

THE CRITO PROJECT

England & Wales · Charity number 1184526

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2019-07-22

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 76 Vauxhall Street
Norwich
NR2 2SD

Phone 07812146563

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Website www.thecritoproject.org

Activities

Objects: THE REHABILITATION OF EX-OFFENDERS FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT BY THE PROVISION OF ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION FOR INMATES IN PRISONS IN THE EAST OF ENGLAND.

Activities: The Crito Project provides access to higher education to inmates serving their sentences in the East of England. We provide expert tutoring for our incarcerated students and offer a wide range & depth of modules. We are securing accreditation for our course in partnership with the University of East Anglia. People Plus are our education partners, and we currently teach exclusively at HMP Wayland.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, Economic/community Development/employment, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Cambridgeshire
- Norfolk
- Suffolk

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-06-01	£29,379	£24,318	-	-
2024-06-01	£28,153	£30,344	-	-
2023-06-01	£200	£3,608	-	-
2022-06-01	£17,354	£10,487	-	-
2021-06-01	£0	£0	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Dr Tom Greaves	Chair	2019-07-17
GEORGIE OATLEY		2019-07-17
Mollie Holden-Oates		2021-09-11
Prof Liam Dolan		2019-07-17

THE CRITO PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1184526

Accounts



The Crito Project Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Report of the trustees for the year ending June 2024

The trustees of the Crito Project charity present an annual report for the year ended 01 June 2024 and confirm they comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, the charity's constitution, and the Charities SORP (FRS 102). Included is the charity's receipts & payments account report.

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Our Aims

The Crito Project proceeds from two key beliefs:

- 1) That education is the most cost-effective and successful mode of reform available to our society.
- 2) That universities have a civic duty to seek out students in unconventional settings, especially those whose lives stand at critical junctures, and who can benefit the most from higher education.

In light of these beliefs, our primary aim is to provide access to higher education to inmates serving their sentence in the east of England.

Second, we advocate for, and work to bring about, the provision of accreditation for those students, in association with strategic partners including the University of East Anglia (UEA), the Bard College Prison Initiative (BPI) and the US-based Consortium for the Liberal Arts in Prison which it leads, prison governors, PeoplePlus (the prison education provider contracted to our region), affiliated charities, and universities other than the UEA which are aligned with our charitable aims.

Third, we audit our work whenever possible, in order to add to the collective knowledge and understanding of the impact that such study has upon the wellbeing, life chances, behaviour and decisions of the Charity's students. We also assess our activity in order to improve the provision of our tutors and the efficacy of our courses.

We confirm that we as the charity's trustees have complied with our duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the commission in exercising our powers.

Our Objectives

This year saw the charity begin full delivery of its long-awaited accredited curriculum at two separate prison sites. Given the purpose of the charity, and the extended setbacks associated with the pandemic¹, this return to face-to-face teaching was of crucial importance. In January 2023 the charity commenced teaching at HMP Highpoint, and in January 2024 at HMP Warren Hill. HMP Highpoint's large population and status as a Category-C training prison made it a good candidate, while HMP Warren Hill's smaller population but emphasis on reform, education and rehabilitation made it a natural partnership for higher education.

Just as significantly, our attempts to broaden the curriculum of the charity bore fruit, with the University of East Anglia's School of Literature, Drama and Creative Writing signalling their support for the charity, and their willingness to contribute accredited modules to the curriculum. This means that within a year we will have hit a massive milestone in our charity's five year plan early, which is the provision of a full year of a degree to our students, face-to-face, known as a CertHE. Therefore our primary objectives for the year were:

- Delivery of a revised curriculum from 2020 & test out our hypotheses regarding best practice in assessment, student support and pedagogy as we opened at a second site.
- Recruit students and inform the population at HMP Warren Hill, to get the word out about our accredited higher education; this involved posters, flyers, application packs under every cell door, briefing fellow teachers on-site, and creating adverts for "Wayout TV", the in-cell television service, to broadcast.
- Revisit all procedures and charity policies, to be ready for a fresh round of due diligence with our partners, People Plus.

¹ Read User Voice's 2022 "Coping With Covid in Prison", for an excellent overview of the impact on prisons UK (see <https://www.thecritoproject.org/crito-news/2022/8/22/measuring-the-pandemic-impact>)

- Recruitment and orientation of new tutors to meet increased breadth of future curriculum requirements due to the new CertHE provision
- Conduct meetings and negotiations for the University of East Anglia's LDC school to join us in accredited provision accreditation.
- Begin to source and prepare the hundreds of academic books which will make up our second dedicated on-site library.
- Expand the expertise on our Board of Trustees to include a Treasurer.

