

Charity registration number 327280

The DLA Piper Charitable Trust
Annual report and financial statements
for the year ended 5 April 2019

The DLA Piper Charitable Trust

Annual report and financial statements

for the year ended 5 April 2019

Contents

Trustees' report	1
Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of The DLA Piper Charitable Trust.....	7
Statement of Financial Activities	8
Balance Sheet	9
Statement of Cash Flows	10
Notes to the financial statements	11

The DLA Piper Charitable Trust

Trustees' report for the year ended 5 April 2019

(A) Reference and administrative information

The Trustees during the year ended 5 April 2019 were

Ms Sandra May Wallace

Mr Sean Patrick Mahon

Mr Philip James Rooney

Mr Liam Anthony Paul Cowell (appointed 16 May 2019)

Ms Amanda Rachel Pilkington (appointed 16 May 2019)

This list is accurate up to the date of signing the annual report and financial statements.

Secretary

Ms Susan Mary Greaves

c/o Wrigleys Solicitors LLP

Derwent House

150 Arundel Gate

Sheffield

S1 2FN

Registered Office

The DLA Piper Charitable Trust

c/o DLA Piper UK LLP

1 St Paul's Place

Sheffield

S1 2JX

Independent Examiner

Deloitte LLP

1 City Square

Leeds

United Kingdom

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Bankers

CAF Bank Limited

25 Kings Hill Avenue

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The DLA Piper Charitable Trust

Trustees' report for the year ended 5 April 2019

(B) Structure, governance and management

The Trustees are pleased to present their annual report, together with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 5 April 2019.

Governing documents

The DLA Piper Charitable Trust (previously known as the DLA Piper Rudnick Gray Cary Charitable Trust, the DLA Charitable Trust, the Dibb Lupton Alsop Charitable Trust, and the Dibb Lupton Broomhead Charitable Trust) is a registered charity, number 327280. It was established for an eighty year trust period by a deed dated 14 October 1986 as varied by a scheme of 12 September 1989 and by Resolutions dated 11 December 1996, 21 September 2000, 21 April 2005 and 27 September 2006 (the date of the resolution changing the name of the Charity to The DLA Piper Charitable Trust). The registered office for the Trust is shown on page 1.

The financial statements comply with the governing documents, statutory requirements and the requirements of the Charities' Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 2015. They have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on pages 11 and 12.

Trustees

The Trustees, Sandra May Wallace, Sean Patrick Mahon, Philip James Rooney, Liam Anthony Paul Cowell and Amanda Rachel Pilkington are appointed from time to time by the existing Trustees. There is no stated number of Trustees required at any one time, provided that there are always at least two. There are no restrictions relating to the length of service of Trustees.

Induction and training

New Trustees are provided with an induction pack by the Secretary which includes not only copies of minutes of recent meetings and copies of Trustees' reports and financial statements but also copies of documents relating to the governance and operation of the Charity including grant making policies. In addition, documentation with regard to Trustee duties and responsibilities is provided.

New Trustees are encouraged to attend relevant Trustee training courses and the Secretary offers guidance at all times, especially to new Trustees, on legal, governance and administrative matters.

Organisation

The Trustees meet four times per year to discuss applications and the affairs of the Trust and to award grants. The meetings sometimes take place via audio conference or videoconference facilities, but at least one meeting every year takes place face-to-face. Decisions are implemented through its officers and advisors.

The day to day administration of the Charity, work in connection with its income, liaison with outside bodies, the administration of its grant programmes and the processing and handling of applications prior to and after their consideration by Trustees, is all work delegated to the Secretary.

The DLA Piper Charitable Trust

Trustees' report for the year ended 5 April 2019

(B) Structure, governance and management (continued)

From time to time all Trustees consider policy and strategic matters. The Trustees also consider monitoring information obtained concerning the performance of grants.

(C) Risks

As a matter of best practice, the Trustees are conscious of the need to consider risk. The Trustees address and seek to mitigate the principal areas of risk by engaging the Secretary, who herself is a lawyer specialising in charity work with a leading niche firm of solicitors with a national reputation in the field of trusts, particularly relating to charities.

A two signature cheque control is in place for all payments.

