



AFRICA'S VOICES FOUNDATION LIMITED

(Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee)

**Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2019**

Registered Charity No 1159589
Charitable Company Number 09215046

Africa's Voices Foundation Limited
For year ended 31 December 2019

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Africa's Voices Foundation Limited
Trustee's Annual Report
For year ended 31 December 2019

Introduction

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements of Africa's Voices Foundation Limited for the year ended 31 December 2019. These are prepared to meet the requirements for a Director's report and accounts for Companies Act purposes. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 2 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

Our board of trustees meet formally four times a year, currently two times in Cambridge and twice in Nairobi. They monitor the performance of the executive as well as set the strategic direction of the Company. Africa's Voices continues to grow and is making a difference in places where it has its operations by public and interactive discussions and generating citizen-led insights of importance to the work of partner organisations. While long term, large, unrestricted income is difficult to marshal, AVF has managed its work through short term service contracts that have nonetheless allowed for cost recovery to about 70%. The trustees are encouraged by the number of partners who see value in the AVF offering, with some investing in our capability. We have during 2019 opened platforms for citizen consultation and engagement both in Kenya and Somalia with an estimated reach of over 1 million citizens across both countries¹. That said, sustainability of AVF remains a concern for trustees who are working tirelessly with the management to create a strong resource foundation for sustainability. The organization's path towards sustainable value creation must be enhanced. The founding Executive Director, Dr. Sharath Srinivasan's contract expired at the end of August, 2019 and the recruitment of a replacement was concluded. Samuel Kimeu was appointed the new Executive Director and he reported in January 2020. The possibilities for positive contribution of Africa's Voices to the African governance, accountability and development scene remains immense. The trustees remain confident that AVF's work will continue to impact positively on the continent.

Objectives and activities

Objectives

The purpose of the Charity as set out in the governing document is 'the promotion of the efficiency and effectiveness of charities and non-charitable organizations (in the case of the latter in their pursuit of exclusively charitable purposes) operating in Africa for the public benefit and to promote the effective use of resources by charities and non-charitable organizations (in the case of the latter for exclusively charitable purposes) for the public benefit; and the advancement of education and research and the dissemination of the useful results of such research for the public benefit'.

Africa's Voices (AVF) operates as a highly sophisticated and unique citizen engagement and social evidence operation. It consists of social services deliverers to listen and respond to the ideas, beliefs, opinions and behaviours of those they seek to serve. Based on applied research at Cambridge University, we use tested engagement methods for gathering citizen voices in Africa, especially from remote and disenfranchised communities and employ sophisticated research methods and technologies for data analysis to turn this data into evidence. Our aim is to demonstrate the value-add to service deliverers working with Africa's Voices to incorporate citizen feedback in their decisions.

¹ According to a representative phone survey in Somalia, at least 900,000 people were reached via the Imaqal ("Listen to me") programmes alone.

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Trustee's Annual Report (continued)
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Africa's Voices aims to become a leading research organization across Africa and to advance change in the approach of many social initiatives in the continent.

Activities

In 2019, Africa's Voices focused on growing and expanding the organisation, building on progress achieved in 2018. The organisation further advanced key offerings under the two programmatic areas, Governance & Accountability and Citizen Evidence for Social Change, resulting in engagements with at least 60,000 individual citizens in both Kenya and Somalia.

The organisation's charitable activities in 2019 included new and continued partnerships and projects with: the Somalia Stability Fund, the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), the Urban Institute, the UN Regional Coordinator's Office for Somalia, UNDP Somalia, Groundtruth Solutions, UN OCHA, the Somalia Humanitarian Fund, the World University Service of Canada, the World Bank and UNICEF Somalia.

Within its Citizen Evidence for Social Change programme, AVF secured its largest ever grant by the Somalia Stability Fund to deliver Imaqal: Promoting greater gender equality and social inclusion through media in Somalia. Imaqal is a nationwide media-based intervention through interactive radio, TV, social media, and on-the-ground forums to challenge negative norms that sustain gender inequality and the marginalisation of women, youth, the displaced and minorities. After a successful pilot in 2018, AVF launched a 3-year extended intervention in Dadaab and Kakuma, in partnerships with the World University Service of Canada, in support of the DFID-funded KEEP II education programme. The project uses AVF's interactive radio method (radio debates driven by audience input via SMS) as a vehicle for inclusive, norm-challenging conversations to generate evidence on how to overcome social norms that sustain harmful practices, such as early marriages, that hinder refugee girls' educational outcomes. Finally, with funding through the Wellcome Trust's Public Engagement, AVF designed an online multimedia tool which guides the user through the AVF interactive radio experience as used to gauge perceptions of risk and preparedness in the context of public health emergencies. The tool which was presented at the Cambridge Science Festival in March 2019 and is now hosted on the organisation's website.

