

The Economist Charitable Trust

Trustees' report and financial statements

For the year ended March 31st 2024

Registered with the Charity Commission: 293709

**The Economist Charitable Trust
Trustees' annual report**

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**The Economist Charitable Trust
Trustees' annual report**

Trustees' report

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended March 31st 2024. The Trust is governed by a Trust Deed set up on 20 January 1986.

Principal Activity of the Trust and a review of activities during the year

The principal activity of the Trust is the disbursement of monies received from The Economist Newspaper Limited to various charities. 41% of the Trust's donations went to charities in the fields of communication, education, literacy and re-training for individuals and groups who are disadvantaged in some way. In addition, 59% of funds were used to match donations made by colleagues of The Economist Group.

At March 31st 2024 the Trust had a surplus of £606 (2023: £1,408). The policy of the Trust is to maintain sufficient reserves to meet its liabilities.

Organisational structure

The Economist Newspaper Limited has set up an advisory panel of Trustees who determines how approximately 60% of the funds are donated, based on projects nominated by the staff. The Trustees also track donations which are made via matching to employee donations.

Connected transactions

The Trust receives all its income from The Economist Newspaper Limited, which also pays some administration costs on the trustees' behalf. With this exception, it has had no transactions with persons connected to the Trust.

Unpaid volunteers

The Trust places no reliance on unpaid volunteers. The members of the advisory group are colleagues of The Economist Group and receive remuneration as colleagues of The Economist Group. In addition, one trustee is an ex-colleague who does not receive remuneration from TEG. All roles are unpaid.

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Public benefits

The Trustees are aware of the charity commission guidance on public benefits reporting. They believe the charity has achieved a public benefit by disbursing donations to various good causes.

Achievements and performance

	2023/24	2022/23
Spend matching staff donations	£36,626	£21,721
Average donation by colleague	£732	£189
Project grant donations	£43,000	£63,000
Double-matching campaign for Turkey and Syria Earthquake Appeal	n/a	£11,055
Give As You Earn (UK tax efficient donation)	£25,176	£21,545

Reserves policy

The Trust's charitable donations and activities are funded by The Economist Newspaper Limited. The policy of the Trust is to maintain sufficient reserves to cover any liquidity issues caused by timing differences between receipt of income and payment of donations or other liabilities. There is a limited need to hold reserves since other than donations payable, there are minimal liabilities. The timing of making charitable donations is at the discretion of the trustees and decisions taken on the timing of payments are based on the availability of funds.

Financial review

The Trust finished the year with a surplus of £606. All of the funds are unrestricted and will be used in line with the Trust's reserves policy.

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Administrative information

Professional and financial advisors

The Trust holds a current and deposit bank account with Barclays Bank PLC, 1 Churchill Place, LONDON, E14 5HP.

A Epton has carried out an independent examination of the accounts. His address is Goldwins Chartered Accountants, 75 Maygrove Road, West Hampstead, London, NW6 2EG.

Registered address

The registered address of the Trust is The Adelphi, 1-11 John Adam Street, London, WC2N 6HT.

Trustees

The Trustees who served during the year and at the date the annual report was signed are set out below:

Trustee	Start date	Current term end date
Michael Thomas (Chair)	1 February 2022	31 March 2026
Colm Kinsella	1 February 2022	31 March 2026
Sarah Birke	1 May 2022	31 March 2026
Shane Naughton (external)	1 February 2022	31 March 2026
Heena Sharma	1 February 2023	31 March 2027
Emily Mansfield	1 February 2023	31 March 2027
Edward Chui	1 April 2024	31 March 2029
Sarah Repucci	1 April 2024	31 March 2029

None of the trustees received remuneration or expenses from the Trust.

Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the Charitable Trust's incoming resources and application of resources during the year and of its state of affairs at the end of the year.

In preparing those financial statements they are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent

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Trustees' responsibilities (Continued)

- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charitable Trust will continue in operation

Their responsibilities as trustees include keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charitable Trust and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the charity's assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and breaches of law and regulations.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Michael Thomas
Trustee

Date: October 7th 2024

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Trustees' annual report**

Independent Examiner's Report

To the Trustees of The Economist Charitable Trust

I report on the Financial Statements of the Trust for the year ended March 31st 2024 as set out on pages 8 to 16.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and

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- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Anthony Epton

**Anthony Epton BA, FCA, CTA, FCIE
Goldwins Limited
Chartered Accountants
75 Maygrove Road
West Hampstead
London NW6 2EG**

Date: 4 November 2024

The Economist Charitable Trust
Statement of financial activities
For the year ended March 31st 2024

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Income from:					
Donations	3	104,000	-	104,000	88,974
Total income		104,000	-	104,000	88,974
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	4	104,802	-	104,802	117,321
Total expenditure		104,802	-	104,802	117,321
Net movement in funds		(802)	-	(802)	(28,347)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	9	1,408	-	1,408	29,755
Total funds carried forward		606	-	606	1,408

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.
There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.
The attached notes form part of these financial statements.

