



# **Trustees' Annual Report**

2023-2024

Scottish Charity Number SC047780

CodeBase 37a Castle Terrace Edinburgh EH1 2EL

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### **Administrative information**

**Charity name** Prewired

**Registration number** SC047780

**Principal address** CodeBase, 37a Castle Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2EL

### **Prewired trustees**

| Name                 | Office                           |                     |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Rikki Guy            | Chair                            | Joined 10/10/2023   |
| Benjamin Milne       | Chair (outgoing)                 | Resigned 10/10/2023 |
| Rayo Verweij         | Treasurer                        | Joined 10/10/2023   |
| Yula Syahrial        | Treasurer (outgoing)             | Resigned 10/10/2023 |
| India Thomson        | Secretary                        |                     |
| Athina Frantzana     | Child Protection and EDI Officer |                     |
| Charlotte Holland    | Session Co-ordinator             |                     |
| Cameron Gray         |                                  |                     |
| Claire Wheelan       |                                  |                     |
| Jelmer van der Linde |                                  | Resigned 14/01/2024 |
| Chuks Ododo          |                                  | Resigned 10/10/2023 |
| Helen Williams       |                                  | Resigned 10/10/2023 |
| Kelly Gardner        |                                  | Resigned 10/10/2023 |

## **Structure and governance**

The Charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (an SCIO) and was registered in its current legal form on 27 September 2017. The charity was an unincorporated association before changing its legal form to an SCIO. Its governing document is a Constitution, according to which the charity has a single tier structure and as such the trustees are the members of the charity.

Trustees must retire from office at the Annual General Meeting but will be deemed to have been re-elected except under certain conditions. In addition, the board may at any time appoint any person to be a charity trustee by way of a resolution passed by majority vote at a board meeting. There must be a minimum of five and a maximum of eleven trustees.



# **Objectives and activities**

### Charitable purpose

Prewired's charitable purpose is to advance the education of young people and in furtherance of this:

- to encourage young people to become active participants in creatively using and building digital technologies;
- to provide a supportive environment in which young people can work collaboratively with their peers and with more experienced mentors to develop their digital skills and undertake individual and team projects; and
- to support mentors in building on their existing strengths and in acquiring new skills by working with young people, and to support them in demonstrating how they have developed personally and how they have made a positive impact.

Prewired is a programming club for young people under the age of 19 and is based in Edinburgh. Participants attend weekly evening sessions where they improve their skills in digital technologies within a friendly, collaborative, and supportive environment. They pursue a wide variety of projects, including web development, mobile applications, games and constructing robots and other hardware devices.

Prewired sets no lower bound on the age or experience of participants, as these do not help us to understand an individual's abilities or potential. The only requirement for attendance is enthusiasm about programming and a desire to learn. We think technology can help us move towards a better world, but only if future generations understand the opportunities it brings and the impact it can have.

#### **Activities**

Prewired's main activity is the running of weekly two-hour-long sessions where attendees work on their own projects relating programming or robotics, using their own equipment or borrowing ours. After starting the physical sessions back up again in the 22-23 year, over the course of this financial year, our attendee numbers grew to an average of 20 per week in the final 3 months. It's been particularly heartening to see many attendees who got started in the previous year continuing to attend, becoming regular sights at our sessions and making friends amongst themselves.

In November 2023, we facilitated a special workshop session *Games for Mental Health* by Michael Saiger from the University of York. In addition, we again hosted a special Festive Party together with Digital Skills 4 Girls on 13 December, which saw 24 attendees, as well as had the first edition of our new Make-a-Thon, detailed below.

### **Developments**

At the beginning of 2023, Prewired composed its first strategic plan, to focus on the tasks that would benefit the charity most. In summary, the immediate focusses identified were planning & executing a small-scale Make-a-Thon; improving mentor training & rotas; improving the registration experience & diversity data capture; investigating the need for new equipment and sources; and investigating new sources of funding.

In the 2023-2024 financial year, progress was made on each of these.

