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Friends of Chitambo (FoCH) SCIO

Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts for the year to 31st March 2026

Scottish Charity Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) Number SC044337

Contact address
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Current Trustees (to 31st March 2026)

Name	Role	Date appointed/reappointed	Date resigned
International Board			
Jo Vallis	Trustee, Chair	14/02/26	
Peter Willett	Trustee/`Treasurer	24/04/22	31/03//26
Richard Vallis	Trustee/Honorary President	14/02/26	
Bridget Innes	Trustee	14/02/26	
Chola Mwelwa	Shadow Trustee	14/02/26	
Annet Dekker	Trustee	14/02/26	
Marion Taylor	Trustee	14/02/26	
Zambian Board			
Levi Chifwaila	Trustee, Chair	14/02/26	
Ida Waddell	Trustee	14/02/26	
Norman Mukuma	Trustee	14/02/26	
Francis Zombe	Trustee	14/02/26	
Dr Rosemary Mwanza	Trustee	14/02/26	
Martin Muchalenje, Nurse Tutor	Secretariat	14/02/26	
Dorcas Mambwe, Registered Nurse	Secretariat	14/02/26	

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Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

All of the Association's trustees are appointed during the year.

Governing document

The Association is a charitable incorporated organisation and the purposes and administration arrangements are set out in our constitution.

Charitable purposes

Our purposes, as recorded in our constitution, are the prevention or relief of poverty, the advancement of education, the advancement of health, the saving of lives, the advancement of citizenship or community development.

Activities and achievements – Chairperson's report

Activities

Key activities over the past year have included – Completion of the Mothers Waiting Shelter (MWS); renovation of maternity unit; support of student nurse training scholarships; support of another staff training scholarship; decision-making regarding the future of the centenary ambulance; decision-making regarding the maintenance and commissioning of the Scottish Government funded oxygen generator an application for Scottish Government Global Health Partnership Programme funding, for a project on Quality Improvement of Maternal and Neonatal Healthcare in Chitambo District; and continued networking with other NGOs and key stakeholders. These activities are detailed below:

1. **Completion of the MWS Project:** The 40 bed shelter has now been completed, commissioned and is now occupied by expectant mothers and their 'bedsiders' (helpers). There is a small funding surplus, which is reserved for maintenance. There are some problems with the solar geysers which were fitted by Engineers Without Borders-Zambia (EWB-Z), in order to provide hot running water to the shelter. Another local NGO, Mission Geeks, have had a look at the geysers and their connections and will return to see if they can fix the problem.

2. **Maternity Unit Renovation (MUR) Project:**

   This project was initiated by Dr Annet Dekker, a Medical Officer in Chitambo in the late 1980s. She joined the FoCH Board after a return trip to Chitambo in 2024, and fund-raised in the Netherlands, raising 10,000 Euros for renovating and re-equipping the maternity ward, labour ward and neonatal ward as well as providing staff training on use of the donated equipment. Dr Dekker also raises further funds for this project through making and selling her pottery in the Netherlands.

   A resuscitaire donated by 2 Scottish-based doctors, who volunteer in Zambia, for the maternity unit, was shipped from England but remains stuck at the Chirundu border post, in southern Zambia. It is accruing storage costs and all efforts are being made to resolve this issue.

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Dr.Leah Seaman, Paediatrician at Kapiri Mposhi District Hospital, Central Province, Zambia, runs an acclaimed neonatal unit and has made some baby warming 'nests ' (portable incubators) available for use in the Chitambo neonatal ward.

Further medical equipment, and training of all maternal and neonatal staff in its use, will complete the project.

3. **Training scholarships:**

i) Student Nurse Scholarships: 15 students have now been supported through their 3 - year training, since the Chitambo College of Nursing reopened in 2012.

2 students graduated in October 2025. 3 more are currently in their final year. The scholarships are for those who are most financially challenged.

ii) Staff Development Scholarships: FoCH also offers a small number of staff development scholarships that will benefit Chitambo. 4 have been awarded to date. The current one, for a Masters in Mental Health Nursing, represents a key service gap identified by Chitambo Hospital partners.

4. **Oxygen Generator and Pipeline Project.** This Scottish Government-funded initiative was the brainchild of our Zambian- based Trustee, Mrs Ida Waddell. It was installed by Zambian-based company, Mulilo Gases (2021) and has now had its second service and been handed over to Chitambo Hospital. It is working well, under local management but has not yet been commissioned by the Ministry of Health and there is some concern about sustainability. Servicing is not cheap and, from the outset, it was planned to sell oxygen to generate the income necessary for this. This is still under debate. Meantime, there is a small surplus reserved for ongoing maintenance of the pipeline, to which FoCH contributed 50%.

5. **Chitambo Centenary Ambulance:** This vehicle was donated for the centenary of Chitambo Hospital (2008). I is now aging and there is ongoing discussion about the cost of its maintenance. A final mechanical assessment is awaited before a final decision is made over whether to continue funding its maintenance.