Under its Governance & Accountability programme, AVF, piloted its interactive radio method as a radical new way to galvanise civic engagement and public participation within the context of Kenya's devolution. In consultation with the Siaya County government, Africa's Voices designed a four-week season of interactive radio shows to drive citizen feedback in order to hold county authorities to account on the achievements and shortcomings of the 2018-19 County Annual Development Plan. There remains huge potential for AVF's approach to be deployed for better governance, accountability and public participation outcomes in the Kenyan devolution space. For the second consecutive year, AVF deployed its interactive radio method through the Common Social Accountability Platform to consult Somali citizens on humanitarian priorities in order to inform the 2020 Humanitarian Needs Overview. The project complemented the Joint-multi Cluster Needs Assessment (JMCNA) process carried out by REACH and Groundtruth Solutions. In other Governance & Accountability work, AVF worked with the UN Regional Coordinator's Office in Somalia, to engage citizens in Baidoa and Bosaso, in their majority (Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), to share their views on the government's role in responding to the displacement crisis. Finally, the Common Social Accountability Platform was also used to conduct a nationwide radio consultation to explore development priorities suggested by Somali citizens, in order to bring citizen voices into the design of the World Bank's Performance Learning Review.

Achievements and Performance

Demand for the organisations ability to provide unique skills in engagement with the hardest to reach both to understand priorities and create their engagement with their authorities, has continued to grow, with several partners renewing their commitment to us in 2019 and some notable new ones, including the Somalia Stability Fund and the World Bank, acquiring the organisation's capabilities. AVF's two programmatic areas have matured and fine-tuned their ability to deliver bigger and more complex projects, working seamlessly with research and data analysis teams to allow large-scale rapid analysis of rich qualitative and quantitative data. This year saw an important recognition by US-based organisation Twilio.org which provided AVF with a \$150,000 innovation grant in support of our 1-to-1 two-way channel for open-text local language conversations at scale, to enable crisis-affected communities to engage with and hold aid actors into account.

The Citizen Evidence for Social Change programme achieved a milestone in 2019 by receiving a \$1 million investment from the Somalia Stability Fund to deliver AVF's largest ever project to date. Throughout 2019, AVF has delivered Imaqal, a multimedia intervention to promote gender equality and social inclusion in Somalia, reaching over 900,000 and engaging 53,000 people via SMS in norm-challenging public dialogues. Building a nation-wide conversation of such scale, plurality and richness is immensely valuable, particularly in Somalia where the space for public debate and challenging conventions is limited. The success of the 2018 pilot in Dadaab and Kakuma to assist implementers of the KEEP II project adapt their programming in order to best serve refugee girls' education in the camps and host communities, resulted in three year extended intervention in 2019.

The Governance & Accountability programme, notably, saw the extension of the Common Social Accountability Platform, AVF's flagship accountability initiative, premised on interactive radio, to Kenya. In the context of the USAID-funded AHADI project, AVF in partnerships with the University of Cambridge, brought citizens of Siaya County and their county government representatives in direct conversation over interactive radio over the outcomes of the county's 2018-2019 development plan. That way, 2296 people who sent 5490 messages participated in a large-scale, inclusive and sustained public dialogue with key decision-makers. 78.5% of respondents said the radio shows improved their understanding of County decision-making processes, while 77.2% said that the interactive radio public dialogue made them feel more included in decision-making. For the second consecutive year, AVF put voices of citizens at the heart of humanitarian planning processes. In collaboration with UN OCHA, GroundTruth Solutions and REACH, AVF ensured that the voices of citizens informed the 2020 annual UN Humanitarian Needs Overview (the 2019 HNO specifically commended AVF's work and the 2020 HNO highlighted Africa's Voices as one of three selected Accountability to Affected Populations initiatives in Somalia). The process heard from 8,251 Somalis who shared their priorities through AVF's interactive radio shows. Finally, a significant milestone for AVF's Governance & Accountability programme in 2019 was the collaboration with the World Bank to conduct a nationwide consultation to explore development priorities suggested by Somali citizens. The consultations intended to bring citizen voice into the design of the Bank's Performance Learning Review. Nearly 5,000 sent their views from across the country of whom, 83.5% reported that the process made them feel they had more of a voice in decision making affecting their community.

In December 2019, the board of trustees approved the formation of a joint venture with Lark Systems to provide capability for one to one conversations at scale. This capability is driven by two former staff of AVF and will significantly enhance the capacity of AVF to engage with citizens at scale and analyse their views on a variety of issues.

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Trustee's Annual Report (continued)
For year ended 31 December 2019

Financial Review

The income from charitable activities in 2019 was £1,407,773 up from £868,950 in 2018. Of the 2019 income, £356k is from grant agreements, £120k is from service contracts and the remaining £1,052K is from charitable donations. The organisation posted a net income for the year of £119,265 compared to a net income of £202,995 in 2018. The reserves balance at the end of 2019 was £404k of which £281k was unrestricted in line with the reserves policy. Out of the unrestricted reserves balance of £281k, £271k is held in bank balances so is liquid.

