CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 01/01/2025 **Period start date** **To** 31/12/2025 **Period end date**

Charity name: Evolve - Foundation for International Legal Assistance

Charity registration number: 1167888

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	To promote the criminal justice system in Uganda and East Africa by providing assistance, advice, training, education and other forms of support to: (a) Those charged or convicted, particularly those on death row; (b) Members of the legal profession; and (c) Individuals/organizations working within the criminal justice sector.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The main activities this year were: - Recruiting and training pro bono lawyers and paralegals - Allocating cases to them as part of our pro bono capital cases project - Preparing capital cases for appeal
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	Yes

Additional information (optional)
You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	

Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	Recruited nine volunteer paralegals in the UK and assigned them to cases within this project phase. Paralegals completed evidence spreadsheets and briefs to counsel for 26 inmates on death row. We prepared submissions in three cases - KY, HM, and AA which were heard in the Court of Appeal. HM's appeal against his sentence was successful in January 2026, resulting in his death sentence being overturned and the imposition of a determinate sentence of 30 years. AA's appeal against his sentence was successful in March 2026 resulting in the death sentence being overturned and the imposition of a determinate sentence of 35 years. KY's death sentence was replaced with a sentence of imprisonment for life, although the meaning of a life sentence is pending before the Supreme Court in a Constitutional Appeal. Submissions were prepared for seven appellants in a Supreme Court appeal (TE and six others) but the case was postponed until March 2026 (case still pending judgment). We maintained and updated our Evolve case law database for Ugandan and UK lawyers working on capital appeals. A review of all legal developments in the Court of Appeal was undertaken and incorporated covering the past year and a half.

		An in-country visit took place in August 2026. Meetings with the Uganda Law Society were held at their headquarters to progress the partnership, agree project parameters and discuss and vet the cohort of Ugandan advocates who would participate. A defence capital case skills training course was designed and delivered, to 17 lawyers at ULS premises over one day. It was then made available persistently on our online training platform. It covered: ● Induction into the project, its objectives, processes and timelines ● Death penalty and capital sentencing law ● Common grounds of appeal ● Case law update 2024-2025 ● Conferencing and drafting training ● A presentation by ex-deathrow inmate SM on the impact and importance of this work ● A presentation by GT, Ugandan human rights lawyer on pro bono values and work. Eight Ugandan paralegal volunteers were recruited and inducted into the project during this visit. Meetings with the Deputy Chief Justice, and Registrars of the High Court and Supreme Court took place to report on previous file tracing progress and to lay groundwork for remaining file tracing during this project. Case conferences were held in numerous individual cases, and general meetings were held with all capital inmates to update them on the project and its progress.

Additional information (optional)
You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	

Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	We received £16,731 and spent £22,490. £9456 was received as unrestricted donations and £7275 were restricted funds. The money from restricted funds were reimbursements.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The charity needs to keep a financial cushion due to uncertainties in funding. We need to ensure that we can pay our consultant coordinator in Uganda and make any necessary trips. As our restricted funds are not in the form of a grant, we need to be able to fund the activities ourselves and then make a claim for costs incurred under the agreed budget.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£32,062.50
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	None

Additional information (optional)
You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Governed by Constitution Article 13: 1.1 and 1.2. "All new trustees must be appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the charity trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO."

Additional information (optional)
You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Evolve - Foundation for International Legal Assistance
Other name the charity uses	Evolve International
Registered charity number	1167888

Charity's principal address	C/O 1MCB Chambers 44 Southampton Buildings, London WC2A 1AP

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

		Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
	1	Tanya Murshed			
	2	Marianne Alton			
	3	Bernadette Smith			
	4	Naomi Barnard			
	5	James Murray-Smith			
	6				
	7				
	8				
	9				
	10				
	11				
	12				
	13				
	14				
	15				
	16				
	17				
	18				
	19				
	20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
N/A		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
N/A		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

	Type of adviser	**Name**	**Address**

	Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)
	Tanya Murshed, Alexander Bennie, Marianne Alton (all acting pro bono).

Exemptions from disclosure

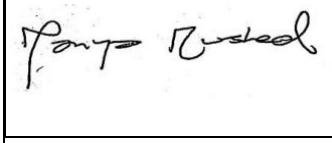
Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

Other optional information

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)	Tanya Hasan Murshed	Marianne Alton
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	
Date	29 October 2026	

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Evolve - Foundation for International Legal Assistance	1167888

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

Month		2025	

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Individual Donation	9455.57		-	9,456	-
ROLE Funding		7275.39	-	7,275	-
SCCF Grant		0	-	-	-
Capital Expenditure	-		-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
Sub total(Gross income)	9,456	7,275	-	16,731	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	9,456	7,275	-	16,731	-
A3 Payments					
Bank charges	633		-	633.00	-
Hotel Travel and Subsistence	6811.0	1224.9	-	8,035.90	-
Capital Expenditure	0	0	-	- .00	-
Phone & Internet	192	0	-	192.00	-
Printing and Stationery		0	-	- .00	-
Consultancy fees & expenses	7578.8	6,051		13,629	-
					-
Sub total	15,215	7,275	-	22,490	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Sub total	-	-	-	-	
Total payments	15,215	7,275	-	22,490	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	-5,759	0	0	2,117	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	-5,759	0	0	2,117	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash in hand	150	-	-
	Cash at Bank	32,063	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	32,213	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account (s))	Agreement Error	OK	OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Evolve - Foundation for International Legal Assistance	1167888	CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

Month		2025		
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

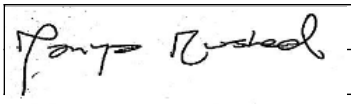
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
Asus Laptop	Unrestricted	-	-
Huawei Matebook D14 - 14 Inch Laptop	Unrestricted	-	-
Huawei Matebook D14 - 14 Inch Laptop	Unrestricted	-	-
Laptop screen extender	Unrestricted	-	-
Laptop screen extender	Unrestricted	-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	TANYA MURSHED	30 Oct 2026