



Registered Charity Number 120736



**Report of the Trustees
for the period ending 31 December 2024**

Trustees' Annual Report for the financial period from 8 March 2024 to 31 December 2024.

The trustees of the charity present their report for the period ended 31 December 2024. The financial statements are in a separate document.

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Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Trash Hero UK
Registered charity number	1207368
Registered office	15 Packers Way Bristol BS5 6FP
Trustees	Mrs SR Cochrane Mr TJ Danning Mr M Fleming

Independent Examiner

Mr A Gittins, CIMA CGMA

Bank

The Cooperative Bank
P.O. Box 101
1 Balloon Street
Manchester
M60 4EP

Commencement of activities

The CIO formally commenced activities on 1 June 2024, following the gift of total fund balances of £6,792 from Trash Hero GB CIC (Company number 11393298), whose activities this entity continues. It is governed by a Constitution, having been amended by special resolution by the Trustees registered at Companies House on 8 March 2024.

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document

The charity is governed by a Constitution based on a Charity Commission model foundation constitution for a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

How is the charity constituted?

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

Trustee selection methods

New trustees will be selected based on the skills and experience required to complement the existing board of trustees for the effective administration of the CIO. New trustees are selected either through a direct approach, or by advertising the role on appropriate websites and/or press. Apart from the first charity trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees

New trustees will meet with existing trustees and key members of staff to ensure that they feel comfortable with their role and the organisation. On or before his or her first appointment, each new trustee will receive a copy of the current constitution and a copy of the CIO's latest Trustees' Annual Report and statement of accounts. Trustees are also directed to useful information on their duties and responsibilities through the Charity Commission website.

The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works

The charity structure (foundation) is designed to minimise running costs, with a small Board of Trustees and two full-time staff who work remotely. We make use of *pro bono* professional services wherever possible and engage volunteers to deliver our programmes.

The charity is affiliated to the Trash Hero global network of not for profit organisations and groups, all with shared aims and a shared approach to achieving them. The founding organisation of the network is Trash Hero World, based in Switzerland and established as a tax-exempt, not for profit association in that jurisdiction.

The charity has a memorandum of understanding with Trash Hero World that allows both parties to further their respective objects through resource-sharing and other joint initiatives. The charity uses the name "Trash Hero" under licence from Trash Hero World.

The charity believes that its affiliation to the Trash Hero global network strengthens its impact and its ability to achieve its purposes. It remains, however, independent, with its own legal and professional advisors; governed according to the laws of England and Wales; and is not subject to external control, influence or pressure.

Relationship with any related parties

The charity supports overseas organisations and groups in the Trash Hero network by assisting them with the development, coordination and evaluation of locally-delivered programmes, which further its objects.

Charity staff meet regularly online with representatives from these groups and on occasion conduct site visits to deliver in-person training. Overseas groups are required to report regularly on their activities. Social media is also used extensively by the groups for reporting and awareness raising and this is also supported and monitored by the charity. Such regular communication and oversight enable the charity to monitor and verify effectively the work done internationally. The charity does not send funding overseas.

Trash Hero World provides some grant funding to the charity, although it is not the sole funder.

Objectives and activities

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

The objects of the CIO are restricted specifically for the public benefit to promote the preservation, conservation and protection of the environment anywhere in the world in particular but not exclusively by:

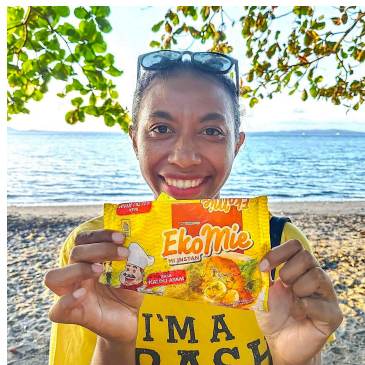
- a) raising awareness and understanding of plastic pollution, the impact of waste and the benefits of waste reduction; and
- b) developing and facilitating litter-picking groups and other community initiatives in support of the objects.

Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit

Within the period of this report, the majority of the charity's activities involved providing training and operational support for overseas groups in the Trash Hero network, particularly in Southeast Asia. We focused on three main areas of work to meet our objects:

1. Action & Awareness programme

- Created opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds to get involved in volunteer cleanup activities.
- Supported the clean up of plastic waste from public spaces to prevent it from harming ecosystems and wildlife.
- Trained volunteers to raise awareness about waste reduction and other solutions, leveraging participants' first hand experience of the impact of overproduction of plastic.
- Recorded data from collected waste to be used in scientific research and advocacy work.



2. Trash Hero Communities programme

- Created and published materials informing people about the environmental, health and climate impacts of plastic pollution and the benefits of zero waste and a safe circular economy.
- Provided resources and tools to enable individuals and communities to take practical action to reduce plastic use and waste in general, for example through a free drinking water refill network.
- Engaged at the local, national and international levels of government and private sector to advocate for waste reduction.
- Built professional networks with other environmental organisations that align with our objects in order to leverage knowledge and resources.



3. Trash Hero Kids programme

- Created and published free materials for children and young people to inform them about plastic pollution and how they can get involved in tackling it.
- Developed training materials for teachers to deliver environmental education in their classrooms.
- Started school visits in the UK to inspire children to take action to reduce waste.



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

In planning the charity's activities, the trustees have had due regard to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers and duties.

Contribution made by volunteers

The charity is enormously fortunate to have the support of many volunteers worldwide. During this reporting period, we engaged **10,444 volunteers**, who contributed at least **34,636 hours of unpaid work**. This includes volunteers who helped to organise and deliver activities, as well as those who participated in cleanups.



Achievements and Performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity

Within the reporting period, the charity was active from 1 June - 31 December 2024. The following reflects these seven months of charitable activity.

1. Action & Awareness programme

The charity supported the organisation of 554 community cleanup events worldwide. These events engaged 10,444 volunteers who removed a total of 33.75 metric tonnes of waste from public spaces such as beaches, riversides and parks. 3,826 of these volunteers were children (under the age of 16).

Cleanups have been shown to have a positive impact on [marine pollution](#) and [significantly reduce the creation of microplastics](#) on land and in the water. Regular events such as ours, which also aim to educate participants about plastic pollution, motivate people to take additional action to reduce plastic in their daily lives.

These events also help bring communities together and can help with improving mental health through the positive effects of exercise, being outdoors, and meeting new, like-minded people.



2. Trash Hero Communities programme

The charity provided training and operational support for community outreach work in areas where Trash Hero groups are active. This work includes giving presentations and workshops related to zero waste and waste reduction, as well as attending meetings with local decision-makers.

In total, the charity provided 1,318 volunteer training hours, which led to 43 such outreach events, reaching 3,387 people. In addition, 22 new businesses signed up to become free water refill points, avoiding an estimated 480,000 single-use plastic water bottles and 26 tonnes of CO₂ emissions over the course of the reporting period.

A portion of this training was given by charity staff in person in Indonesia and Thailand, attending Trash Hero regional volunteer summits organised by a partner organisation; the rest was conducted online.

Charity staff also attended the UN talks for a global plastics treaty (INC5) in Busan, S. Korea, as part of an international NGO coalition advocating for measures addressing production caps, toxic chemicals and product design and delivery. Securing a strong and ambitious treaty will enable the systemic changes needed to address plastic pollution.

The charity produced dozens of educational materials for the general public, published on Trash Hero social media channels, explaining the complex issues around plastic pollution and the possible solutions, in easy-to-understand formats. Topics included microplastics and health, greenwashing, recycling, the waste trade and the global plastics treaty. This contributed to public understanding of the plastics crisis.



2. Trash Hero Kids programme

The charity supported the implementation of a children's education programme on plastic pollution, based on a story and activity book created by the CIC entity it replaced. The long-term programme uses points-based challenges to encourage primary-aged children to develop sustainable habits with regard to plastic use and waste management.

In total 110 new children in Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia joined the programme during the reporting period.

