Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Annual Report, and Unaudited Accounts

For the Period 1st January - 31st December 2025

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name	**Empower International**
Charity Registration Number	**1168552**
Charity Registered Address	**49 Normandy Road, Hilton, Derby, DE65 5GW**
Trustees	**Mandy Simpson**
	Phillip Edmundson
	Marie Rogers

Empower International

Trustees' Report

Introduction

Empower International was granted status as a UK charity on 2nd August 2016.

Structure, Governance and Management

Empower International operates within the CIO Foundation Model Structure and Constitution.

The charity decision making process is actioned in accordance with the constitution and our working practice document dated May 2017.

The appointment and retirement of trustees is to be in accordance with the constitution. The lead trustee proposes the appointing of a new trustee to the trustees, and upon a unanimous endorsement by the trustees, is appointed.

Objectives and Activities

The objects of the charity as set out in its governing document are…

1) The relief of unemployment for the benefit of the public, including the provision of training to those socially disadvantaged, to provide them with the skills to improve employability.

2) The relief of poverty (or financial hardship) by offering support services such as advice, coaching, mentoring, to assist individuals to help themselves, in order to enable those individuals to generate a sustainable income and be self-sufficient.

Summary of the main activities of the charity in relation to these objectives are…

1) To provide employable skills training through the Empower Romania project to both men and women of various ages, including (but not limited to) carpentry, construction, sewing and embroidery.

2) Empower Romania training programmes also include mentoring and assistance in developing wider skills necessary to become a valuable part of the workforce. This includes, for instance, encouraging daily consistent attendance, punctuality, the need to retain a good attitude, respect for authority and colleagues, and teamwork.

Empower International have taken the charity commissions' public benefit guidance into account when making any decision that it is relevant to.

Achievements and Performance

We begin our review of 2025 by providing a brief summary on the charitable work we have undertaken in North-West Romania. Empower Romania was a project developed over two sites between 2014 and 2020, presenting opportunities to Roma communities in Lazareni and Sanpaul to be involved in

training programmes, with particular attention given to developing employability skills. Over time we chose smaller groups of people to create 'core' teams with both men and women and did so by providing clear parameters and criteria in which we would make selections about who we could work more closely with, and who would most benefit from the training. This was how we chose an initial team to work with, and we developed and expanded it from there.

In short, Empower Romania consists of two separate training programmes, one an apprenticeship in carpentry and construction, and the other for sewing and embroidery called the Lydia Project. The purpose of the training programmes is for the benefit of the public, to help those in financial hardship, and to help marginalised people from Roma communities to learn skills that could help them to become employable, and also in some cases to see the value of employment. Both programmes were designed to teach employability skills by learning to operate tools and machinery and producing various items and completing assignments to a high standard. Whilst training was taking place, mentoring was also taking place, including learning a wider skill set that could help people become a valuable part of a workforce. These projects operated both simultaneously and separately from the point of launch in October 2014 until November 2020. A consideration of a third site within Romania did not proceed due to the interruption of both Brexit and the Covid-19 pandemic, but also training opportunities had become more widely available to Roma communities in Romania through EU funding in recent years, and with the close proximity of the Caleb Foundation and the Corabia Foundation (our former partner organisations) to the communities, adequate ongoing support is available to the people we have had the honour and privilege to work with during our time in Romania.

2021 was a challenging year to be able to offer support packages from the UK to Romania. During 2022 and 2023 we continued to contemplate ways to develop our charitable aims through consideration of how value could be added by the charity in a more local context. The lead trustee has recently completed further education in the UK with the intention of using the qualifications gained to champion causes in the UK and begin guiding the work of Empower International into a new direction. This endeavour would require a repurposing of the charitable aims since international projects were affected by Covid-19 interruptions, and having not resumed as planned, the pandemic has meant changes to both the short-term and long-term work of Empower International.

Looking forward to 2026

It has not been possible to make meaningful decisions about future directions during 2025, so throughout 2026, it is our intention to continue considering a plan to either repurpose and restructure the charity, or commence its closure. Further consideration will be given to this as we continue moving forward in the coming year.

Financial Review

Our funding was received through individuals who chose to support the charity during 2025 and its transition period.

Donations	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£832.52		**£ 832.52**

Expenses	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
Banking Fees	£ 40.00		£ 40.00
Website	£ 230.40		£ 230.40
Accountancy	£ 0		£ 0
Administrative Expenses	£ 0		£ 0
	£ 270.40		**£ 270.40**

Carryover from Community Account 31 December 2024 **£3186.62**

Opening Balance	01/01/2025	**£3186.62**
Donations		£832.52
Accountancy, Online Support and Administrative and Banking Fees		£270.40
Closing Balance	31/12/2025	**£3748.74**

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Trustees by Mandy Simpson

(Chair of Trustees)

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Empower International	1168552

Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period from	01/01/2025	To	31/12/2025

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					
	832	-	-	832	820
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total *(Gross income for AR)*	832	-	-	832	820
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	832	-	-	832	820
A3 Payments					
	270	-	-	270	534
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	270	-	-	270	534
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	270	-	-	270	534
Net of receipts/(payments)	562	-	-	562	286
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	3,187	-	-	3,187	2,901
Cash funds this year end	3,749	-	-	3,749	3,187

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		3,749	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	3,749	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

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

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
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 liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
		Mandy Simpson	**16/10/2026**