

SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND

Summary of a (Virtual) Meeting of the Board of Trustees on 17 March 2020

Guests

Inger Ashing, *CEO Save the Children International (items 3 and 4 only)*
Mark Malloch-Brown, *former UK government minister and UN Deputy Secretary-General (item 4 only)*

Trustees

Present:

Charles Steel, *Interim Chair*
Arabella Duffield
Sophie McCormick
Dianna Melrose
David Ripert
Anne Fahy
Babatunde Soyoye
Razia Khan
Tanuja Randery
Kajal Odedra
Mark Swallow
Naomi Eisenstadt
Richard Winter

Executive Directors

Kevin Watkins *Chief Executive Officer*

Sam Sharpe *Chief Financial Officer*
Lynne Holmes *Executive Director of Human Resources*
Gemma Sherrington *Executive Director of Fundraising & Marketing*
Gwen Hines *Executive Director of Global Programmes*
Kirsty McNeill *Executive Director of Policy, Advocacy & Campaigns*
Fiona Clark *Executive Director of Transformation*

Staff

Habibunnisha Patel *General Counsel and Company Secretary*
Charlotte Knight, *Compliance Officer (minutes)*
Reema Malhotra *Chief of Staff*
Samantha Pow, *Administrative Advisor, CEO's Office*
Jess Winn, *Partnerships Manager (item 5 only)*
Samy Ahmar, *Head of Health (item 5 only)*
Adamu Isah, *Save the Children Nigeria Country Office (item 5 only)*
Jayne Liu, *Head of Risk Management (item 8 only)*

Agenda:

1. Introduction to meeting
2. Chief Executive's report
3. SCUK and the movement: looking ahead
4. The sector and SCUK's strategic route map
5. Impact for children: spotlight on pneumonia
6. Finance and budget update
7. People and culture update
8. Risk update
9. Regular business
10. Close and AOB
11. Trustee closed session

Item 1. Introduction to meeting: Charles Steel welcomed Richard Winter to his first meeting as Honorary Treasurer. Trustees reviewed and approved minutes from the Board meeting of 3rd December 2019. On matters arising, it was noted that the Health & Safety briefing scheduled for this Board meeting had been postponed.

Charles noted that the situation with respect to Covid-19 was changing quickly and that separate time would be made to revisit the topic when the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) could present their plan in more detail (this happened on the 8th April).

Item 2. Chief Executive's report: Kevin Watkins gave his quarterly update to the Board, which focused largely on the recent publication of the Charity Commission report and the outbreak of Covid-19. Trustees requested to be kept in the loop on the ELT's scenario planning in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Item 3. SCUK and the movement: looking ahead: The Board welcomed Inger Ashing, CEO of Save the Children International (SCI), who reflected on the role of Save the Children UK (SCUK) within Save the Children's global membership, and noted the need for members to work collaboratively.

Item 4. The sector and SCUK's strategic route map: The Board welcomed Mark Malloch-Brown, former UK government minister and UN Deputy Secretary-General, who addressed the question of how SCUK and the wider movement will need to adapt in the coming years. In a wide-ranging discussion, he highlighted the need for INGOs to be both global and local in their operations, to be driven by the use of evidence, and to work proactively with other civil society actors.

Item 5. Impact for children: spotlight on pneumonia: Samy Ahmar and Jess Winn joined the meeting, alongside Adamu Isah from our Nigeria Country Office. They highlighted the challenges and priorities for work on pneumonia, especially in the context of the coronavirus crisis, following the successful Global Forum that took place in January.

Item 6. Finance and budget update: Sam Sharpe provided an update on the 2019 outturn. He noted that budget plans for 2020 would need to be revised in the light of the Covid-19 outbreak.

Item 7. People and culture update: Lynne Holmes and Fiona Clark shared updates on SCUK's people and culture work, including the planned transition from Stronger. The Trustees emphasised the importance of keeping continuity with the Stronger workstreams and ensuring that People and Culture remains a top priority through 2020.

Item 8. Risk update: Jayne Liu presented a risk update for Trustees. She noted that SCI were seeking views from member Boards on a proposed movement-wide shared risk appetite. The Board welcomed this initiative and agreed the SCUK input to this consultation.

Item 9. Regular business: The Board considered its regular business. This included Trustee approval of proposed changes to a subcommittee Terms of Reference, safeguarding reports, and subcommittee updates. The discussion also covered trustee recruitment and updates from the most recent global Board meeting.

Item 10. Close and AOB: Trustees received an update from Dianna Melrose on her recent discussions with staff in her capacity as Staff Liaison Trustee. The Board noted that this would be Sophie McCormick's last meeting and thanked her for her contributions to the Board and the charity, as both a trustee and a volunteer, over the years.

Item 11. Trustee closed session: The Board held a confidential closed session.