

ALK+ INTERNATIONAL

England & Wales · Charity number 1199634

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Trust

Registered 2022-07-12

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

Contact

Address 21 Northfield
Hartley
Longfield
Kent
DA3 7EW

Phone 07712573731

Email admin@alkinternational.org

Website ALKINTERNATIONAL.ORG

Activities

Objects: TO RELIEVE THE SICKNESS AND TO PRESERVE AND PROTECT THE GOOD HEALTH OF PATIENTS WITH ANAPLASTIC LYMPHOMA KINASE POSITIVE (ALK+) CANCER IN PARTICULAR, BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY, BY: A. AWARDING GRANTS FOR RESEARCH INTO THE NATURE, DIAGNOSIS, PREVENTION AND CURE FOR ALK CANCER, THE USEFUL RESULTS OF WHICH WILL BE PUBLISHED.B. WORKING WITH OTHER CHARITIES AND ORGANISATIONS TO CREATE CAMPAIGNS THAT WILL RAISE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF ALK CANCER;C. ADVOCATING FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO TREATMENT AND CLINICAL TRIAL AVAILABILITY, BY LIAISING WITH GOVERNMENT, PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES, REGULATORY BODIES AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS;D. IDENTIFYING AND LOCATING ALK PATIENTS AND OFFERING THEM INFORMATION AND SUPPORT;E. THE PROVISION OF RESOURCES SUCH AS A WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA SUPPORT GROUPS THAT WILL CONNECT PATIENTS AND EDUCATE THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND KEEP THEM INFORMED OF THE MOST UP-TO-DATE DEVELOPMENTS ON THE ADVANCEMENT OF TREATMENTS AND RESEARCH, AND;F. RAISING FUNDS FOR THE ABOVE PURPOSES.

Activities: ALK International is patient and family-led, created with a single mission:To improve the life expectancy for ALK positive cancer patients.We do this by:Fundraising;drive the most vital research for ALK by providing grants for projects/clinical trials.Advocating;improvements to treatment/clinical trial availability for patients and help accelerate lifesaving ALK advances.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£19,400	£0	-	-
2024-03-31	£55,870	£48,746	-	-
2023-03-31	£59,202	£0	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
James Gibbard	Chair	2022-02-04
Caroline Goddard		2024-10-09
Catherine Gibbard		2022-02-04
Joanna Jonathan		2022-02-04

ALK+ INTERNATIONAL

England & Wales - Charity number 1199634

Accounts



This is a working draft document

Trustees' Annual Report for the period: April 2023- March 2024

Charity name: ALK+ International

Charity registration number: 1199634

Objectives and Activities: To protect the lives and promote the health of the public through supporting research into nature, diagnosis, prevention and cure and advocating to improve the life expectancy of patients with Anaplastic Lymphoma Kinase Positive (ALK+) cancer. As trustees, we do this by;

1. Keeping abreast of trials, breakthroughs and technologies in the oncology industry worldwide, we will advocate for patients and help accelerate the introduction of lifesaving ALK-positive cancer advances. Whereby we can make criteria-driven trustee decisions on the best research programmes to help fund.
2. Awarding research grants which fulfil the criteria in our Grant Policy and a completed grant application.
3. Advocating for improvements to treatment and clinical trial availability by liaising with government, pharmaceutical companies, regulatory bodies and other organisations.
4. Embedding ourselves into relevant organisations, we will effect change among decision-makers using our knowledge and experience of ALK-positive cancers.
5. Working with other charities and organisations to create campaigns for raising awareness and identifying new patients who may need information and support.
6. Providing resources such as a website and social media support groups. Whereby, we will be connecting patients and educating the wider general public, keeping them informed of the most up-to-date developments on the advancement of treatments and research.
7. Fundraising for the above.

Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document:

To relieve the sickness and to preserve and protect the good health of patients with Anaplastic Lymphoma Kinase Positive (ALK+) cancer in particular, but not exclusively, by:

- a. Awarding grants for research into the nature, diagnosis, prevention and cure for ALK-positive cancer, the useful results of which will be published.
- b. Working with other charities and organisations to create campaigns that will raise public awareness of ALK-positive cancer;
- c. Advocating for improvements to treatment and clinical trial availability, by liaising with government, pharmaceutical companies, regulatory bodies and other organisations;
- d. Identifying and locating ALK-positive patients and offering them information and support;
- e. The provision of resources such as a website and social media support groups that will connect patients educate the general public and keep them informed of the most up-to-date developments on the advancement of treatments and research, and;
- f. Raising funds for the above purposes.

