

Volunteers Go Global

Annual Accounts

For the Year Ended 31st March 2025

Trustees' Annual Report

Objectives and Activities

Volunteers Go Global is a charitable organisation that provides international volunteering, cultural exchange, educational, and youth development opportunities. The organisation aims to broaden horizons, develop leadership skills, promote global citizenship, and strengthen communities through international partnerships and volunteering programmes.

Achievements and Performance

During the year, Volunteers Go Global successfully delivered a range of activities supporting volunteers and participants through overseas exchanges, volunteering opportunities, leadership development initiatives, and cultural learning experiences.

The organisation continued to strengthen partnerships with international hosts and community organisations, enabling participants to gain valuable personal and professional development experience while contributing positively to local communities.

Financial Review

The charity remained financially sustainable throughout the year, generating a surplus that will support future programme development and organisational growth.

Statement of Financial Activities

Income	£
Donations and Grants	16,000
Total Income	16,000
Expenditure	£
Programme Delivery Costs	8,500
Travel and Volunteer Support	1,500
Administration and Governance	1,000

Communications and Marketing	1,000
Total Expenditure	12,000
Net Movement in Funds	£
Total Income	16,000
Less Total Expenditure	(12,000)
Surplus for the Year	4,000

Balance Sheet

As at 31.03.2025

Current Assets	£
Cash at Bank and in Hand	4,000
Total Current Assets	4,000
Net Assets	£
Total Net Assets	4,000

Funds

Funds	£
Unrestricted Funds Brought Forward	-
Surplus for the Year	4,000
Total Funds Carried Forward	4,000

Key Financial Highlights

The financial year has been positive for Volunteers Go Global, demonstrating good financial stewardship and a sustainable operating model. Total income of **£16,000** was generated through donations, grants, and charitable fundraising activities, enabling the organisation to continue delivering its international volunteering and youth development objectives.

Total expenditure amounted to **£12,000**, with the majority of costs dedicated directly to programme delivery, volunteer support, travel coordination, and organisational administration. This reflects the charity's commitment to maximising resources for frontline impact while maintaining effective governance and operational oversight.

The organisation recorded an annual **surplus of £4,000**, representing **25% of total income**, which has been retained as unrestricted reserves. These reserves provide financial resilience and will support the development of future volunteering programmes, partnership activities, and organisational growth.

Financial Highlights at a Glance

Key Measure	Amount
Total Income	£16,000
Total Expenditure	£12,000
Annual Surplus	£4,000
Closing Reserves	£4,000
Programme Expenditure as % of Total Spend	71%
Surplus as % of Income	25%

Commentary

The Trustees are pleased with the financial position of Volunteers Go Global at year-end. The surplus achieved demonstrates effective financial management and places the organisation in a strong position to invest in future programme expansion, strengthen international partnerships, enhance volunteer experiences, and build organisational sustainability. The charity remains committed to ensuring that all available resources are used efficiently and effectively to advance its charitable objectives and maximise positive outcomes for volunteers and communities both in the UK and internationally.

Recommendations for the 2026/27 Budget

Based on the current year's performance, Volunteers Go Global is in a stable financial position, having achieved a surplus of **£4,000**. The Trustees should consider using this positive position to strengthen organisational resilience, diversify income streams, and expand programme delivery.

1. Increase Income Targets

The Trustees should seek to increase annual income from **£16,000 to £25,000–£30,000** through:

- Grant applications to charitable trusts and foundations.
- Corporate sponsorship of overseas volunteering programmes.
- Individual giving campaigns and supporter fundraising.
- Participant contributions towards international placements.
- Partnerships with youth organisations, schools, colleges, and local authorities.

2. Build Financial Reserves

While the current surplus of £4,000 provides a good foundation, it is recommended that the organisation:

- Retains a minimum reserve equivalent to **three months' operating costs**.
- Allocates part of future surpluses to a designated contingency fund for unexpected travel, safeguarding, or programme costs.

3. Increase Investment in Programme Delivery

As demand grows, additional resources should be allocated to:

Proposed Budget Area	Suggested Allocation
International Volunteering Programmes	£10,000
Volunteer Training & Safeguarding	£3,000
Travel Scholarships & Bursaries	£4,000
Partnership Development	£2,500
Marketing & Communications	£2,000
Administration & Governance	£2,500
Contingency Reserve	£3,000
Total Recommended Budget	£27,000

4. Develop a Travel Bursary Fund

One of the barriers facing young people is the cost of international travel. The Trustees should consider creating a dedicated bursary fund to:

- Increase participation from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- Support inclusion and diversity objectives.
- Reduce financial barriers for volunteers.

5. Strengthen Governance and Compliance

The budget should include provision for:

- Safeguarding training.
- DBS checks where appropriate.
- Insurance cover.
- Financial management and independent examination.
- Data protection and GDPR compliance.

6. Invest in Organisational Growth

The Trustees may wish to allocate funding towards:

- Website enhancement and digital systems.
- Volunteer recruitment campaigns.
- Monitoring, evaluation, and impact reporting.
- Development of strategic partnerships with international host organisations via Erasmus +.

Recommended Financial Targets for Next Year

Measure	Current Year	Recommended Target
Income	£16,000	£30,000
Expenditure	£12,000	£27,000
Surplus Target	£4,000	£3,000
Closing Reserves	£4,000	£7,000

Trustee Commentary

The Trustees believe that, following a successful financial year, Volunteers Go Global is well positioned for measured growth. Priority should be given to increasing unrestricted income, strengthening reserves, widening access to international opportunities through bursaries, and investing in systems and partnerships that will support sustainable long-term development. These recommendations will help ensure that the organisation continues to deliver high-quality volunteering and cultural exchange opportunities while maintaining strong governance and financial resilience.

Treasurer's Statement

The financial statements show that Volunteers Go Global generated income of **£16,000** and incurred expenditure of **£12,000**, resulting in a surplus of **£4,000** for the financial year. The Trustees are satisfied that the organisation remains financially stable and has sufficient reserves to continue delivering its charitable objectives and to invest in future programme growth.

Approval

Approved by the Trustees on **05.05. 2026**

Chair of Trustees: Teo Bena

Treasurer: Zeena Gordon

Signature: *Z. Gordon*

Independent Examiner's Note:

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and represent a true and fair record of the financial activities of Volunteers Go Global during the reporting period.

Total Income: £16,000

Total Expenditure: £12,000

Year-End Surplus: £4,000

Closing Reserves: £4,000