The Economist Charitable Trust
Balance sheet
As at March 31st 2024

	Note	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £
Current assets:					
Debtors	7	65,223		89,327	
Cash at bank and in hand	11	<u>170</u>		<u>169</u>	
		65,393		89,496	
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	<u>(64,787)</u>		<u>(88,088)</u>	
Total net assets			606		1,408
Funds					
Restricted funds	9		-		-
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds		<u>606</u>		<u>1,408</u>	
Total unrestricted funds			606		1,408
Total funds			606		1,408

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on October 7th 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Michael Thomas
Trustee

The attached notes form part of the financial statements.

The Economist Charitable Trust
Statement of cash flows
For the year ended March 31st 2024

	Note	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities:					
Net cash used in operating activities	10		1		(246)
			<hr/>		<hr/>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year			1		(246)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year			169		415
			<hr/>		<hr/>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	11		170		169
			<hr/> <hr/>		<hr/> <hr/>

The Economist Charitable Trust
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended March 31st 2024

1 Accounting policies

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102 - effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP FRS 102).

The Charitable Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

b) Going concern

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charitable Trust's ability to continue as a going concern. The Trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

c) Income

Income is recognised when the Charitable Trust has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

d) Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charitable Trust; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

e) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the Trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the Charitable Trust.

f) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprises of costs incurred by the charity in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering services to further the purposes of the Charitable Trust and their associated support costs.
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

g) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended March 31st 2024

1 Accounting policies (continued)

h) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

i) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the Charitable trust has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended March 31st 2024

2 Detailed comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	2023 Unrestricted £	2023 Restricted £	2023 Total £
Income from:			
Donations	88,974	-	88,974
Investments	-	-	-
Total income	88,974	-	88,974
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	117,321	-	117,321
Total expenditure	117,321	-	117,321
Net movement in funds	(28,347)	-	(28,347)
Total funds brought forward	29,755	-	29,755
Total funds carried forward	1,408	-	1,408

3 Income from donations

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Donations from The Economist Newspaper Ltd	104,000	-	104,000	88,974
	104,000	-	104,000	88,974

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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended March 31st 2024

4 Analysis of expenditure

		Charitable Activities			
	Basis of allocation	Donations made to Institutions	Governance costs	2024 Total	2023 Total
		£	£	£	£
GAYE	Direct	24,814	-	24,814	21,545
Bacs Matching Donations	Direct	36,988	-	36,988	32,531
Other - Staff matching	Direct	-	-	-	245
Hackney Doorways CAF	Direct	-	-	-	10,732
Mother's Choice Limited	Direct	-	-	-	9,199
My Sister's Place	Direct	-	-	-	14,217
Reach to Teach	Direct	-	-	-	6,133
Supporting Ugandan Education	Direct	-	-	-	10,593
Talent Beyond Boundaries UK	Direct	-	-	-	12,126
Vanessa Grant Trust	Direct	14,000	-	14,000	-
CRY	Direct	11,000	-	11,000	-
InCommon	Direct	10,000	-	10,000	-
Brotherhood Sister Sol	Direct	5,000	-	5,000	-
Po Leung Kuk	Direct	3,000	-	3,000	-
		104,802	-	104,802	117,321
Governance cost		-	-	-	-
Total expenditure		104,802	-	104,802	117,321

All expenditure was unrestricted (2023: all unrestricted).

5 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the Charitable Trust or its subsidiary in the year (2023: £nil) neither were they reimbursed expenses during the year (2023: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2023: £nil).

Staff numbers

The Charitable Trust employed no employees during the year.

6 Taxation

The Charitable Trust is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for

The Economist Charitable Trust
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended March 31st 2024

7 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accrued income	65,223	89,327
	65,223	89,327

8 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accruals	64,787	88,088
	64,787	88,088

9 Movements in funds

	At the start of the year £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	At the end of the year £
Unrestricted funds:				
General funds	1,408	104,000	(104,802)	606
Total unrestricted funds	1,408	104,000	(104,802)	606
Total funds	1,408	104,000	(104,802)	606

10 Reconciliation of net income / (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net income / (expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(802)	(28,347)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	24,104	(34,229)
(Decrease)/Increase in creditors	(23,301)	62,330
Net cash used in operating activities	1	(246)

11 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	At 1 April 2023 £	Cash flows £	At 31 March 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	169	1	170
Total cash and cash equivalents	169	1	170

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For the year ended March 31st 2024

12 Related party transactions

The Charitable Trust received a donation from The Economist Newspaper Limited in the year of £104,000 (2023: £88,974). The Economist Newspaper Limited also pays some of the costs on behalf of the Charitable Trust. At the end of the financial year the Charitable Trust has an amount due from The Economist Newspaper Limited of £65,223 (2023: £89,327) relating to large donations to be paid. With this exception there were no other related party transactions.