

The Article 11 Trust

Charity No : 1185631

Trustees Report & Account For the year ended 31 March 2021

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The Article 11 Trust

Charity No : 1185631

Receipts & Payments Account For the year ended 31 March 2021

Trust Information :

Management Committee:

Kevin Robert Blowe (Trustee)
Rowan C Stygal (Trustee)
Daniel Weir (Trustee)
Thomas Barns (Trustee)

Registered Office :

162a Southwark Bridge Road
London
SE1 0DG

Bankers:

Unity Trust Bank
P O Box 7193
Planetary Road
Willenhall
WV1 9DG

Independent Examiner's :

Glory Community Accounting Services
318 Barking Road
Plaistow
London
E13 8HL

Trustees' Report

For the Year Ended 31st March 2021

The Article 11 Trust is registered with the Charity Commission as a CIO with registration number 1185631.

Founded in 2019 and becoming active in 2020, the Article 11 Trust is dedicated to defending the right of assembly as guaranteed by Article 11 of the European Convention on Human Rights.

We recognise that much of the most important work in this cause is carried out by grass roots organisations, working directly with those who exercise their rights. However, these groups have found it increasingly hard to access the resources they need to undertake their vital work.

As such, the Article 11 Trust seeks to identify and work closely with these groups, securing funding for their charitable endeavours and promoting their work. This includes research and education into issues surrounding the right to protest, as well as direct legal guidance and training to people who attend protests.

Charitable Objectives

Our Charitable Purpose as set out in our governing documents is:

The advancement of human rights for the benefit of the public in the UK with a particular emphasis on rights to freedom of assembly and association under Article 11 of the European Convention on Human Rights, in all or any of the following ways:

- a) Monitoring and reporting of breaches of obligations to protect the human right to freedom of assembly and association;
- b) Promoting effective redress following any breach
- c) Disseminating information, organising events and commissioning and publishing research on the exercise of human rights to freedom of assembly and association and the obligations and duties of UK public servants
- d) Providing technical advice to government and others on human rights matters
- e) Contributing to the sound administration of human rights law
- f) Commenting on proposed UK human rights legislation
- g) Raising public awareness of human rights issues, in particular rights to freedom of assembly and association
- h) Promoting public support for protecting rights to freedom of assembly and association

In furtherance of this objective but not otherwise, the trustees shall have power to engage in political activity, provided that the trustees are satisfied that the proposed activities will further the purposes of the charity to an extent justified by the resources committed and the activity is not the dominant means by which the charity carries out its activities.

Strategic Overview

2020-21 has been a uniquely demanding year. The Covid-19 pandemic introduced not only significant personal and administrative challenges, but also had direct implications for the exercise of Article 11 rights as severe restrictions to freedom of assembly were introduced.

The tension between the measures necessary to combat the pandemic and the right to assembly were made plain over the summer with the global resurgence of the Black Lives Matter movement and again in March 2021 in the wake of Sarah Everard's murder. A further threat to the right to assembly has also been introduced by the government in the form of the Police Crime Sentencing and Courts Bill, sections of which are explicitly intended to restrict protest rights.

Against this background, the Article 11 Trust has sought to establish ourselves, both as an impactful charity, but also as a well governed and functional organisation. The trustees endeavored to balance the need to respond appropriately to the unique confluence of events with the recognition that we are still in the process of establishing ourselves organisationally.

Goals

This year, we have had two main areas of focus: aiding the effort to hold the police accountable for their actions and supporting the delivery of legal support work and education, with respect to the right to protest.

Within this strategy, our specific goals for the year were:

Funding

- Secure £20,000 funding across the year
- Establish relationships with multiple potential funding sources
- Establish small donations capability

Activities

- Host a launch event, bringing together relevant parties and showcasing what we do
- Facilitate the production of a body of Research and education work, specifically on holding the police accountable with regard to their impacting on Article 11 rights.
- Facilitate the provision of direct support to activists looking to exercise their rights.

Governance and Administration

- Agree internal policies and procedures, including a robust grants process
- Set up a website and other technical infrastructure
- Establish ourselves in a position to recruit further trustees and volunteers

Evaluation

Despite the uniquely challenging environment posed by Covid-19, the Trust generally met or exceeded its goals for the year, as detailed below. Notably, we exceeded our funding target for the year and importantly established relationships with additional funders to support our work in 2021-21.

In terms of our activity, the Trust was able to support the important work of Netpol, both generally and in particular in producing and disseminating a high quality report in the wake of the Black Lives Matter protests. We have also been able to support GBC in delivering training workshops to activists, covering resourcing and delivery costs.

Elsewhere, we were able to make available a small grant to help establish Bristol Cop Watch, supporting their first Know Your Rights event, and we were in a position to act as a passthrough for Resourcing Racial Justice's grant to Janet Alder for her valuable work on police harassment of campaigners. We also held a very successful launch event, despite the constraints of Covid-19 meaning we had to host it online.