The charity also supported one-off kids' education events that engage children on the issues of plastic pollution with talks, games and activities. In total 13 such events were

held, including one in the UK, at Uplowman Primary School in Devon. These events reached 1,017 children.

The charity developed and produced a free, self-paced online course targeted at secondary school students, to help them understand plastic pollution and the real solutions needed to stop it. The course was promoted on Trash Hero social media channels, via a series of reels presented by our young volunteers. These linked to further resources, including explainers, watchlists, quizzes and reflection tasks on each topic.

The full series is available at trashhero.org/eyzw and is also featured on the Break From From Plastic Youth website.



Financial Review

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

At the end of the financial period, the charity held funds of £35,285, of which £18,194 were restricted funds set aside for ongoing and upcoming projects, and £17,092 were unrestricted funds.

Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held

The charity aims to hold reserves of unrestricted funds to protect it against drops in income or allow it to take advantage of new opportunities. The reserves include two key components.

1. Continuity Fund: This fund would be used to cover essential activities while sourcing income to a maximum of six months budgeted activity.
2. Dissolution Fund: This fund would provide for the costs of dissolution should the charity be unable to continue. It is only to be used in the event of the trustees' deciding the charity should cease to exist. It will be used to pay notice periods, redundancies and the expenses of running the charity until the closure of the CIO.

These funds are to be used to ensure trustees look at every alternative before dissolution of the charity. The trustees wish to maintain and enhance the size of the unrestricted funds over time appropriately to the growth of the charity's staffing and activities.

The reserves held at the end of this first reporting period were lower than the charity would like, however it is anticipated that in coming years this will improve and reach the preferred amount.

Amount of reserves held

At the end of the reporting period, the charity held £9,860 in unrestricted reserves, below the amount aimed to be held. As a new charity, the trustees are mindful of the fact that, while core obligations should be safeguarded, they should not tie up funds that could and should be spent on growing and improving programme delivery.

Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern

The trustees do not anticipate any uncertainties about the continuance of the charity as a going concern. The charity is growing, receiving more recognition and actively applying

for funding from a wider range of sources. The key risks to the charity are being managed effectively by the staff and trustees.

The charity's principal sources of funds

Core funds

Following the conversion of Trash Hero GB CIC to Trash Hero UK CIO (the charity), the charity received an unrestricted donation of £6,792, the total remaining funds of the CIC.

During the reporting period, it also received £43,264 in core funding from Trash Hero World, as part of a rolling grant agreement.

Restricted funds

The charity was awarded the following restricted grants during the reporting period.

- £ 32,000 from Ocean Family Foundation, as part of a multi-year grant agreement
- £ 3,000 from The Chapman Foundation
- £ 853 from Trash Hero World

Earned income

The charity carried out consultancy work (fundraising and copywriting) during the reporting period, providing a total income of £2,000. This was assigned to unrestricted funds.

A description of the principal risks facing the charity

The charity is committed to an ongoing process of identifying risk and managing it appropriately. The risk register is reviewed on an annual basis. The trustees have determined that the following are the principal risks facing the charity. Our approaches to each are outlined, including planned further actions.

1. Lack of diverse funding sources

Approach: during the reporting period we conducted research to find new donors and areas of grant-making, particularly those available to charities. This will be further expanded after the publication of our first reporting period accounts.

2. Key person dependency

Approach: as a small charity, the departure of key people could seriously impact our work. Key people in the organisation have been identified and we continue to document standard operating procedures, processes and critical knowledge, to enable smooth succession.

3. Fraudulent reporting

Approach: Working with overseas organisations, even though no charity funds are sent overseas, is a risk. The charity implements strict control mechanisms for activity reporting and, during this reporting period, improved procedural documentation. Transparency is a key organisational value.

4. Reputational damage

Approach: The charity has created and implemented policies to ensure no conflicts of interest in our activities, nor in our funding. We monitor unauthorised use of our name and logo, which are protected by trademark.

Declaration of payment to a trustee for services

Trash Hero UK did not make any payments to trustees for services during this financial period.

