



**Charity Commission no: 1153530**

**Report to the Charity Commission 2019/2020**

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## **Foreword**

The Trustees present the Charitable Fund Annual Report together with the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2020, which have been prepared in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008.

The main objective of the Charity is to relieve sickness and to promote good health by advancing and sustaining an education and teaching programme based at Lira Regional hospital and Lira University and schools of nursing in Lira and in Wau South Sudan. It is designed to improve the health care of the people of Uganda and South Sudan.

## **Trustees**

The Trustees serving for the financial year 2019-20 were as follows:

Mr Andrew Goodwin - Treasurer

Dr Frankie Dormon - Medical lead

Dr Antoinette McAulay - Chair

Dr Janet Scammell (resigned April 2019)

Rev Canon Jane LLOYD

Mr Mark Mould

Dr Paul Thompson

Mrs Sarah Currell (appointed August 2019)

Mrs Carrie Stone (August 2019-February 2020)

Mrs Anneyce Knight (August 2019-November 2019)

The Charitable Fund is registered with the Charity Commission (no. 1153530) in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

## **POOLE AFRICA LINK    Charity commission no:1153530**

### **Reference and Administrative details**

Poole Africa Link Charity (R.C.N. 1153530) was registered with the Charity Commission on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2013. Prior to this date Poole Africa Link (PAL) was managed as a separate Trust Fund within the Poole Hospital NHS FT Charity (R.C.N. 1055808). Charitable funds received by the Charity are held and administered as funds and held on trust for purposes relating to developing health services in Africa, particularly Uganda and South Sudan.

### **Principal charitable fund advisor to the Board of Trustees**

The Deputy Director of Finance of Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust has day to day responsibility for the management of the Charity and was responsible for overseeing the financial management and accounting for the Charity during the year.

### **Registered address of the Charity**

Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust  
Finance Dept.  
Longfleet Road  
Poole Hospital NHS Trust  
Longfleet Road  
Poole  
Dorset  
BH15 2JB

### **Banking details**

Lloyds Bank  
Poole High Street  
Poole,  
Dorset

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

The Charity was registered as a single purpose charity with the Charity Commission on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2013. PAL is a restricted fund. As such the income and property of the fund are applied totally towards the promotion of the objects of advancing and sustaining an education and training programme designed to improve the healthcare of the people of South Sudan and other areas in Sub Saharan Africa, as agreed by the Trustees.

### **Appointment of Trustees:**

New trustees are appointed when existing trustees retire or resign. Trustees would normally be expected to have a professional background (e.g. legal, accounting, medical, or health) or direct involvement in humanitarian aid in sub Saharan Africa and would be expected to have a good understanding of the aims and objectives of the Charity and the relationship with Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. In the first instance new Trustees are nominated to the existing Trustees and appointment is confirmed by a majority vote of the existing Trustees.

## **Annual Review: Our Activities**

The Poole Africa link was set up in 2009 when a link was formed between Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and Wau Hospital in South Sudan and we made twelve successful visits there. October 2015 saw a change in direction for Poole Africa Link. Due to the political situation in South Sudan it was decided to concentrate on a new location in Lira, Northern Uganda. The town of Lira has a referral hospital, with 500 beds, and several schools of nursing. We teach there and Lira University Hospital and Lira University outside town, which currently has three intakes of midwifery students, plus some business and IT courses. In addition they have built a new maternity facility and a hospital both of which are now open and working towards functioning to full capacity. The midwives once trained have an extended role as they work in remote village clinics. As well as midwifery they work as nurse practitioners particularly for sick children, and are trained to give simple anaesthesia and perform caesarean sections. Our partnership is supported by a formal MOU signed in 2016.

Three teams visited in this reporting year: two in September/October 2019 and one in February 2020 with a total of 16 health care professionals. The teams continue to be involved in teaching and running courses in the University, new University hospital and Lira Referral Hospital where we carried out ward based teaching and delivered practical changes resulting in improved patient safety and care. Items of essential kit and teaching aid were donated to both the hospital and the university. Two highly successful Primary Trauma courses were facilitated during these visits.

A further visit by a team of five planned for March 2020 was called at the last minute due to the COVID-19 virus. Our ties and communication have remained strong despite this unforeseen event.

We still hope to facilitate continuous professional development of staff from South Sudan from the safer base of Uganda as the political difficulties still do not allow a safe visit. In the meantime we continue to support the population of Wau via the Sister Grace's children's feeding program; helping children in dire situations at risk from starvation.

## **Public Benefit**

The benefits include increased knowledge and education for student nurses and qualified health care professionals in the developing world, particularly Lira hospital and University. This will lead to improved mortality rates and improvements in all areas of patient health care and safety for those we are involved with, which relates to the aims of our work. We also continue to assist in South Sudan.

There are no risks of detriment or harm to those we seek to assist and educate and the view from hospital managers and the university in Lira is that we bring a very positive and vital input to healthcare and patient survival. At present we work mostly amongst health care professionals in Lira Referral hospital and Lira University. We support where we can in South Sudan during the time of conflict. This is not exclusive and our only restrictions are around time and funding.

Those overseas staff visiting the UK will benefit from education and development in the UK and knowledge of new ways of working to assist with the care of their patients in the developing world and their personal self-development.

Staff from UK visiting Uganda will gain a fresh insight into health care from a differing perspective and assist with their self-development, resourcefulness, confidence and knowledge.

Benefits are measured through regular reporting and evaluation of each visit by all team members

The beneficiaries are primarily those with health care needs and in poverty in the developing world which our aims seek to address.

