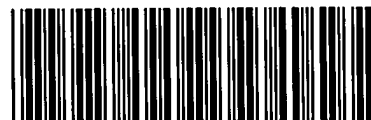




**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022
FOR
THE VIRTUAL DOCTORS**



FRIDAY



ACD20PJ0

A42

29/09/2023

#32

COMPANIES HOUSE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TRUSTEES REPORT	3-8
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT	9
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	10
BALANCE SHEET	11
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT	12-16

TRUSTEES REPORT 2022

The Virtual Doctors is the UK's leading primary health care international telemedicine charity. Our principal aim is to improve primary healthcare and prevent unnecessary referrals to hospitals in Africa.

Using a proprietary Smartphone App, the service currently enhances the knowledge of clinical officers in isolated health centres in Zambia and Malawi with the advice of UK volunteer doctors.

The result is that the combined knowledge of our volunteer Doctors and the Clinical Officer on the ground improves the treatment options for the patient.

Our Governance Structure

The Virtual Doctors UK Charity raises funds, manages volunteers, develops technology, and governs the mission and organisation. It then provides funds and direction to Virtual Doctors Zambia Ltd non-profit entity, to deliver the service on the ground in Zambia and Malawi.

For reporting purposes this report details the financial and impact performance of The Virtual Doctors UK through its activities and as sole funder of Virtual Doctors Zambia Ltd. Virtual Doctors Zambia Ltd submits its own accounts in country.

The UK Trustees who are also directors of the Charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31st December 2022. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

The Trustees are satisfied that they have complied with the duty in section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Commission.

The following Trustees were in place throughout the year:

Mr Graham Precey	Trustee & Chair
Mr David Dutton	Trustee
Mrs Kathy Burke	Trustee
Mr Naggib Chakhane	Trustee
Dr Isabelle Widmer	Trustee
Mr David Callcott	Trustee & Treasurer

Other Parties

Independent examiner	Parkers, Cornelius House 178-180 Church Road Hove, BN3 2DJ
----------------------	--

Bankers	Co-operative Bank PO Box 250 Delf House, Skelmersdale, WN8 6WT
---------	--

Charity Registered Office	Sussex Innovation Centre University of Sussex Falmer, Brighton BN1 9SB
---------------------------	--

Structure, Governance and Management

James Phiri our CEO is supported by a contracted fundraiser and a Fundraising and Administration Assistant. The office is also supported by pro bono partners, volunteers, and consultants for specific engagements as required.

In Zambia there are 4 full time staff, supported by 2 interns and a team of volunteers.

Volunteer Trustees are also involved in providing extra time for fundraising, policy development and public speaking to support the CEO in his work.

Board Governance

The Board of Directors and Trustees have responsibility for all governance, policy, strategy and financial matters. The appointment of new Trustees is at the discretion of the existing Board of Trustees.

The Board of Directors held 5 Trustee Meetings during the period 1 January to 31 December 2022. Operational issues were discussed with the CEO and fundraising team on a regular basis.

The Board includes Trustees with experience in not-for-profit management, finance and accountancy, medicine, public health, global business, technology, and fundraising. The normal term of office is three years before review. The Charity's Constitution dictates that only two Trustees may be appointed in any one year.

The Charity seeks to recruit based on relevant skills and expertise. Proposed members are expected to possess experience in a range of areas which are of relevance to the activities and priorities of the Charity. References are requested as a matter of routine and a conflict-of-interest register is maintained.

Strategy & Management

During 2022 The Trustees and CEO reviewed our Mission which enabled us to sharpen our focus as set out below.

Why are we here?

The charity aims to:

- Improve the health care rural clinics can provide to their patients.
- Reduce unnecessary referrals to distant and hard to reach hospitals.
- Advance the medical skills and knowledge of rural health workers.

What's still driving the need for our services?

