achieving this by working with partners and the local community to provide educational support and resources to children who would otherwise go without.

To achieve the goal of advancing education, the Charity is working to raise awareness, support and funds to power the following five campaigns:

1. Build a primary school in an area where one is not easily accessible to educate the children,
2. support the recruitment of teachers for schools where there are shortages,
3. work with communities to overcome the barriers (such as gender disparities or financial hardship) which prevent families from sending their children to school,
4. offer vocational training to the locals so they can afford cost of educating their children and, finally,
5. working with partners and parents to deliver training and equipment to support girls' education.

We have started work on a brand-new school building, so children will no longer have to make the exhausting journey by foot or risk their lives perilously crossing the river to reach their nearest educational establishment.

We are working with established schools in Conakry and Dubréka to ensure inclusive and equitable high-quality education is provided for the pupils.

We are also working with parents in rural areas to eliminate gender disparities and vulnerable situations in education and to promote sustainable lifestyles.

We are pleased to be working with Microsoft providing vocational training and opportunities to underprivileged communities and respond to the growing job crisis in Guinea which causes child labour.

We are working with partners to increase the school attendance of girls in Conakry and Dubréka (Republic of Guinea) by providing them with menstrual equipment and a better understanding of their bodies. The aim is to prevent young girls from skipping or dropping out of school due to *period poverty* and a lack of awareness about menstruation.

It is the vision of the organisation to embed a philosophy of '**bigger, stronger communities**' both in a local sense and on a wider scale. The work undertaken in Portsmouth forms a foundation that will spread this message exponentially by positively impacting the lives of those individuals within communities the organisation serves.

Significant Activities

In planning our activities for the year, we have kept in mind the Governing Document and the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and our Trustee's meetings.

Cost of living crisis has made it difficult to sustain the charity activities here in the UK and the charity work further afield The Republic of Guinea, as part of the Child Education Programme. Despite this significant challenge and under often challenging circumstances, across the year, URBOND has scheduled a successful rostrum of activities.

Under the Charity's Community Integration Programme, URBOND have succeeded in bringing together a staggering 40,583 people in Portsmouth spanning 78 different nationalities since its

inception in 2013. In 2022 alone, the charity ran 12 community integration projects, and 181 activities with over 2,500 participants and beneficiaries, with 80% of participants stating that they would happily recommend friends, family members or colleagues to attend community activities and events.

During this reporting year, URBOND launched its podcast series providing a platform where members of the community could further come together and discuss issues of concern and help build a better community for all. The podcast series officially started in September 2022, with four episodes covering mental health, volunteers work, cost of living crisis, diversity and, inclusion and community integration. Guest speakers on the podcast episodes included members of the community, professionals and community group leaders who discussed the best ways in which the charity could support and cohesively work together for the best interest of the local community. In 2022, podcast episodes had almost 30,000 views across all social media channels with the hope that more people would be sensitised and gain a better understanding of issues affecting integration in communities.

URBOND volunteers undertook 84 visits to 15 families to donate food and essentials. The food and essentials were donated by the Charity's partner Aldi to support local community members affected by the cost of living crisis.

Elsewhere, URBOND forum meetings keep going from strength to strength, with the membership of the group now including 15 local groups and associations. The local council, NHS, the Police are regular attendees at the meetings as special guests and together with these dedicated partners we are addressing health inequality, building relationships between the minority and the police and we are working with the local authority to support members affected by cost of living crisis. URBOND also established working relationship with National Institute for Health and care Research (NIHR) to help diversify research data and ensure that the right support is provided to members from minority communities. Diversity has been a challenge for NIHR, and URBOND has in place community champions who work closely with NIHR staff to engage more people from the minority communities in health research.

In 2022 all the weekly community fitness activities and community fitness events took place, 5,751 participants attended across all the fitness activities. 80% of the attendees would recommend community fitness activities to their friends and family.

URBOND organised four workshops and a conference to celebrate International Women's Day. The themes for the workshops were;

- selfcare,
- domestic violence,
- self-confidence,
- mental health.

The workshops were delivered by professionals from our partner organisations. Over 50 women in the community benefitted from the workshops and over 100 women also attended and benefitted from women's conference.

As for the socio-cultural events, two events were cancelled due COVID-19 and two events were successfully organised and a day out. 519 members of our community attended these three events.

Community workshops and seminars were a great success in 2022, with 2,080 participants benefitting from the community workshops.