6. **Scottish Government Global Health Partnership Programme (SGHPP) grant award:** In March 2026, FoCH was awarded £ 100,000 for a project on Quality Improvement of Maternal and Neonatal Healthcare in Chitambo District. Activities will include:

- Baseline data collection
- Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care (EmONC) Training for all health care staff
- Medical equipment, solar lights and Buffalo Bicycles, for all 19 Rural Health Clinics (RHC)

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- Training of Safe Maternity Action Group (SMAG) volunteers to encourage safe maternity care and childbirth.

  This project is also expected to be in partner ship with NHS Lanarkshire, Scotland. This are is Scottish missionary/explorer, David Livingstone's birthplace, whereas he died in Chitambo District.

7. **Networking with other NGOs and key stakeholders:** FoCH continues to collaborate with other NGOs, including Engineers Without Borders-Zambia (EWB-Z); Mission Geeks; Flyspec Flying Emergency Service; On Call Africa and Eyecare for Zambia, as well as with key individuals including Dr. Leah Seaman, Paediatrician at Kapiri, Mposhi District General Hospital and staff at Kabwe Central Hospital, in Central Province, Zambia.

Key Risks and Going Concern

Our key risks include:

- The loss of key volunteers: This is mitigated by our continuous efforts to attract new members.

Finance

The income for the year was **£60130** and we made payments of **£25888** leaving us with a surplus of **£34242**

Trustee remuneration and expenses
The trustees did not receive any remuneration during this period.

Reserves
We started the year with a bank balance of **£36320**
At 31/03/26 we held cash at bank of **£70562**

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Friends of Chitambo SCIO

Statement of Balances as 31 March 2026

Funds	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	Total 2026 (£)	Total 2025 (£)
Opening balances	7,749	28,571	36,320	42,246
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	497	33,745	34,242	(5,926)
Closing balances	**8,246**	**62,316**	**70,562**	**36,320**

Reserves

Reserve Category	2026 (£)	2025 (£)
Unrestricted	8,999	7,749
Restricted Funds		
SGHPP Grant	49,735	-
Nurses Training	1,200	748
Maternity Unit Renovations	2,870	6,661
Mothers' Shelter	4,005	17,409
Oxygen Unit	3,753	3,753
Total Restricted	**61,563**	**28,571**
Total Reserves	**70,562**	**36,320**

Other Assets and Liabilities

Item	2026 (£)	2025 (£)
Other Assets	-	-
Liabilities	-	-

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Friends of Chitambo SCIO

Receipts and Payments Account
For the year ended 31 March 2026

Receipts	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	Total 2026 (£)	Total 2025 (£)
Donations	4,765	2,380	7,145	45,535
Fundraising	2,486	49,735	52,221	5,241
Gift Aid	764	-	764	-
Total Receipts	**8,015**	**52,115**	**60,130**	**50,776**

Payments	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	Total 2026 (£)	Total 2025 (£)
Cost of charitable activities	6,135	18,370	24,505	54,874
Fundraising costs	287	-	287	875
Governance costs	1,096	-	1,096	953
Total Payments	**7,518**	**18,370**	**25,888**	**56,702**

Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	Total 2026 (£)	Total 2025 (£)
Net Movement	497	33,745	34,242	(5,926)

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Friends of Chitambo SCIO

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

1. Basis of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities and 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/general fund.

Restricted funds may only be used for specific purposes. Allocations to each fund are set out in Notes 4 and 5.

3. Related Party Transactions

No remuneration was paid to the trustees during the year.

4. Receipts

Source of Income	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	Total 2026 (£)	Total 2025 (£)
General	8,015	-	8,015	8,350
Nurses Training	-	1,200	1,200	748
Maternity Unit Renovations	-	1,180	1,180	8,912
Mother's Shelter	-	-	-	32,766
SGHPP Grant	-	49,735	49,735	-
Total Receipts	**8,015**	**52,115**	**60,130**	**50,776**

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5. Cost of Charitable Activities

Activity	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	Total 2026 (£)	Total 2025 (£)
Nurse and Staff Training	6,135	-	6,135	9,770
Mothers' Waiting Shelter	-	13,249	13,249	43,855
Renovations	-	4,970	4,970	2,249
Other	-	152	152	-
Total Cost of Charitable Activities	**6,135**	**18,370**	**24,505**	**54,874**

6. Fundraising Costs

Item	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	Total 2026 (£)	Total 2025 (£)
Printing	260	-	260	273
Stall Costs	27	-	27	360
Publicity	-	-	-	242
Total Fundraising Costs	**287**	**-**	**287**	**875**

7. Governance Costs

Item	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	Total 2026 (£)	Total 2025 (£)
Insurance	164	-	164	160
SIDA Membership	90	-	90	90
Board Development	839	-	839	100
Legal Expenses	-	-	-	600
Bank Charges	3	-	3	3
Total Governance Costs	**1,096**	**-**	**1,096**	**953**

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Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Friends of Chitambo SCIO

Scottish Charity Number SC044337

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2026 which are set out on pages 1 to 8.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

Basis of independent examination statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. 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 the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

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 Accounts Regulations, and
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations have not been met, or to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

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Andrew McKellar
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10/16/2026

Andrew McKellar, Bsc ACMA CGMA — Chartered Management Accountant

Independent Examiner, 11 St. Ninian's Way, Linlithgow. EH49 7HL.

Signature: Dr Jo Vallis, Chair Jo Vallis

Date: 17/10/26