HRH The Duke of Edinburgh's Commonwealth Study Conferences

Trustees' report and financial statements

Registered number 1186852

For the year ended 31 December 2025

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Trustees' Report

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year to 31 December 2025. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the Constitution, and 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) (2nd edition) issued in October 2019 (the SORP).

Reference and Administrative Details

Name and charity registration number

The name of the charity is HRH The Duke of Edinburgh's Commonwealth Study Conferences and is referred to in this report as "the CIO". Its charity registration number is 1186852.

Principal office

C/O Band Advisory Group Ltd
111 Charterhouse Street
LONDON
EC1M 6AW

Trustees

The Trustees on 31 December 2025 were as follows:

Sir Alan Parker (Chair)	
Ms Ladi Dariya (Treasurer)	
Mr Peter Flavel (Vice Chair)	
Lord Karan Faridoon Bilimoria	*appointed 25 July 2025*
Mrs Sumithra Thayanandarajah	*appointed 25 July 2025*
Lord William Arthur Waldegrave	*appointed 25 July 2025*
Mr Velummayilum Thayanandarajah	*appointed 28 October 2025*

Secretary

Mrs Vaishali Patel

Bankers

Barclays Bank PLC Business Banking, Leicester, LE87 2BB

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution

The CIO was established as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation by a Constitution dated 4 September 2019.

Recruitment, Appointment and Training of new Trustees

Potential new appointments are discussed at Trustees' meetings and a short list agreed of those to be approached. Candidates are then approached to establish whether they are willing to serve and, if so, appointments are then confirmed at the next meeting of the Trustees. The policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of new Trustees are tailored to their individual needs, commensurate with their experience, ensuring that they understand their obligations and possess a sufficient knowledge as to how to discharge them.

Sir Alan Parker was appointed as Chair on 10 February 2021

Organisation

The Trustees meet at least twice per year in ordinary circumstances. More frequent meetings are called when necessary.

Risk assessment

The Trustees identify the major risks to which the CIO is exposed which, in their view, are the reputation and continuing value of the programmes they oversee and the ability to balance funding with costs. The Trustees will keep these risks under regular review.

Objectives and Activities

The Trustees confirm that in setting the objectives and planning the activities, they have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Charitable purpose and objectives

Advancing education, particularly but not exclusively throughout the Commonwealth, by promoting and supporting international study conferences for emerging and current leaders from all sectors, including but not limited to government, public service, public and private companies, non-governmental and community-based organisations, trade unions, educational institutions and artistic and cultural organisations.

Entering through study conferences, emerging and current leaders gain a lifelong network for continued learning and mutual support, of benefit to society and the Commonwealth as they rise to positions of responsibility and influence within all walks of life.

The objectives of the Trustees are to:

- facilitate organisation of study conferences and
- provide support to networks of alumni including events for alumni.

Activities during the year

The main activities of the CIO in 2025 were in developing plans for potential for a Commonwealth Study Conference in 2027. Plans for a 2027 Commonwealth Study Conference were developed by the Board. Trustees met twice in a hybrid format, mixture of in person and online.

Trustees record their gratitude to Brunswick Group for their generous support in hosting CIO events.

Financial review

Reserves and investment policy

The reserves and investment policy will be based on the financial demands made upon the CIO at regular intervals, over conference cycles.

The Constitution allows investment in the same manner and subject to the same conditions as the Trustees of a trust are permitted to do by the Trustee Act 2000.

Results

The CIO's income is composed of donations and will be supplemented in future by income from investments.

In 2025, the main expenditure of the CIO consisted of the costs of the development and meetings of the CIO and its plans, including payment for 2024 activities billed in 2025.

Plans for Future Activities

The Trustees are supporting the development and funding of a new Commonwealth Study Conference in 2027, with delivery in partnership with other organisations.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees on 20 October 2026



Sir Alan Parker
Chair

Charity address

C/O Band Advisory Group Ltd
111 Charterhouse Street
LONDON
EC1M 6AW

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities in respect of the Trustees' Report and the Financial Statements

Under the Constitution of the CIO and charity law, the Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year.

The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the CIO at the end of the year and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended.

In preparing these financial statements, generally accepted accounting practice entails that the Trustees:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- state whether the financial statements comply with the Constitution, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the CIO will continue in business.