Through the Youth Development Programme, the Charity is tackling key issues affecting the young people in the community (such as those relating to crime, unemployment, health risks, etc.) by engaging them in positive behaviours that build their abilities and competencies. Support is delivered to participants through a combination of workshops, mentorship and activities which meet their physical, social, and developmental needs.

In 2022, the programme benefitted 3,194 young participants in the city of Portsmouth and surrounding areas with 147 of those regularly engaging with the Charity's activities and support every single week. 218 youth engagement activities and workshops were also organised in 2022 and 92% of young people we work with would happily recommend youth engagement activities to friends and family members.

In the latter stages of the year, URBOND hosted the 3rd annual charity ball at the Marriot Hotel in Portsmouth. Over 150 guests attended and helped raise over £8,571.37 through ticket sales and a live charity auction, for the Child Education Programme in the Republic of Guinea, which also had significant activities across the year.

Most notably, in October 2022 twelve volunteers from Portsmouth, Southampton and London travelled to Dubréka (Republic of Guinea) to build a toilet facility to help improve girls' education, built a purpose-built sports facility for the children. A full-size basketball and volleyball court is the pride of the children, promoting safe playing conditions for the children and the community.

During this trip, the URBOND team also ran educational workshops for girls, during which 1,500 sanitary pads were distributed to girls from underprivileged background, supported teachers, delivered dental hygiene workshops, volunteers also ran workshops on irregular migration and in addition to its current offering URBOND decided to embark on a two-fold project that will help support and facilitate education and integration for disabled young people in the Republic of Guinea.

Back in the local community, URBOND's year was rounded off with a mental health podcast with a specialist from Good Mental Health as the special guest. A partnership between URBOND and the local council to deliver Holiday Activities and Food programme (HAF), supporting children who are entitled to Free School Meals whilst school is not in session. Activities included international dance, arts and crafts, lunch, games and music.

Overall, the breadth of activities URBOND has delivered this reporting year has succeeded in fulfilling the URBOND mission statement and in enhancing the vital work it carries out in the community: for the young, elderly, middle-aged, and all in between – both here and abroad.

Volunteer Contribution

Volunteers are vital to the work of URBOND. Without dedicated volunteers, URBOND's great achievements would have never been possible. The Trustees, project managers and volunteers work tirelessly to make sure day to day running of the Charity is a success here in the UK and in the Republic of Guinea.

Fundraising activities

URBOND had seen incredible success with its fundraising activities. The charity is currently receiving funds from the National Lottery for the Community Integration Programme and the Youth Development Programme. Revenue was received from Portsmouth City Council to deliver holiday activities and food to children on free school meals. Grants from HIWCF, Active Community Network, Energise Me, Sponsorship from Richmond Motor Group and Gaglani & Co. Volunteers also raised a substantial amount which all contributed to the building of the girl's toilet facilities.

Future Developments

Throughout 2023 URBOND will be working to expand its reach, with the express goal of engaging with a larger audience both nationally and internationally. In Portsmouth (UK) the Charity is looking to;

- increase participation by 20%,
- increase the number of nationalities attending activities and
- work with more local and national partners.

Under the Youth Development Programme, URBOND is planning to launch a youth club to bring young people in a safe space to make new friends and provide positive engagement activities. The charity is planning more youth fitness sessions for young people in football, volleyball and basketball. URBOND is also looking to form a partnership with Music Fusion to provide music sessions to young people and finally URBOND is looking to form a partnership with Portsmouth Magistrate to help educate young people about their rights and how they can consider becoming Magistrates if they are interested.

URBOND is planning to take ten dedicated volunteers to the Republic of Guinea to build a school, deliver more menstruation workshops and provide clean running water to the school children.

Ongoing revision of URBOND's strategic plan for the Charity will also take place, exploring longer term sustainability with community/volunteer projects, corporate partnerships with businesses, grant applications, marketing and awareness campaigns to strengthen the working relationship with the stakeholders in the UK and in the Republic of Guinea.

Financial Review

The Trustees are pleased to report the annual income of £190,548. The decrease in income can be attributed to reduced contributions from participants in projects income and donations, as many of our members and supporters have been affected by the cost of living crisis.

Accumulated funds have been invested in equipment and resources to support the regular community fitness activities. Significantly, funds have been invested in coaching courses for volunteers to help improve the level of service provided to the participants which is integral to the ethos of the charity.