- **Health Inequality** - Medical knowledge is not in all the places it is needed around the world.
- **Climate Adjustments** - Climate change in rural Africa has exacerbated healthcare disparities for the less resourced communities we serve.
- **Health Budgets** – The increasing demand for health care services continues to challenge available budgets, particularly in the communities we serve.

What remains unique about our service is that we are good at...

- **Uniquely for a Tele-medicine organisations** we continue to believe that connecting clinician to clinician to build professional expertise and knowledge is more sustainable. Enhancing the knowledge of Clinical Officers directly impacts their ability to provide better healthcare and save more lives.
- **We excel at attracting and harnessing medical volunteers**, to review medical cases and provide educational content in support of the health workers we serve.
- **Keep it Simple Technology** - we do this with simple technology that works and is resource level realistic in the countries in which we operate.
- **We partner with select organisations** and leverage their expertise and influence to increase our capabilities and impact.

Financial Management

The CEO has been responsible for the management of The Virtual Doctors financial and administrative procedures in close consultation with the Treasurer and other Board members. Book-keeping and financial records of funds sent overseas are managed by a professional accountant. A monthly operational scorecard is provided to the Board by the CEO and Treasurer for review.

Risk Management

The Trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:

- regular assessments to ensure sufficient funds are available to cover the unexpected variance of income and expenditure.
- a regular review of the risks facing the Charity.
- the establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate these risks; and
- the implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the Charity should those risks materialise.

The risk areas identified are monitored at an appropriate level of responsibility by the Trustees.

2022 Summary from the Chair - Graham Precey

We continued in 2022 to feel the effects of COVID and now climate change is impacting our ability to deliver our tele - medicine service in Sub-Saharan Africa. With our new CEO James Phiri in place, we took the opportunity to review: our volunteers; our impact in country; our income streams; and finally we kicked-off our work with Johnson & Johnson funding to build our new technology platform. We also took the opportunity to refine our mission as an organisation over the long term.

The following are some of the key things to highlight to our donors on how we performed and impacted the world positively with your funds in 2022.

Healthcare Case Reviews

The core day-to-day way in which we help improve patient outcomes is via connecting our volunteer doctors in the UK with Clinical Officers in Africa through our two key activities:

- Our Case Review Virtual Doctors App.
- The Show and Tell Sessions we organise where learnings from cases are shared between medical professionals.

This is how those two activities performed in 2022.

Case Referrals

The number of medical cases that have been reviewed by our volunteer doctors was 1,888 (2022) down from 3,100 in 2021.

2019: 2,049 cases
2020: 2,980 cases
2021: 3,142 cases
2022: 1,888 cases
2023: 4,500 cases projected

The reduction in cases in 2022 was a result of:

- The number of complex cases needing referral from our existing districts in Zambia fell as knowledge transfer increased (which is one of our success measures).
- The start on our work in Malawi was delayed as we worked on finalising the necessary agreements with the Ministry of Health.
- More positively, the number of clinical officers using our service went from **198** (2021) to **275** (2022). We know from past experience that these new service users take time to get up to full speed in case referrals and we should see the results in 2023.

During 2022 we held 4 knowledge-sharing "Show-and-Tell Sessions" with our Zambia Clinical Officers. The sessions proved popular and beneficial, so we intend to continue with them, on a monthly schedule, during 2023.

Resources to deliver our impact

As part of our ongoing commitment to improve our service, we engaged our volunteer doctors to assess how best to support them and to get a better perspective on their capacity to continue to review cases. The result of this is that by the end of 2022, we had 225 committed and engaged volunteer doctors.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, sponsors and supporters, we managed to generate **£188k** to fund our operations in 2022.

Technology

The search for a new technology partner started in the last quarter of 2022 and an RFP was issued to the technology market. Over 23 providers responded from all parts of the world. A partner, 3 Sided Cube, was appointed in January 2023 to work alongside us in developing our Tech 4 Good new app. A big thanks to our team of volunteers involved in that process including Terry McCann, Sandy Johnson, Isabelle Widmer, Daniel Grace and David Horstead.