Looking ahead to 2020, projected total income is £1,471,534 of which £837k is from accountable grant agreements, £435k is from service contracts and £199k is from donations. The level of reserves is expected to increase as a result of the increase in income.

Our pricing policy reflects our strategy to ensure Africa's Voices will become financially sustainable. However, we note that significant further core funding will be required before full sustainability from fee income is achieved.

The trustees are aware that the Covid-19 Pandemic and its effect on the global economy will provide a challenging environment in the year to come (2020/2021). Since the beginning of this year, and particularly after the advent of Covid-19, AVF has drawn heavily from its reserves in order to keep staff in place and keep its work going. During the same period, the Business Development Team has worked hard to close contracts and chase donations. Unfortunately, some very promising conversations have ended up in disappointment while others have delayed inordinately. Based on the World Health Organization and our own internal assessments, the whole of this year (2020) will likely be acutely affected by the impact of Covid-19.

The trustees have approved the following plans to mitigate the effects of Covid-19 should reserves be depleted. The Senior Management Team in consultation with the Board of Trustees, kicked in contingent measures in order to protect the short term (12 months) sustainability of AVF, as a going concern, as we better understand what the structural impact of Covid-19 will be on our funding sources. The adopted organization-wide measures that took effect on 1st July 2020, will ensure that AVF continues to run with its current core staff up to and including May 2021. In view of the above effective July 1st, 2020, the management and BOT unanimously agreed to reduce salaries of different employees' cadre 20%, 15%, and 10%, freeze BOT travels, cancel staff team retreat and freeze any promotions and learning credits. The Senior Management Team will monitor the situation every 3 months and remains hopeful that we shall land various proposals in the pipeline.

Reserves Policy

The Board of Trustees of the organisation aims to maintain unrestricted reserves sufficient to meet the organisation's working capital requirements and to meet any temporary shortfalls in funds arising from unforeseen exposure to foreign exchange losses, project disallowed costs and other unforeseen costs, so as to enable AVF to continue to meet its charitable objectives.

The minimum level of unrestricted reserves is arrived at by taking the contractual commitments we have to staff and our landlords in the event the organisation needs to be wound up as below:

1. 3 months' rent derived from the 2020 budget
2. 3 months' worth of key personnel positions derived from the 2020 budget
3. 2 months' worth of support personnel derived from the 2020 budget

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Trustee's Annual Report (continued)
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4. A contingency of 30% of the above costs to take into account unforeseen exposure to foreign exchange losses, project disallowed costs and other unforeseen costs, so as to enable AVF to continue to meet its charitable objectives.

Therefore the minimum level of unrestricted reserves derived as above should currently be £152k which is approximately the equivalent of 2.7 months of the organisational core expenses derived from the annual budget.

The targeted level of unrestricted reserves is based on the forecast operational deficit for the upcoming year if none of the anticipated income is received, plus 30% to cover unforeseen circumstances and expansion opportunities. The figure thus derived currently comes to £285k for 2020 which is approximately the equivalent of 5 months of organisational core expenses.

At 31 December 2019, the charity held unrestricted reserves of £281,384 in line with the reserves policy as above. In addition, there were restricted fund balances of £122,994. Details are set out in note 11a to the financial statements.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Trustees have identified the following principal risks and uncertainties facing the charity, noted below, together with a summary of plans for managing these risks.

- **Financial:** The dependency on grant funding that covers only eligible expenditure leaves a charity such as ours particularly dependent on additional sources of unrestricted income to cover operations, capacity development, innovation, business development and overheads. Such unrestricted income can be difficult to secure for an organisation dedicated to delivering social evidence from citizen engagement to other decision makers. The Trustees have thus pursued a more concerted fundraising effort, directed the Executive Director to pursue longer and better resourced projects with stable partners, and challenged the team to pursue alternative financial models for achieving our core charitable objectives. Meanwhile, the Trustees have employed a robust reserves policy to cope with uncertainties.
- **Impact of Covid 19:** The onset of Covid-19 Pandemic this year has significantly altered the terrain for AVF. In March when the first case was announced in Kenya, where the branch is based, the management took the decision for staff to work from home. This has now gone on for six months and staff adjusted quite well to this new way of working, enabled by a strong IT framework that allows for remote working and collaboration. Two challenges have however persisted; internet and power outages. While these have occasionally disrupted our work, we still have met our obligations and objectives. On the fundraising front, many of AVF donors pivoted support towards a Covid-19 response. This provided AVF with an opportunity to showcase our capability which is particularly suited for non-contact engagement with citizens through broadcast media and mobile SMS services. The bulk of our financial resources came through service contracts or accountable grants focusing on the Covid-19 response, slowing down our ambitions to grow AVF's work into traditional governance and accountability space in both Kenya and Somalia. To mitigate this challenge, the Trustees have led a process of developing a fundraising strategy that focuses on raising resources beyond Covid -19 pandemic response.
- **Data protection and privacy:** This still remains a risk area as AVF seeks to sustain high ethical standards that it has set for itself and to also act in conformity with the UK, European and local laws. The Executive Director leads a process of reviewing and learning to keep staff aware of the risk and constantly mitigate it. In the operations, messages requiring direct urgent response

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 Trustee's Annual Report (continued)
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are piloted by a member of Senior Management together with a Programme Officer in order to ensure compliance.