Tangible assets have been purchased as per last years' projections and allowing for annual depreciation, have a net book value of £5,136. Total assets, including cash at bank, stand at £184,836. Current liabilities are accrued income from the Lottery, £58,312 and PAYE contributions of £19,804.

Of the Total Reserves, £3,144 are restricted funds for projects spanning 2022-23 activities.

Significant fundraising and investment in the Child Education Programme has resulted in the amazing benefits to the families in Guinea, as detailed above, and plans are in place to raise further funds to build upon achievements to date.

At the close of the Period Under Review, the Trustees report a Retained Surplus of £106,720 and Total Assets for the Charity of £184,836.

Reserves Policy

It is the intention of the Trustees to review the reserves to ensure they are maintained at a level to ensure the charity can meet its objectives. These include providing ongoing support with salaries and expenses associated with the charity. The charity will also provide necessary funds and support to our partner schools in Guinea.

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

KINGSLEY DIABY - TRUSTEE

Name and position

Signed



Date

26-06-2023

Statement of Financial Activities

	Dec-22	Dec-21
Donations Received	11,114	24,118
Grants Received	120,857	146,347
Fundraising Revenue	2,150	7,325
Other Income	5,664	4,316
Gift Aid Reclaim	0	
Project Income		
Community Fitness Income	9,043	5,053
Social Events Income	80	
Child Education Programme Income	18,432	10,268
Outreach - Work in Community	856	
Women Empowerment Programme	915	
Education - Workshops & Seminars	0	
HAF - Holiday Activity & Food Programme	3,510	
Sponsorship Income	17,927	2,500
Total Receipts	190,548	199,927
Less Expenditure		
Wages and Salaries		
Gross Pay	93,141	44,083
Employers NI	8,301	4,354
Pension Contributions	1,694	1,057
Casual Labour	2,792	
Rent and Rates	7,448	4,223
Marketing	4,765	5,428
Bank Charges	0	6
Equipment Expenses, incl Office equip	3,048	
Fundraising General	2,394	4,763
Insurance	440	
Legal and Professional Fees	2,086	50
Printing, Postage and Stationery	183	1,189
Telephone and Internet	370	1,046
Repairs and Renewals	46	204
Training and Development	2,372	350
Project Expenses		
Community Fitness	13,843	4,402
Child Education Programme Expenses	49,618	27,024
Social Events	1,787	570
Women Empowerment	1,837	1,246
Outreach - Work in Community	3,734	
Education - Workshops & Seminars	606	
HAF - Holiday Activity & Food Programme	965	
Travel Expenses	1,268	2,553
Licences & Subscriptions	89	
Software & IT	1,184	

Website Maintenance	112	
Depreciation charge for the year	1,503	
Staff Welfare	2,507	
Other Expenses, incl Uniform & PPE	2,249	390
Total Payments	210,384	102,938
Net Income/ (Expenditure)	-19,836	96,989

Reserved Funds Tracking Year End December 2022

Income

<i>Big Lottery Grant</i>	£98,124.50
<i>Energise Me</i>	£4,430.00
<i>Active Community Network</i>	£11,563.86
<i>HIWCF Grant</i>	£2,433.00
<i>Covid Vaccination Prog</i>	£4,072.00
<i>HAF - Hol Activity & Food</i>	£3,510.00
<i>Richmond Motor Grp</i>	£23,147.00
Total Donations	£147,280.36

Direct Costs

<i>Hall Hire</i>	£16,873.64
<i>Casual Labour / Coaching</i>	£11,188.00
<i>Refreshments & Subsistence</i>	£2,507.00
<i>Child Education Programme</i>	£49,618.00
<i>Fundraising</i>	£0.00
Total Direct Costs	£80,186.64

Expenses

<i>Staff costs</i>	£89,920.00
<i>Rent</i>	£7,448.00
<i>Travel & expenses</i>	£1,268.00
<i>Office Expenses</i>	£905.00
<i>Equipment</i>	£1,888.86
<i>Marketing</i>	£762.00
<i>Prof / Specialist Fees</i>	£1,396.00
<i>Other Expenses</i>	£810.00
Total Expenses	£104,397.86

Total Costs & Expenses	£184,584.50
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Statement of Assets and Liability