The Trustees are required to act in accordance with the Constitution of the CIO, within the framework of charity law. They are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, sufficient to disclose at any time, with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the CIO at that time, and to enable the Trustees to ensure that, where any statements of accounts are prepared by them under the Charities Act 2011, those statements of accounts comply with the requirements of regulations under that provision. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the CIO and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the financial and other information provided to the Charity Commission. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Statement of financial activities (incorporating the Income and Expenditure account)
for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Note	**2025**		**2024**	
		£	**£**	**£**	**£**
Incoming resources					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income					
Donations from members		-		-	
Other donations		**167,000**		**60,132**	
Investment income					
Interest from deposit accounts		-		-	
Total incoming resources			**167,000**		**60,132**
Resources expended					
Charitable activities	***2***	**117,908**			
Commonwealth events				51,006	
Publications and communications		**30,000**		**356**	
			147,908		51,362
Governance costs	***3***		690		4,400
Bank charges			201		46
Total resources expended			**148,799**		**55,808**
Net movement in funds			**18,201**		**4,324**
Fund balances brought forward at 1 January			**4,424**		**100**
Fund balances carried forward at 31 December 2025			**22,625**		**4,424**

All funds are unrestricted income funds.

The incoming/(outgoing) resources and resulting net movement in funds arise from continuing operations.

The Trust has no recognised gains or losses other than the net movement in funds for the year.

Balance sheet
at 31 December 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Current assets			
Cash at bank:			
Current accounts		**22,625**	**4,424**
Deposit accounts		**-**	**-**
			4,424,
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	***5***	**0**	**0**
Net current assets		**22,625**	**4,424**
Net assets		**22,625**	**4,424**
Funds			
Unrestricted funds		**22,625**	**4,424**

Signed on behalf of the Trustees on 20 October 2026



Sir Alan Parker
Chair

Notes
(forming part of the financial statements)

1 Accounting policies

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the charity's financial statements:

a) Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with 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) (2nd edition) issued in October 2019 and with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and with the Charities Act 2011.

b) Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

c) Donations and contributions

Donation and contribution income is recognised in the financial statements when receivable. Gifts in kind are included at valuation and recognised as income when the service has been provided.

d) Other income and expenditure

All other income and expenditure is recognised when receivable or payable.

e) Expenditure

All expenses incurred in providing or meeting the objectives of the CIO have been included as expenditure on charitable activities. Expenses relating to the governance and strategic direction of the CIO have been included as governance costs.

Expenses which are common to both charitable activities and governance costs have been apportioned on the basis of time spent by staff relating to the appropriate area of the CIO's activities.

2 Charitable activities

	Commonwealth events £	Publications and communications £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Development of Commonwealth events	**117,908**	**30,690**		**,362**
			148,598	**51,362**

3 Governance costs

	2025 £	2024 £

Secretary's fees	**-**	**4,400**
Legal Fees	**690**	**-**
	690	**4,400**

4 Staff costs

The CIO employed no staff during the year.

Three Trustees served during the year and received no remuneration for their services. Where claimed, expenses for travel, subsistence and web-hosting incurred on behalf of the CIO are reimbursed. No amount was claimed in the year by any Trustee.

5 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025	**2024**
	£	**£**
Accruals		

27 August 2026

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh's Commonwealth Study Conferences

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh's Commonwealth Study Conferences (hereafter referred to as *the CIO*) for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the Trustees of the CIO, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I have carried out an independent examination of the CIO's financial statements in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My examination was conducted in accordance with the applicable Directions issued by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was limited to a review of the financial statements consisting of an assessment of whether the accounts are consistent with the accounting records and a consideration of any unusual items or disclosures. It is not an audit and does not provide the assurance that an audit would offer.

I have completed my examination. In the course of my work, no material matters have come to my attention which give me cause to believe that, in any material respect:

1. adequate accounting records were not kept by the CIO in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with the accounting records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, other than any requirement to give a 'true and fair view', which is outside the scope of an independent examination.

I have no matters to report in connection with the examination which, in my opinion, should be brought to the attention of the Trustees to assist in a proper understanding of the financial statements.

Signed: T. Collins
Name: Tom Collins
Relevant Professional Qualifications/Memberships: Full Member of the Association of Accounting Technicians (MAAT)
Address: 111 Charterhouse Street, London, EC1M 6AW
Date: 27 August 2026

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