
**THE UNITED KINGDOM
ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ASSOCIATION**

**(Company limited by guarantee no. 2133283
registered charity no. 299498)**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2007**

THE UNITED KINGDOM ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ASSOCIATION
(Company limited by guarantee no. 2133283, registered charity no. 299498)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2007

CONTENTS

	Page
Report of the Council of Management	1
Reference and administrative details	7
Reporting accountants' report	8
Statement of financial activities	9
Balance sheet	10
Notes to the financial statements	11

THE UNITED KINGDOM ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ASSOCIATION

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT For the year ended 31 December 2007



**The United Kingdom Environmental Law Association
Making the law work for a better environment**

The UK Environmental Law Association (UKELA) aims to make the law work for a better environment. In its twentieth anniversary year, 2007 saw a leap forward for UKELA in partnership working, events planning and the overall activity level.

Overview

The highlights of the year were:

- input into significant level of Government legislative activity on climate change; regulatory reform (which included penalties reform as advocated by UKELA); planning; Environmental Liability Directive
- Northern Ireland Environmental Governance Review recommended setting up an independent Environment Agency, in line with UKELA's aims
- Wild Law workshop attracted an international audience and explored new ideas for addressing climate change through the law, particularly focusing on biofuels
- A web-based resource on environmental law, which will address gaps in the provision of environmental information to the public, developed further and additional funding was sought
- The 20th anniversary was celebrated at the annual conference in Bath
- More students, academics and environmental consultants joined UKELA as membership continued to grow
- Two member meetings were held in every region

The Charity appointed a number of Patrons during the year. We are pleased that Baroness Young of Old Scone, Chief Executive of the Environment Agency; Professor Sir Francis Jacobs KCMG, QC of Kings College London; Professor Richard Macrory of University College London and founder member of UKELA and Tom Burke CBE, Visiting Professor at Imperial and University Colleges, London, all accepted our offer to become a Patron. Their support to the organisation is invaluable.

THE UNITED KINGDOM ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ASSOCIATION

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT For the year ended 31 December 2007

The Council Members, who are also the Directors of the Charity for the purposes of company law and the Trustees for charity law purposes, submit their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the period 1st January - 31st December 2007. The Council Members confirm that the Annual Report and Financial statements of the charity comply with current statutory requirements and the requirements of the Charity's governing document, the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Objects

The primary objects of the Charity, which was established in 1986, are to promote for the benefit of the public generally the enhancement and conservation of the environment in the United Kingdom and in particular to advance the education of the public in all matters relating to the development, teaching, application and practice of law relating to the environment. There were no changes in objects during the year.

Organisation of the Charity

The role of the elected Council is to set the policy and direction of the organisation. In 2007 this included a thorough review of the Constitution which resulted in changes to the way in which the organisation is governed to bring it more up to date and to help streamline the way in which Council members are appointed. The 3 year strategic plan continued to be implemented by means of a 1 year work plan. The work is undertaken by the paid contractors and the organisation's many volunteers.

The Council met quarterly with a Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Treasurer. There were no changes to these posts during the year - Daniel Lawrence remained as Chairman, Peter Kellett remained as Vice-Chairman and Jim Drysdale remained as Treasurer.

Council Members undertake roles such as co-ordinating the Charity's Working Parties (Mark Brumwell handed over to Colleen Theron in February) and Regional Groups (Sarah Holmes handed over to Bridget Forster in February, who then handed over to Mark Poustie in July). The Company Secretary is Council member Michael Woods.

The paid contractors remained in place for the year with Vicki Elcoate as Executive Director and Alison Boyd as Member Support Officer. The Membership Secretary function continued to be provided by the Chartered Institution of Wastes Management.

Method of appointment or election of Council Members

Council members are elected annually by the members of the Charity at the Annual General meeting.

The Charity has no issued share capital or debentures, hence there are no directors' interests requiring disclosure.

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Conference at Bath University on 24 June 2007. Over 100 members were in attendance and they voted on and accepted the changes to the Constitution. At the AGM Andrew Bryce, founder member of UKELA who has held a number of key roles within the organisation, was awarded Honorary Membership in recognition of his achievements and support of the organisation.

Main activities and achievements during 2007

UKELA's work has been monitored against its strategic aims set out in its strategic plan, which began in July 2006 and runs until 2009.