Thank you

A big thank you to our volunteers, our clinical officers and our donors and supporters, for continuing to help us narrow the healthcare inequalities that exist in the world. If you have ideas, feedback, or connections to help us accelerate and maximize our impact, please don't hesitate to reach out to me and the Virtual Doctors team.

So where are we heading in 2023?

We have a number of focus areas in 2023.

Countries of Impact

- Zambia - maintain the clinics we have and deepen the knowledge and expertise of the clinicians we serve in those clinics.
- Malawi – Deploy our service more widely across the country and with a corresponding increase in cases received.
- Establish strategic partnerships with other organisations, to identify areas where our service is needed and Ministries of Health that would like to partner with us.

Having selected our key technology supplier for our J&J funded enhanced platform we will deploy the technology to all users by the end of 2023.

Together with an experienced technology vendor, we are redeveloping our proprietary technology. A pilot, with a select group of clinicians, of the new app, is scheduled to begin in Q4 2023.

We are currently exploring the incorporation of allied healthcare professionals with specialist skills, into our service.

8. Key Financials

Income for the year totalled £188,369 while operating costs totalled £192,382 resulting in a small operating deficit of £4,013.

The Cost of raising those funds was 20% in 2022.

As at 31 December 2022 the Charity's free reserves were £99,139. Our Reserves Policy currently recommends the holding of free reserves greater than 26 weeks of operation costs, but less than 52 weeks. This policy is regularly reviewed to ensure it is appropriate.

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

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 25th September 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Callcott', followed by a stylized flourish.

.....
David Callcott - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE VIRTUAL DOCTORS

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Virtual Doctors ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the 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 matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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.

Annette Watson

Annette Watson PhD BSc FCA

Parkers
Cornelius House
178-180 Church Road
Hove
East Sussex
BN3 2DJ

Date: 28th September 2023

THE VIRTUAL DOCTORS

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		112,469	75,600	188,069	475,937
Investment income	2	<u>300</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>300</u>	<u>30</u>
Total		<u>112,769</u>	<u>75,600</u>	<u>188,369</u>	<u>475,967</u>
 EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds		23,050	15,500	38,550	65,334
Charitable activities					
Virtual Doctors Service		<u>101,442</u>	<u>52,390</u>	<u>153,832</u>	<u>141,682</u>
Total		<u>124,492</u>	<u>67,890</u>	<u>192,382</u>	<u>207,016</u>
 NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(11,723)	7,710	(4,013)	268,951
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>110,862</u>	<u>340,482</u>	<u>451,344</u>	<u>182,393</u>
 TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>99,139</u>	<u>348,192</u>	<u>447,331</u>	<u>451,344</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

THE VIRTUAL DOCTORS

BALANCE SHEET
31ST DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	6	503	1,106
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	73	6
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>452,004</u>	<u>453,841</u>
		452,077	453,847
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(5,249)	(3,609)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>446,828</u>	<u>450,238</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>447,331</u>	<u>451,344</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>447,331</u>	<u>451,344</u>
FUNDS	10		
Unrestricted funds		99,139	110,862
Restricted funds		<u>348,192</u>	<u>340,482</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>447,331</u>	<u>451,344</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st December 2022.

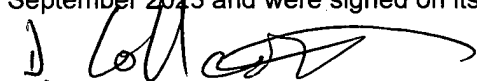
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2022 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 25th September 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:



David Callcott - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

THE VIRTUAL DOCTORS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The charitable company has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemptions in preparing these financial statements, as permitted by FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland':

- the requirements of Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows;
- the requirement of paragraph 3.17(d);
- the requirements of paragraphs 11.42, 11.44, 11.45, 11.47, 11.48(a)(iii), 11.48(a)(iv), 11.48(b) and 11.48(c);
- the requirements of paragraphs 12.26, 12.27, 12.29(a), 12.29(b) and 12.29A;
- the requirement of paragraph 33.7.