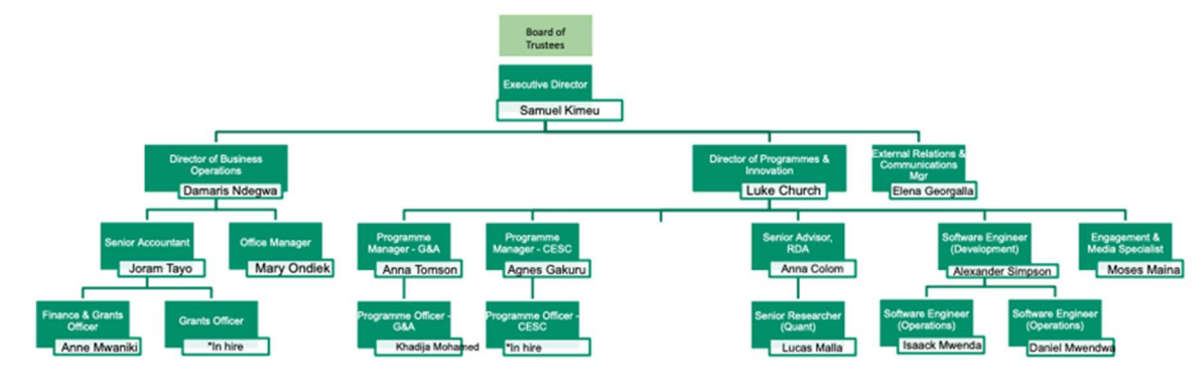
Structure, Governance and Management

Structure

The company is limited by guarantee, number 09215046, and is a charitable trust registered with the Charity Commission number 1159589. The Charity's governing document is a Memorandum of Association dated 11 September 2014, updated by special resolution on 9 December 2014.

- Africa's Voices runs as one team with two bases in the UK and Kenya, and management processes and team meetings (virtual and in person) reflects this. The organogram as of 31 December 2019 is shown below.

AVF Organogram (December 2019)



Governance

We are governed by a Board of Trustees. During the year, our trustees were:

1. Lord Cains (Chairperson), previously board member of the Mo Ibrahim Foundation, former Chair of the Overseas Development Institute and Voluntary Services Overseas.
2. Sir David Green, former Director General of the British Council.
3. Dr. David Good, a senior academic at the University of Cambridge and expert in the social application of information and technology.
4. Fiona Napier, a Senior Development Consultant.
5. Dr. Laila Macharia, based in Kenya and formerly Vice Chairperson of Kenya Private Sector Alliance.
6. Mr. Adrian Edward Poffley, Chief Administrative Officer of the World Bank.
7. Dr. Frasia Karua, a medical doctor, formerly of Amref Health Africa a member of the Industrial Property Tribunal in Kenya as well as the Global advisory committee of Tech Care for All. She joined the board of trustees in December 2019.

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Trustee's Annual Report (continued)
For year ended 31 December 2019

Governance (Continued)

Trustees are recruited to the Board with consideration given to experience and skills for core governance functions as well as diversity of geographic, sector and professional knowledge suited to achieving the organisation's charitable objectives.

In accordance with the articles of association, a person who is willing to act may be appointed as a Trustee by ordinary resolution of the members of the Charity or a simple majority vote of the Trustees. He or she must be a member of the Charity, recommended by the Trustees, or, according to requirements for due notice to the Charity for a proposal by an existing member to be elected at a subsequent meeting of the Board. In accordance with the articles, Membership of the charity is open to individuals who apply to the Charity in the form required by the Trustees; and are approved by the Trustees.

New Trustees are inducted on a one-to-one basis by the Chairperson and the Executive Director, and are given copies of the articles of association, financial reports and current organisational strategy.

The main responsibilities of the Trustees are to formulate the strategic plans of the charity, to approve the annual budget, to monitor the financial activities of the charity and to ensure prudence and proper governance of the organisation.

Management

The management team as of 31 December, 2019 included our co-founder and former Executive Director (Dr. Sharath Srinivasan), in his advisory capacity, Director for Programmes and Innovation (Luke Church) and our Director for Business Operations, Damaris Ndegwa, who was employed in February 2019.