Review of developments, activities and achievements

Aim 1: Influencing

We will develop a systematic approach to identifying and prioritising key issues for UKELA to take forward with a view to enhancing UKELA's reputation and profile domestically and internationally and to enhance awareness and knowledge of environmental law.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT For the year ended 31 December 2007

Key outcomes and activities:

Working Party input into the Climate Bill and other Government consultations on reducing Greenhouse Gas emissions; Regulatory Enforcement and Sanctions draft Bill which includes UKELA supported recommendations on administrative penalties and could lead to an environmental tribunal; report of the review of Environmental Governance in Northern Ireland recommended an independent Environment Agency and other measures supported by UKELA; substantial Working Party input into the Planning White Paper and its various "daughter" consultation papers, UKELA input into the Environmental Liability Directive consultation and complaints on consultation process, Better Regulation think tank and paper; four working parties secured new convenors and nearly all ended the year looking reasonably active.

Working parties covered the areas of Biotechnology, Contaminated Land, Corporate Due Diligence; Insurance and Liability, Nature Conservation, Planning and Sustainable Development, Environmental Litigation, Northern Ireland, Waste, Climate Change, Scottish Law, and Water. Steps were taken to improve the delivery of less active working parties.

The President, Lord Justice Carnwath, continued to provide support for UKELA's work.

Aim 2: Climate Change

To inform and actively influence the broad law and policy debate on climate change including the measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and manage their impacts at the international, EU and domestic level

The working party was very active in the first half of the year, particularly in influencing Parliamentary thinking on the workability of the draft Climate Bill's target and methodology; the Wild Law focus on climate change and particularly the biofuels case study generated much interest; the conference session discussing various aspects of climate change including nuclear, carbon capture and storage and flooding was well received.

Aim 3: Better regulation

To help deliver more effective and efficient environmental regulation including enforcement at the EU and UK level, not lower standards nor less regulation unless the same or better outcomes will be achieved

A think tank was held involving key decision and policy makers from the UK and the EU and a paper was published on better regulation. The Environmental Litigation Working Party aired concerns about some practical aspects of the Government's Regulatory Enforcement and Sanctions Bill by briefing members of the House of Lords and the Minister. Some UKELA members participated in a panel making recommendations on Access to Justice in Environmental Matters and planning to disseminate the panel's findings was put in hand.

Aim 4: Broaden the appeal

We will significantly increase and diversify UKELA's membership including representation on the strategic bodies

Achievements

The Membership Development Working Group kept member numbers under review and reported a 15% increase on individual and corporate members; Student numbers up 30%, academics 10% up and consultants up 6%, overall membership income target exceeded; paid up mailing list including corporate named contacts increased from 991 on Oct 2006 to 1,161 by the end of 2007. Council adopted an event pricing policy to attract a more diverse audience, including free places at most events for students. Sponsorship for the Wild Law workshop meant a more diverse attendance was

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT For the year ended 31 December 2007

possible. Over 80 students booked onto a careers advice social evening and gave positive feedback. The annual moot and article competitions were well supported and the quality of entries was excellent. Links were developed with other organisations and joint events and activities held to raise UKELA's profile with a wider audience.

Aim 5: Networking and communications

To promote and develop networking opportunities amongst individuals and organisations with an interest in environmental law and disseminate information about environmental law

Achievements

The annual conference proved very popular and secured mainly positive feedback (with Lord Justice Carnwath starting events by chairing a panel discussion and Stephen Tromans providing an entertaining reminiscence of the 20 years of UKELA); the conference papers were promptly published by Environmental Law and Management and sent to all members; some regional groups were reactivated and held events so that coverage was much improved and the target of two events per region was reached; a one day conference was held in Edinburgh; there was an increasing number of reciprocal offers with direct member benefits offered; London meetings grew in size and profile; the Wild Law workshop secured 44 delegates from 13 countries in partnership with two other organisations; the annual Garner lecture was held in partnership with the Journal of Environmental Law and UCL and featured the Indian environmental lawyer, M.C. Mehta to great acclaim; a new website published by Haymarket – the ENDS legal compliance manager – attracted input from UKELA members and income to the organisation; member communications became more reactive and topical; the website was kept up to date and all back copy e-laws appeared on it; a programme of website improvements started with a move to introduce a Content Management System.