Review of Activity and Achievement

The start of 2023 was an extremely important moment for the charity; we have bounced back from a trying period of lockdown and false-starts, to achieve our principle purpose as a charity: to deliver meaningful higher education face-to-face in prison classrooms. Understandably, the majority of our work, as well as our limited resources, have been dedicated to making a success of this promising start, and the Board of Trustees is proud to report that the first six months of provision has been a real success. Due to the unfortunate events of the past three years, the number of university-prison partnerships in the UK has flatlined in both number and ambition, and we think our charity is uniquely placed to lead a resurgence in the sector, and ultimately to establish it and its partners as the foremost partnership of its kind in the country. To these ends, we have:

- Enrolled a new cohort of ten students at a new prison, on the UK's only face-to-face accredited higher education prison programme.
- Begin a second round of accreditation talks with the UEA, to expand our provision to 120 degree credits.
- Transitioned from invoicing tutors as contractors to full PAYE as recognised employees, and began the recruiting process for new Crito tutors.

- Been invited to attend the 2024 Bard College Prison Initiative's Summer Residency², this time in person in New York State.
- Recruited a new trustee as Treasurer and retained our current board.
- Kept our charity website (www.thecritoproject.org) updated with news and opinion pieces.
- Keep our central partnerships with PeoplePlus and the UEA in good condition, leading to the writing of a Memorandum of Understanding being signed by the three partner institutions.

Future Plans

- Our future plans revolve around two cohorts of students at HMP Highpoint & Warren Hill; our first priority is to provide them with the same first-class teaching and support that they would expect to find on UEA campus, as well as to implement changes in provision at Warren Hill in light of our experiences at Highpoint.
- We plan to implement and embed CertHE-level education as our standard, working with the UEA to help achieve this goal, and to raise awareness within the university and its partners, of our good work.
- We plan to continue our dialog with Bard College Prison Initiative in the US, whose guidance has been instrumental so far, and to help build a nascent network of like-minded universities in the UK who, like us, take their lead from the BPI's example. So far this includes the UEA, UCL³ and DWRM⁴.
- We want to work more closely with People Plus, and continue our good working practices with them, and make sure our provision meets the requirements of both their sub-contracting due diligence process, and the parameters outline in our shared memorandum of understanding.

² <https://bpi.bard.edu/beyond/national-engagement/summer-residency/2024-cohort/>

³ <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/policy-lab/news/2024/dec/unlocking-potential-role-universities-can-play-reforming-prison-education>

⁴ <https://dwrn.org.uk/>

- Once established, we foresee the need to begin public relations to some degree, to raise awareness of our good work and its potential for growth, and to create a profile with which to attract donations. However, we remain cautious in our approach, based upon a simple costs/benefits analysis of media impact.

Structure and Governance

The single change to the charity's structure or governance in this fiscal year has been the successful recruitment of Dominic Daniels as Treasurer and member of the board of trustees.

Trustees & Volunteers

Chair

Dr Tom Greaves, *Senior Lecturer, UEA Philosophy Department*

Treasurer

- Dominic Daniels


Trustees

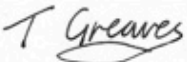

- Georgie Oatley
- Professor Liam Dolan, FRS
- Mollie Holden Oates

Teaching Staff

- Dr Ben Walker, *Crito Project Course Director, UEA*
 - Jack Manzi, *Postgraduate Researcher, UEA*
 - Nayantara Nayar, *PhD Student, UEA*
-

Receipts & Payments Account

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	The Crito Project		1184526		CC16a
	Receipts and payments accounts				
	For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date	
		02/04/2023		01/04/2024	
Section A Receipts and payments					
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	100	-	-	100	-
Payment of invoice for teaching, People Plus	28,053	-	-	28,053	-
	- 0	-	-	-	-
	- 0	-	-	-	-
	- 0	-	-	-	-
	- 0	-	-	-	-
Sub total(Gross income for AR)	28,153	-	-	28,153	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	- 0	- 0	- 0	-	
	- 0	- 0	- 0	-	- 0
Sub total	- 0	- 0	- 0	-	- 0
Total receipts	28,153	- 0	- 0	28,153	- 0
A3 Payments					
Printing, posters & annual web fees	316	-	-	316	-
Library books & student materials	3,802	-	-	3,802	-
PAYE Teaching wages	2,251	-	-	2,251	-
Teaching (invoiced)	20,809	-	-	20,809	-
Professional, P&P & Employer's insurance	587	-	-	587	-
Travel Costs	2,507	-	-	2,507	-
Bank costs	72	-	-	72	-
	- 0	-	-	-	-
Sub total	30,344	-	-	30,344	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	- 0	- 0	- 0	-	
	- 0	- 0	- 0	-	- 0
Sub total	- 0	- 0	- 0	-	- 0
Total payments	30,344	- 0	- 0	30,344	- 0
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 2,191	-	-	- 2,191	-
A5 Transfers between funds	- 0	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	4,195	-	-	4,195	-
Cash funds this year end	2,003	-	-	2,003	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period				
Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	2,003	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name		Date of approval
		Tom Greaves, Chair		20.01.25
		Georgie Oatley, Trustee		20.01.25

Statement of Assets & Liabilities

- Because the charity's annual income is now over £25,000, the trustees will arrange for an independent person or accountancy firm to carry out an independent examination of these accounts before they are submitted to the Charity Commission, before 26th March 2025.

