Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	1	1	2023		31	12	2023

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Children of Cameroon
Other names charity is known by	
Registered charity number (if any)	1202175
Charity's principal address	West Lodge Creedy Park Crediton Postcode EX17 4EB

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Christina Clover			
2	Jo Poulton		21/3/23	
3	Tim Thorogood		5/2/23	
4	Teh Francis Yai		10/11/23	
5				
6				
7				
8				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution of Children of Cameroon
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointed by trustees

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Children of Cameroon consists of a small team of volunteers (less than 10) in the UK and in Cameroon together with one paid member of staff who leads field-work in Cameroon. We occasionally may also pay for services such as financial processing or record keeping using funds allocated for this purpose.

We work with the Goodness and Mercy Mission charity in the Belo region of Cameroon to enable us to identify children who can benefit from our support and to help us deliver grants to them. During 2023 GMM agreed to facilitate our work further in Cameroon by employing Cameroon based staff on our behalf under a Memorandum of Agreement.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

For the public benefit the prevention or relief of poverty in Cameroon by providing assistance for children and young people to enable them to attend education and training in particular but not exclusively by providing grants.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The trustees have had due regard to the commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Children of Cameroon provides support for children and young people in Cameroon to enable them to attend education and training, at present by providing grants.

We obtain donations, largely through our web site, Facebook and other social media, and by networking. These donations can either be for specific children, as shown on our web pages, for projects covering a number of children, or to help with our administrative costs. Where donations are for specific children or for projects we don't use any of the funding for administrative or other expenses.

Donors or sponsors can identify specific children they wish to assist by reviewing details on our web pages and Facebook pages.

Volunteers in Cameroon seek to identify further children who would benefit from assistance. Voluntary efforts have so far been focused on the Belo region of North-West Cameroon since this is where the charity started. We now also work in Yaounde on a small scale; we hope to expand our work to additional areas.

Children to be assisted are those who would not otherwise be able to attend school. Although schooling to age 12 is free there are additional costs including uniforms, books and equipment which mean in practice it is very hard to attend without sufficient family finances. Children over 12 have to pay fees to attend school.

In addition to the direct costs of attending school many children and their family's lack sufficient nutrition, clothing and suitable accommodation. Without these they are not able to attend school. With the agreement of donors, Children of Cameroon therefore uses some of the funding for each child to help pay for such additional items.

Donor funds are collected in the UK and periodically remitted to Cameroon for distribution to children. Each allocation of grant for a child is linked to specific expenses and recorded. Donors are given regular reports on how their funds have been used and how children are progressing.

Section D Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

In 2023, Children of Cameroon continued to make a meaningful impact in the lives of children in need. Our efforts led to the identification of seven additional children, bringing the total number of children supported by our program to 35. We provided individualized support to each of these children, including financial assistance, educational support, and access to essential resources, regardless of whether they had a sponsor or not.

Our sponsorship program remained strong, with 24 children receiving sustained support from their sponsors throughout the year. This consistent support enabled these children to access essential resources and services that may have otherwise been out of reach.

In addition to individual support, we implemented three projects that benefited a broader group of children. These initiatives included:

- The Christmas Dresses appeal, a fundraising effort that aimed to provide every child with a brand new outfit for Christmas. In Cameroonian culture, having a new outfit on Christmas Day holds great significance, and it's often the only gift the children ask for. We are thrilled to report that the appeal was a huge success, raising enough money to provide every single child with a new outfit. This not only brought joy to the children on Christmas Day but also provided them with a valuable and practical item that they can use throughout the year.
- Catch-up classes at GMM offices, which provided supplementary education and academic support to a group of children. We successfully raised funds to support four months' worth of classes, ensuring that the children received the extra help they needed to succeed. For a few children who were particularly in need but unable to attend the classes due to their location, we arranged a few months of private tuition to ensure they received the individualized support they required.
- The Easter celebrations, which brought together children from different areas for a fun-filled day of activities. We hosted two separate events - a swimming day in Bamenda and a games and sports day in Belo - and raised money to cover the costs, ensuring that every child, whether sponsored or not, could attend and participate. This was a wonderful opportunity for the children to make new friends, learn new skills, and create lasting memories.

One of the most significant indicators of our success was the academic performance of the children in our program. Of the 20 children who took end-of-year exams, 19 were promoted to the next class – a testament to their hard work and dedication. Furthermore, one child achieved a remarkable milestone by graduating from university. We are also proud to report that all 24 children on our books, both sponsored and unsponsored, were successfully enrolled in school. These achievements demonstrate our commitment to providing children with access to quality education and opportunities for growth.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves	Children of Cameroon does not have a policy on reserves.
Details of any funds materially in deficit	N/A.

Section F Other optional information

Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Christina Clover	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	
Date	23/8/2024	

Summary				
	Jan	Feb	March*	April
Receipts				
Donations	0.00	0.00	552.51	957.90
Total receipts	**0.00**	**0.00**	**552.51**	**957.90**
A3 Payments				
Grants	0.00	0.00	176.02	558.00
Staff/volunteer costs	0.00	0.00	326.00	388.00
Expenses	0.00	0.00	33.75	31.77
Total payments	**0.00**	**0.00**	**535.77**	**977.77**
Net of receipts/(payments)	**0.00**	**0.00**	**16.74**	**-19.87**
Cash funds this period end		56.78		
Cash funds last period end:		151.03		
Net cash in/out flow:		-94.25		

* wef 3 March 2023

May	**June**	**July**	**Aug**	**Sept**	**Oct**	**Nov**	**Dec**
428.63	995.99	1316.41	633.00	350.00	270.00	974.97	340.00
428.63	**995.99**	**1316.41**	**633.00**	**350.00**	**270.00**	**974.97**	**340.00**
267.00	258.02	0.00	1633.00	287.90	43.50	891.00	436.80
100.00	220.00	176.00	149.00	139.00	134.00	138.00	165.00
1.98	2.97	266.98	3.96	0.99	1.98	1.98	81.06
368.98	**480.99**	**442.98**	**1785.96**	**427.89**	**179.48**	**1030.98**	**682.86**
59.65	**515.00**	**873.43**	**-1152.96**	**-77.89**	**90.52**	**-56.01**	**-342.86**

Totals
6819.41
6819.41
4551.24
1935.00
427.42
0.00
6913.66
-94.25