Aim 6: Good governance

To ensure the management and leadership of UKELA complies with best practice in good governance and is statutorily compliant

Achievements

The new membership administration operation operated by the Chartered Institution of Wastes Management ran smoothly and opportunities to improve it were taken up including the introduction of a new membership number system; a new constitution – the first since the original was drafted – was put in place without discord; the operations manual was reviewed and updated as was the risk plan; training for trustees was provided; the working party guidelines were revised and clarified; the banking arrangements were changed to improve service and income although teething problems with the new bank proved painful.

Resources

Volunteer support

Council Members and other members of the Charity continued to provide their services free – on Working Parties, the Executive Committee, Regional Groups, and in other ways. UKELA enjoys a high level of support from engaged and expert volunteers who provided the governance, organisation of major events and advice on the formulation of UKELA's published views. It is fortunate to find such a reserve of enthusiasm amongst, on the whole, busy working professionals. UKELA is also grateful to the students who helped with events in 2007 and provided some much needed energy and enthusiasm – this is very much appreciated. The numerous speakers who also willingly give presentations, sometimes travelling long distances to do so, are the mainstay of much of the work UKELA does in informing, educating and provoking debate which further environmental law. Thanks go to all of you.

UKELA is particularly grateful to the chair, Daniel Lawrence, and vice-chair, Peter Kellett who completed their last full year in office. The commitment both have brought to these roles is immensely valued. The Treasurer, James Drysdale and his assistant, Gillian Proudfoot, also provided sterling service in some difficult circumstances.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT For the year ended 31 December 2007

UKELA is grateful to all its members who have helped the organisation deliver a good service to members and by providing expertise and enthusiasm for sound environmental law.

Paid support

UKELA had paid professional support Vicki Elcoate (Executive Director -strategic planning, policy development and communications) and Alison Boyd (Member Support Officer – regional groups, member development, events, mailings to members). UKELA is grateful to the Chartered Institution of Wastes Management in providing an efficient membership administration service for UKELA.

Sponsorship and Partnerships

UKELA enjoyed a high level of support from private companies and legal partnerships with related interests. Support was provided either in kind (e.g. by providing venues for meetings and administrative support) or by financial contributions.

- The UKELA conference would not have been possible without the support of the main sponsors 39 Essex Street and WSP. Others also sponsored various aspects of the conference.
- The UKELA mooting competition for 2006-2007 was kindly sponsored by No 5 Chambers and Sweet and Maxwell.
- UKELA is grateful to Herbert Smith for its continuing support for the programme of London meetings.
- The Garner lecture was kindly hosted and partly organised by UCL and sponsored by Brick Court Chambers.
- Environmental Law and Management kindly published the UKELA 2007 conference papers and we are grateful to the editor, Rachel Caldin, for her help at the conference in providing transcripts and for her editing.
- Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer generously hosted the student social and provided refreshments for over 60 students.
- The Wild Law conference was supported by the Body Shop Foundation and was organised in partnership with the Environmental Law Foundation and the Gaia Foundation.
- Thanks also go to Travers Smith and Lawrence Graham for hosting this year's Council meetings and to Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer for hosting this year's Executive Committee meetings.

Future Plans

UKELA's priorities for the year from 1 January 2008 are:

- Climate change and better regulation - as legislation continues through Parliament these issues will continue to be the focus of cross-cutting work by the working parties and Council and provide topics for regional meetings;
- The aims of boosting numbers of students/academics and environmental consultants will need further work;
- The e-library will enter the next phase of its development, with the aim to test and develop the format and go live;
- The conference will be the main event and is planned to be held at Kent University. Making it a greener conference will take up additional resources;
- Partnerships with other organisations will increase in importance and there are likely to be a number of joint initiatives, including national and regional events (on regulatory reforms, access to justice and with the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment);
- Wild Law work will focus on Wild Law indicators and practical examples from around the globe with a workshop in the autumn;
- The website is due to move onto a new technical basis to make it more user friendly and accessible;

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT For the year ended 31 December 2007

- Daniel Lawrence and Peter Kellett will stand down from Council and their roles as Chairman and Vice-Chair respectively so succession planning will be needed for those roles.

Financial Review and Reserves policy

The Charity ended the year with a small surplus as shown in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 9. The trustees had planned for a deficit because of their decision to invest some of the reserves in the work on developing the online resource on environmental law. However a higher than expected income from events, membership and other initiatives meant that the outcome was a small surplus. This increased the level of reserves to over £110,000, which provides an opportunity for further investment in 2008 in UKELA's various initiatives for the benefit of the public and the members.