- The charity has no assets or liabilities to declare, no dedicated offices, and no dedicated computer or IT equipment.
- The purchase of books for students on site is here expensed as incurred and is not considered a fixed asset.
- Since April 2024, the Charity now has three staff on PAYE zero-hour contracts, with hours typically tied to our agreed provision. Our employees' PAYE is calculated and recorded by CBR solutions⁵.

Notes to the Accounts

In accordance with our agreement with PeoplePlus, we have delivered hundreds of hours of accredited university education across HMP Highpoint and HMP Warren Hill this financial year, and have been paid £28,053.00 by the company for this provision. These payments have been in agreement with the terms set out in the relevant memorandum of understanding, namely, on a costs-only basis, where the charity clearly outlines its expenditure on tutor pay, travel expenses and teaching materials, and PeoplePlus agrees to match them.

The charity remains committed to paying its tutors a fee commensurate with the UEA's associate tutor rates (currently £35.45 per hour of classroom teaching). Unfortunately we are not in a position to pay our Course Director, Ben Walker, a wage for his second, voluntary role. As and when we develop a more robust income, we may revisit this arrangement. In early 2024 Board of Trustees made the decision that, given the regularity with which the charity was using the same key tutors, it was sensible for us to move to a PAYE system. Outside of a few key tutors, we will still invoice tutors when they teach on an occasional or temporary basis, however.

The charity made a number of purchases this year, in relation to advertising its work both onsite in prisons and online, and in establishing the necessary academic library onsite at HMP Highpoint. None of these purchases can be considered assets and are rather expenses; library books, book-protection materials, student journals and stationary, printed posters and packs, etc.

⁵ <https://www.cbrsolutions.org.uk/>

The year ended with the charity holding less income than it started with, due to its larger outlay on library materials. While we do foresee a need to establish new funding streams and greater donations for the charity in the near future, to supplement our agreed payment from PeoplePlus, the bulk of the books required to teach at two prisons have now been purchased, and so continuing expenditure on this cost will markedly diminish over the next two years.

THE CRITO PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1184526

Accounts



The Crito Project Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Report of the trustees for the year ending June 2023

The trustees of the Crito Project charity present an annual report for the year ended 01 June 2023 and confirm they comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, the charity's constitution, and the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

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Our Aims

The Crito Project proceeds from two key beliefs:

- 1) That education is the most cost-effective and successful mode of reform available to our society.
- 2) That universities have a civic duty to seek out students in unconventional settings, especially those whose lives stand at critical junctures, and who can benefit the most from higher education.

In light of these beliefs, our primary aim is to provide access to higher education to inmates serving their sentence in the east of England.

Second, we advocate for, and work to bring about, the provision of accreditation for those students, in association with strategic partners including the University of East Anglia, the US-based Consortium for the Liberal Arts in Prison, prison governors, education companies working in the sector, and affiliated charities.

Third, we analyse and audit our work whenever possible, in order to add to the collective knowledge and understanding of the impact that such study has upon the wellbeing, life chances, behaviour and decisions of the Charity's students. We also assess our activity in order to improve the provision of our tutors and the efficacy of our courses.

We confirm that we as the charity's trustees have complied with our duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the commission in exercising our powers.

Our Objectives

This year saw the charity move out of “standby” mode and, at long last, back into face-to-face teaching. The previous two years had been marred by Coronavirus lockdowns, which made face-to-face teaching impossible¹, and by the slow pace at which our primary partner prison, HMP Wayland, was able to reopen its education department. In July 2022 the charity’s trustees identified HMP Highpoint as our best candidate for a new partnership, due to its well-run regime, its status as a Category-C training prison, and its large population. From a standing start, therefore, our primary objectives for the year became:

- Revisit our curriculum from 2020 & devise a timetable of delivery.
- Run an information campaign onsite at HMP Highpoint, to get the word out about our accredited higher education; this involved posters, flyers, application packs under every cell door, briefing fellow teachers on-site, and creating adverts for “Wayout TV”, the in-cell television service, to broadcast.
- Revisit all procedures and charity policies, to be ready for a fresh round of due diligence with our partners, People Plus.
- Tutor training in workplace safety and safeguarding, as well as securing an insurance policy to cover our delivery: professional indemnity, public & products liability, and employers liability.
- Finalise arrangements with the University of East Anglia for accreditation, and with the Philosophy Department for academic oversight.
- Begin to source and prepare the hundreds of academic books which will make up our dedicated on-site library, named *The Russell Bartlett Library*, in honour of last year’s generous donor, which enabled these purchases.
- Negotiate and decorate classroom space on site, and match up our workflow with People Plus’ administrative team at HMP Highpoint.

