



MALAWI LEADERS OF LEARNING

IMPROVING EDUCATION IN GLASGOW AND MALAWI

Scottish Charity Number SC044361
Annual Report and Financial
Statements

For the year ended 31 July 2020

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year 1 August 2019 to 31 July 2020

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 2020.

1. Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name	Malawi Leaders of Learning (MLOL)
Scottish Charity Number	SC044361
Principal Address	Education Services, Glasgow City Council, 40 John Street, Glasgow G1 1JL

Current Trustees

Maureen McKenna (Chair)	Fiona Ross
Susan Aitchison (Secretary)	Sharon Hayward
David McClelland (Treasurer)	Wendy O'Donnell
Samir Sharma	Brenda Wallace
Les McLean	Marie Breckenridge
Stephen McGowan	

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

- Partnering schools in Glasgow with schools in the Blantyre area
- Introducing libraries to partner primary schools
- Supporting teachers from Glasgow to travel to Malawi and work in local schools for 4 weeks once a year
- Enabling teachers from Malawi to travel to Scotland and spend two weeks working in Glasgow schools
- Supporting visits of young people to work alongside young people in Malawi
- Providing sponsorship for individual girls to keep them in education in Malawi
- Working in partnership with Mary's Meals in Scotland and in Malawi
- Delivering training to Malawian teachers and primary education advisers, including a leadership training programme.

For 2019 to 2024, we have revised the above activities and, as agreed by the Trustees in March 2019, we will focus on the following:

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. We will also continue to support Mary's Meals and sponsor girls attending Stella Maris Secondary School.

4. Achievements and Performance

2019/20 started very positively for Malawi Leaders of Learning, we planned a further two training sessions to be held in Blantyre. One in October 2019 and another in February 2020.

In October 2019, a team of six staff were the first team to go out as part of our new plan MLOL 2019-24. We were delighted to be able to include a colleague from Education Scotland, David Burgess, as part of the team. The team of six consisted of Sharon Hayward, Laura McEachran, Stephen Sweeney, Viv Armstrong, Elizabeth Morrison and David Burgess (Education Scotland). Four of the staff were very experienced and had been previous MLOs.

A very busy week was planned with the team splitting into two – one half to deliver leadership training to up to 20 headteachers each day and the other half to deliver training to teachers and librarians again cohorts of up to 20 each day.

Four training sessions, each lasting a full day were offered to headteachers and primary education advisers (PEAs) from Blantyre Urban and Blantyre Rural. Two sessions were delivered in Limbe Teacher Development Centre (TDC) and two in Ntandjire TDC. The sessions were facilitated by three colleagues from Glasgow: David Burgess, Elizabeth Morrison and Sharon Hayward. The materials which were designed to be very interactive and to take account of the Malawian context had been trialled in February 2019 and amended to be more useful. During the delivery of the sessions, minor adaptations continued to improve the efficacy of the materials. All sessions were evaluated very positively with any negative feedback being strictly linked to lunch allowance, quality of snacks or in a few cases the distance travelled to reach the TDC.

Eight sessions were planned for the teachers/librarians – a morning and an afternoon session with up to 20 at each. However, that proved more difficult to organise and at times there was only one group but with more than 20 in it. Similarly, attendance at the leadership sessions varied. While this made it difficult to accommodate colleagues on occasion, no one was turned away and all participated fully in the training.

Overall, the visit was a success with much learning for all. Each teacher or librarian who attended was given a set of posters for their school. These were very well-received. They had been printed by a local printer in advance of the trip. The team had a very positive experience and supported the planning of the next visit in February 2020.

In February 2020, having reflected on the learning from October 2019, adaptations were made to the programme and Education Scotland advised that they could no longer support. A team of four previous MLOs: Elizabeth Morrison, Liz McGregor, Katy Anderson and Laura Davidson went out to Malawi for a week.

We had originally planned to have the same headteachers participating as had attended in October. However, it was clear that we wouldn't be able to manage that consistently so it was agreed by all that the leadership training should be one day and that we would encourage as many senior managers as possible to participate and have two different programmes – an October programme and a February programme. This would enable participants to attend both or just one as we recognised the challenge with travel and allowed for changes in leadership in Malawian schools.