UKELA keeps in reserve a sufficient sum to cover six months' payments to its contractors; any bills that might be outstanding in the event of the organisation having to wind up its affairs and enough to cover the annual conference liabilities in the event of an unforeseen cancellation. The sum of £50,000 is considered adequate for the purpose of meeting obligations to contractors and to cover other expenditure. This policy will be reviewed at least annually if there are no substantial changes to income or expenditure, or the level of risk UKELA faces. At present UKELA does not hold any designated funds other than sums paid for attendance at events, which are only designated until the event is held.

Preparation of the report

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small companies. It was approved by the Council of Management on 25 April 2007 and signed on its behalf by:

DANIEL LAWRENCE
Chairman

THE UNITED KINGDOM ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ASSOCIATION

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS For the year ended 31 December 2007

UKELA Council Members

Simon Boyle	Peter Kellett*
Mark Brumwell (1)	Richard Kimblin
Tim Clare (3)*	Daniel Lawrence*
Catherine Davey*	Steven McNab
Keith Davidson	Tom Mosedale
Jim Drysdale*	Mark Poustie (3)
Begonia Filgueira (3)	Colleen Theron
Bridget Forster (2)	Kenneth Ross
Elizabeth Hattan*	Stephen Sykes (3)
Sarah Holmes (1)	Michael Woods +
Neil Humphrey	
Tim Jewell	

Notes

The above Council members served throughout the period, and are still serving, except where otherwise stated, as follows:

- (1) stood down from Council February 2007
- (2) stood down from Council July 2007
- (3) elected to Council at AGM June 2007

* Members of Executive Committee during the period included – Daniel Lawrence (Chairman), Peter Kellett (Vice Chairman), Jim Drysdale (Treasurer), Mark Brumwell (until February), Tim Clare (from July), Catherine Davey, Elizabeth Hattan, Colleen Theron (from February)

+ UKELA Company Secretary

Company limited by guarantee No. 2133283
Registered Charity No. 299498

Registered Office: One St Paul's Churchyard
London EC4M 8SH

Reporting Accountants: Gotham Erskine LLP,
Friendly House,
52-58, Tabernacle Street,
London EC2A 4NJ

Bankers: Lloyds TSB Bank PLC
71, Lombard Street,
London EC3P 3BS (until October)

Royal Bank of Scotland plc
62/63 Threadneedle Street,
London, EC2R 8LA (from October)

**REPORTING ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT
to the Members on the unaudited financial statements of
THE UNITED KINGDOM ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ASSOCIATION**

We report on the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2007 set out on pages 9 to 11.

**RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT
AND REPORTING ACCOUNTANTS**

As described on page 10 the members of the Council of Management, who are also the directors of The United Kingdom Environmental Law Association for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, and they consider that the Charity is exempt from an audit. It is our responsibility to carry out procedures designed to enable us to report our opinion.

BASIS OF OPINION

Our work was conducted in accordance with the Statement of Standards for Reporting Accountants, and so our procedures consisted of comparing the financial statements with the accounting records kept by the Charity, and making such limited enquiries of the officers of the Charity as we considered necessary for the purposes of this report. These procedures provide only the assurance expressed in our opinion.

OPINION

In our opinion:

- (a) the financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records kept by the Charity under section 221 of the Companies Act 1985;
- (b) having regard only to, and on the basis of, the information contained in those accounting records:
 - i. the financial statements have been drawn up in a manner consistent with the accounting requirements specified in section 249C(6) of the Act; and
 - ii. the Charity satisfied the conditions for exemption from an audit of the financial statements for the year specified in section 249A(4) of the Act as modified by section 249A(5) and did not, at any time within that year, fall within any of the categories of companies not entitled to the exemption specified in section 249B(1).