(D) Objectives and activities

The objectives of the Trust are as follows:

To apply all or any part or parts of the income of the Trust fund to or for such charitable institution or institutions or other charitable object or objects in any part of the world as the Trustees or a majority in point of number of the Trustees shall in their absolute discretion think fit to support or establish.

To make effective and creative use of its opportunities for grant-making as evidenced by the commentary on its grant making activities below. As the Trust invariably receives far more applications for funding than it can respond to, a grants policy has been established. This policy aims to support registered charities, not individuals, through grants which:

- Stimulate and support the charity fundraising efforts of members and employees of DLA Piper UK LLP ("DLA Piper");
- Support, for example, a charity project selected by a DLA Piper office for fundraising activities throughout a financial or calendar year; and
- Give significant support to a charity or charities offering service to particular communities or needy groups (for example, by reason of ill health or other disadvantage).

Grants were made during the year for a wide variety of purposes to numerous charities, including: MIND, The Prince's Trust, Action for Children and St Gemma's Hospice.

The full range of the objectives of the Trust were represented in the range of grants made. During the year a total of 48 grants were awarded (2018: 21).

Applications from members, partners and employees of DLA Piper for grants in support of charities are encouraged by publicity of the Trust within DLA Piper. Trustees also encourage not merely the requesting of a donation, but the undertaking of fundraising efforts.

The DLA Piper Charitable Trust

Trustees' report for the year ended 5 April 2019

(E) Achievements and performance

The Charity measures its achievements by the breadth and success of its grant making.

The indicator used by the Trust to measure the success of its grant making is the effectiveness and usefulness of the grant expenditure. This is evidenced by feedback from charities benefiting from donations including letters of thanks from Action for Children and MIND. Also by follow-ups from the individuals requesting the funding including Ross Galbraith on behalf of Roundabout Limited, Thomas Elliot on behalf of Help for Heroes and Julia Greenwood on behalf of Neuro Therapy Centre.

The Trust is dependent for the achievement of its objectives on a good flow of applications. The contacts it maintains through the Secretary and through the members and staff of DLA Piper continues to supply a good flow of applications but the Trustees continue to work at developing the effectiveness and reach of the Charity's grant making programmes.

The Secretary continued her liaison with the Corporate Responsibility (CR) department of DLA Piper so as to be aware of any opportunities for grant making that might arise from initiatives within that organisation.

The continuing use of the matched funding and one-off awards in response to applications from DLA Piper staff is a successful feature of the grant making.

(F) Public benefit

The Trustees have considered the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission. It is noted that a charitable organisation must be able to demonstrate that its aims are for the public benefit and that there must be compliance with two principles.

The first principle is that there must be an identifiable benefit or benefits. As a grant making charity the Trust has clear purposes, set out in its governing deed which it fulfils through its grant making programmes. The benefits are identifiable in the activities undertaken by the grant beneficiaries in delivering their own charitable objectives with funds provided by the Trust.

The second principle requires that the benefit must be to the public or a section of the public. The appropriateness of the beneficiaries to the aims of this Trust are assessed by the application process and in cases needing additional attention, through enquiries raised by the Secretary or Trustees. The Trustees are conscious of the need to ensure, so far as they can, that a section of the public benefiting is not unreasonably restricted. In appropriate cases the examination of accounts and the beneficiaries' approach to finance, enable the Trustees to assess adequately for their purposes any questions that may arise over restrictions flowing from the charging of fees by beneficiary charities. The same analysis enables the Trustees to assess the issue of potential exclusion of those in poverty. Private benefit is unlikely to be an issue in the grant making activities of this Trust, but the Trustees are aware of the need to keep an eye open for this risk.

The DLA Piper Charitable Trust

Trustees' report for the year ended 5 April 2019

(F) Public benefit (continued)

This report already contains a summary of the objects of this charity, a summary of its main activities and a record of its achievements in relation to its objects by reference to grant making.

The Trustees are aware that via section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 there is an obligation to require Trustees to report on the Charity's public benefit. The above section is intended to meet that requirement. The Trustees are aware that when planning the Charity's activities they must have regard to the Commission's guidance on public benefit. They confirm that they have had such regard.

(G) Financial review and principal funding sources

Income is derived from regular donations from the profits of DLA Piper, plus the tax relief from these donations. Funds are held in an interest-bearing account. The Trust does not actively fundraise and seeks to continue its work through the careful stewardship of its income.