Professional Learning for headteachers and primary education advisors

Date	Urban/rural	Venue	Number attending
10 Feb 2020	Rural	Ntengere TDC	39
11 Feb 2020	Urban	Limbe TDC	18
13 Feb 2020	Rural	Nankumba TDC	11
14 Feb 2020	Urban	Limbe TDC	28

At each event for headteachers and primary education advisors, extensive use was made of a textbook "Primary Teaching Methods", by Dawn Quist. Headteachers very much appreciated being given a personal copy of the book to use with their staff. The work included modelling ways of using the textbook with groups of staff and providing time for headteachers to read and share key themes.

Headteachers and primary education advisors were asked in advance to bring a copy of the Malawi National Education Standards (MNES). This was generally successful and most brought copies with them. Different ways of using the standards and sharing ideas including through creating spider diagrams were welcomed. Time was spent pulling some of the standards apart to identify key messages in the statements – this was generally successful. Some headteachers lack confidence to evaluate how well they are meeting the standard. As might be expected, primary education advisors were more confident in this area.

Professional learning events for primary teachers

Date	Urban/rural	Venue	Number attending
10 Feb 2020	Urban	Limbe TDC	30
11 Feb 2020	Rural	Ntengere TDC	21
13 Feb 2020	Urban	Limbe TDC	33
14 Feb 2020	Rural	Nankumba TDC	32

At each TDC three training sessions were delivered to primary teaching staff:

- the Good Lesson;
- using the library to enhance learning across the curriculum; and
- training Reading Leaders within schools.

At each session participants were given hand-outs and/or posters which could be taken back to school to support delivery and the training of further teaching staff. Participants were very enthusiastic and it was clear from the outset of each input that they common goals – improving teaching and learning experiences for children and in turn impact positively on attainment. Teachers participated well in question and answer sessions as well as role play opportunities. Some staff shared that they were keen to go back to school and share with colleagues, this was actively encouraged throughout the training sessions.

A previous experience of being a MLOL helped to contextualise the delivery of sessions and increased participants understanding of success in a Malawian classroom despite barriers to effective learning. Malawian colleagues particularly loved seeing pictures of examples from Malawian lessons and schools.

Teachers found the session on using the library to enhance learning across the curriculum challenging. Within the presentation there could be more emphasis on ways in which books and other reading materials can be used across the curriculum to enhance learners' experiences. There is a lot more discussion around libraries, the role of the Librarian and Reading Leaders. Many participants did not have a Librarian or well-stocked library. Many of the schools had not been part of previous MLOL work and did not have libraries donated by MLOL. In addition talking about the Reading Leaders at this stage in the training when they had not yet had the training input made some of the content confusing for participants. It may be advisable to adapt this session to focus more on the importance of reading books and how they can be used to put learning into a real context. This would bring to life a lesson without the use of lots of additional resources. One participant talked about 'spicing' up lessons and reading books/materials are a great way in which to do this. A greater emphasis on the importance of reading for enjoyment would also be beneficial. A number of Malawian colleagues mentioned that in Malawi the culture of reading is around getting information to pass exams and children are not keen to use books for enjoyment. Perhaps more information from recent studies on the impact of reading for enjoyment on academic progress would be useful in this presentation. The session emphasised the teacher's role to help change this reading culture, to promote reading and the use of books in a variety of contexts which will help to develop skills and improve attainment over time. Overall, it was a very successful trip and a good platform to build on for future trips.

Fund raising

In early October 2019, we held a fund-raising lunch at the Grand Central Hotel. This was on a smaller scale than our past events. It was very successful and was supported by lot of previous MLOLs and their families. We raised more than £8,000.

We have not been successful in raising funding for Stella Maris girls this year. The pandemic has stopped many activities. We will be considering how we best use our available funds in 2020/21 and 2021/22 to maximise our impact on schools in line with our plan [MLOL 2019-24](#)

School trips

There were a number of school partnership trips planned for June 2020 and September 2020 – however, the impact of all global pandemic meant that all these trips had to be cancelled. Schools are hopeful for reintroducing trips in 2021.

Future Plans

We were successful in being awarded around 2,000 books from Book Aid for school libraries. However, these have been delayed and are expected to arrive around January 2021.