Summary of the main activities about those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.

1. This year the trustees have been working hard to secure a worthwhile research project to invest in. We have been working closely with the Institute of Cancer Research, and we are confident that the project we have chosen to invest in to further ALK+ research is a worthwhile one. This has been confirmed by our research advisory board, which consists of ALK+ experts in their field.
2. We have continued to keep up to date with clinical trials and general ALK+ research within the ALK+ community. There are many ways in which the trustees keep up to date with these breakthroughs and technologies including but not limited to keeping up to date with pharmaceutical companies, organisations and relevant experts in their field, remote meetings, attending conferences, networking with other like-minded organisations, following those relevant people on social media. We were lucky enough to be invited to join LUCE (Lung Cancer Europe) this year and some trustees also attended various conferences such as BTOG.
3. The trustees have continued to form affiliations with relevant cancer research organisations. Institute for Cancer Research, British Thoracic Oncology Group (BTOG), ALK Positive Inc. (USA based), LUCE (Lung Cancer Europe), Every Breath Lung Cancer Support Group, The Ruth Straus Foundation, Charities Aid Foundation, The Charity Excellence Framework and Liberating Research to name a few. ALK+ International provides a useful links page on our website (www.alkinternational.org/usefullinks) that directs ALK-positive patients to further supportive charities: Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation, Children with Cancer UK, NCRI, Mind, Willow, Treatment Bag, Cancer Support UK, The Bike Network, The Fitness Support Network, Something to Look Forward To, and the Chris Aked foundation. ALK+ International has also added the following fundraising platforms to further extend our fundraising reach:
Buy to give, Give As You Live, Easy Fundraising, PayPal, JustGiving and Meta.
4. ALK+ International has continued to affect change by expanding our support groups into two main fields of interest; the first being to focus on sharing research papers and petitions with both the ALK+ and wider public to educate and raise awareness of ALK+ cancer. The second is to expand our fundraising channels by creating a dedicated raffle page to ensure we stay relevant on social media whilst not compromising our current main social media pages.
5. This year's Lung Cancer Awareness Month social media campaign (November 2023), saw ALK+ International ask hundreds of patients, caregivers and supporters to come together and tell us what research means to them. This powerful social media campaign spread across all social media platforms including Facebook, Instagram, X and LinkedIn. Some of the patients that appeared in the video clips also appeared on the BBC news highlighting the importance of research into rare cancers. The message was clear - research means everything to those living with ALK+ cancer. If we work together, we can make a real difference and fund vital medical research into ALK+ cancer.
In November 2023, we also saw two trustees step down from their roles.
6. Trustees have created and subsidised resources such as a website and various social media platforms (www.alkinternational.org /Facebook/Instagram/X/LinkedIn/YouTube) where we have been able to connect patients and educate the wider general public about rare ALK-positive cancers, keeping them informed of the most up-to-date developments on the advancement of treatments and research.
7. The following fundraisers took place this year between April 2023 and March 2024;

- Jamie Matthews 4x4x48 challenge. In tribute to Alix Bernard. Jamie ran four miles every four hours for forty-eight hours over what would have been Alix's 30th birthday and raised over £40,000.
- Petts Wood Dads held a charity football match and family fun day which included an online raffle which raised over £4000.
- Coffee Morning at the Hextable Heritage Centre, led by Margaret Gibbard, raised over £800. The day included Robin's hat shop, a raffle and a bookstall.
- Football card raffle led by the founder of the charity, Joanna Jonathan, raised over £300 and proved a popular weekly event.
- Linda Arnold's charity evenings continue to raise over £400 per event.
- Two additional legacies this year were Mark Turner and Brian West.

Social Media

We have continued to grow our social media following by firstly introducing 'Fact Friday' posts on Instagram and Facebook explaining in layman's terms "what is ALK?" & "What is a liquid biopsy" etc. The trustees together built and paid privately to host a website (www.alkinternational.org) and started an ALK stories page showcasing that anyone can be diagnosed with ALK-positive cancers regardless of age, gender or any other defining factor. To date, there are 14 ALK patient stories on the website, including a neuroblastoma patient and a bowel cancer patient, which ties in with our 'all ALK cancers' ethos.