Gotham Erskine LLP
Chartered Accountants
Friendly House
52 - 58 Tabernacle Street
London
EC2A 4NJ

Date:

THE UNITED KINGDOM ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(incorporating income and expenditure account)
For the year ended 31 December 2007

	2007	2006
	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES		
Membership subscriptions	56,860	46,375
Tax reclaimed through Gift Aid on qualifying subscriptions	2,140	6,838
Regional meetings and subscriptions	1,545	1,702
Annual conference:		
Attendance fees	73,791	57,750
Sponsorship	12,275	21,575
Seminar income	1,300	4,580
ENDS income	2,865	-
Wild Law conference income	6,667	3,707
Interest receivable	4,253	1,986
Other income	1,607	886
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	163,303	145,399
RESOURCES EXPENDED		
Annual Conference expenses	68,704	60,181
Executive director's fees & expenses	21,389	17,850
Company secretary's fees & expenses	-	5,750
Membership fees & expenses	8,495	9,998
Member support officer's fees & expenses	14,127	9,710
Membership and subscriptions	1,810	203
Garner Lecture costs	30	259
Wild Law conference expenditure	6,704	2,083
Other meeting and conference expenses	568	800
Fundraising	-	429
Travel expenses	1,792	1,206
Training	646	690
Photocopying, printing and mailing	1,472	4,356
Stationery	2,000	922
E-Library consultancy	22,237	-
Website	222	812
Essay prizes	-	433
Telephone and fax	864	750
Insurance	866	-
Office equipment	-	787
Reporting accountants' fees including accounts preparation and advice	2,068	2,538
Other legal and professional	2,455	-
Sundry expenses	811	659
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	157,260	120,416
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	6,043	24,983
GENERAL FUND AT 31 DECEMBER 2006	105,460	80,477
GENERAL FUND AT 31 DECEMBER 2007	£ 111,503	£ 105,460

NOTE

The Charity had no restricted funds during the year except that Wild Law conference income included a grant of £2,000 towards the event and Other income included a donation of £200 for the e-library, both of which were spent within the year.

The annexed notes form part of these financial statements.

THE UNITED KINGDOM ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ASSOCIATION
(Company limited by guarantee)

BALANCE SHEET
As at 31 December 2007

	£	2007 £	£	2006 £
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors (see Note 3)	-		3,080	
Cash at bank and in hand	115,341		109,697	
	<u>115,341</u>		<u>112,777</u>	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year (see Note 4)	(3,838)		(7,317)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS		111,503		105,460
NET ASSETS/TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>£ 111,503</u>		<u>£ 105,460</u>
FUNDS				
General Fund (unrestricted)		<u>£ 111,503</u>		<u>£ 105,460</u>

The Council of Management is satisfied that the Charity is entitled to exemption under Section 249A(1) of the Companies Act 1985 and that no member or members have requested an audit pursuant to section 249B(2) of the Act.

The Council of Management acknowledges its responsibilities for:

- (i) ensuring that the Charity keeps proper accounting records which comply with Section 221 of the Companies Act 1985; and
- (ii) preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity as at the end of the financial year and of its profit or loss for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of Section 226 of the Companies Act 1985, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of this Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the Charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small companies and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2007). They were approved, and authorised for issue, by the Council of Management on 30 April 2008 and signed on its behalf by:-

DANIEL LAWRENCE, Chairman

JAMES DRYSDALE, Treasurer

The annexed notes form part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 December 2007

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below, have remained unchanged from the previous year and have been consistently applied.

Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2007), the Companies Act 1985, the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" published in March 2005 and applicable accounting standards.

Company status

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the Charity.

Incoming resources

Annual subscriptions, which are payable on 1 January and run for a calendar year, are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities evenly over the calendar year provided that they are received before the financial year-end. Subscriptions received for that calendar year after the year-end are taken to income wholly in the following financial year. Conference income is recognised in the accounting year in which the conference is held.

Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for gross and when incurred except for conference expenditure which is recognised at the time that the conference concerned is held.

2. COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT

None of the members of the Council of Management (2006 - same), who are the directors for company law purposes and the trustees for charity law purposes, received any remuneration from the Charity (2006 - same). During the year 5 members of the Council of Management (2006 - 4) were reimbursed travel and subsistence expenses totalling £821 (2006 - £864).

3. DEBTORS

	2007	2006
	£	£
Prepaid conference expenditure	-	3,080
	<u>£ Nil</u>	<u>£ 3,080</u>

4. CREDITORS

	2007	2006
	£	£
Trade creditors	1,770	5,343
Accruals	2,068	1,974
	<u>£ 3,838</u>	<u>£ 7,317</u>

5. COMMITMENTS

The Charity is committed to continuing work on the e-library. The expected cost for 2008 is £23,000.