
**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 2006**

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 2006

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THE UNITED KINGDOM ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ASSOCIATION

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

For the year ended 31 December 2006



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

UKELA Council Members

Simon Boyle	Peter Kellett*
Mark Brumwell*	Richard Kimblin
Catherine Davey*	Daniel Lawrence*
Keith Davidson	Brian Masterson (3)
Jim Drysdale*	Steve McNab
Tom Mosedale (2)	Neil Humphrey
Valerie Fogleman (1)	Colleen Theron
Bridget Forster	Kenneth Ross
Martha Grekos (1)	Stephen Sykes (4)
Elizabeth Hattan*	Tim Jewell (2)
Sarah Holmes	Andrew Wiseman (1)*
Michael Woods (2)+	

Notes

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

- (1) stood down from Council at AGM 1 July 2006
- (2) elected to Council at AGM 1 July 2006
- (3) resigned from Council 3 February 2006
- (4) co-opted on to Council 5 July 2006

* Members of Executive Committee during the period included – Andrew Wiseman (Chairman up to 1 July 2006), Daniel Lawrence (Vice Chairman from 24 February 2005 to 5 July 2006, thereafter Chairman), Peter Kellett (Vice Chairman from 5 July 2006), Jim Drysdale (Treasurer), Mark Brumwell, Catherine Davey, Elizabeth Hattan

+ 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
Friendly House
52-58 Tabernacle Street
London EC2A 4NJ

Bankers: Lloyds TSB Bank PLC
71 Lombard Street
London EC3P 3BS

THE UNITED KINGDOM ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ASSOCIATION

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT For the year ended 31 December 2006

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 2006. 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, its 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 2006 this included drawing up a new three year strategic plan. The work is implemented by a small staff team and a much larger number of volunteers.

The Charity's President changed during the year. The Rt. Hon Lord Slynn of Hadley stood down after fourteen years in the role. UKELA expressed its gratitude for his help, support and encouragement at the annual Garner lecture in December. He will continue his links with the organisation in an honorary role. Lord Justice Carnwath succeeded Lord Slynn as President. Sir Robert has been a Lord Justice of Appeal since September 2001, having been a Judge of the High Court, Chancery Division, from 1994.

The Council met quarterly with a Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Treasurer. During the year Daniel Lawrence succeeded Andrew Wiseman as Chairman, and Peter Kellett succeeded Daniel Lawrence as Vice-Chairman.

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

The team of paid executives changed during the year. In June the General Secretary, Dr Christina Hill, DL, left the organisation after many years with the organisation. The Membership Secretary Richard Bines stood down and the provision of this service has transferred to the Chartered Institution for Wastes Management. The paid executives are now the Executive Director, Vicki Elcoate, and Member Support Officer, Alison Boyd.

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 Annual Conference at Warwick University on 1st July. Over 100 members were in attendance. This was an opportunity to make a presentation and thank Andrew Wiseman for his hard work during 3 years as Chairman and to thank Christina Hill for her work as General Secretary.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT For the year ended 31 December 2006

Main activities and achievements during 2006

The UK Environmental Law Association (UKELA) aims to make the law work for a better environment. During the year a new strategic plan was introduced which focuses on climate change and better regulation as key areas for influence and emphasises the need to broaden the organisation's appeal by building a more diverse membership and set of activities.

Overview

The highlights of the year were:

- Working to influence government reviews on better regulation and environmental enforcement as part of efforts to improve access to justice in environmental matters
- Raising the profile of the concept of wild law, which challenges current models of jurisprudence, by holding a major event and securing national media coverage
- Investing surplus funds into developing an e-library on environmental law which will go ahead in 2007
- Working with all the main political parties as they develop their green agendas
- Busier programme of events for members especially outside London, including the annual conference at Warwick University
- Popular student event which aimed to inform more young people about environmental law professions
- Scottish conference in Edinburgh held with significant student involvement
- Consolidating guidance on the Charity's operations and drawing up a plan to minimise risk to the organisation

Aims and objectives

UKELA came to the end of a three year strategic plan period and launched its new strategic plan in July. It set itself the following six aims to achieve by 2009:

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.

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

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

Aim 4: Broaden the appeal

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

Aim 5: Networking

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

Aim 6: Good governance

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

This annual review includes reporting on the outcomes from the previous plan and initial work under the new plan.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT For the year ended 31 December 2006

The previous aims were:

- 1: To encourage the development of environmental law for a better environment and promote the effective implementation of it
 - 2: To promote and provide access to information on environmental law to a wide audience
 - 3: To promote discussion and networking opportunities amongst those interested in environmental law
- As well as an underpinning fourth aim:
To build and strengthen the organisation so it can deliver its other aims consistent with the overall objectives for UKELA

Review of developments, activities and achievements

Aim 1: To encourage the development of environmental law for a better environment and promote the effective implementation of it/Influencing/Climate Change/Better Regulation

Key outcomes and activities:

- The Climate Change Working Party led initiatives to encourage an effective Government response to the challenge of climate change, including welcoming the broad principles of the new Climate Change Bill. This issue also provided the main theme for the memorial Garner Lecture with Professor Malcolm Forster concluding: “there is a real danger that while the world is blinking into awareness of monumental environmental challenges, we’ll glimpse the promised land of what we can do to address them...but never get there”.
- Panel established in Northern Ireland to review environmental governance, following pressure by UKELA and others, with establishment of an independent environment agency as a priority
- Plans were advanced to establish think tanks on key areas including climate change and better regulation with the first meeting being arranged for early 2007
- Input to the Defra review of environmental enforcement which resulted in support for administrative penalties which UKELA has been promoting for some time
- UKELA’s Working Parties held 20 meetings throughout the year. They covered the areas of Biotechnology, Contaminated Land, Insurance and Liability, Integrated Pollution Control, Nature Conservation, Planning and Sustainable Development, Environmental Litigation, Waste, Climate Change, Scottish Law, and Water. Steps were taken to improve the delivery of less active working parties.
- A new Corporate Due Diligence Working Party was established with its aims including enabling collaboration, developing best practice and improving integration across sectors
- The working parties made the following submissions to government and statutory bodies: PPS25 on development and flood risk; Defra review of Environmental Enforcement; Better Regulation Executive review of Regulatory Justice Sanctioning in a Post-Hampton World; the Government’s Energy Policy Review; Defra’s draft Phase II NAP consultation; Environmental Governance in Northern Ireland; Defra-DCLG consultation on the interface between Planning and Pollution Control

Aim 2: To promote and provide access to information on environmental law to a wide audience

Key activities:

- A conference at Brighton University on the subject of Wild Law attracted 100 people from a diversity of backgrounds. This was followed by a weekend workshop led by the South African lawyer and author, Cormac Cullinan. Stimulating discussion about new ways for environmental law to protect the environment more effectively is a crucial element of UKELA’s work and this attracted national media attention.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT For the year ended 31 December 2006

- A major bid to the Big Lottery Fund to support better access to environmental information by setting up an e-library on environmental law was unsuccessful. But efforts to develop the e-library project further were sustained and Council agreed to invest some of its 2006 surplus into setting up the framework and some of the content of the e-library in 2007.
- Attracting young people to environmental law and providing information to them is a main work strand for UKELA. During the year two mooting competitions and an article competition were held, organised by UKELA council member Martha Grekos and sponsored by No 5 Chambers and Sweet and Maxwell. A student social which attracted nearly 100 students and linked them with professionals who could advise on career opportunities, was kindly hosted by the law firm Ashurst.
- Seven press releases were published and various articles provided for specialist publications including a regular UKELA column in Environment Business magazine
- Five editions of UKELA's journal e-law were produced under the editorship of Catherine Davey
- Website improvements continued to improve its usefulness and help provide information about environmental law
- The 2003/4 conference papers were published on a CD and the 2005 papers were published on the UKELA website, but disappointingly the 2006 papers were unable to be published because of a lack of input from speakers at the event.

Aim 3: To promote discussion and networking opportunities amongst those interested in environmental law/Networking

Key activities:

- UKELA's annual conference was held at Warwick University, organised by a team from UKELA's Council. About 200 delegates attended and sessions included Corporate Social Responsibility and investors, Nanotechnology, Climate Change, Better Regulation, Waste and Hot Cases. The guest speaker was the Rt. Hon. Lord Kingsland QC, Shadow Lord Chancellor.
- Plans for the 2007 conference at Bath University, which will celebrate UKELA's 20th anniversary, were well advanced
- An active programme of meetings was held in London with an average attendance of 50 and subjects included penalties for environmental offences, environmental insurance, ecological assessments, waste and WEEE
- There were active regional groups in the North East, East Anglia, Scotland, the South West and East Midlands with ten meetings held
- UKELA's activities in Wales were relaunched with seminars on the work of the Welsh Assembly and nature conservation
- A one day conference in Edinburgh was popular and attracted a significant number of student participants

Aim 4:

To build and strengthen the organisation so it can deliver its other aims consistent with the overall objectives for UKELA/Broadening the Appeal/Good governance

Key activities:

- UKELA's operational guidelines were overhauled and updated and a risk plan was developed with action taken to address some of the key risks. All the trustees were involved in this process
- This led to the start of a constitutional review process, which will take place in early 2007
- The successor Strategic Plan to 2009 was put in place on time
- The membership subscriptions were reviewed and a new membership leaflet produced

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT For the year ended 31 December 2006

- 1200 letters promoting UKELA membership were mailed and a strategy developed for attracting more environmental consultants to membership
- The year overall showed increases in nearly all categories of membership
- Discounts at several events and conferences run by other organisations were negotiated for UKELA members
- Several long standing financial problems were addressed: the invoicing system was improved; a Gift Aid claim back-dated to 2000 was submitted to maximise income from donations; steps were taken to make the operation of the regional bank accounts more efficient and accountable, or to close them down if this was impossible. These steps led to a surplus above budget expectations in 2006