Income for the year was £92,997 (2018: £23,276). A donation from DLA Piper totalling £50,000 was received (2018: nil) and a further £10,000 (2018: nil) was recorded in the accounts for the Gift Aid yet to be claimed. A second donation of £10,108 was also received from The Friendly Society (2018: nil). Income for the year also included £22,800 donated services (2018: £23,231) and £89 interest (2018: £45).

(H) Reserves

Reserves are considered to be unrestricted and the position is discussed at each Trustees' meeting. The Trustees aim to keep reserves at a level not less than 50% of average annual income, though they recognise the actual amount held will go up and down regularly throughout the year.

The balance held as unrestricted funds at 5 April 2019 was £87,848 (2018: £71,782).

(I) Plans for future periods

The Trust has significant reserves and the Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern.

The Trustees plan to continue the existing objectives and pattern of grant making with the aim and objective of reaching needy causes and other charities for which a grant from the Trust can make all the difference between an activity or event taking place or failing to do so.

In addition, the Trustees continue to consider possible new patterns of grant making and the possibility of having particular areas of interest as a focus for grant making initiatives.

The DLA Piper Charitable Trust

Trustees' report for the year ended 5 April 2019

(J) Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard" applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

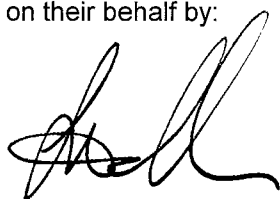
The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees 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;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees' report on pages 1 to 6 was approved by the Trustees on 27 January 2020 and signed on their behalf by:



Ms Sandra May Wallace
Trustee

The DLA Piper Charitable Trust

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of The DLA Piper Charitable Trust

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The DLA Piper Charitable Trust ("the Trust") for the year ended 5th April 2019 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes 1 to 8.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). You are satisfied that your charity is not required by charity law to be audited and have chosen instead to have an independent examination.

I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 2011 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.

Sarah Anderson FCCA
for and on behalf of Deloitte LLP
Leeds, United Kingdom

The DLA Piper Charitable Trust

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending 5 April 2019

	Note	2019	2018
		£	£
Income and endowments from:			
Donations		60,108	-
Donated services		22,800	23,231
Tax relief (gift aid)		10,000	-
Other		89	45
Total		92,997	23,276
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	4	76,871	44,598
Other		60	88
Total		76,931	44,686
Net movement in funds		16,066	(21,410)
Reconciliation of funds:			
Total funds brought forward		71,782	93,192
Total funds		87,848	71,782

All the above items are in respect of continuing operations. All fund balances are considered to be unrestricted.

There is no difference between the net income/(expenditure) shown above and their historical cost equivalent.

All gains and losses recognised in the year are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Charity is a registered charity, and as such is entitled to certain tax exemptions on income and profits from investments, and surpluses on any trading activities carried on in furtherance of the Charity's primary objectives, if these profits and surpluses are applied solely for charitable purposes.

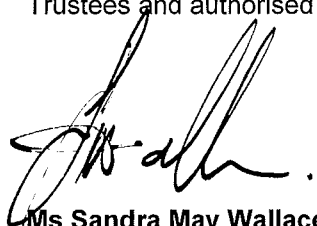
The DLA Piper Charitable Trust

Balance Sheet as at 5 April 2019

	Note	2019 £	2018 £
Current assets:			
Cash at bank and in hand		77,848	71,782
Other debtors		10,000	-
Net assets		87,848	71,782
The funds of the Charity:			
Unrestricted funds		87,848	71,782
Total Charity funds		87,848	71,782

The notes on pages 11 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

The accounts of The DLA Piper Charitable Trust (registered number 327280) were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on 27 January 2020. They were signed on their behalf by:



Ms Sandra May Wallace
Trustee

The DLA Piper Charitable Trust

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ending 5 April 2019

	Note	2019 £	2018 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash used in operating activities	5	5,977	(21,365)
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Interest income		89	45
Net cash provided by investing activities		89	45
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		6,066	(21,320)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		71,782	93,192
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		77,848	71,782

The DLA Piper Charitable Trust

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 5 April 2019

1 General information

The DLA Piper Charitable Trust is a registered charity in England and Wales:

Charity registration number: 327280

Registered address: DLA Piper UK LLP, 1 St Paul's Place, Sheffield, S1 2JX.