Funded Activities

The activities of the Article 11 Trust this year focused on establishing key relationships within the infrastructure of activist legal support. In particular, partnering with the Network for Police Monitoring (Netpol) and the Green and Black Cross. In addition to this, towards the end of the year we were able to begin expanding our reach to additional grantees, laying the foundation for our wider work in the future.

Website and Brand

Although the Trust had a placeholder website, the Trustees agreed that a more professional online presence would be beneficial. Accordingly we commissioned Frontwards Designs to build a new website for us, including designing a logo and brand identity. The website also includes the capacity for online donations. The response to the website and branding has generally been positive, aiding us in our presentation as a reputable charity.

Recruitment

Due to the growth of activity in the past year, the Trustees are very keen to recruit more to the board so as to increase our capacity. A job description and basic recruitment plan have been agreed, with the objective of doubling the size of the board by December 2021.

Diversity and Inclusion

The Trustees acknowledge that at present the Article 11 Trust is not a diverse organisation and that although strong efforts have been made to be inclusive, there is work to do in this respect. We recognise that having the personal capacity to undertake a voluntary trusteeship is inherently a position of privilege but we nevertheless aim to take what steps we can to ensure that any barriers that exist are appropriately mitigated and overcome.

To aid us in this, the Trustees have engaged Momo Amjad, a diversity and inclusion consultant, to conduct an analysis of our practices and make recommendations for improvements. They will also advise on the Trustee recruitment processes.

Responsibilities of the Trustees

The Trustees has responsibilities to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent ; and - prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the company will continue on that basis

The trustees is responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charity Law. 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.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:


Kevin Robert Blowe (Trustee)

Date: 19 January 2022

Independent Examiners Report to the Members of The Article 11 Trust

I report on the attached Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021, which are set on pages 6 to 8 and have been prepared on an accrual basis.

Respective responsibilities of Management Committee and Examiner:

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement:

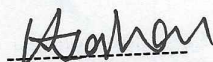
My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement:

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect :

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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



Hasina Jahan (MBA, M Com, DFT, MAAT)
Glory Community Accounting Services
318 Barking Road
Plaistow
London
E13 8HL

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Date: 19 January 2022

The Article 11 Trust

Charity No : 1185631

Receipts and Payments Account For the year ended 31 March 2021

Receipts

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total £
Donations	629	-	629
Guerilla Foundation	-	15,000	15,000
Barry Amiel & Norman Melburn Trust	-	5,000	5,000
Resourcing Racial Justice	-	10,000	10,000
Total Receipts	629	30,000	30,629

Payments

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total £
Website design & Development	-	1,585	1,585
General expenses	-	500	500
Grants to Beneficiaries	-	23,600	23,600
Insurance	-	534	534
Postage / Printing / Stationery	-	19	19
Accountancy fees	450	-	450
Bank charges	72	-	72
Total Payments	522	26,238	26,760
Net Receipts /(Payments)	107	3,762	3,869
Funds brought forward	500	-	500
Funds carried forward	607	3,762	4,369

The Article 11 Trust

Charity No : 1185631

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2021

	Notes	2021 Total £
<u>Tangible Assets</u>		
Fixed Assets		Nil
<u>Current Assets</u>		
Cash at Bank / in hand		4,819
<u>Current Liabilities</u>		
Creditor & Accruals (amounts falling due within one year)	2	<u>(450)</u>
Net Current Assets		<u>4,369</u>
Net Assets		<u><u>4,369</u></u>

Funds & Reserve

	2021 £
Unrestricted funds	607
Restricted funds	<u>3,762</u>
Total	<u><u>4,369</u></u>

Approved by the Management Committee and signed on its behalf by:


.....
Kevin Robert Blowe (Trustee)

Date..19 January 2022

The Article 11 Trust

Charity No : 1185631

Notes of the Receipts and Payments Account For the year ended 31 March 2021

1.a) Accounting Policies

This financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and the Charities Act 2011 and applicable regulations.

The accounts 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.

b) Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are receipts generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Restricted funds are subject to restrictions on their payments imposed by the funder or through the terms of an appeal.

c) **Receipts** : All receipts are included in the Receipts and Payments Account which are received during the year.

d) **Payments**: All payments are recognised in the period in which they are incurred. Some of the expenses incurred this year but spent from last year restricted funds.

e) **Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation**: Any Assets more than £200.00 will be count as an fixed assets. Depreciation is provided to write off the assets in equal instalments over their useful lives.

Fixtures & Fittings	20% straight line method
Computer	25% straight line method

2. Creditors & Accruals

2021

£

Accountancy fee

450

Total

450