	Dec-22	Dec-21
Current Assets		
Fixed Assets		
Office Equipment and IT	6,142	2,603
Accumulated Depreciation	-1,717	
Fixtures and Fittings	845	845
Accumulated Depreciation	-134	-
Total Fixed Assets	5,136	3,448
Cash Funds, Cash at Bank		
Current – Community Integration A/C	155,800.05	108,049
Current – Child Education A/C	23,899.91	23,392
Total Bank	179,700	131,442
Total Assets	184,836	134,889
Liabilities		
Amounts falling due within one year	78,117	7,584
Net Current Assets	106,720	127,305
Funds		
Unrestricted Funds	103,576	127,305
Restricted Funds	3,144	
Total Funds	106,720	127,305

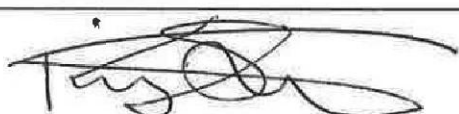
The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Trustees consider that an independent examination is required for the year in review. The Trustees have adhered to the General Directions and Advice provided by the Charity Commission to the best of their ability and knowledge.

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

KINGSLEY DIGBY - TRUSTEE

Name and position

Signed



Date

26/06/2023

Reconciliation of Funds

	Dec-22	Dec-21
Funds		
Total Funds Brought Forwards	127,305	30,316
Prior Year Adjustment: Included in Current Period	-749	
Net Income	-19,836	96,989
Total Funds Carried Forwards	106,720	127,305

Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Accounting Policies

The Financial Statements have been prepared on the accrual basis in accordance with the SORP FRS 102 Charity Act 2011

2. Fund Accounting

Unrestricted Funds can only be used in accordance with the Charity objectives at the direction of the Trustees.

Restricted Funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objectives of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or, when funds are raised for a particular restricted purpose.

3. Taxation

The Charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

4. Trustee Expenses

The Trustees settled "out of pocket" expenses personally. No Trustees were in receipt of remuneration or other benefits arising from employment with URBOND.

5. Charitable Expenditure

	Dec-22	Dec-21
Community Fitness	13,843	4,402
Child Education Project*	49,618	27,024
Social Events	1,787	570
Women Empowerment	1,837	1,246
Outreach - Work in Community	3,734	
Education - Workshops & Seminars	606	
HAF - Holiday Activity & Food Programme	965	
	72,391	33,241

* £5,639 for New School in Koutayah & £36,832 for Building Sanitary Facilities, play area, Air Fares included in Guinea Expenditure

6. Cost of Raising Funds

	Dec-22	Dec-21
Community Integration Events	1,718	500
Marketing/ Fundraising and Equipment	7,271	2,182
	8,989	2,682

7. Related Party Transactions

There have been no related party transactions during the reporting period.

8. Accounting, Independent Examination and Other Financial Service Fees

£585 has been paid for the period under review.



7th June 2023

Independent Examination

URBOND – Registered Charity 1184273

Dear Sir

We have undertaken a review of the books and records of URBOND, a registered charity, for the Period Ending 31st December 2022; this review has been performed in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and is made to the Trustees of the Charity.

During this review we assessed and reviewed approximately 65% of the transactions and reconciled such to the data within the financial system and records.

The year in review showed donations from external and unrelated charitable organisations; URBOND has confirmed that the source of these funds had been verified, formal receipts issued and, that the funds were recorded as either Reserved or Unreserved funds, subject to the terms of the original donation. It is noted that within the period under review, Reserved Funds totalling £147,280 were received; additionally, £58,312 was received from the Big Lottery which related to the subsequent Financial Year (01/01/2023 – 31/12/2023) and has therefore been recorded as Accrued Income in the Statement of Assets and Liability. The corresponding reversal entry has been evidenced in the new Financial Year.

We can confirm that no material matters have been identified in connection with the examination of such records. Further, it is our opinion that URBOND has demonstrated diligent and transparent financial management process and practices, with internal oversight, together with clear and demonstrable involvement of the Trustees, not only the Chairman. Further, the Board of Trustees continues to improve internal processes in line with Charity Commission guidelines and regulations.

It is our view that the financial statements represent a true and fair representation of the Charity. There are no recommendations arising.

No liability or legal responsibility is accepted for the state of the financial statements as our assessment relates to an examination of best practice only and is not an audit. Therefore, we make no comment on the content of the statements.

Yours faithfully

J R Kemp BA(Hons) MBCS MICB