¹ Read User Voice’s 2022 “Coping With Covid in Prison”, for an excellent overview of the impact on prisons UK (see <https://www.thecritoproject.org/crito-news/2022/8/22/measuring-the-pandemic-impact>)

Review of Activity and Achievement

The start of 2023 was an extremely important moment for the charity; we have bounced back from a trying period of lockdown and false-starts, to achieve our principle purpose as a charity: to deliver meaningful higher education in the prison classroom. Understandably, the majority of our work, as well as our limited resources, have been dedicated to making a success of this promising start, and the Board of Trustees is proud to report that the first six months of provision has been a real success. Due to the unfortunate events of the past three years, university-prison partnerships in the UK have declined in occurrence and ambition, and we think the charity is uniquely placed to lead a resurgence in the sector, and ultimately to establish it and its partners as the foremost partnership of its kind in the country. To these ends, we have:

- Enrolled a cohort of ten students on the UK's only face-to-face accredited higher education prison programme.
- Finalised accreditation with the UEA
- Drafted and found agreement on a new memorandum of Understanding between the Crito Project, the UEA and People Plus, formalising our understanding of each others' roles and responsibilities.
- Passed the due diligence tests with People Plus, an exhaustive regulatory process which allows us to now bid for contracts in UK prisons.
- Kept our charity website (www.thecritoproject.org) updated with news and opinion pieces.

Future Plans

- Our future plans now revolve around our first cohort of ten students at HMP Highpoint; their nominal graduation date will be 10th July 2024, and our first priority is to provide them with the same first-class teaching and support that they would expect to find on UEA campus.
- We plan to liaise with the UEA regarding the possibility of extending the range of our accredited subjects, to broaden our provision, and to meet the criteria for a CertHE (120 credits). We also plan to continue our dialog with Bard College Prison Initiative in the US, whose guidance has been instrumental so far.
- There's no better teacher than experience, and we plan to modify our provision according to our experiences with the first accredited cohort at HMP Highpoint.
- Once we are established at HMP Highpoint we plan to revisit the potential to start at a second prison in the region, to expand our provision.
- We plan to enter into dialog with other universities regarding their prison outreach programmes, to explore the possibility of working in partnership across the UK.
- We want to work more closely with People Plus, and establish good working practices with them, establishing a system of invoice payment that is regular enough for the charity to be able to pay its free-lance tutors in a timely manner.
- As we become more established, we plan to revisit our arrangement with our tutors; if they are happy to stay with us over a number of terms of teaching, the charity will introduce a PAYE scheme of employment, instead of its current contractor arrangements.
- Once established, we foresee the need to being public relations to some degree, to raise awareness of our good work and its potential for growth, and to create a profile with which to attract donations.

Structure and Governance

There has been no change in the charity's structure or governance in this fiscal year. If our current provision is a success and the charity starts to grow, we will consider seeking additional trustees to fill more specialised roles such as Treasurer and Legal Advisor.

Trustees & Volunteers

Chair

Dr Tom Greaves, *Senior Lecturer, UEA Philosophy Department*

Trustees

- Georgie Oatley
- Professor Liam Dolan, FRS
- Mollie Holden Oates

Teaching Staff


- Dr Ben Walker, *Crito Project Course Director, UEA*
- Jack Manzi, *Postgraduate Researcher, UEA*

