



MALAWI LEADERS OF LEARNING

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IMPROVING EDUCATION IN GLASGOW AND MALAWI

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**Scottish Charity Number SC044361**  
**Annual Report and Financial**  
**Statements**

**For the year ended 31 July 2023**

# Trustees' Annual Report

## For the year 1 August 2022 to 31 July 2023

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report together with the financial statements and the independent examiner's report for the year ended 31 July 2023.

### 1. Reference and Administrative Information

<b>Charity Name</b>	Malawi Leaders of Learning (MLOL)
<b>Scottish Charity Number</b>	SC044361
<b>Principal Address</b>	Education Services, Glasgow City Council, 40 John Street, Glasgow G1 1JL
<b>Current Trustees</b>	
Maureen McKenna (Chair)	Fiona Ross
Douglas Hutchison	Terry Strain
Susan Aitchison (Secretary)	Sharon Hayward
David McClelland (Treasurer)	Wendy O'Donnell
Samir Sharma	Brenda Wallace
Les McLean	Marie Breckenridge

### 2. Structure, Governance and Management

#### Constitution

The Charity is an unincorporated association. It is governed by its constitution which was adopted in September 2014. Malawi Leaders of Learning was granted charitable status by OSCR on 25 October 2013.

#### Appointment of Trustees

The Board of Trustees normally meets on a 6 monthly basis. Individual Trustees are appointed by means of a majority vote, with a minimum of five and a maximum of 15 holding office at any one time.

#### Management

The Trustees are responsible for the strategic direction and governance of Malawi Leaders of Learning. There are no paid members of staff and all support is given on a voluntary basis.

### **3. Objectives and Activities**

#### **Charitable Purposes**

The advancement of education by:

- Improving the quality of learning and teaching in schools and early childhood development centres in Malawi
- Developing and establishing links with appropriate authorities and bodies in Malawi, providing advice and advocacy when necessary
- Maintaining a public profile through promotion of the project in Malawi and in Scotland.

#### **Activities**

To deliver professional learning on

- leadership to every primary headteacher in Blantyre Urban and Rural Districts; and
- learning and teaching and effective use of a library to teachers from every primary school in Blantyre Urban and Rural Districts.

We will continue to provide library books to our partner schools through fundraising and through our partnership with Book Aid. We will also continue to sponsor girls attending Stella Maris Secondary School.

### **4. Achievements and Performance**

During 2022/23, through our partnership with Book Aid, we took delivery of another two shipments of books. These are collected from Lilongwe by Francis Maseya and then delivered to the District Education Managers for dispersal to schools. We also finally received the books from an African reading scheme through Anglia books. Ordering books in Malawi allows us to contribute to the economy and ensures that we purchase culturally appropriate books. In the last 11 years, we have delivered around 15,000 books to Malawian primary schools.

In September 2022 the trustees approved the [MLOL 2022-25 plan](#). This plan retains our ambition to provide training to every teacher and senior leader in Blantyre Urban and Rural Districts.

We have used social media to engage with more teachers and to encourage new staff to want to travel to Malawi to support the delivery of professional learning. In September 2022, a team of five staff travelled to Malawi for an intense week of professional learning. In February 2023, a second team of five built on the success of the September team in their week long visit to Blantyre.

In September, a total of 156 senior leaders attended the training across four days at Naotcha Teacher Development Centre (TDC), Ntenjera TDC and Limbe TDC. A total of 174 teachers/librarians attended the training across four days at Ntenjera TDC, Naotcha TDC and Ndirande TDC.

In February, a total of 157 senior leaders attended the training across five days at Chigumakire TDC, Nankumba TDC, Kachanga and Limbe TDC. A total of 195 teachers/librarians attended the training across four days at Chigumakire TDC, Nankumba TDC and Ndirande TDC.

For both visits, the evaluations were very positive. Senior leaders and teachers enjoyed the training and wanted more. For the senior leaders training the focus was on using the Malawian National Education Standards, as identified by the District Education Managers. For the teachers, the focus was active learning and the Good Lesson. All enjoyed the interactive format of the learning.

The evaluations will help us tailor the training for session 2023-24 to better meet the needs of the teachers and senior leaders.

During the February visit, we filmed some of the professional learning and we visited schools to film libraries and Malawian teachers talking about how they used their libraries and delivered learning. This was in response to feedback where teachers rightly wanted to hear Malawian voices in the training. We plan to work on this to develop short films on YouTube which teachers and senior leaders could access on their smart phones.

Our challenge is the increased cost of airfares and cost of living in Malawi. The Malawian Kwacha has been devalued and may be further devalued. This puts an additional strain on our Malawian colleagues.

In addition to this work, we also secured funding from a school and from a retired colleague to sponsor two girls in Form 2 at Stella Maris Secondary School. In the February visit, we paid for session 2023 – 24 for them too and we will contact the sponsors to encourage them to commit to another year of sponsorship.

## **5. Fundraising**

We are asking participants in the visits to contribute at least £400 to the cost of the trip. Overall, each trip is costing up to £10,000. Photocopying of materials is done in Malawi which is more expensive but it means paper is not needed to be carried out and also it contributes to a small Malawian printing company based in Blantyre.

In April 2023, we encouraged as many people as possible to participate in The Kiltwalk. We raised more than £4,500 through this which included Gift Aid.

