

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: SC048720

ANNUAL REPORT AND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1<sup>ST</sup> OCT 2019 - 31<sup>ST</sup> MAR 2020



Cultivate  
*Aberdeen*

CULTIVATE ABERDEEN SCIO  
GIVING COMMUNITIES THE POWER TO GROW

**CULTIVATE ABERDEEN SCIO**  
**(A Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation)**

**Annual Report & Financial Statements**  
**For the period ended**  
**31<sup>ST</sup> March 2020**

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## **Introduction**

Cultivate Aberdeen is a community initiative that provide food-growing and sustainable practice education and facilities to local areas across Aberdeen; with a vision to create kind, confident, and connected communities through the power of food. We recognise the importance of food, and sustainability education, and we want to empower the North East to think different about it.

By facilitating the creation of edible gardens, we aim to inspire the next generation of growers to make the Granite City a little greener. Working with a variety of delivery partners, including but not limited to; CFINE, Aberdeen's Sustainable Cities Food Partnership (SCFPA), and the RNCI we will make growing sustainable food as a defining characteristic of the city and influence decision makers to make policy change to support our aims to create a life-long engagement and positive impact on both people's attitudes towards food and the wider environment.

In Cultivate Aberdeen's second year of operation the charity has continued to grow from strength to strength, refining our existing programmes and delivery and bringing us closer to achieving our mission and vision. This report represents a shortened year from 1<sup>st</sup> Oct 2019 - 31<sup>st</sup> Mar 2020, put in place in agreement with the trustees to bring our reporting year in line with the financial year.

Partnerships with The Older Peoples' Network, Communities Torry, The Eden Project, and numerous local community groups have enabled us to expand the knowledge of our proposals, build an active community base of campaigners and volunteers, establish our community consultation workshops, and achieve our first significant milestone for our St Fitticks' project in securing a licence to occupy from Aberdeen City Council.

We were also delighted to be supported by the NHS Grampian Health Improvement Fund and have an understanding that we will have success with two further grant proposals for Q3 2020.

Following our launch last year, we have engaged with over 300 individuals and over 20 partner organisations who share similar aims. It is noted that this is down from last year but accountable due to the change in reporting period and therefore only reflects a six-month reporting period. We have also recruited an additional 37 volunteers in this period.

Alongside launching our St Fitticks' Plans, further details outlined in our *Objects and Activities*, we also launched a new website with assistance from Form&Function (Edinburgh) who developed a positive user experience for individuals to better connect with us digitally, download useful resources, sign up to our campaigns and opportunities and help us reach a new audience of 771 users over 1,138 sessions.

**George Bellamy**

Founder and Chair of Trustees

**Trustees' Annual Report  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020**

The trustees are pleased to present their report and financial statements together with the independent examiner's report for the year ended 31 March 2020.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS**

<b>Charity Name</b>	Cultivate Aberdeen SCIO
<b>Charity Number</b>	SC048720
<b>Principal Address</b>	1 Marischal Square Board Street Aberdeen AB10 1BL
<b>Website Address</b>	<a href="http://www.cultivateaberdeen.co.uk">www.cultivateaberdeen.co.uk</a>
<b>Current Trustees</b>	George Bellamy Emma Lawford Lesley-Anne Mulholland Teresa Dufficy
<b>Other Trustees who served during the year</b>	James Currie
<b>Bankers</b>	Bank of Scotland 48-58 Upperkirkgate Aberdeen AB10 1BA
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	Alexander Angus James Mathers ACVO, New Jasmine House Aberdeen AB12 3BT

## **Structure Governance and Management Governing Document**

The Charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) having previously being a volunteer-led unincorporated association. Cultivate Aberdeen SCIO received charitable status on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2018 with the charity number SC048720.