Alk_international Instagram followers: 1703

<https://www.facebook.com/alkinternational> Facebook page: 757

Facebook support group:545

(@ALKpositiveInt) Twitter followers: 957

<https://youtube.com/@alkinternational> YouTube views:357

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/alk-international/> LinkedIn followers:1569

A statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit

The trustees of ALK+ International have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit as well as in the trust deed, the many policies and procedures installed to run the charity and role descriptions alike.

ALK+ International is part of the charity excellence framework and prides itself on keeping as up-to-date as possible with charity law as well as taking opportunities to learn more, attend courses, etc. Each trustee had also completed a DBS check.

Research Grant Criteria Policy

ALK+ International will only assign grants to medical researchers or organisations affiliated with medical researchers in the field of ALK-positive cancers to further extend the lives of ALK-positive cancer patients.

ALK+ International uses the following criteria to select individuals or organisations for grants.

All or some may apply depending on the individual circumstance that will be determined by a unanimous decision by the Trustees and under the advice of the Patient Advisory Board.

The proposed research benefits all ALK-positive cancer patients, not just those of a particular type (eg. ALK-positive lung cancer). We believe anyone with an ALK-positive Cancer should be included and not just the most common. Many are overlooked including but not limited to ALK Kidney, ALK Breast and ALK Lymphoma.

The Trustees will make an assessment of the proposed research project's maturity or expected time to reach a clinical setting. This will be carried out by extensive research of the proposed research project. Research projects will submit an initial research grant application form and then the trustees will hold subsequent interviews for successful projects.

An assessment of the viability of the researcher or research organisation to produce a successful research project. Trustees will carry out due diligence and background checks, if necessary, to assess the viability of the researchers within the projects proposed.

Trustees will consider the infrastructure and other resources that are or may be available to the researchers and their proposed projects, as well as the researcher's competence, experience and background.

To assess the feasibility of a research project providing a clinical benefit to ALK+ cancer patients. This will include but not be limited to risk assessment and solutions, control efficiency, timeline and estimations and resources available. Trustees may also consider economic, technical, scheduling and operational feasibility in this instance.

The methodology proposed is scientifically sound. This will include but not be limited to the above about feasibility but also apply to the methodology in which the proposed research will commence.

Any ethical or legal considerations, such as the Human Rights Act, should be carefully considered when looking at a proposed research application.

The proposed cost for the research project, how viable our grant participation would be, and if other organisations/charities would likely be awarding or investing in the proposed research project if such information is easily discernible.

In addition, the individual researcher or proposed research project would be subject to an assessment by Trustees to validate their business and its appropriateness about the charity. Background checks may be carried out at the discretion of the Trustees and or upon the advice of the Patient Advisory Board.

In addition to the medical criteria above, the Trustees will ensure the proposed project is well understood by all, particularly:

What will be delivered and how,

- What exactly is the project
- How easy will it be to monitor its delivery
- Whether the proposed researcher or research project can deliver what is required
- If the proposed researchers or project has the capability and capacity to deliver
- If the proposed researchers can efficiently adhere to a time frame.
- The individual researcher's expertise and skills in this specific area - what history and track record do they personally and professionally have? A CV or something of equal calibre will be required.
- Whether the individual researcher or employee within the proposed research project has the management and technical capability and capacity to undertake this project along with its existing commitments.
- The cost of the project, what ALK+ International's funds will go towards and how it is going to be used. An itemised breakdown and or budget may be requested at this point.

Contribution made by volunteers

Volunteer contributions in the years 2023/24 were exclusively through fundraising and the running of personal fundraising events through Kindlink or JustGiving. We had 15 volunteers in total hosting a wide range of events, and we are so grateful to them for their continued support.

Risk assessments/ public liability insurance was taken into consideration within the locations of events by property owners externally and ALK+ International had no matters arising regarding this.

Research project

Throughout the 2023/2024 year, the trustees investigated and assessed cancer research projects in the UK. After a thorough investigation and consideration of the grant criteria, the trustees voted to invest £48,746.20 in a research project proposed by The Institute of Cancer Research (ICR) and The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust. Over the next two to three years, Dr Huang from the ICR will collect and prepare lung tumour samples from Professor Popat's clinic at the Royal Marsden for a molecular-based study of ALK+ patients. This funding will provide a structured framework within which both tissue and blood specimens can be collected from patients for analyses, allowing us to identify new tests as well as characterise how the tumours become resistant to targeted therapies. The ICR then hope to carry out experiments that underpin and drive the knowledge needed for Dr Huang and Professor Popat to reach their ultimate goal: to deliver an individualised approach to treatment and improve the long-term outcomes in ALK+ lung cancer patients, and beyond, who currently have a poor prognosis. The trustees were fully convinced that this research project meets our criteria, and establishes a base for further collaborative ALK-positive research projects in the UK.