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 plans to broaden its support by developing its appeal to students, and non-lawyers – particularly environmental consultants, academics and students. 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 from Christina Hill (General Secretary – legal compliance and administration), who left the organisation in June; Vicki Elcoate (Executive Director - strategic planning, policy development and communications); Richard Bines (Membership Secretary – membership database, subscription renewals, member mailings), who left the organisation in November; and Alison Boyd (Member Support Officer – regional groups, member development, events and who took over the mailings to members from the Membership Secretary). UKELA now has a resource-sharing arrangement with the Chartered Institution of Wastes Management to provide a 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 Landmark, AIG and WSP. Others also sponsored various aspects of the conference.
- The UKELA mooting competition for 2005-2006 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.
- Ashurst kindly hosted the student social and provided mince pies and mulled wine for nearly 100 students.
- The Wild Law conference was generously supported by Brighton University and Argyll Environmental and was organised in partnership with the Environmental Law Foundation, the Gaia Foundation and Gaia Law. The facilitation of the weekend workshop was generously provided by professional mediator Elizabeth Rivers.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT For the year ended 31 December 2006

Future Plans

UKELA's priorities for the year from 1 January 2007 are:

1. Developing the think tank methodology to push forward the boundaries on how environmental law can address climate change and how regulation can deliver a better environment
2. Securing an independent environment agency in Northern Ireland
3. Increasing membership by students, academics and environmental consultants and doing more to meet their needs
4. Ensuring that UKELA is active in all the regions and delivers a programme of London meetings
5. Organising the annual conference 2007 at Bath University and celebrating 20 years of UKELA
6. Implementing phase 1 of the project to develop an e-library on environmental law in partnership with Cardiff University
7. Further improvements to the website www.ukela.org to include more information on environmental law as well as improving systems for communicating with members.

Financial Review and Reserves policy

The Charity achieved a healthy surplus for the year as shown in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 9. This was in part due to a back-dated Gift Aid tax claim based on eligible membership subscriptions but membership levels have also seen growth.

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

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 2006 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
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 2006

	Year ended 31 December 2006	7 months to 31 December 2005
	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES		
Membership subscriptions	46,375	28,542
Tax reclaimed through Gift Aid on qualifying subscriptions - backdated to 2000	6,838	-
Regional meetings and subscriptions	1,702	622
Annual conference:		
Attendance fees	57,750	58,256
Sponsorship	21,575	18,015
Seminar income	4,580	2,014
Wild Law conference income	3,707	-
Interest receivable	1,986	1,341
Other income	886	-
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	145,399	108,790
RESOURCES EXPENDED		
Annual Conference expenses	60,181	51,385
Executive director's fees & expenses	17,850	10,899
Company secretary's fees & expenses	5,750	6,583
Membership secretary's fees & expenses	9,998	7,983
Member support officer's fees & expenses	9,710	801
Membership and subscriptions	203	501
Garner Lecture costs	259	771
Wild Law conference expenditure	2,083	-
Other meeting and conference expenses	800	2,183
Fundraising	429	-
Travel expenses	1,206	1,138
Training	690	300
Photocopying, printing and mailing	4,356	48
Stationery	922	-
Website	812	1,237
Essay prizes	433	60
Telephone and fax	750	-
Office equipment	787	-
Reporting accountants' fees including accounts preparation and advice	2,538	2,585
Sundry expenses	659	33
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	120,416	86,507
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	24,983	22,283
GENERAL FUND AT 1 JUNE 2005	80,477	58,194
GENERAL FUND AT 31 DECEMBER 2006	£ 105,460	£ 80,477

NOTE

The Charity has no restricted or capital funds.

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 2006

	£	2006 £	£	2005 £
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors (see Note 3)	3,080		19,470	
Cash at bank and in hand	109,697		85,762	
	<u>112,777</u>		<u>105,232</u>	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year (see Note 4)	(7,317)		(24,755)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS		105,460		80,477
NET ASSETS/TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>£ 105,460</u>		<u>£ 80,477</u>
FUNDS				
General Fund (unrestricted)		<u>£ 105,460</u>		<u>£ 80,477</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 2005). They were approved, and authorised for issue, by the Council of Management on 25 April 2007 and signed on its behalf by:-

_____ DANIEL LAWRENCE, Chairman

_____ PETER KELLETT, Vice Chairman

The annexed notes form part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 December 2006

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 2005), 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

2. COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT

None of the members of the Council of Management, who are the directors for company law purposes and the trustees for charity law purposes, received any remuneration from the Charity (2005 - the same). During the period 4 members of the Council of Management (2005 - 4) were reimbursed travel and subsistence expenses totalling £864 (2005 - £912).

3. DEBTORS

	2006	<i>2005</i>
	£	£
Lecture and seminar income receivable	-	1,455
Conference sponsorship	-	18,015
Prepaid conference expenditure	3,080	-
	£ 3,080	<i>£ 19,470</i>

4. CREDITORS

	2006	<i>2005</i>
	£	£
Trade creditors	5,343	22,170
Accruals	1,974	2,585
	£ 7,317	<i>£ 24,755</i>

5. COMMITMENTS

At the year end the Charity had agreed to spend £22,000 on the e-library project.