

SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND

Summary of a (hybrid) Meeting of the [Board of Trustees](#) on 6th December 2023

Trustees

Present:

Richard Winter (RW) *Interim Chair*

Anne Fahy (AF)

Arabella Duffield (AD)

Babatunde Soyoye (BS)

Catherine Doran (CD)

Dianna Melrose (DM)

Jessica Gladstone (JG)

Razia Khan (RK) *from 3pm*

Tim Fallowfield (TF)

Apologies

Tsitsi Chawatama-Kwambana (TCK), *on maternity leave*

Kajal Odedra (KO)

In Attendance

Executive Directors:

Gwen Hines (GH), CEO

Francis D'Souza (FDS), CFTO

Gemma Sherrington (GS), Executive

Director of Fundraising & Marketing

Kirsty McNeill (KMcn), Executive Director

of Policy, Advocacy & Campaigns

Adam Berthoud (AB), Executive Director of

Global Programmes

Pria Rai (PR), Executive Director of
Organisational Change

Staff:

Bonike Bracewell (BB), General Counsel &
Company Secretary

Reema Malhotra (RM), Director of Strategy
& Chief of Staff

Victoria McDonald (VM), Assistant
Company Secretary (Minutes)

Claire Sanford, Deputy Director of
Humanitarian (*item 4 only*)

James Denselow, Head of Conflict &
Humanitarian Team (*item 4 only*)

Sarah Potter, Director of Effectiveness and
Market Innovation (*item 4 only*)

Ali Griffin, Senior Strategic Delivery Lead
(*item 4 only*)

Emily Pantelides, Legal Counsel (*item 6a
only*)

Mandy Jones, Interim Director of
Safeguarding (*item 6c only*)

Gilly Conway, Head of Enterprise Risk
Management (*item 6d only*)

Agenda:

0. Trustee & CEO closed session
1. Introduction to meeting
2. Chief Executive's update
3. Financial framework, including plans for 2024, and fundraising update
4. SCUK's humanitarian response in crises and emergencies
5. People & organisational culture update
6. Regular business and governance matters
7. 2023 highlights
8. Trustee & CEO closed session
9. Trustee-only session and close

Item 0. Trustee & CEO closed session

Item 1. Introduction to meeting: Richard Winter (RW) opened the meeting and apologies were noted from Kajal Odedra (KO). No new potential conflicts of interest were declared, and RW confirmed that all ebusiness items circulated prior to the meeting had been approved.

Item 2. Chief Executive's Report: Gwen Hines (GH) shared reflections on work and key achievements over Q3 and throughout 2023. This included raising the profile of SCUK's programmatic work in the UK; amplifying children's voices, whether through COP28 or Youth Advisory Board members speaking in parliament; and the Movement-wide shift to One Humanitarian Team. Reema Malhotra (RM) shared plans for a light-touch update of SCUK's strategy in 2024.

Item 3. Financial health & planning and fundraising update: Francis D'Souza (FDS) provided an update on 2023's financial performance and the Board approved the 2024 budget proposal and 2024 reserves range. The Board heard from Gemma Sherrington (GS) about progress made in unrestricted fundraising throughout the year, and plans in 2024 for brand-building work to support unrestricted fundraising.

Item 4. SCUK's humanitarian response in crises and emergencies: Claire Sanford (CS), James Denselow (JD), Sarah Potter (SP) and Ali Griffin (AG) joined the meeting and shared with the Board how SCUK responds and prioritises to support the Movement's response to emergencies – including SCUK's political approach, policy positions and messaging, supporter engagement and fundraising, reflecting on the current situation and the Movement's response in the occupied Palestinian territories (oPt) and Israel.

Item 5. People and organisational culture update: Pria Rai (PR) provided the Board with an update on people and organisational culture work, including the recent new staff survey which will now take place quarterly, and the finalisation of the compensation framework. Dianna Melrose (DM) shared reflections in her role as Staff Liaison Trustee.

Item 6. Regular business and governance matters: the Board considered its regular business. This included the passing of a written resolution to amend SCUK's governing documents, subject to approval by the Charity Commission; a whistleblowing report; the SCA/SCI Board update; subcommittee updates; safeguarding updates; and risk updates.

Item 7. 2023 highlights: GS reflected on highlights from 2023 across the organisation and the Board, and shared an end of year video with Trustees.

Item 8. Trustee and CEO closed session.

Item 9. Trustee-only session and close.