Green policy

This year saw the charity implement our green policy; the trustees are mindful of our impact on the planet and have made the conscious decision not to travel where possible; this not only keeps costs down for the trustees but also doesn't negatively impact the planet. Meetings with ALK+ International are held remotely where possible and travel should be done with careful consideration.

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period

Money in: £55,870.37

Money out: £48,746.20

The trustees have chosen to externally sponsor certain administrative costs for the running of this financial year of the charity. Trustees also chose to subsidise their travel expenses while attending conferences; however, as per the above-mentioned new green policy, in future, we will be mindful of our impact on the planet and will in future choose to participate in networking and conferences remotely where possible.

There are no reserves held for ALK+ International. The reason for this is that we currently have zero overheads and, in the future, intend to access grants to expand our core administration costs. To date, we have been unsuccessful in securing core funding, and therefore, the trustees are still subsidising the running costs of the charity's website. The trustees aim to acquire core funding in the future and hold firm that '100% of funds raised will go towards ALK+ research'.

In this financial year, 23/24, we are proud to have set up payroll giving. We have also increased the number of monthly donors through both our bank account and our charity-focused fundraising platform, Kindlink. Social media donations have also increased. Regular donations are now easily made via various social media platforms. Easy fundraising, give as you live, buy to give.. also increased the scope for ALK+ International to fundraise further using these platforms.

This year, as with last year, the charity's principal sources of funds have come solely from fundraising from the public.

ALK+ International is constituted with a trust deed.

Methods of trustee selection include but are not limited to:

- Being an invested part of the ALK-positive community
- Having a firm belief that research will extend the lives of ALK+ cancer patients
- Can bring something to our trustee group that will help to forward the charity. IE; fundraising/media backgrounds.

- Trustees must unanimously agree to appoint new trustees and uphold the values set out in our objectives and activities.

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name: ALK+ International

Another name the charity uses: is ALK International

Registered charity number: 1199634

Charity's principal address has been changed this year from

4 PEEL STREET

HASLINGDEN

ROSSENDALE

BB4 5DZ

To

21 Northfield

Hartley

Kent

DA37EW

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

1. Joanna Jonathan
2. James Gibbard
3. Catherine Gibbard
4. Caroline Goddard

All trustees work remotely from their homes throughout the UK negating the need for travel expenses, office space & public liability insurance. No trustees hold property belonging to the charity. Similarly, no funds or assets are held as custodian trustees.

Additional Information

A medical committee has now been formalised and consists of 4 highly prominent figures in the ALK oncology field and they will be announced in due course.

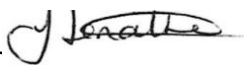
Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Full name(s)

Joanna Jonathan - Founder



Catherine Gibbard -Founder



James Gibbard - Founder

Caroline Goddard

Caroline Goddard - Trustee

Caroline Goddard

Date: 5th November 2024

ALK+ International

Financial Statements for the period ended 31 March 2024

Registered Charity Number: 1199634

ALK+ International

**Contents of the Financial Statements
For the Period Ended 31 March 2024**

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ALK+ International

**Statement of Financial Activities
For the Period Ended 31 March 2024**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Prior Year Funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM				
Donations and legacies	<u>55,870</u>	-	<u>55,870</u>	<u>59,202</u>
Total	55,870	-	55,870	59,202
EXPENDITURE ON				
Charitable activities	<u>46,746</u>	-	<u>46,746</u>	-
Total	46,746	-	46,746	-
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	<u>9,124</u>	-	<u>9,124</u>	<u>59,202</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS				
Total funds brought forward	<u>59,202</u>	-	<u>59,202</u>	-
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	66,326	-	66,326	59,202

ALK+ International**Balance Sheet
For the Period Ended 31 March 2024**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Prior Year Funds £
FIXED ASSETS				
Tangible assets	-	-	-	-
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>66,326</u>	-	<u>66,326</u>	<u>59,202</u>
CREDITORS				
Amounts falling due within one year	-	-	-	-
NET CURRENT ASSETS	<u>66,326</u>	-	<u>66,326</u>	<u>59,202</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>66,326</u>	-	<u>66,326</u>	<u>59,202</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>66,326</u>	-	<u>66,326</u>	<u>59,202</u>
FUNDS				
Unrestricted funds			66,326	59,202
Restricted funds			-	-
TOTAL FUNDS			<u>66,326</u>	<u>59,202</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 29 November and were signed on its behalf by:

J Jonathan – Trustee

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Period Ended 31 March 2024**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The Trustees have chosen to adopt Update Bulletin 1 issued by the Charities Commission in February 2016, which exempts the charity from the need to prepare a statement of cash flows.