Preparation of consolidated financial statements

The figures for Virtual Doctors Zambia Ltd have not been consolidated into these accounts as the incomes are below required thresholds. Zambia is limited by guarantee, so Virtual Doctors UK holds no shares, but has a controlling interest through membership.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life as follows:

Fixtures and fittings	- 33% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

THE VIRTUAL DOCTORS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2022	2021
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>300</u>	<u>30</u>

3. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2022	2021
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	603	641
Other operating leases	<u>-</u>	<u>1,712</u>

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st December 2022 nor for the year ended 31st December 2021.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st December 2022 nor for the year ended 31st December 2021.

5. STAFF COSTS

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2022	2021
Fundraising	1	1
Project	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

THE VIRTUAL DOCTORS

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1st January 2022 and 31st December 2022	<u>385</u>	<u>13,259</u>	<u>13,644</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1st January 2022	331	12,207	12,538
Charge for year	<u>54</u>	<u>549</u>	<u>603</u>
At 31st December 2022	<u>385</u>	<u>12,756</u>	<u>13,141</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31st December 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>503</u>	<u>503</u>
At 31st December 2021	<u>54</u>	<u>1,052</u>	<u>1,106</u>

7. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2021 £
Other debtors	73	-
Prepayments	<u>-</u>	<u>6</u>
	<u>73</u>	<u>6</u>

8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	2,754	405
Social security and other taxes	-	2,003
Other creditors	1,295	-
Accrued expenses	<u>1,200</u>	<u>1,201</u>
	<u>5,249</u>	<u>3,609</u>

9. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
Fixed assets	503	-	503	1,106
Current assets	103,885	348,192	452,077	453,847
Current liabilities	<u>(5,249)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(5,249)</u>	<u>(3,609)</u>
	<u>99,139</u>	<u>348,192</u>	<u>447,331</u>	<u>451,344</u>

THE VIRTUAL DOCTORS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/1/22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/12/22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	93,862	(11,723)	17,000	99,139
Restricted funds				
Zambia Expansion Fund	2,516	(1,890)	-	626
Malawi Pilot Fund	336,805	9,600	-	346,405
Bursary Fund	661	-	-	661
App Development Fund	500	-	-	500
1000 Club	17,000	-	(17,000)	-
	357,482	7,710	(17,000)	348,192
TOTAL FUNDS	451,344	(4,013)	-	447,331

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	112,769	(124,492)	(11,723)
Restricted funds			
Zambia Expansion Fund	60,000	(61,890)	(1,890)
Malawi Pilot Fund	15,600	(6,000)	9,600
	75,600	(67,890)	7,710
TOTAL FUNDS	188,369	(192,382)	(4,013)

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/1/21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	97,940	12,922	110,862
Restricted funds			
Monitoring Report Fund	23,476	(23,476)	-
Zambia Expansion Fund	36,597	(34,081)	2,516
Malawi Pilot Fund	21,219	315,586	336,805
Bursary Fund	661	-	661
App Development Fund	2,500	(2,000)	500
	84,453	256,029	340,482
TOTAL FUNDS	182,393	268,951	451,344

THE VIRTUAL DOCTORS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	141,800	(128,878)	12,922
Restricted funds			
Monitoring Report Fund	-	(23,476)	(23,476)
Zambia Expansion Fund	-	(34,081)	(34,081)
Malawi Pilot Fund	318,167	(2,581)	315,586
Fundraising Consultancy Fund	12,000	(12,000)	-
COVID-19 Response Fund	4,000	(4,000)	-
App Development Fund	-	(2,000)	(2,000)
	<u>334,167</u>	<u>(78,138)</u>	<u>256,029</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>475,967</u>	<u>(207,016)</u>	<u>268,951</u>

11. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31st December 2022.