Following the success of the two visits in 2019/20, we were ready to set off with another team in October 2020. However, the global pandemic put a stop to that. It is unlikely that there will be any trips to Malawi in session 2020/21. So plans are being put in place for October 2021.

5. Financial Review

The Financial Statement to 31 July 2020 accompanying this report represents the sixth full year 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.

Total income of £17,590 was received during the year, including the final balance of £4,000 grant funding from the Malawi development programme.

Fundraising activities totalled £10,455, boosted significantly by the highly successful Ladies Lunch event in October 2019. A further £3,135 was received from donations, Virgin Money Giving and Give As You Live contributions.

Expenditure totalled £18,203 resulting in a net deficit of £613 for the year.

Key elements of expenditure in the current year included £2,381 on staff costs, and £3,974 incurred on flights. This included Teachers and Trustees travelling to Malawi to undertake charitable work there, including delivery of the leadership training programme. Associated expenses totalled £7,939 and a further investment of £3,284 was made locally on books.

Summary financial performance is set out below. The net deficit for the year is debited to Trust Funds which have a closing balance of £97,986.

6. Plans for Future Periods

We aim to continue to build on the success we have achieved to date. Our Plan for 2019 to 2024 sets out ambitious targets for us to deliver training to all primary schools in Blantyre Urban and Rural Districts. We will continue to seek funding to provide good quality, culturally-appropriate books for our partner schools.

Independent Examiner's Report For the Year 31 July 2020

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 2020 which are set out on pages 5 to 8.

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*

Lorna Goldie CPFA
Independent Examiner

Date *10/12/20.*

Approved by the trustees on 23 December 2020 and signed on their behalf by:

Maureen McKenna

Maureen McKenna

David McClelland

David McClelland

Chair

Date 23/12/20

Treasurer

Date 23/12/20

Statement of Receipts and Payments For the Year to 31 July 2020

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020	2019
Receipts					
Donations	4	£3,135		£3,135	£1,470
Government Grant	6		£4,000	£4,000	£76,256
Fundraising Activities	4	£10,455		£10,455	£3,837
		£13,590	£4,000	£17,590	£81,563
Payments					
Cost of Fundraising Activities		£2,795		£2,795	£1,000
Cost of Charitable Activities		£11,408	£4,000	£15,408	£44,046
		£14,203	£4,000	£18,203	£45,046
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year		£(613)	-	£(613)	£36,517

Statement of Balances as at 31 July 2020

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020	2019
Funds Reconciliation					
Opening Cash at Bank and Hand		£92,698	£5,901	£98,599	£62,082
Surplus/ (Deficit) for the year		£5,288	£(5,901)	£(613)	£36,517
Closing Cash at Bank and Hand		£97,986		£97,986	£98,599
Bank and Cash Balances					
Bank Accounts				£97,986	£98,599
Cash				-	-
				£97,986	£98,599
Other Assets					
Vehicles	8			£3,700	£5,550
Liabilities					
Nil				-	-

The notes on page10 form an integral part of these accounts.

Approved by the trustees on 23 December 2020 and signed on their behalf by



Maureen McKenna

Chair



David McClelland

Treasurer

Notes to the Accounts for the Year to 31 July 2020

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 (2018/19 - nil).

Travelling and other expenses were paid on behalf of one trustee in direct support of their work in Malawi.

4. Donations and Fundraising

Donations, Virgin Money Giving, and Give as You Live contributions totalled £3,135. Fundraising efforts totalled £10,455.

5. Government Grant

The final instalment of Malawi Development Programme Grant amounted to £4,000, which was received in year.

The programme has now come to a close, with investment totalling £249,271 over the five year period.

8. Bank Account

MLOL maintains one bank account with the Clydesdale bank.

The balance at 31 July 2020 totals £97,986

9. Assets and liabilities

Vehicles assets in Malawi totalling £3,700 have been recorded at cost price less depreciation. There are no other amounts owing or due.

10. Governance Costs

No costs have been incurred in relation to governance.

11. Expenses paid to Trustees and the number receiving expenses

A total of £3,973 was spent on flights and expenses for travel to Malawi to undertake charitable work there, including delivering the Leadership training programme.