The board of trustees have considered the charities going concern position for a period which extends beyond 12 months from the date of approval of the financial statements.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations	55,870	59,202

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration of benefits for the period ended 31 March 2024.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the period ended 31 March 2024.

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Period Ended 31 March 2024**

4. STAFF COSTS

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
Staff	Nil	Nil

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

5. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 01.04.2023 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.03.2024 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	59,202	9,124	66,326
Restricted funds			
Restricted funds	=	=	=
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>59,202</u>	=	<u>66,326</u>

	At 01.04.2022 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.03.2023 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	-	59,202	59,202
Restricted funds			
Restricted funds	=	=	=
TOTAL FUNDS	=	<u>59,202</u>	<u>59,202</u>

6. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2024 or 31 March 2023.

ALK+ International

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Period Ended 31 March 2024**

INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations and legacies		
Donations	<u>55,870</u>	<u>59,202</u>
Total incoming resources	<u>55,870</u>	<u>59,202</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Grant provided	<u>48,746</u>	-
Total resources expended	<u>48,746</u>	-
NET INCOME	<u>9,124</u>	<u>59,202</u>

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of ALK+ International

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of ALK+ International

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of ALK+ International for the period ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the accounts carried out under Section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Nicola Lewis BFP ACA FMAAT

Date: 10/12/2024

ALK+ INTERNATIONAL

England & Wales - Charity number 1199634

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period: 4th February 2022 to 31st March 2023

Charity name: ALK+ International

Charity registration number: 1199634

Objectives and Activities: To protect the lives and promote the health of the public through supporting research into nature, diagnosis, prevention and cure and advocating to improve the life expectancy of patients with Anaplastic Lymphoma Kinase Positive (ALK+) cancer. As trustees we do this by;

1. Keeping abreast of trials, breakthroughs and technologies in the oncology industry worldwide, we will advocate for patients and help accelerate the introduction of lifesaving ALK-positive cancer advances. Whereby we can make criteria-driven trustee decisions on the best research programmes to help fund.
2. Awarding grants for research which fulfils the criteria in our Grant Policy and a completed grant application.
3. Advocating for improvements to treatment and clinical trial availability by liaising with government, pharmaceutical companies, regulatory bodies and other organisations.
4. Embedding ourselves into relevant organisations, we will effect change among decision makers using our knowledge and experience of ALK-positive cancers.
5. Working with other charities and organisations to create campaigns for raising awareness and identifying new patients who may be in need of information and support.
6. Providing resources such as a website and social media support groups. Whereby, we will be connecting patients and educating the wider general public, keeping them informed of the most up-to-date developments on the advancement of treatments and research.
7. Fundraising for the above.

Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document:

To relieve the sickness and to preserve and protect the good health of patients with Anaplastic Lymphoma Kinase Positive (ALK+) cancer in particular, but not exclusively, by:

- a. Awarding grants for research into the nature, diagnosis, prevention and cure for ALK-positive cancer, the useful results of which will be published.
- b. Working with other charities and organisations to create campaigns that will raise public awareness of ALK-positive cancer;
- c. Advocating for improvements to treatment and clinical trial availability, by liaising with government, pharmaceutical companies, regulatory bodies and other organisations;
- d. Identifying and locating ALK-positive patients and offering them information and support;
- e. The provision of resources such as a website and social media support groups that will connect patients and educate the general public and keep them informed of the most up-to date developments on the advancement of treatments and research, and;
- f. Raising funds for the above purposes.

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.