Research


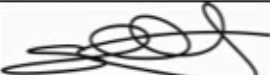
Head Researcher

Dr Rob Lock

Receipts & Payments Account

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES		The Crito Project		1184526		CC16a
Receipts and payments accounts						
For the period from		Period start date	To	Period end date		
		01/06/2022		01/06/2023		
Section A Receipts and payments						
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year	
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	
A1 Receipts						
Donations	200	-	-	200		-
Payment of invoice for teaching, People Plus	-0	-	-	-		-
	-0	-	-	-		-
	-0	-	-	-		-
	-0	-	-	-		-
	-0	-	-	-		-
Sub total(Gross income for AR)	200	-	-	200		-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).						
	-0	-0	-0	-		-0
	-0	-0	-0	-		-0
Sub total	-0	-0	-0	-		-0
Total receipts	200	-0	-0	200		-0
A3 Payments						
Printing, posters & annual web fees	868	-	-	868		-
Library books & student materials	1,611	-	-	1,611		-
Teaching wages	-0	-	-	-		-
Bank costs	108	-	-	108		-
Professional, P&P & Employer's Insurance	289	-	-	289		-
Managing Safety & Safeguarding training	335	-	-	335		-
200 Book protectors, pockets & travel costs	397	-	-	397		-
	-0	-	-	-		-
Sub total	3,608	-	-	3,608		-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)						
	-0	-0	-0	-		-0
	-0	-0	-0	-		-0
Sub total	-0	-0	-0	-		-0
Total payments	3,608	-0	-0	3,608		-0
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 3,408	-	-	- 3,408		-
A5 Transfers between funds	-0	-	-	-		-
A6 Cash funds last year end	7,549	-	-	7,549		-
Cash funds this year end	4,141	-	-	4,141		-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	4,141	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Tom Greaves, Chair	26.03.24	
		Georgie Oatley, Trustee	26.03.24	

Statement of Assets & Liabilities

The charity has no assets or liabilities to declare. Because it has no dedicated offices and no current teaching contracts until teaching can recommence, the charity has no fixed costs. Over the coming few months the charity plans to assemble a small academic library on site, and this will represent the charity's first real asset.

Notes to the Accounts

This year the charity has generated little income to date, although we have delivered our first module at HMP Highpoint, January–March 2023, and are awaiting invoice payment from People Plus. The charity’s receipts totalled less than £25,000, and so our receipts and payments accounts have not been independently examined.

The charity remains committed to paying its self-employed tutors a fee commensurate with the UEA’s associate tutor rates (currently £35.45 per hour of classroom teaching). Unfortunately we are not in a position to pay our Course Director, Ben Walker, a wage for his second, voluntary role. As and when we develop a more robust income, we may revisit this arrangement.

The charity made a number of purchases this year, in relation to advertising its work both onsite in prisons and online, and in establishing the necessary academic library onsite at HMP Highpoint.

The year ended with the charity holding a significant percentage of its income in cash reserves. In particular, we foresee a ongoing need for continuing expenditure in establishing a student library capable of supporting higher education learning for our future students.

THE CRITO PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1184526

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In light of these beliefs, our primary aim is to provide access to higher education to inmates serving their sentence in the east of England.

Second, we advocate for, and work to bring about, the provision of accreditation for those students, in association with strategic partners including the University of East Anglia, the US-based Consortium for the Liberal Arts in Prison, prison governors, education companies working in the sector, and affiliated charities.

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We confirm that we as the charity's trustees have complied with our duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the commission in exercising our powers.

Our Objectives

As detailed in reports such as User Voice's 2022 "Coping With Covid in Prison" (see <https://www.thecritoproject.org/crito-news/2022/8/22/measuring-the-pandemic-impact>), many of the UK's prisons have still only partially reopened, after the Coronavirus pandemic forced them into stringent lockdowns. During this period, many sites lost key personnel, and this reduction in staffing and capacity has in some cases created a situation where prisons are still unable to fully reopen their facilities; HMP Wayland was one such prison. Our objectives for our third year were therefore drastically reduced by the coronavirus pandemic for a second year running. Before these events we were preparing to move into the long-awaited second stage of provision, with the Crito Project becoming the UK's first fully accredited university/prison initiative, in partnership with the University of East Anglia (UEA) and People Plus at HMP Wayland. The lockdown interrupted our first delivery of our new accredited curriculum, and since then we have struggled to restart teaching due to conditions on the ground: on *three* occasions this year we attempted to recruit and teach a new cohort of students at HMP Wayland, and on three occasions the prison was unable to open its education department for us to teach in. The Board of Trustees has thus decided to pause its partnership with HMP Wayland and look for a new site to deliver at which to deliver its higher education curriculum. Talks are ongoing with two prisons at present.

The aborted relaunch of classes has been a frustrating experience, and one that has cost the charity time and resources, but from out of it we hope to emerge with a new stronger partnership. We are once again thankful for the minimal material commitment and cost of the charity's upkeep, which is a factor that has allowed us to weather this storm with only frustration and not damage.

- Maintaining positive relations with all key partners through a period of reduced communication and in the absence of an active contract to teach.

- Continue to finalise the UEA's accreditation of three of the charity's modules, and to begin talks with other departments to consider joining us in accredited provision.
- To form a new long-term partnership with a suitable prison, one which will provide the charity to deliver stable higher education provision in the medium and long term.
- Forge strategic links with overseas prison education bodies to widen our knowledge base and form supportive alliances
- To revisit and develop a robust set of policies regarding safeguarding, health & safety, vetting and equality & diversity.
- Take a fresh look at our communications and website.