### **Appointment of Trustees**

Cultivate Aberdeen SCIO is a two tier Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). The Board consists of;

- A minimum of three and a maximum of ten trustees
- At each AGM, the members may elect any member (unless he/she is debarred from membership under clause 55 to be a charity trustee)
- The board may at any time appoint any member (unless he/she is debarred from membership under clause 55) to be a charity trustee

### **Eligibility**

- A person will not be eligible for election or appointment to the board unless he/she is a member of the organisation
- A person will not be eligible for election or appointment to the board if he/she is:
  - Disqualified from being a charity trustee under the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005; or
- An employee of the organisation.
- At each AGM, all charity trustees must retire from office – but may then be re-elected under clause 58.
- A charity trustee retiring at an AGM will be deemed to have been re-elected unless:
  - he/she advises the board prior to the conclusion of the AGM that he/she does not wish to be re-appointed as a charity trustee; or
  - an election process was held at the AGM and he/she was not among those elected/re-elected through that process; or
  - a resolution for the re-election of that charity trustee was put to the AGM and was not carried.

### **Organisational Structure**

The trustees normally meet eight times per year to consider the business of the charity. The day-to-day operation of the charity is delegated to the Chairperson and two office bearers who provide detailed information to the Trustees.

Reference and administrative information set out on page 3 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements and the charity's constitution.

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

### **Objectives and Aims**

Cultivate Aberdeen's charitable objectives as declared in our Constitution are:

- a) The advancement of education in sustainable horticulture, and
- b) The relief of need of those disadvantaged by inability to source affordable food, and in furtherance of this by,
- c) The establishment of community growing spaces,
- d) The provision of education relating to growing, preparing, and cooking food, and
- e) Working in partnership with other bodies to achieve the purposes.

The Trustees take action to monitor and ensure that the charity acts to further these objectives in all its activities.

### **Vision, Mission, and Values**

**Vision:** To create kind, confident, and connected communities through the power of food growing

**Mission:** For people of all ages and communities to play a part in Aberdeen's sustainability

**Values:** Our core values are driven by being:

- Kind
- Connected
- Local, and
- Ambitious

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

### **Significant Activities**

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objectives:

- **Community Empowerment and Programme Development (Elderflower Network):**

Over the course of this reporting period, we have recruited 37 enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers and have delivered three key community workshops in Torry - supporting communities to connect, delivering a vision that solves their concerns around derelict land and disused green spaces, and empowered them to take steps with us to deliver on a kind, confident, and connected area for community growing.

We have started to make connections with health professionals and leading community health associations around mental health and wellbeing to develop a strategy to link social prescribing with our aims for a community garden in Torry.

Now one of the six pillars of the NHS's long-term plan, social prescribing is a growing movement which aims to restore an individual's health by connecting patients to services within their communities that are tailored to their interests and their needs. "Social prescribing plays a huge role in tackling loneliness and depression, which in turn can lead to poor physical health. By valuing an individual and bringing them back into the community, be it through dog walking, gardening, or simply having access to a garden, the pressure on the NHS services has been shown to drastically reduce", says National Garden Scheme CEO, George Plumptre.<sup>1</sup>

Developing on this research and in collaboration with local health delivery partners and professionals we aim to develop 'The Elderflower Network', connecting different generations with our growing projects, particularly at our flagship site, St Fitticks', and promote connected learning, supporting the benefits of the 'Natural Health Service' to reduce social isolation and loneliness and promote better health care and wellbeing through a more holistic and community-focused approach.

- **Investment in our Digital Presence**

In this financial year we have successfully developed our digital presence and supported connected learning through investing in resources and research which can be downloadable from our website.

This investment into our website has been us connect with over 700 (771) individuals digitally who have accessed our content and resources over 1,138 sessions. In addition to our in-person workshops and sessions we estimate to have reached 1,111 individuals in one form or another.

- **Launch of the Big Lunch**

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<sup>1</sup> A Winning Prescription, *National Open Garden Scheme*, [Accessed 20 September 2021].

Cultivate Aberdeen is excited to partner with Eden Project Communities to develop and launch The Big Lunch initiative in Aberdeen. The Big Lunch is the UK's annual date to celebrate neighbours and community and presents opportunities to celebrate community connections and get to know one another better. In March 2020 we were chosen as the host partner to launch this event in Aberdeen and were delighted by the positive engagement and response of the community. In addition to launching The Big Lunch and encouraging partners to pledge to host their own to celebrate community we held sessions on 'seed bomb making' for all ages, collaborated with The Big Noise, and laid the foundations for our St Fitticks' Edible Garden.