1. This year the trustees have been working hard, keeping up to date with clinical trials. In particular the long awaited ALKOVE-1 trial that is now recruiting at the Royal Marsden hospital, London. There are many ways in which the trustees keep up to date with these breakthroughs and technologies including but not limited to
 - keeping contact with pharmaceutical companies through face to face meetings; remote meetings
 - attending conferences
 - networking with other like minded organisations
 - following the medical oncology industry on social media like Twitter and LinkedIn
2. The trustees have yet to award a research grant in the 2022/2023 financial year, however the trustees are in talks with a very prominent institute located in the UK, and are looking to award a substantial grant for research, providing it fulfils the criteria in our Grant Policy and a completed grant application is submitted.
3. 2022, saw two trustees of ALK+ International appear on BBC radio on three separate occasions to talk about the importance of liquid biopsies and the role it plays when being diagnosed with ALK-positive cancer. Advocating for improvements to treatment and clinical trial availability are high on the list of priorities for our trustees and our community. By liaising with pharmaceutical companies, trustees have been invited to attend conferences and speak.
4. The trustees have formed affiliations with the following relevant organisations;
Institute for Cancer Research, British Thoracic Oncology Group (BTOG), ALK Positive Inc. (USA based), LUCE (Lung Cancer Europe), Every Breath Lung Cancer Support Group, The Ruth Straus Foundation, BBC radio 4, Charities Aid foundation, The Charity Excellence Framework, Liberating Research and pharmaceutical companies such as Pfizer, Roche and Takeda.

ALK+ International provides a useful links page on our website (www.alkinternational.org/usefullinks) that directs ALK-positive patients to further supportive charities: Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation, Children with Cancer UK, NCRI, Mind, Willow, Treatment bag, Cancer Support UK, The Bike Network, The Fitness Support Network and Something to Look Forward To.

5. This year's Lung Cancer Awareness Month campaign (November 2022), saw ALK+ International partner with ALK Positive inc. and share the tagline #MoreResearchMoreLife. The campaign that was spread across all social media platforms, saw 130 participating patients from all over the world and over 40 of the world's leading oncologists/prominent figures from the ALK community.
6. Trustees have created and subsidised resources such as a website and various social media platforms (www.alkinternational.org /Facebook/Instagram/Twitter/LinkedIn/YouTube) where we have been able to connect patients and educate the wider general public about rare ALK-positive cancers, keeping them informed of the most up-to-date developments on the advancement of treatments and research.
7. The following fundraisers took place this year between February 2022 and March 2023;
 - Community building "£5 for 5K". Our intention to launch ALK+ International was announced on 4th February 2022, where our first community building fundraiser was launched. We challenged ALK-positive cancer patients, and their families and friends to run, walk or cycle 5k and donate £5 so that we could reach our £5,000 target to prove the need for an ALK-positive cancer research charity. In approximately two weeks we far surpassed our target and by the end of the month-long campaign, we had just over £12,000. With hundreds of donors via the initial JustGiving page, including other patient support groups like "EveryBreath" and prominent lung cancer "advocates" like Instagram influencer "Jog for Georgie".

- In the same month we saw prominent London based cosmetic business Luna Lash, donate 10% of their sales.
- Cyber security company Digital Shadows held a quiz night and sponsored chair of trustees Jamie Gibbard to cycle 5k a day throughout the month of February.
- April saw friend of the charity Kirsty Barnes take part in a skydive in aid of ALK+ International and then host a Charity fun day in Darwin, complete with raffle and DJ and personalised ALK+ International cake.
- In May, friend of ALK+ International Aeron Charnley held a black tie fundraiser evening in Southport where they had live music, buffet, and raffle with top prizes all donated by local businesses.
- In August 2022, fellow ALK+ cancer patient Hayley Adams and friends held their annual rounders match at Bruce Castle Park Tottenham, and chose ALK+ International as this year's beneficiary.
- In September we saw Margaret Gibbard hold a coffee morning and book shop.
- October was a busy month with Andy Gibbard running a marathon, Sarah Sharman's birthday fundraiser, November saw trustee Yvonne Diaz create a JustGiving fundraiser in aid of Lung Cancer Awareness Month and sister to ALK-positive cancer patient Benthany Entwistle skydive in our honour.
- In December friend of the charity, Christie pledged to run 1KM for every pound donated to her JustGiving page.
- The station public house held a charity waxing and announced they will be holding a regular quiz night in honour of ALK+ International
- Popular Poole based teashop Heathers Tearoom, held a bake off on our behalf in January 2023.
- The Knit & Natter group of Hadlow Library, Kent, designated ALK+ International their charity of the year also in January.
- We had two Legacies this year, from David Asquith and Eric Ballard

Patient Survey 2022

With overwhelming support we continued to hit the ground running and released a European wide ALK-positive patient survey entitled 'What do patients want'. We had an astonishing response of over 130 surveys completed, to-date the largest ALK-positive patient-wide survey completed in both the UK and Europe. Findings were presented at the World Lung Cancer Conference in July 2022, held in Vienna, where the world's leading experts in lung cancer saw the data extrapolated from our survey in the form of graphs. The survey was held on the platform "Survey Monkey".