Review of Activity and Achievement

Our primary purpose was effectively impossible to achieve this year, as our charity was founded with the intent to provide face-to-face higher education to inmates serving their sentences in the east of England. With the last-minute cancellation of face-to-face teaching due to prison staff shortages, and with no possibility of using internet services such as Zoom or Windows Teams due to security laws for IT in UK prisons, it has been a testing year for the charity.

Despite that there have been a few achievements we can really be proud of:

- First and foremost, this year saw the charity finalise its agreement with the UEA to accredit three of its modules; when our students study with us they will now have access to higher education with all its rewards and demands. This achievement is a culmination of the charity's long-term commitment to its purposes, and of the university's admirable commitment to widening participation in higher education beyond the traditional campus. This is the only such

agreement in the country and it bodes well for the charity's good works, once conditions in prison classrooms allow for recommencement.

- We received payment for our education delivery 2019-2020 from our partners, People Plus, and significant donations, putting us in a great financial position to reopen strongly, with funds in place to stock a small library, exclusively for the use of Crito students.
- Our Course Director took part in Bard College's Consortium for the Liberal Arts in Prison Summer Residency (28 June–16 July 2021), an event from which the charity gained much, in the way of procedure, guidance and best practice.
- We have incurred no significant costs during the year, due to our two tutors and our board of trustees all operating on a voluntary basis. This leaves us in a healthy state from which to restart provision.
- We kept our charity website (www.thecritoproject.org) updated with news and opinion pieces.

Future Plans

While we'll keep in contact with HMP Wayland, it now seems apparent that we need to move prison partner, if we want to meet our charitable purposes. To that end we plan to form a new partnership with HMP Warren Hill or Highpoint, and to begin teaching October 2022 or January 2023.

We have funds in place to support learners like never before, a paying contract arrangement with People Plus, and a finalised accreditation agreement with the UEA, so all the elements are in place to move the charity to its next stage of delivery, and to realise the potential of the good work that has got us to this point.

With the restarting of provision, we also expect to have the opportunity to study the impact of our provision through both qualitative and longitudinal studies in collaboration with our volunteer researcher, Dr Robert Lock. The charity will

prioritise these impact case studies, and use them to advocate for the project's importance with its partners, People Plus and the UEA.

Structure and Governance

This year saw a change in board composition: Prof Liam Dolan stepped down as chair to the position of trustee, and Dr Tom Greaves was unanimously voted in as the next Chair of the charity. In addition, Mollie Holden Oates joined the board as its fourth trustee, bringing a wealth of project and team managerial experience to the charity.

Trustees & Volunteers

Chair

Dr Tom Greaves, *Senior Lecturer, UEA Philosophy Department*

Trustees

- Georgie Oatley
- Professor Liam Dolan
- Mollie Holden Oates

Teaching Staff


- Dr Ben Walker, *Crito Project Course Director, UEA*
- Jack Manzi, *Postgraduate Researcher, UEA*

Research

Head Researcher

Dr Rob Lock

Receipts & Payments Account

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES		The Crito Project		1184526		CC16a
Receipts and payments accounts						
For the period from		Period start date	To	Period end date		
		Jun 1, 21		Jun 1, 22		
Section A Receipts and payments						
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year	
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	
A1 Receipts						
Donations	5,000	-	-	5,000		-
Payment of invoice for teaching, People Plus	12,354	-	-	12,354		-
	-0	-	-	-		-
	-0	-	-	-		-
	-0	-	-	-		-
	-0	-	-	-		-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	17,354	-	-	17,354		-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).						
	-0	-0	-0	-		
	-0	-0	-0	-		-0
Sub total	-0	-0	-0	-		-0
Total receipts	17,354	-0	-0	17,354		-0
A3 Payments						
Printing & Website costs	717	-	-	717		-
Repayment of loan to open bank account	500	-	-	500		-
Teaching wages	9,180	-	-	9,180		-
Bank costs	90	-	-	90		-
	-0	-	-	-		-
	-0	-	-	-		-
	-0	-	-	-		-
Sub total	10,487	-	-	10,487		-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)						
	-0	-0	-0	-		
	-0	-0	-0	-		-0
Sub total	-0	-0	-0	-		-0
Total payments	10,487	-0	-0	10,487		-0
Net of receipts/(payments)	6,867	-	-	6,867		-
A5 Transfers between funds	-0	-	-	-		-
A6 Cash funds last year end	682	-	-	682		-
Cash funds this year end	7,549	-	-	7,549		-
Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period						
Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds		
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £		
B1 Cash funds		-	-	-		
		-	-	-		
		-	-	-		
	Total cash funds	-	-	-		-

This year saw the charity generate its first small income in the form of a) donations from individuals and b) late payment of contract by our prison education partners, People Plus. Receipts totalled less than £25,000, and so our receipts and payments accounts have not been independently examined.