Our teams travel to the hospital and university in Lira where currently most of our work is carried out, no fees are charged to the people there. Team members fundraise towards their fares but no set amount is levied for their contribution.

The private benefits may be said to be those incidental ones experienced by team members giving freely of their time and expertise to carry out the visits. No other private benefits are received.

### **Reserves Policy**

The Charity aims to spend all funds within a 2-3 year period. Most of the expenditure incurred by the Charity is in respect of contributions to team travel to Lira Uganda and subsistence during the trip. Other expenditure includes insurance and medication. The charity also donates items of kit needed at the hospital in Lira and teaching aids for the university in Lira and nurse training school in Wau.

The Charity applies for various grants from international organisations. Team members and supporters engage in fund raising activities to replenish reserves.

### **Investment Policy**

The Charity aims to always ensure that it has a minimum of two years' operational costs in reserve. The Charity aims to spend all funds within a 2-3 year period and the Trustees have therefore decided to invest all of the charitable funds in short term fixed and instant access deposit accounts.

### **Risk Management**

The major risks to which the Charity is exposed have been identified and considered. They have been reviewed and systems established to mitigate those risks. New risk assessments have been produced this year.

### **Acknowledgements**

We express our thanks to all our colleagues in Lira, Uganda. As always we learn as much from our visits as we teach and Poole staff have a great personal developmental opportunity.

More information can be found on our website: [www.pooleafricalink.org.uk](http://www.pooleafricalink.org.uk)

**HILARY FENTON-HARRIS**  
**Poole Africa Link Co-ordinator**

**DR ANTOINETTE McAULAY**  
**Poole Africa Link Chair**

**30 January 2020**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020**

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**Statement of Trustees' responsibilities**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable 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 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.

Signed ..... Mr. A. Goodwin ..... Date 7.1.21 .....

**Mr. A. Goodwin - Trustee**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020**

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Poole Africa Link (Charity No. 1153530)**

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2020, which are set out on pages

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's 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
- \* 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 charity 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 to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and 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.

Signature: KB

Name: KIERAN BHICKA

**Relevant professional qualification or body:** Chartered Institute of Management Accountants

**Address:** Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Longfleet Road, Poole. Dorset BH15 2JB

**Date:** 13/1/21

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	<b>2019/20 Total £</b>	<b>2018/19 Total £</b>
<b>Incoming resources</b>		
<b>Voluntary Income</b>		
Donations	4,180	5,680
Other income	2,150	1,521
Investment income	111	106
<b>Total Voluntary Income</b>	<b>6,441</b>	<b>7,307</b>
<b>Activities for Generating Funds</b>		
Events Income	12,141	4,723
Project Income	8,670	9,167
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>27,252</b>	<b>21,197</b>
<b>Resources expended</b>		
<b>Cost of Generating Funds</b>	5,028	1,006
<b>Charitable Activities</b>		
South Sudan local project support	1,500	2,500
Visits	20,025	22,631
<b>Total Charitable Activities</b>	<b>21,525</b>	<b>25,131</b>
<b>Support Costs</b>	11,174	11,366
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>37,727</b>	<b>37,503</b>
<b>Net movement in funds and carried forward</b>	<b>(10,475)</b>	<b>(16,306)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of Funds:</b>		
Fund balances brought forward at 1 April	37,426	53,732
<b>Fund balances carried forward at 31 March 2020 (2019)</b>	<b>26,951</b>	<b>37,426</b>



**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020**

**Balance Sheet**

	at 31 March 2020	at 31 March 2019
	Total £	Total £
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Debtors	0	0
Cash at bank (Lloyds TSB short term deposit account)	26,951	37,426
	<u>26,951</u>	<u>37,426</u>
 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	 0	 0
 <b>Total Net Assets</b>	 <u>26,951</u>	 <u>37,426</u>
 <b>Reserves</b>		
Opening Reserves	37,426	53,732
Surplus of Expenditure over Income for Year	(10,475)	(16,306)
 <b>Total Reserves</b>	 <u>26,951</u>	 <u>37,426</u>

Signed:.....Andrew Goodwin..... Trustee

Andrew Goodwin

Date: 7 January 2021

**PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**1.1 BASIS OF PREPARATION**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in March 2005.

**1.2 INCOME**

**Donations and gifts**

All monetary donations and gifts are included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable, provided that there are no donor-imposed restrictions as to the timing of the related expenditure, in which case recognition is deferred until the pre-condition has been met.

All income is recognised gross of expenditure. Legacies are accounted for as incoming resources either upon receipt or where the receipt of the legacy is virtually certain; this will be once confirmation has been received from the representatives of the estate(s) that payment of the legacy will be made or property transferred and once all conditions attached to the legacy have been fulfilled.

Cash collected to which the Charity is legally entitled but which has not been received at the year end is included as income.

Donations under deed of covenant together with the associated income tax recoveries are credited as income when the donations are received.

**Investment income**

Investment income, including associated income tax recoveries, is recognised when receivable.

**1.3 EXPENDITURE**

Expenditure is recognised when a liability is incurred and is accounted for on an accruals basis. The expenditure comprises:

- (i) charitable expenditure incurred directly for the fulfilment of the Charity's objectives; to deliver its activities and services for its beneficiaries.  
This includes costs that can be allocated directly to activities and those of an indirect nature necessary to support them.
- (ii) costs of generating funds incurred directly in the effort to raise voluntary contributions i.e. fundraising and publicity.
- (iii) expenditure incurred in the management and administration of the Charity (support costs); and