Social Media

We have continued to grow our social media following by firstly introducing 'Fact Friday' posts on Instagram and Facebook explaining in laymans terms "what is ALK?" & "What is a liquid biopsy" etc. The trustees together built and paid privately to host a website (www.alkinternational.org) and started an ALK stories page showcasing that anyone can be diagnosed with ALK-positive cancers regardless of age, gender or any other defining factor. To date there are 14 ALK patient stories on the website including a neuroblastoma patient and a bowel cancer patient which ties in with our 'all ALK cancers' ethos.

Alk_international Instagram followers: 1510

<https://www.facebook.com/alkinternational> Facebook page: 465

Facebook support group:383

@ALKpositiveInt Twitter followers: 590

<https://youtube.com/@alkinternational> YouTube views:283

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/alk-international/> LinkedIn followers:646

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit

The trustees of ALK+ International have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit as well as in the trust deed, the many policies and procedures installed to run the charity and role descriptions alike.

ALK+ International is part of the charity excellence framework and prides itself on keeping as up to date as possible with charity law as well as taking opportunities to learn more, attend courses etc. Each trustee had also completed a DBS check.

Research Grant Criteria Policy

ALK+ International will only assign grants to medical researchers or organisations affiliated with medical researchers in the field of ALK-positive cancers to further extend the lives of ALK-positive cancer patients.

ALK+ International uses the following criteria to select individuals or organisations for grants.

All or some may apply depending on the individual circumstance that will be determined by a unanimous decision by the Trustees and under the advice of the Patient Advisory Board.

The proposed research benefits all ALK-positive cancer patients, not just those of a particular type (eg. ALK-positive lung cancer). We believe anyone with an ALK-positive Cancer should be included and not just the most common. Many are overlooked including but not limited to ALK Kidney, ALK Breast and ALK Lymphoma.

The Trustees will make an assessment of the proposed research projects maturity, or expected time to reach a clinical setting. This will be carried out by extensive research of the proposed research project. Research projects will submit an initial research grant application form and then the trustees will hold subsequent interviews for successful projects.

An assessment of the viability of the researcher or research organisation to produce a successful research project. Trustees will carry out due diligence and background checks if necessary to assess the viability of the researchers within the projects proposed.

Trustees will consider the infrastructure, and other resources that are or may be available to the researchers and their proposed projects, as well as the researchers personal competence, experience and background.

To assess the feasibility of a research project providing a clinical benefit to ALK+ cancer patients. This will include but not be limited to risk assessment and solutions, control efficiency, timeline and estimations and resources available. Trustees may also consider economic, technical, scheduling and operational feasibility in this instance.

The methodology proposed is scientifically sound. This will include but not be limited to the above in relation to feasibility, but also applying to the methodology in which the proposed research will commence.

Any ethical or legal considerations such as the Human Rights Act should be carefully considered when looking at a proposed research application.

The proposed cost for the research project, how viable our grant participation would be, and if other organisations/charities would likely be awarding or investing into the proposed research project, if such information is easily discernible.

In addition, the individual researcher or proposed research project would be subject to an assessment by Trustees to validate their business and its appropriateness in relation to the charity. Background checks may be carried out at the discretion of the Trustees and or upon the advice of the Patient Advisory Board.

In addition to the medical criteria above, the Trustees will ensure the proposed project is well understood by all, particularly:

What will be delivered and how,

- What exactly is the project
- How easy will it be to monitor its delivery
- Whether the proposed researcher or research project can deliver what is required
- If the proposed researchers or project has the capability and capacity to deliver
- If the proposed researchers have the capability to efficiently adhere to a time frame.

- The individual researchers expertise and skills in this specific area - what history and track record do they personally and professionally have? A CV or something of equal calibre will be required.
- Whether the individual researcher or employee within the proposed research project has the management and technical capability and capacity to undertake this project along with its existing commitments.
- The cost of the project, what ALK+ International's funds will go towards and how it is going to be used. An itemised breakdown and or budget may be requested at this point.

Contribution made by volunteers

Volunteer contributions in the year 2022 were all exclusively through fundraising and the running of personal fundraising events through Kindlink or JustGiving, we had 12 volunteers in total hosting a wide range of events.