The charity's first accredited curriculum delivery was interrupted in March 2020. In stepping up to an accredited programme, the charity committed to paying its self-employed tutors a fee commensurate with the UEA's associate tutor rates.

Payment on contract for teaching that took place in 2019-2020 was delayed, due to alterations in the contracting system made in response to covid closures, and so the charity received payment for *previous* delivery during the 2021-2022 period.

This payment allowed the charity to finally make delayed payments to the two tutors who delivered its teaching contract for 2019-2020 (Dr Ben Walker & Jack Manzi) for their services. The charity additionally made a few small purchases this year, in relation to advertising its work both onsite in prisons and online. These include yearly website fees and printing of one thousand brochures and application packs; the charity also paid back the £500 opening deposit loan, used to open its bank account, and paid a total of £90 bank fees for the year.

The year ended with the charity holding a significant percentage of its income in cash reserves, in readiness to recommence teaching in the near future. In particular, we foresee a need for significant expenditure in establishing a student library capable of supporting higher education learning for our future students.

THE CRITO PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1184526

Accounts



The Crito Project Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Report of the trustees for the year ending June 2021

The trustees of the Crito Project charity present an annual report for the year ended 01 June 2021 and confirm they comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, the charity's constitution, and the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

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Our Aims

The Crito Project proceeds from two key beliefs:

- 1) That education is the most cost-effective and successful mode of reform available to our society.
- 2) That universities have a civic duty to seek out students in unconventional settings, especially those whose lives stand at critical junctures, and who can benefit the most from higher education.

In light of these beliefs, our primary aim is to provide access to higher education to inmates serving their sentence in the east of England.

Second, we advocate for, and work to bring about, the provision of accreditation for those students, in association with strategic partners including the University of East Anglia, the US-based Consortium for the Liberal Arts in Prison, prison governors, education companies working in the sector, and affiliated charities.

Third, we analyse and audit our work in order to add to the collective knowledge and understanding of the impact that such study has upon the wellbeing, life chances, behaviour and decisions of the Charity's students. We also assess our activity in order to improve the provision of our tutors and the efficacy of our courses.

We confirm that we as the charity's trustees have complied with our duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the commission in exercising our powers.

Our Objectives

Our objectives for our second year were drastically reduced by the coronavirus pandemic and the beginning of the UK lockdown on 23rd March 2020. Before these events we were preparing to move into the long-awaited second stage of provision, with the Crito Project becoming the UK's first fully accredited university/prison initiative, in partnership with the University of East Anglia (UEA) and People Plus at HMP Wayland. The lockdown interrupted the module *Time Meaning & Utopia*, with its 18 students, in which we close read a piece of literature in relation to its philosophical motivations and its technical writing methods. Since then we have not been able to resume teaching.

The Ministry of Justice acted to shut down face-to-face teaching the day after the trustees unanimously voted to halt provision. HMP Wayland, where we are primarily based, has suffered with particularly bad outbreaks of Corona in 2021. This has forced us to curtail and alter our objectives for the year. Our revised objectives included:

- Maintaining positive relations with all key partners through a period of reduced communication and in the absence of an active contract to teach.
- Continue to work for the UEA's accreditation of three of the charity's modules.
- Open a charitable account with an ethical bank, finalise insurance for recommencement of teaching and ready the charity to take payments and generate invoices when teaching recommenced.
- To advocate for our students to receive greater support from the prison regime, specifically in terms of independent study hours and access to word processing to complete their written assessments.
- Forge strategic links with overseas prison education bodies to widen our knowledge base and form supportive alliances
- Take a fresh look at our communications and website.

Review of Activity and Achievement

Our primary purpose was effectively impossible to achieve this year, as our charity was founded with the intent to provide face-to-face higher education to inmates serving their sentences in the east of England. With no possibility of face-to-face teaching, and with no possibility of using internet services such as Zoom or Windows Teams due to security laws for IT in prison, it has been a testing year for the charity.

Despite that there have been a few actions we could take at such a distance.