In September 2022, the team were delayed in Johannesburg which meant that they missed their flight to Blantyre with another one not available for four days. There was limited support from the airlines. The result was that we had to purchase additional flights to get the team to Blantyre via Addis Ababa. This resulted in an additional £500 per person. After much correspondence with the airlines, we claimed on the insurance from Glasgow City Council and we were delighted to be reimbursed with £1,925 in early July 2023.

We continue to benefit from the generosity of friends, colleagues, schools and community organisations in the form of donations in support of our work.

## **6. School trips**

Understandably, there have been no school trips to Malawi. There are some schools that are interested in developing plans to go back to Malawi. Maureen has visited All Saints Secondary School and St Thomas Aquinas Secondary School to speak to them about Malawi. All Saints are at the early stages of planning and would like to take a small group in September 2024. They would be supported by Francis. St Thomas Aquinas have a larger group going and they are going with the support of an experienced travel company (Orbis).

## **7. Transport**

We continue to have a car and a minibus. However, the last two years with no visits has meant that these have not been able to generate any income for us and instead they have cost us money for insurance, road tax, etc. By February 2023, the minibus had been repaired and was back on the road. However, there remains limited opportunity to generate income.

## 8. Financial Review

The Financial Statement to 31 July 2023 accompanying this report represents the tenth year-end accounts prepared for MLOL following the formal granting of charitable status by OSCR in October 2013. Charitable status allows us to claim gift aid, increasing by 25% the value of donations from many of our generous supporters.

Our new fundraising site has been operating since November 2021 and be accessed using the link below:

<https://www.justgiving.com/malawileadersoflearning>

A total of £15,061 was received during the year from donations, fundraising, Just Giving, and Give As You Live contributions.

Expenditure totalled £27,213 resulting in a net deficit of £12,152 for the year.

The key elements of expenditure in the current year included £17,382 for travel, £3,003 for educational resources, £1,837 on local transport costs and £2,116 on two years sponsorship for two girls at Stella Maris School.

Donations included £1,000 from Glasgow City Council's International Development Programme, £500 from Notre Dame High and £400 from Rutherglen United Reformed Church.

Summary financial performance is set out below. The net deficit for the year is debited to Trust Funds which have a closing balance of £91,368.

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Approved by the trustees on 11 August 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Maureen McKenna

David McClelland

Chair

Treasurer

Date 11 August 2023

Date 11 August 2023

# **Independent Examiner's Report**

## **For the Year 31 July 2023**

### **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Malawi Leaders of Learning**

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 July 2023 which are set out on pages 5 to 6.

### **Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and Examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 ("the 2005 Act") and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) ("the 2006 Regulations"). The charity's trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1)(d) of the 2006 Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section (44)(1)(c) of the 2005 Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

### **Independent Examiner's Statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Regulations, and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Regulations have not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Signature:**

**Lorna Goldie CPFA**  
**Independent Examiner**

**Date**

## Statement of Receipts and Payments for the Year to 31 July 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	2022
<b>Receipts</b>					
Donations	4	£10,265		£10,265	£9,067
Fundraising Activities	4	£ 4,796		£ 4,796	£1,133
		<b>£15,061</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>£15,061</b>	<b>£10,200</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
Cost of Fundraising Activities		-	-	-	-
Cost of Charitable Activities		£27,213		£27,213	£5,572
		<b>£27,213</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>£27,213</b>	<b>£5,572</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year</b>		<b>-£12,152</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-£12,152</b>	<b>£4,628</b>

## Statement of Balances as at 31 July 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	2022
<b>Funds Reconciliation</b>					
Opening Cash at Bank and Hand		£103,520		£103,520	£98,892
Surplus/ (Deficit) for the year		-£12,152		- £12,152	£4,628
<b>Closing Cash at Bank and Hand</b>		<b>£91,368</b>		<b>£91,368</b>	<b>£103,520</b>
<b>Bank and Cash Balances</b>					
Bank Account				£90,912	£103,520
Cash	5			£456	-
				<b>£91,368</b>	<b>£103,520</b>
<b>Other Assets</b>					
Nil	6			-	-
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Nil	6			-	-

The notes on page 6 form an integral part of these accounts.

## Notes to the Accounts for the Year to 31 July 2023

### 1. Basis of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities & Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

### 2. Nature and Purpose of Funds

Unrestricted funds are those that may be used at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. The trustees maintain a single unrestricted fund for the day-to-day running of the charity.

Restricted funds may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for specific purposes. Malawi Development Programme funding is restricted in accordance with grant eligibility criteria.

### 3. Related Party Transactions

No remuneration was paid to the trustees or to any connected persons during the year (2021/22 - nil).

### 4. Donations and Fundraising

Donations, fundraising, Just Giving, and Give as You Live contributions totalled £15,061. Fundraising efforts generated £4,796 through Kiltwalk sponsorship.

### 5. Bank Account

MLOL maintains one bank account with Virgin Money.

The balance as at 31 July 2023 totals £90,911.92

### 6. Assets and liabilities

The Trust has no assets or liabilities and there are no other amounts owing or due.

### 7. Governance Costs

No costs have been incurred in relation to governance.

### 8. Expenses paid to Trustees and the number receiving expenses

£19,351 was incurred on flights and accommodation costs in relation to visits to Malawi over the past year and our forthcoming visit in September 2023. Trustees are not in receipt of any associated expenses in support of Trust activities.

**Approved by the trustees on 11 August 2023 and signed on their behalf by**

**Maureen McKenna**

**Chair**

**David McClelland**

**Treasurer**