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Trustee's Annual Report (continued)
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Registration & Administrative Details

Registered Charity No 1159589
Charitable Company Number 09215046

Trustees (and Directors)

The Earl Cairns
D A Good
Sir David Green
F A Napier
L L N Macharia
A E Poffley
P K A Da Costa (appointed 8 March 2019, died 18 August 2019)
F A W Karua (appointed 2 December 2019)

Executive Director

S Kimeu

Auditors

PKF Francis Clark
Centenary House
Peninsula Park
Rydon Lane
Exeter
EX2 7XE

Solicitors

Linklaters
One Silk Street
London
EC2Y 8HQ

Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Registered office

c/o Hackwood Secretaries Limited
One Silk Street
London
EC2Y 8HQ

Africa's Voices Foundation Limited
Trustee's Annual Report (continued)
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Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Africa's Voices Foundation Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees Annual Report (incorporating the Directors' Report for the purposes of s415 Companies Act 2006) and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each 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, including the income and expenditure, of the Charity for that period. In preparing the 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 judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards 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 company 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 to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware at the time approving our trustees' annual report:

- There is no relevant audit information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing their report, of which the charity's auditor is unaware; and
- The trustees, having made enquiries of fellow directors and the charities auditor that they ought to have individually taken, have each taken all steps that they are obliged to take as a trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

Small Company Provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees approve the Trustees' annual report, including approval in their capacity as company directors of the Directors' report contained within it on 19 October 2020.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:

The Earl Cairns

Africa's Voices Foundation Limited

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Africa's Voices Foundation Limited For year ended 31 December 2019

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Africa's Voices Foundation Limited (the "Charity") for the year ended 31 December 2019 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 December 2019 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the Charity's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report, (which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.

Responsibilities of the trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities set out on page 10, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charity for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Africa's Voices Foundation Limited

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Africa's Voices Foundation Limited

For year ended 31 December 2019

Use of our Report

This report is made solely to the Charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Neil Hitchings (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of
PKF FRANCIS CLARK
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor
Centenary House
Peninsula Park
Rydon Lane
Exeter
EX2 7XE

19 October 2020

Africa's Voices Foundation Limited

Statement of Financial Activities (including the income and expenditure account)

For year ended 31 December 2019

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2019	Total 2018
		£	£	£	£
Income					
Income from charitable activities	3	355,954	1,051,819	1,407,773	868,950
Total income		355,954	1,051,819	1,407,773	868,950
Expenditure					
Charitable expenditure	4	345,980	942,528	1,288,508	665,955
Total expenditure		345,980	942,528	1,288,508	665,955
Net income/(expenditure)		9,974	109,291	119,265	202,995
Transfers	11a	(4,613)	4,613	-	-
Funds brought forward		276,023	9,090	285,113	82,118
Funds carried forward		281,384	122,994	404,378	285,113

Africa's Voices Foundation Limited
Balance Sheet
For year ended 31 December 2019

	Note	2019 £	2018 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	8	9,698	84
Current assets			
Debtors	9	394,248	122,952
Cash at bank and in hand		271,206	270,656
		665,454	393,608
Creditors:			
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(270,774)	(108,579)
Net current assets		394,680	285,029
Net assets		404,378	285,113
Reserves			
Restricted funds	11a	281,384	9,090
Unrestricted funds	11a	122,994	276,023
Total funds		404,378	285,113

The financial statements on pages 14 to 28 were approved by the trustees on 19 October 2020 and signed on their behalf by:-

Signed:

The Earl Cairns

Company registration number: 09215046

Africa's Voices Foundation Limited
Statement of Cash Flows
For year ended 31 December 2019

	Note	2019 £	2018 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	17	21,538	166,895
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Purchase of property plant and equipment	8	(11,030)	-
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities			-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		10,508	166,895
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents		(9,958)	7,575
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		270,656	96,186
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		271,206	270,656

Africa's Voices Foundation Limited
Notes to the Financial Statements
For year ended 31 December 2019

1. General Information

Africa's Voices Foundation Limited is a company limited by guarantee and therefore has no share capital.

The Charity was incorporated in England and Wales and details of the registered office can be found in the reference and administration section of the trustees report.

2. Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a) Basis of Preparation

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and are in accordance with the applicable accounting standards and with Accounting and Reporting by charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK (FRS 102 effective 1 January 2015) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006. Africa's Voices Foundation Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102.

In the light of the impact of Covid-19 the Trustees have taken into consideration projections and cash flow forecasts, the availability of unrestricted reserves and the measures introduced in response to the pandemic which include reductions to salaries, a freeze on promotions and continued regular monitoring by the Senior Management Team. The Trustees are satisfied that there are no material concerns in the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern for at least the next 12 months.

b) Income

Grants are recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included.

c) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

- Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charitable company in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries
- Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charitable company, including costs linked to strategic management

d) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets are capitalised at cost. Depreciation is charged on office equipment at 20 - 33.3% per annum on a straight line basis.

e) Funds

Funds are allocated between restricted, unrestricted and designated. Restricted funds represent funds which can only be applied for specific projects as specified by the donor. Unrestricted funds may be applied for any charitable purpose at the trustees' own discretion.