All of these achievements and milestones are in pursuit of our goals which are: the creation of community gardens for the furtherance of education in sustainable horticulture and the relief of need of those distanced by inability to source affordable food. The provision of community learning spaces and opportunities in order to support education programmes around growing, preparing, and cooking food, and developing and promoting collaborative working across Aberdeen and other bodies to achieve our purposes.

### **Additional Information**

Cultivate Aberdeen was established in 2018 by a University of Aberdeen student who, believing in the power of small actions, founded the charity as the answer to Aberdeen's need to have a dedicated organisation supporting food growing in the city and supporting those groups already making a difference within their communities.

In Cultivate Aberdeen's second year of operation, the charity has continued to grow, refining our existing programmes and delivery and bringing us closer to achieving our vision of creating kind, confident, and connected communities through the power of food growing. This report represents a shortened year from 1 Oct 2019 to 31 Mar 2020, put in place in agreement with the trustees to bring our reporting in line with the financial year.

Throughout the (shortened) reporting financial period we have been successful in establishing ourselves as a community initiative and charity that provides food growing and sustainable practice education and facilities to local areas across Aberdeen.

During this financial period, we have also been successful in securing funding from the NHS Grampian Health Improvement Fund, however, we have failed to secure any funding from alternative sources or capitalise on donations through a coordinated fundraising campaign. We have recognised this as a medium-term risk to our activities and have set plans in place to create a strong funding plan for the short-term in addition to a dynamic fundraising and commercial plan to deliver in 2022/2023.

We have worked with Aberdeen City Council, the Older People's Network, CFINE, and Communities Torry to ensure we have a wide reach both during our consultation period but also throughout the design and delivery of an Edible Garden based at St Fitticks' in one of Aberdeen's regeneration and SIMD areas; where our focus is to raise community engagement, support food growing initiatives, and promote horticultural therapy as a constituent part of wider social prescribing goals and objectives within the area.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

### **Financial Position**

The reporting period has been shortened to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 in order to be in line with the financial year. The accounts show a deficit of £5,567 during the six-month period compared to a surplus of £12,799 in 2019. Income was £2,230 compared to £15,055 in 2019. Expenditure for the year was £7,797 which is an increase on the year prior.

Cultivate Aberdeen are grateful to NHS Grampian in their financial support in furtherance of achieving our aims to deliver food growing and sustainable practice education and facilities to communities in Aberdeen.

### **Charitable Trusts and Foundations**

During the year, we were supported by the following trusts and foundations: NHS Grampian Health Improvement Fund.

### **Corporate Donations and Sponsorships**

We received no corporate donations or sponsorships during this reporting period.

### **In Kind Support**

Cultivate Aberdeen would like to express its sincere thanks to David Scott of Ledingham Chalmers, for providing pro bono consultancy support on securing our licence to occupy for our community edible garden site at St Fitticks', St Fitticks' Road, Torry, Aberdeen, AB11 9QT.

### **Individual Donors**

During this period, Cultivate Aberdeen received no individual donations and launched no fundraising campaign to capitalise on individual giving.

### **Reserves Policy**

All unrestricted funds held at the bank constitute our reserves policy and are for the delivery of our activities in line with our charity's purposes. On 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020, total reserves were £5,567. Of these, restricted funds were £5,399 and general funds £168.

### **Future Plans**

Whilst the outbreak of the COVID-19 Coronavirus Pandemic in March 2020 affected Cultivate Aberdeen's income and initial plans for that month and the future year - this has not been reported on in this set of annual accounts due to the change of reporting period.

### **Volunteer Programme**

For our Volunteer Programme, in 2020/2021 Cultivate Aberdeen will build on our existing model and develop several key volunteering roles around: Community Gardening, Community Clean-Up, Fundraising Volunteers, Digital, Student, and Corporate Volunteering opportunities. We plan to further develop the range of activities volunteers complete, addition additional volunteering and development opportunities to create a more holistic volunteering experience, measuring both the efficacy of their volunteering and also the effect participation in our programmes has on their wellbeing.

### **Eden Project's Big Lunch**

Cultivate Aberdeen is excited to partner with Eden Project Communities to develop and launch The Big Lunch initiative in Aberdeen. The Big Lunch is the UK's annual date to celebrate neighbours and community and presents opportunities to celebrate community connections and get to know one another better. In 2021 we will again be the launch partner for the city to encourage, foster, support partners to get involved with planning their own Big Lunch.