2 Principal accounting policies

(A) Basis of preparation and going concern

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards in the United Kingdom, the Charities' SORP 2015, Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102 and the Charities Act 2011. A summary of the principal accounting policies, which have been applied consistently, are set out below.

The Trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis and under the historical cost convention. The Trust has significant reserves and the Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern.

(B) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

(C) Donated services and support costs

Donated services have been recognised as income on the basis of the amount the Charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount for support costs has been recognised under charitable activities within expenditure.

(D) Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis once an offer has been conveyed to the recipient.

The DLA Piper Charitable Trust

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 5 April 2019

2 Principal accounting policies (continued)

(E) Recognition of liabilities

Liabilities are recognised when an obligation arises to transfer economic benefits as a result of past transactions or events.

Grants payable are accounted for in full as liabilities of the Trust when approved by the Trustees and accepted by the beneficiaries.

(F) Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

(G) Critical accounting adjustments and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The trustees do not consider there are any critical judgements or sources of estimation uncertainty requiring disclosure.

3 Support costs - administration and governance costs

The Trust has nil employees (2018: nil).

None of the Trustees received any remuneration or reimbursement for expenses during the year (2018: nil).

Donated services totalling £22,800 (2018: £23,231) have been recognised in the year relating to the professional services of Wrigleys Solicitors LLP which have been provided free of charge by DLA Piper UK LLP.

Administration services (including independent examiner's fees) are provided free of charge from DLA Piper UK LLP. The Trustees consider it is not practicable to make an accurate estimate of the value of these services.

The DLA Piper Charitable Trust

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 5 April 2019

4 Charitable activities

	2019		2018	
	Number of Donations	£	Number of Donations	£
Donations to institutions:				
UNICEF	2	5,500	0	-
Birmingham Children's Hospital Charity	1	5,000	0	-
MIND	4	4,405	2	4,267
St Gemma's Hospice	3	4,051	1	3,500
Scottish Association for Mental Health	1	4,000	0	-
The Prince's Trust	1	3,500	2	3,850
Cathedral Archer Project	1	3,000	0	-
South Yorkshire Community Foundation	1	3,000	0	-
Coda Music Trust	1	2,500	0	-
University College Hospitals London Charity	1	2,500	0	-
Whitechapel Centre Liverpool	1	2,025	0	-
Action For Children	7	1,500	0	-
Roundabout Limited	1	1,500	0	-
Leeds Autism Services	1	1,118	0	-
Prince of Wales Hospice	1	1,000	0	-
Strachlyde University Law Clinic	1	1,000	0	-
VICTA Children Ltd	2	1,000	0	-
Alzheimer's Society	0	-	1	3,500
Other donations less than £1,000	18	7,472	15	6,250
Total donations to institutions	48	54,071	21	21,367
Support costs	-	22,800	-	23,231
Total charitable activities	48	76,871	21	44,598

The DLA Piper Charitable Trust

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 5 April 2019

5 Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2019	2018
	£	£
Net movement in funds	16,066	(21,410)
Deduct interest income shown in investing activities	(89)	(45)
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	(10,000)	-
Net cash used in operating activities	5,977	(21,365)

6 Connected charities

Sean Patrick Mahon, Trustee, is associated with one other charity, the details of which are:

- Boys and Girls Clubs of South Yorkshire – Director

Philip James Rooney, Trustee, is associated with three other charities, the details of which are:

- NSPCC – involved in fundraising events
- The Community Foundation for Lancashire and Merseyside – volunteer
- Tate Liverpool - member of fund raising committee

Consequently the four mentioned charities are connected charities.

7 Immediate and ultimate controlling party

The Charity is controlled by the Trustees, three of which are members of DLA Piper UK LLP, a limited liability partnership carrying on the business of solicitors, and DLA Piper International LLP, a limited liability partnership which governs the business of DLA Piper in the UK and elsewhere.

8 Related parties

Other than the provision of donated services and administration services by DLA Piper UK LLP (as disclosed in note 3), there have no other related party transactions during the year.

A list of connected charities is disclosed within note 6.