- Supported by a generous donation from local company Kin + Carta, we ran a
  Make-a-Thon with 16 participants across 5 teams who spent the weekend of 2930 July working on a technological solution of their own design. At the end of the
  weekend, they presented their work to a panel of judges from local industry who
  selected a winner.
- More mentors were recruited throughout the year as the average mentor count at sessions increased from 4-5 at the start of the financial year to around 7 in February and March 2024. In addition to our regular introductory mentor trainings, in June 2023, our Child Protection & EDI Officer led an Unconscious Bias Training session for mentors.
- Over the course of the financial year, several new ticketing platforms were tried out, with a choice made by the end of the year to start moving our registration experience from Eventbrite to TicketTailor.
- At dedicated gatherings we inspected and maintained our laptops and other equipment and started compiling an "equipment wish list" for future purchases such as more mice and new LEGO robot kits.
- In March 2024, Prewired submitted a grant application to Digital Xtra for the funding of two FIRST LEGO League teams; at the end of the year, the result of this was still pending.

### Financial review

Prewired's regular expenditure breaks down into two main components: the cost of providing snacks and soft drinks to participants during the weekly evening sessions, and occasional purchases of computing hardware and accessories. In addition, there are some one-off costs incurred by running special events such as the Make-a-Thon and workshops, such as the purchasing of prizes.

Prewired does not charge any fee to participants, and at present does not employ any paid staff.

### **Policy on reserves**

To date, Prewired has been able to keep costs low due to the high level of volunteer effort and in-kind donations of services and facilities. On average, expenditure runs at approximately £125 per month. Our current policy is to maintain a reserve appropriate to the level of the organisation's level of activities.

#### Donated services and facilities

Prewired has benefited hugely from the generosity of expertise, time, event space, and equipment. Central to this are the Prewired mentors, who bring a huge amount of commitment, dedication and technical knowledge to our weekly sessions. In terms of time commitment, our regular mentors as a group have donated at least 574 personhours to running the weekly sessions as well as an additional 136 to running the Summer Make-a-Thon.

We estimate the nominal value of donated services and facilities as shown in the following table:

| Total                               | £18,987  |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Donation of event space by CodeBase | £10,000  |
| Mentoring at Summer Make-a-Thon     | £1713.60 |
| Mentoring at weekly sessions        | £7273.40 |

#### **Declaration**

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees,

Rikki J. D. Guy

Chair

# **Financial statement**

| Receipts and payments for the year to 31 March        | Unrestricted<br>Funds | Restricted<br>Funds | Total<br>Funds<br>2023-24 | Total<br>Funds<br>2022-23 |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
|   | £                     | £                   | £                         | £                         |
| A1 Receipts   |                       |                     |                           |                           |
| Donations   | 250                   | -                   | 250                       | 2,361                     |
| Legacies  | -                     | -                   | -                         | -                         |
| Grants  | -                     | -                   | -                         | -                         |
| Receipts from fundraising activities                  | -                     | -                   | -                         | -                         |
| Gross trading receipts                                | -                     | -                   | -                         | -                         |
| Income from investments other than land and buildings | -                     | -                   | -                         | -                         |
| Rents from land & buildings                           | -                     | -                   | -                         | -                         |
| Gross receipts from other charitable activities       | -                     | -                   | <del>-</del>              | -                         |
| A1 Sub total  | 250                   | -                   | 250                       | 2,361                     |
|   |                       |                     |                           |                           |
| A2 Receipts from asset & investment sales             |                       |                     |                           |                           |
| Proceeds from sale of fixed assets                    | -                     | -                   | -                         |                           |
| Proceeds from sale of investments                     | -                     | -                   | <del>-</del>              |                           |
| A2 Sub total  | -                     | -                   | -                         | -                         |
| Total receipts  | 250                   | -                   | 250                       | 2,361                     |
| A3 Payments   |                       |                     |                           |                           |
| Expenses for fundraising activities                   | -                     | -                   | -                         | -                         |
| Gross trading payments                                | -                     | -                   | -                         | -                         |
| Investment management costs                           | -                     | -                   | -                         | -                         |