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' annual Report above:

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature: 
Full Name: Stella Cochrane
Position: Trustee
Date: 09/10/2025



Receipts and payments accounts (1)

CC16a

For the period
from

08/03/24

To

31/12/24

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds (2) to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year (3) to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Voluntary receipts (donations and grants)	50,056	35,853	-	85,908	-
Earned income (4)	2,000	-	-	2,000	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	52,056	35,853	-	87,908	-
A2 Asset and investment sales					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	52,056	35,853	-	87,908	-
A3 Payments (5)					
COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES (6)					
Action & Awareness Programme					
- Programme delivery	12,684	-	-	12,684	-
- Training & development	2,795	-	-	2,795	-
- Programme materials	4,057	-	-	4,057	-
- Monitoring & reporting	1,376	-	-	1,376	-
- Communications & marketing	858	-	-	858	-
- Legal & compliance	188	-	-	188	-
Sub total (Action & Awareness)	21,958	-	-	21,958	-
Trash Hero Communities Programme					
- Programme delivery	5,846	7,715	-	13,561	-
- Training & development	799	939	-	1,738	-
- Programme materials	1,350	1,584	-	2,934	-
- Monitoring & reporting	234	275	-	509	-
- Communications & marketing	293	344	-	637	-
- Legal & compliance	60	71	-	131	-
Sub total (Trash Hero Communities)	8,582	10,927	-	19,510	-
Trash Hero Kids Programme					
- Programme delivery	-	3,945	-	3,945	-
- Training & development	-	584	-	584	-
- Programme materials	-	1,679	-	1,679	-
- Monitoring & reporting	-	211	-	211	-
- Communications & marketing	-	257	-	257	-
- Legal & compliance	-	56	-	56	-
Sub total (Trash Hero Kids)	-	6,732	-	6,732	-
Costs of providing consultancy services (4)	1,560	-	-	1,560	-
Costs of generating voluntary receipts	1,175	-	-	1,175	-
Governance costs	1,653	-	-	1,653	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total all payments	34,929	17,659	-	52,588	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases					
Purchase of fixed assets	35	-	-	35	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total asset purchases	35	-	-	35	-
Total payments	34,964	17,659	-	52,623	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	17,092	18,194	-	35,285	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	17,092	18,194	-	35,285	-

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	Cash at bank	17,092	18,194	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	17,092	18,194	-
	(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	HMRC employment allowance credit	718	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Laptop (gift)	General	-	-
	Printer	General	35	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Pension owed to provider (Dec 24 salary)	Unrestricted	348	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		THOMAS DANNING	10/10/2025	
		STELLA COCHRANE	10 Oct 2025	

Notes to the accounts

As a new charity with entirely remote working staff, we do not own any significant fixed assets; nor do we trade.

- 1 After reviewing Charity Commission guidance, the Board of Trustees opted to prepare receipts and payments (cash) accounts.
 - 2 Funds were received for three restricted purposes: £20,852.66 for Trash Hero Communities, £12,000 for Trash Hero Kids and £3,000 for any charitable activities carried out within the UK.
 - 3 Trash Hero UK was registered with the Charity Commission on 8 March 2024; therefore no previous accounts are available.
 - 4 Income was earned from consultancy work (fundraising and copywriting) for an environmental not-for-profit organisation. Corresponding costs of providing the services are listed in the Payments.
- All payments in Section A3 have been summarised using an activity classification, following Charity Commission
- 5 guidelines. Payment categories include both direct costs and the costs of employing two staff, which have been apportioned to the listed activities and funds based on the reported working hours of each employee.
 - 6 Charitable activities began in June 2024; these costs therefore represent 7 months of activities.



Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Trash Hero UK

On accounts for the year
ended

31/12/2024

Charity no
(if any)

1207368

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / 12 / 2024.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

I have no concerns and 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.

Signed:

A Gittins

Date:

20/08/2025

Name:

Ashley Gittins

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

CIMA CGMA

Address: 98 Deakin Leas, Tonbridge, TN92JY

98 Deakin Leas, Tonbridge, TN92JY

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.