f) Financial instruments

Financial assets and liabilities are recognised/(derecognised) when the charity becomes/(ceases to become) party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. The charity holds the following financial assets and liabilities:

Africa's Voices Foundation Limited
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For year ended 31 December 2019

Short term debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price and carried thereafter at amortised cost.

g) **Presentation of financial statements**

The presentational currency is that of pounds sterling as this is currency of the country in which the charity is registered. The charitable activities are delivered in Kenya therefore the functional currency of the charity is Kenyan Shilling.

h) **Defined contribution pension obligation**

A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the company has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as employee benefit expense when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

i) **Foreign Currency Transactions and Balances**

Transactions in foreign currencies are initially recorded at the functional currency rate prevailing at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated into sterling at the rates prevailing on the reporting period date. Non-monetary items carried at fair value that are denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the rates prevailing on the initial transaction date.

Non-monetary items measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are not retranslated.

j) **Operating leases**

Leases in which substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Payments made under operating leases are charged to the SOFA on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

k) **Critical accounting judgements and key areas of estimation uncertainty**

In the application of the company's accounting policies, which are described above, the directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Africa's Voices Foundation Limited
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For year ended 31 December 2019

3. Income from Charitable Activities

	2019	2018
	£	£
Unrestricted funds		
Grants		
Cairns Charitable Trust	60,625	50,731
Hewlett Foundation	163,689	155,842
Potter Foundation	3,500	36,500
Vincent Mai and other individual donations	-	22,971
Project Income		
Well Told Story (WTS)	35,583	53,262
REACH	-	40,327
REDSS	-	66,839
ICRAF – CCE for SHARED	76,129	-
WBG	5,645	-
Signify	2,880	-
Leaders Quest	352	-
Big Give Christmas Challenge	1,619	-
Jo and Thomas	5,000	-
Sundry income	932	-
	355,954	426,472

Africa's Voices Foundation Limited
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For year ended 31 December 2019

	2019	2018
	£	£
Restricted funds		
Grants		
Hewlett Foundation	-	88,413
Project Income		
Hewlett OE grant	-	24,181
Oxfam	-	15,276
Mastercard Foundation	-	52,626
WUSC	-	60,745
Trocaire	-	11,806
University of Cambridge	-	84,200
UNICEF Somalia	-	105,231
SSF GESI	488,191	-
Mastercard Foundation – SMS Chatter Pilot	23,206	-
UNICEF MAAP	19,262	-
ESRC IAA – NGO Data sharing	2,900	-
Zika/Wellcome	9,200	-
WUSC – KEEP II 2018	(806)	-
RCO Somalia	56,892	-
UNICEF Nutrition	45,478	-
EU RE-INTEG comms & visibility	132,661	-
Wellcome PE – public engagement	19,000	-
Urban Institute - AHADI	45,035	-
REACH/OCHA – CSAP - HRP	63,015	-
WUSC KEEP	25,311	-
IOM – CSAP in Galmudug on Durable Solutions	8,211	-
Twilio	114,264	-
	1,051,819	442,478
Total income from charitable activities	1,407,773	868,950

Africa's Voices Foundation Limited
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For year ended 31 December 2019

4. Analysis of Charitable Expenditure

	Total	Total
	2019	2018
	£	£
Payroll costs	442,022	293,403
Board of Trustee costs (governance costs)	16,060	8,324
Consultancy	5,494	18,431
Subcontractor costs	-	17,259
Rent, rates and utilities	32,912	44,703
Office costs	17,789	5,436
Travel and visa costs	21,758	4,358
Project direct costs	691,398	241,454
Bank charges	14,558	2,709
Accountancy and other professional costs	21,167	33,929
Sundry expenses	452	1,312
Depreciation	1,416	83
Foreign exchange differences	9,958	(7,575)
Branch corporate tax	13,524	2,129
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	1,288,508	665,955
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The total charitable expenditure for the year was £1,288,508 (2018: £665,955) of which £942,528 was restricted (2018: £457,186) and £345,980 unrestricted (2018: £208,769).

5. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

No Trustees received any remuneration in the year.

In 2019, 4 trustees received reimbursement of expenses of £8,464 (2018: £3,609).

Key management of the charity is considered to be the Trustees and the Director. During the year remuneration paid to key management was £47,510 (2018: £45,910)

No staff members were paid over £60,000.

Africa's Voices Foundation Limited
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For year ended 31 December 2019

6. Auditors remuneration

Total expenditure includes:	2019	2018
	£	£
Auditor's fees for the audit of these accounts	5,113	4,800
Auditor's fees – accounting support	3,000	2,400
Auditor's fees – other services	-	1,760

7. Staff information

During the year the average number of employees was 13 (2018: 9).

8. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Office equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 31 December 2018	1,157	1,157
Additions	11,030	11,030
Disposals	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 December 2019	12,187	12,187
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Depreciation		
At 31 December 2018	1,073	1,073
Charge for the Period	1,416	1,416
Disposals	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 December 2019	2,489	2,489
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net Book Value		
At 31 December 2019	9,698	9,698
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 December 2018	84	84
	<hr/>	<hr/>

9. Debtors

	2019	2018
	£	£
Trade debtors	360,750	94,998
Accrued income	9,258	19,602
Other debtors and prepayments	24,240	8,352
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	394,248	122,952
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Africa's Voices Foundation Limited
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For year ended 31 December 2019

10. Creditors

	2019	2018
	£	£
Trade creditors	24,510	46,339
Other creditors and accruals	42,828	35,174
Deferred Income	203,436	27,066
	<u>270,774</u>	<u>108,579</u>

11. a) Movement of Funds

	Balance 31/12/2018	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31/12/2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted					
University of Cambridge	834	9,200	(8,294)	-	1,740
Hewlett Foundation	6,465	-	-	-	6,465
Trocaire	1,791	-	(1,791)	-	-
SSF GESI	-	488,191	(488,191)	-	-
Mastercard Foundation	-	23,206	(23,301)	95	-
UNICEF MAAP	-	19,262	(19,262)	-	-
ESRC IAA	-	2,900	(2,688)	-	212
WUSC-KEEP II2018	-	(806)	(107)	913	-
RCO Somalia	-	56,892	(57,158)	266	-
UNICEF Nutrition	-	45,478	(45,478)	-	-
EU RE-INTEG comms &	-	132,661	(134,980)	2,319	-
Wellcome PE	-	19,000	(19,037)	37	-
Urban Institute - AHADI	-	45,035	(44,971)	-	64
REACH/OCHA-CSAP-HRP	-	63,015	(62,760)	-	255
WUSC KEEP	-	25,311	(25,311)	-	-
IOM – CSAP	-	8,211	(8,211)	-	-
Twilio	-	114,263	(5)	-	114,258
UNI-17	-	-	(983)	983	-
	<u>9,090</u>	<u>1,051,819</u>	<u>(942,528)</u>	<u>4,613</u>	<u>122,994</u>
Unrestricted	<u>276,023</u>	<u>355,954</u>	<u>(345,980)</u>	<u>(4,613)</u>	<u>281,384</u>
Total	<u><u>285,113</u></u>	<u><u>1,407,773</u></u>	<u><u>(1,288,508)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>404,378</u></u>

11. b) Funds Description

Restricted Funds

- **University of Cambridge Wellcome/ Zika project** - Contract value of £147,000 funding evaluation of two-way emergency health communications.

Africa's Voices Foundation Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For year ended 31 December 2019

- **Hewlett Foundation** – a grant of \$600,000 over three years to Africa's Voices Foundation Ltd (Grantee) for a project in East Africa to amplify citizen voice in public service delivery decision making
- **Trocaire/ Dreams innovation challenge** – Africa's Voices Foundation Limited supported the DREAMS project in its objectives of keeping young adolescent girls in school in order to reduce rates of HIV/AIDS, by building interactive radio programmes to gather data on barriers to girls' education.
- **SSF GESI** - Promoting greater gender equality and social inclusion through media in Somalia
- **Mastercard Foundation** - Implementation of Chatter SMS Youth Engagement Pilot.
- **UNICEF Somalia** - a partnership on various projects involving research in Somalia, monitoring cash transfers in Southern Somalia (MAAP) and using interactive radio to amplify voices and discuss:
 - health beliefs, misconceptions and practices.
 - gender and child protection issues.
 - nutrition practices.
 - governance.
- **ESRC IAA - NGO Data Sharing** – UNICEF Somalia, Methods and Impact, Interactive web-page project
- **World University Service Canada KEEP II Project**- Overcoming barriers to refugee girls' education.
- **RCO Somalia** - Perception Survey and Social Accountability on Durable Solutions and Durable Solutions Programmes in Bossaso and Baidoa
- **UNICEF Nutrition** - Complaints and Feedback Management for Nutrition Safety Net Programming
- **EU RE-INTEG comms & visibility** - Enhancing Somalia's responsiveness to the management and reintegration of mixed migration flows
- **Wellcome PE** – Public Engagement Grant – Visualizing Citizen Voice in a Moment of Big Data. The project is to deploy and enhance a tested, replicable, scaleable, and contextually relevant social research method to gather health-related opinion data utilizing interactive radio and SMS that can both inform health policy, and be used as a channel for health communications and monitoring interventions.
- **Urban Institute** - AHADI - Agile and Harmonized Assistance for Devolved Institutions – Kenya
- **REACH/OCHA-CSAP-HRP** - Listening to affected populations: Deploying the Common Social Accountability Platform to Citizens in Somalia
- **WUSC KEEP** - Media and citizen-evidence driven social and behavior change for KEEP II 2019 – 2021
- **IOM – CSAP** - in Galmudug on Durable Solutions - Developing a Common Social Accountability Platform (CSAP) in Galmudug on Durable Solution
- **Twilio** - Two-way communication and feedback and accountability using SMS.