| Payments relating directly to charitable activities    | 1,330 -   | 1,330   | 532   |
|--|-----------|---------|-------|
| Grants and donations                                   |           | -       |       |
| Governance costs:                                      |           |         |       |
| Governance costs: Audit / independent examination      | 21 -      | 21      |       |
| Governance costs: Preparation of annual accounts       |           | -       |       |
| Governance costs: Legal costs                          |           | -       |       |
| Governance costs: Other                                | 119 -     | 119     |       |
| A3 Sub total   | 1,470 -   | 1,470   | 532   |
|  |           |         |       |
| A4 Payments relating to asset and investment movements |           |         |       |
| Purchases of fixed assets                              |           | -       |       |
| Purchase of investments                                |           | -       |       |
| A4 Sub total   |           | -       | -     |
|  |           | -       |       |
| Total payments   | 1,470 -   | 1,470   | 532   |
|  |           |         |       |
| Net receipts / (payments)                              | (1,220) - | (1,220) | 1,829 |
|  |           |         |       |
| A5 Transfers to / (from) funds                         |           | -       |       |
|  |           |         |       |
| Surplus / (deficit) for year                           | (1,220) - | (1,220) | 1,829 |

| Statement of Balances 2023-<br>2024                | Unrestricted<br>Funds | Restricted<br>Funds | Total<br>Funds<br>2023-24 | Total<br>Funds<br>2022-23 |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
|  | £                     | £                   | £                         | £                         |
| B1 Cash Funds Details                              |                       |                     |                           |                           |
| Cash and bank balances at                          |                       |                     |                           |                           |
| start of year                                      | 3,890                 | -                   | 3,890                     | 2,061                     |
| Surplus / (deficit) shown on receipts and payments |                       |                     |                           |                           |
| account  | (1,220)               | -                   | (1,220)                   | 1,829                     |
|  |                       |                     |                           |                           |
| Cash and bank balances at end of year              | 2,671                 | -                   | 2,671                     | 3,890                     |

|                 | Fund to which asset | Current |                  |
|-----------------|---------------------|---------|------------------|
| B3 Other assets | belongs             | Value   | <b>Last Year</b> |
| IT Equipment    | Unrestricted Fund   | 419     | 627              |

### **C1 Nature and Purpose of Funds**

Unrestricted funds are those that may be used at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the aims and objectives of the organisation and for the day-to-day running expenses.

Restricted funds may only be used for specific purposes as specified by the donor.

### **C4a Trustee Expenses**

| Details  | Number of<br>Trustees | £   |
|--|-----------------------|-----|
| Reimbursed our Child Protection Officer the registration fee to attend the IGPP conference on Countering Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation Online 2024 | 1                     | 119 |

### **Additional Analysis**

| 4 Payments relating directly to charitable activities | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted<br>Funds | Total<br>2023-24 | Total<br>2022-23 |
|---|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
|   | £                  | £                   | £                | £                |
| Equipment   | 176                | <u>-</u>            | 176              | 300              |
| Insurance   | 276                | -                   | 276              | 212              |
| PAT Test & License                                    | -                  | -<br>-              | -                | -                |
| Domain Registration                                   | -                  | -                   | -                | -                |
| Sundry Expenses (snacks & soft drinks)                | 878                | -                   | 878              | -                |
| Office Supplies                                       | -                  | -                   | -                | 21               |
|   |                    |                     |                  |                  |
| Total   | 1,330              | -                   | 1,330            | 532              |



### **Notes to financial statement**

### **Basis of accounting**

The financial statement has been prepared in accordance with the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 and Statement of Recommended Practice — Accounting and Reporting by Charities. The accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments basis.

### Nature and purpose of funds

Unrestricted funds are those that may be used at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the aims and objectives of the organisation and for the day-to-day running expenses.

Restricted funds may only be used for specific purposes as specified by the donor.

#### **Fixed assets**

Fixed assets are assessed as to whether there are indications of impairment.

| IT Equipment | 2023    | 2024          |
|--------------|---------|---------------|
|              | Cost    | Current Value |
|              | £627.00 | £419.00       |

### Independent examiner's report

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2024 which are set out on page 8.

### **Respective Responsibilities of 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 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the 2006 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 Examiner's Statement**

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts 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.

In the course of 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 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

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Amy Houston MENG CA

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