Risk assessments/ public liability insurance was taken into consideration within the locations of events by property owners externally and ALK+ International had no matters arising regarding this.

Press release

This year the charity has made great strides in connecting/networking with like minded companies and organisations. ALK+ international has opened up doorways of communication via various social media/media groups/ channels to talk about research and advocate on important topics. This has directly led us to our main goal - to fund research.

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period

Money in: £59,202.03

Money out: £0

The trustees have chosen to externally sponsor certain administrative costs for the running of the first year of the charity, these costs include website hosting of £110.40 as the website was built by the trustees, costs were at a minimum. Trustees also chose to subsidise their own travel expenses while attending conferences.

No reserves are held for ALK+ International. The reason for this is that we currently have zero overheads and in the future intend to access grants to expand our core administration costs IE we would like to subscribe to the fundraising regulator and pay for the website etc. The trustees generously sponsored our first year of core funding as a gauge to how much we would need to secure through grants in the future. The trustees understand that long term this is unsustainable and acquiring funding would reinforce the charity's aims, credibility and the '100% of funds raised will go towards research' ethos.

This year, the charity principal sources of funds have come solely from fundraising from the public.

ALK+ International is constituted with a trust deed.

Methods of trustee selection include but are not limited to:

- Being an invested part of the ALK-positive community
- Having a firm belief that research will extend the lives of ALK+ cancer patients
- Can bring something to our trustee group that will help to forward the charity. IE; fundraising/media backgrounds.
- Trustees must unanimously agree to appoint new trustees and uphold the values set out in our objectives and activities.

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name: ALK+ International

Other name the charity uses: ALK International

Registered charity number: 1199634

Charity's principal address:

4 PEEL STREET

HASLINGDEN

ROSSENDALE

BB4 5DZ

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

1. Joanna Jonathan
2. James Gibbard
3. Catherine Gibbard
4. Yvonne Diaz - appointed 13.08.22
5. Jan Clark - appointed 13.08.22

All trustees work remotely from their homes throughout the UK negating the need for travel expenses, office space & public liability insurance?

No trustees hold property belonging to the charity. Similarly no funds or assets held as custodian trustees.

Additional Information

A medical committee is still in the process of being formed but will be formalised in the coming months. We currently have 4 highly prominent figures in the ALK oncology field and they will be announced in due course.

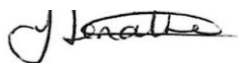
Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Full name(s)

Joanna Jonathan - Community Fundraiser/ Co-Treasurer



Catherine Gibbard -Community Fundraiser/ Co-Treasurer



James Gibbard - Secretary/Communications...



Date: 1st December 2023

Financial Statements
for the Period Ended 31 March 2023
for
ALK+ International

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ALK+ International

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	59,202	-	59,202
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	<u>59,202</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>59,202</u>
 EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
 NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	59,202	-	59,202
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u><u>59,202</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>59,202</u></u>

ALK+ International

**Balance Sheet
31 March 2023**

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	-	-	-
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>59,202</u>	-	<u>59,202</u>
	50,937	-	59,202
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	-	-	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS	<u>59,202</u>	-	<u>59,202</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>59,202</u>	-	<u>59,202</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>59,202</u>	-	<u>59,202</u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds			59,202
Restricted funds			-
TOTAL FUNDS			<u>59,202</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on .12/01/204. and were signed on its behalf by:

J Jonathan - Trustee

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The Trustees have chosen to adopt the Update Bulletin 1 issued by the Charities Commission in February 2016, which exempts the charity from the need to prepare a statement of cash flows.

The board of trustees have considered the charity's going concern position for a period which extends beyond 12 months from the date of approval of the financial statements.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

Donations	£ <u>59,202</u>
	<u>59,202</u>

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or benefits for the period ended 31st March 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the period ended 31st March 2023.

4. STAFF COSTS

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

Staff	<u>Nil</u>
-------	------------

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

5. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	59,202	59,202	-
Restricted funds			
Restricted funds	-	-	-
	-	-	-
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>59,202</u>	<u>59,202</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

6. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2023.

ALK+ International

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS	
Donations and legacies	
Donations	<u>59,202</u>
	59,202
Total incoming resources	59,202
EXPENDITURE	-
	<hr/>
Total resources expended	<hr/> -
Net income	<u><u>59,202</u></u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of ALK+ International

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of ALK+ International

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of ALK+ International for the period ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the accounts carried out under Section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Nicola Lewis ACA

Date: .12/01/2024