### **DECLARATION**

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Annual Report and Receipts and Payments Accounts above, for the period 1<sup>st</sup> Oct 2019 – 31<sup>st</sup> Mar 2020.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:



**George Bellamy**  
Chair of Trustees



**Lesley-Anne Mulholland**  
Trustee

**Date; 9<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**Receipts and Payments Accounts**

For the period ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020

		Enter charity name below					Enter SC No. below	
		Cultivate Aberdeen SCIO					SC048720	
<b>Receipts and payments accounts</b>								
For the period from	Period start date			to	Period end date			
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year	
	1	October	2019		31	March	2020	
<b>Section A Statement of receipts and payments</b>								
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Expendable endowment funds	Permanent endowment funds	Total funds current period	Total funds last period		
	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £		
<b>A1 Receipts</b>								
Donations					-	105		
Legacies					-			
Grants	2,230				2,230	14,950		
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					-			
					-			
<b>A1 Sub total</b>	<b>2,230</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,230</b>	<b>15,055</b>		
<b>A2 Receipts from asset &amp; investment sales</b>								
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets					-			
Proceeds from sale of investments					-			
<b>A2 Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>		
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>2,230</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,230</b>	<b>15,055</b>		
<b>A3 Payments</b>								
Expenses for fundraising activities					-			
Gross trading payments					-			
Investment management costs					-			
Payments relating directly to charitable activities	2,398	5,143			7,541	2,256		
Grants and donations					-			
Governance costs:					-			
Audit / independent examination					-			
Preparation of annual accounts					-			
Legal costs		256			256			
Other					-			
					-			
<b>A3 Sub total</b>	<b>2,398</b>	<b>5,399</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,797</b>	<b>2,256</b>		
<b>A4 Payments relating to asset and investment movements</b>								
Purchases of fixed assets					-			
Purchase of investments					-			
<b>A4 Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>		
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>2,398</b>	<b>5,399</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,797</b>	<b>2,256</b>		
<b>Net receipts / (payments)</b>	<b>(168)</b>	<b>(5,399)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(5,567)</b>	<b>12,799</b>		
<b>A5 Transfers to / (from) funds</b>								
					-			
<b>Surplus / (deficit) for year</b>	<b>(168)</b>	<b>(5,399)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(5,567)</b>	<b>12,799</b>		

## Statement of Balances

As of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020

						-	SC048720
<b>Section B Statement of balances</b>							
Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Expendable endowment funds	Permanent endowment funds	Total current period	Total last period
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Cash and bank balances at start of year	299	12,500			12,799	
	Surplus / (deficit) shown on receipts and payments account	(168)	(5,399)			(5,567)	
						-	
						-	
	Cash and bank balances at end of year	131	7,101	-	-	7,232	-
	(Agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))						12,799

### DECLARATION

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Annual Report and Receipts and Payments Accounts above, for the period 1<sup>st</sup> Oct 2019 – 31<sup>st</sup> Mar 2020.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:



**George Bellamy**  
Chair of Trustees



**Lesley-Anne Mulholland**  
Trustee

**Date; 9<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

#### Nature and Purpose of the Funds:

There is one restricted fund held by the charity from The National Lottery Awards for All for the purpose of ensuring our community garden at St Fitticks', St Fitticks' Road, Torry, AB11 9QT is accessible by providing a contribution to the cost of an accessible path network. In addition to the provision of volunteer tools and equipment along with the expenses incurred for any volunteer activity. We were also provided support for our core costs, covering our office, any incurred trustee expenses, website and advertising of our project and training for both trustees and volunteers. All other funds are unrestricted and used for the purposes of the charity.

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

**Cultivate Aberdeen SCIO, SC048720, Reporting Period 01 October 2019 to 31 March 2020**

**Set out on pages:**

**1-12**

### **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) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). 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 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.

### **Independent Examiner's Statement:**

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.

**Signed:**

AAJ MATHERS

**Date: 21/12/2021**

**Address: c/o ACVO, New Jasmine House, Aberdeen, AB12 3BT**