

**The Institute for Constitutional & Democratic Research
Trustees' Annual Report for the period 29 April 2021 – 31 March 2022**

Charity name: The Constitutional & Democratic Research Foundation
Charity registration number: 1194293

Objectives & Activities

The Constitutional & Democratic Research Foundation (operating name: The Institute for Constitutional & Democratic Research) exists:

1. To advance the education of the public in the subject of constitutions and democracy
2. To promote human rights (as set out in the universal declaration of human rights and subsequent united nations conventions and declarations) throughout the world by all or any of the following means:
 - a. Monitoring abuses of human rights
 - b. Research into human rights issues
 - c. Providing technical advice to government and others on human rights matters
 - d. Contributing to the sound administration of human rights law
 - e. Commenting on proposed human rights legislation
 - f. Raising awareness of human rights issues
 - g. Promoting public support for human rights
 - h. Promoting respect for human rights among individuals and corporations
 - i. International advocacy of human rights

In the furtherance of that object but not otherwise, the Trustees shall have power to engage in political activity provided that the Trustees are satisfied that the proposed activities will further the purposes of the charity to an extent justified by the resources committed and the activity is not the dominant means by which the charity carries out its objects.

Activities

The organisation provides advocacy, advice, information and/or research to advance the education of the public in the subject of constitutions and democracy.

Achievements and Performance

In this period the organisation carried out the following activity:

- Acted as Secretariat to the APPG on Democracy and the Constitution working with MPs from all parties to advise on emerging constitutional issues
- Acted as Counsel for the APPG for an inquiry into the behaviour of police at the Clapham Common vigil for Sarah Everard and produced a report into the findings which was picked up by the national press, enabling the important findings of this report to reach a wide public audience.
- Worked with a leading law firm to begin an inquiry into the impact of the Covid-19 on the constitution.
- Produced various advisory notes on legislation emerging around constitutional and democratic issues.

Financial Review

The charity received £19,083 in income throughout this period from philanthropic sources including the Joseph Rowntree Reform Trust, corporate sources and individual donations. Spending of £14,674 primarily covered fees for Director Sam Fowles to conduct the APPG inquiry and to carry out work on other projects.

At present the organisation holds no reserves and Trustees do not have a reserves policy in place. This is largely due to the size of the charity at present and its early stages of development. Trustees have a policy in place to confirm that no debt can be undertaken by the charity without their consent and that no debt is likely to be undertaken at present.

Structure, Governance and Management

The ICDR had five trustees across this period – Geraint Davies MP, Elaine Motion, Chloe Hill, Andrew Lane, and Sam Fowles. It is a CIO registered on 29 April 2021. Geraint Davies MP resigned from the Board in February 2022 and Sam Fowles resigned as a Board member in June 2022. Trustees alternate the Chair position at each meeting. The Board meets 4 times a year to monitor company business and delegate day-to-day management of the organisation to Director Sam Fowles and Chief Operating Officer Vicki Grace. Trustees are nominated for consideration but other Board members or staff and approved by the whole Board following an initial meeting with one or more existing Trustees.

Reference and Administration

Charity Name: The Constitutional and Democratic Research Foundation
Other names The Institute for Constitutional & Democratic Research




Registered charity no. 1194293

Main address Cornerstone Barristers, 2-3 Gray's Inn Square, WC1R 5JH

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Elaine Motion	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Trustee	
Date	30.01.23	