CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

**From 1/1/25 Period start date To 31/12/25 Period end date**

**Charity name: ELibraries for Schools**

**Charity registration number: 1205723**

## Objectives and Activities

| | SORP reference | |
|---|---|---|
| Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document | Para 1.17 | **The objects of the CIO are**<br><br>**For the public benefit, to advance the education of children in the UK by improving access to books through the supply of funded eLibrary services to schools and their pupils with the objective of**<br><br>**1. levelling up such access to books across geographical areas and socioeconomic groups**<br><br>**2. supporting learning to read, reading for pleasure and reading for the curriculum.**<br><br>**3. achieving improvements in educational outcomes and social mobility** |
| 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 | **During this period the charity launched an initiative to expand its primary school pilot programme to a total of 10 schools across the UK, providing them with access to a shared eLibrary of reading material.**<br><br>**Within the period the first 2 of those schools came on board, bringing the total number of schools supported to 3 and the total number of pupils supported to around 150.**<br><br>**The charity supported the schools through the launch and management of the programme (aimed at Yr 5 and 6 pupils) and monitored take-up and usage. The charity also, through this period, had a range of conversations with lawmakers and other charities about how to potentially scale up the** |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | | **pilot into a wider programme but without success.** |
| Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit | Para 1.18 | **ELFS meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. The accounts and the trustees report have both been prepared in accordance guidance issued by the Charity Commission** |

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

| | SORP reference | |
|---|---|---|
| Policy on grant making | Para 1.38 | **The charity does not make direct grants but instead provides pilot elibrary projects paid for out of its restricted and unrestricted fundraising.** |
| Policy on social investment including program related investment | Para 1.38 | **The charity aims to build a set of pilot school projects which will illustrate the value of an eLibrary to different age groups and across different types of content (curriculum content and reading for pleasure).** |
| Contribution made by volunteers | Para 1.38 | **The charity is entirely run currently by trustees as volunteers.** |
| 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 | **In its second year of operation, having expanded its pilot programme to 3 schools in the first term of the 25/26 school year, the charity saw 1,112 books checked out by pupils across those schools by 141 unique users. This represented a very satisfactory takeup and feedback in the period from the schools was positive.**<br><br>**Toward the end of this period the charity's programme was mentioned in a newsletter aimed at school literacy leads sent out by the Open University and a large number of enquiries resulted, which were being processed as this period closed.** |

**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 | **The charity finished the year in a strong position, with residual unrestricted funds earmarked to support pilot school rollout and to fund the web-hosting and other technology costs incurred by the charity in providing the digital library service.**<br><br>**Total income for the year was £5,000 and expenditure on the library launch was £7,944 leaving a balance at the year end of £3,699** |
| Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held | Para 1.22 | **The charity has no specific policy on reserves and intends to hold only the amount necessary to ensure stable ongoing operation of its programmes.** |
| Amount of reserves held | Para 1.22 | **£3,699** |
| Reasons for holding zero reserves | Para 1.22 | |
| Details of fund materially in deficit | Para 1.24 | |
| Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern | Para 1.23 | |

**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 | **The Charity will raise funds for specific pilot schools by seeking grants from local charitable organisations, PTAs etc.**<br><br>**It will also seek funding from grant-awarding bodies for core programme costs and to allow expansion.**<br><br>**In its second year of operation, the charity largely received its funding from 2 of the trustees.** |
| 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 | | |

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## Structure, Governance and Management

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|---|---|---|
| Description of charity's trusts: | | |
| Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter) | Para 1.25 | **CIO (Foundation)** |
| How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO) | Para 1.25 | **The Charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (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 | **Trustees were appointed for varying (nonoverlapping) terms at a properly convened initial meeting.** |

**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 | ELibraries for Schools |
| Other name the charity uses | ELFS |
| Registered charity number | 1205723 |
| Charity's principal address | 4 Norman Avenue<br>Henley on Thames<br>RG9 1SG |
| | |

**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 | Ian Shepherd | Chair | | |
| 2 | Bridget Martindale | CEO | | |
| 3 | Damien Dsouza | | | |
| 4 | Jane Redley | | | |
| 5 | Stephen Warde | | | |
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| 20 | | | | |

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

| Director name | | |
|---|---|---|
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Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

| Trustee name | Dates acted if not for whole year | |
|---|---|---|
| | | |
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## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

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

**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)**

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|---|
| |

## 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)** | Ian Andrew Shepherd | |
| **Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)** | Chair | |
| **Date** | | |

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

| Charity Name | No (if any) |
|---|---|
| | |

# Receipts and payments accounts

**CC16a**

| For the period from | Period start date | To | Period end date |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | |

## Section A Receipts and payments

| | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | Endowment funds | Total funds | Last year |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ |
| **A1 Receipts** | | | | | |
| St Andrews Uni Community Fund donation | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other unrestricted donations | 4,000 | | - | 4,000 | - |
| Other restricted donations | - | - | - | - | - |
| HMRC Gift aid - unrestricted | 1,000 | - | - | 1,000 | - |
| HMRC Gift aid - restricted | - | - | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| ***Sub total*** *(Gross income for AR)* | 5,000 | - | - | 5,000 | - |
| **A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).** | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| ***Sub total*** | - | - | - | - | - |
| ***Total receipts*** | 5,000 | - | - | 5,000 | - |
| **A3 Payments** | | | | | |
| Overdrive payment for library | - | 5,000 | - | 5,000 | - |
| Pilot school marketing materials | - | - | - | - | - |
| Web fee payments to Crowdsource Ltd | 2,944 | - | - | 2,944 | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| ***Sub total*** | 2,944 | 5,000 | - | 7,944 | - |
| **A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)** | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | |
| | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Sub total*** | - | - | - | - | - |
| ***Total payments*** | 2,944 | 5,000 | - | 7,944 | - |
| ***Net of receipts/(payments)*** | 2,056 | - 5,000 | - | - 2,944 | - |
| **A5 Transfers between funds** | - | - | - | - | - |
| **A6 Cash funds last year end** | 1,643 | 5,000 | - | 6,643 | - |
| ***Cash funds this year end*** | 3,699 | - | - | 3,699 | - |

# 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 bank | 3,699 | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | ***Total cash funds*** | 3,699 | - | - |
| | (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 |
|---|---|---|---|
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| | | | |