- We renovated our charity website (www.thecritoproject.org) to better represent our aims, curriculum and philosophy.
- We secured permission from various companies and individuals to allow the use of their videos and podcasts within HMP Wayland's education intranet, such as Bard College's *College Behind Bars*, the podcast series *History of Philosophy Without Any Gaps*, and a selection of *Closer to Truth's* video interviews. We have uploaded over ten hours of interviews and over 200 hours of podcasts on philosophy, cognitive science and the history of thought this year.
- We have successfully lobbied HMP Wayland to allow our future students to have access to computers for a weekly independent study period.
- Our Course Director has been invited to take part in Bard College's Consortium for the Liberal Arts in Prison Summer Residency, 28th June – 16th July 2021.
- We have incurred no significant costs during the year, due to our two tutors and our board of trustees all operating on a voluntary basis. This leaves us in a healthy state from which to restart provision.

Future Plans

After talks with Sheirra Matthewson, the Regional Director of Education at People Plus, we operated on the assumption that September 2021 would represent a possible date to restart face-to-face teaching.

Our tutor team delivered a series of academic presentations across the summer, advocating for higher education in prison and publicising the charity.

We look forward to the finalisation of the UEA's accreditation process. Once achieved & implemented, the Crito Project will become a field-leader in the UK.

Assuming the above schedule holds, April 2022 would represent our scheduled commencement of accredited teaching at HMP Wayland. This term represents the realisation of significant work by the charity and it will allow us to bring more teaching staff on from the UEA.

Our two tutors have begun working on a project to support our future students with a range of podcasts, interviews, videos and introductory papers. We are exploring the possibility that we may be able to move from sourcing podcasts and videos from content creators towards recording our own short films and interviews. The trustees recognise, however, that our charity's expertise lies in face-to-face higher education.

And finally, our Course Director Dr Ben Walker was invited to the Bard College Prison Initiative Summer Residency. This is the first time anyone has been invited to this intensive three-week residency outside of the United States, and we see it as a fantastic chance to learn from the most successful university/prison partnership in history; BPI is also the inspiration for Crito, and we hope this invite signals an opportunity for us to work more closely with them. As such the three-week conference promises to change a great deal for our charity, as well as forging vital new alliances and mentorships. In the longterm Bard College have again expressed an interest in the Crito Project-UEA partnership being the first international body to join their Consortium for Liberal Arts in Prison.

Financial Review

Financially the charity is still in its infancy, with no costs or income for the period 02/06/2020–01/06/2021, and so our balance sheet remained blank for this period. The charity has no current or fixed assets and it holds no reserves. Therefore, whilst the charity technically runs a receipts & payments system of accounts, it has no receipts, payments, purchases, funds, assets or liabilities to declare.

Because it has no dedicated offices and no contracts, the charity has no fixed costs. Its variable costs for volunteer travel and teaching materials were, as of March 2020, being paid privately by the charity's volunteer Course Director, Dr Ben Walker. This is clearly an unsustainable arrangement and one we will cease once contracted accredited teaching can commence.

The Crito Project's financial wellbeing and development are tied to the process of accreditation that is ongoing with the University of East Anglia. With accreditation will come a change in the charity's financial status: we have been contracted by People Plus to deliver our course when it recommences, for which we will receive approximately £4200 per module per cohort, with our provision being for two full cohorts at the time of the 2020 national lockdown's interruption.

In June 2021 People Plus confirmed that we would be able to invoice the company for work previously completed at HMP Wayland from September 2019 to March 2020 despite its interruption. We will submit invoices with a total value of £12,354, with this total being calculated according to People Plus's own *Prison Education Framework* contract, meaning that this will be the last fiscal year where the charity operates without an income.

This year we registered a charity bank account with Unity, an ethical and sustainable independent bank. We do not expect any substantial expenditure or income until teaching recommences.

Structure and Governance

The structure of the Crito Project has remained unchanged since its incorporation, mainly due to our relative inactivity and lack of provision this past year. However we hope to change this in late 2021, due to three main factors.

Firstly, assuming a recommencement in September 2021 the charity will have to take account of greater financial and operational complexity due to delivery of accredited higher education for the first time.

Secondly our renewed communication and mentorship with the Bard College Prison Initiative will no doubt lead to our revisiting our procedures and priorities, and with them the structure that best serves.

Thirdly in the medium-term we expect greater integration with the UEA.

All of these factors may necessitate the recruitment of a fourth trustee and, eventually, of employing a 0.2 contract administrator, dependent upon recommencement of contracted teaching and budgetary restrictions.

Trustees & Volunteers

Chair

Professor Liam Dolan, *Sherardian Professor of Botany, Magdalen College, Oxford*

Trustees

- Dr Tom Greaves, *Head of Philosophy Department, UEA*
- Georgie Oatley

Volunteer Teaching Staff

- Dr Ben Walker, *Crito Project Course Director, UEA*
- Jack Manzi, *Postgraduate Researcher, UEA*

Research

Head Researcher

Dr Rob Lock