Africa's Voices Foundation Limited
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For year ended 31 December 2019

Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted funds are available at the discretion of Directors in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

12. a) Movement of Funds – comparative

	Balance 31/12/2017	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31/12/2018
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted					
University of Cambridge	23,798	84,200	(107,164)	-	834
Oxfam	-	15,276	(15,276)	-	-
Mastercard Foundation	-	52,626	(52,626)	-	-
WUSC	-	60,745	(60,745)	-	-
Hewlett Foundation	-	112,594	(106,129)	-	6,465
Trocaire	-	11,806	(10,015)	-	1,791
UNICEF Somalia	-	105,231	(105,231)	-	-
	23,798	442,478	(457,186)	-	9,090
Unrestricted	58,320	426,472	(208,769)	-	276,023
Total	82,118	868,950	(665,955)	-	285,113

12. b) Funds Description– comparative

- **University of Cambridge Wellcome/ Zika project** - Contract value of £147,000 funding evaluation of two-way emergency health communications.
- **Oxfam tax justice project** – Africa's Voices Foundation Limited conducted an evaluation baseline, midline and endline. Data was gathered through interactive radio and SMS questionnaires. It focused on barriers to citizen participation in public forums on county budgets, especially women.
- **Mastercard Foundation-** Implementation of Chatter SMS Youth Engagement Pilot.
- **World University Service Canada KEEP II Project-** Overcoming barriers to refugee girls' education.
- **Hewlett Foundation** – a grant of \$600,000 over three years to Africa's Voices Foundation Ltd (Grantee) for a project in East Africa to amplify citizen voice in public service delivery decision making
- **Hewlett Foundation OE grant-** a grant of \$32,000 funding organisational effectiveness over a year.

Africa's Voices Foundation Limited
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For year ended 31 December 2019

Funds Description– comparative (continued)

- **Trocaire/ Dreams innovation challenge** – Africa's Voices Foundation Limited supported the DREAMS project in its objectives of keeping young adolescent girls in school in order to reduce rates of HIV/AIDS, by building interactive radio programmes to gather data on barriers to girls' education.
- **UNICEF Somalia** - a partnership on various projects involving research in Somalia, monitoring cash transfers in Southern Somalia (MAAP) and using interactive radio to amplify voices and discuss:
 - health beliefs, misconceptions and practices.
 - gender and child protection issues.
 - nutrition practices.
 - governance.

Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted funds are available at the discretion of Directors in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

13. Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2019 Total £
Fund balances at the period end are represented by:			
Tangible fixed assets	9,698	-	9,698
Current assets	319,730	345,724	665,454
Current liabilities	(48,044)	(222,730)	(270,774)
Provision for liabilities	-	-	-
Total Net Assets	281,384	122,994	404,378

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2018 Total £
Fund balances at the period end are represented by:			
Tangible fixed assets	81	3	84
Current assets	381,059	12,549	393,608
Current liabilities	(105,117)	(3,462)	(108,579)
Provision for liabilities	-	-	-
Total Net Assets	276,023	9,090	285,113

Africa's Voices Foundation Limited
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For year ended 31 December 2019

14. Personnel costs

	2019	2018
	£	£
Salaries	398,930	268,482
Pension	8,401	6,108
Employer NIC	7,999	5,838
Staff training and development	5,615	6,786
Work permits and passes	21,077	6,189
	442,022	293,403

Pension contributions for the year not yet remitted to pension providers by the end of the year amounted to £nil (2018: £nil.)

15. Board of Trustee expenses

	2019	2018
	£	£
Travel and meeting costs	14,384	6,795
Management Liability Insurance	1,676	1,629
	16,060	8,424

16. Operating lease commitments

Buildings:	2019	2018
	£	£
Due within one year	21,449	-
Due 2-5 years	96,840	-
Due after 5 years	12,976	-
Total	131,265	-

During the year lease payments amounting to £27,757 (2018: £42,850) were recognised as an expense in the statement of financial activities.

Africa's Voices Foundation Limited
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For year ended 31 December 2019

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

	2019 £	2018 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the accounting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	119,265	202,995
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	1,416	83
Loss on disposal of assets	-	172
Effect of exchange rate changes	9,958	(7,575)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(271,296)	40,507
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	162,195	(69,115)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	21,538	166,895

18. Related Party Transactions

During the prior year the Cairns Charitable Trust (which has a common trustee with Africa's Voices) advanced a loan of £70,000 on which an interest of £731 accumulated. Of this £50,731 was given as a donation, leaving a balance of £20,000 at the end of 2018. The loan was unsecured and interest of 5% was payable on the outstanding balance, though the interest was waived later in the year. This loan has been repaid in the year. The balance due to the Cairns Charitable Trust at the year end was £nil (2018: £20,000).