



Annual Report and Financial Statements

Year End 31 March 2021

Autism Wessex

Company Number: 2506982

Registered Charity Number: 1000792








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Message from the Chair

It gives me great pleasure to introduce the annual report and financial statements for the year to March 2021.

What a year it has been! I have been overwhelmed with pride and admiration for the unbelievable courage, dedication and care shown by our teams across the charity. The environment in our school, care homes and in the communities we work in was turned on its head, but our brave and determined staff left no stone unturned to ensure the safety of our client groups and colleagues. I am also very grateful to all the other organisations, groups and authorities who have offered support over the period.

Whilst we had to invest a lot of time and energy to step up to the challenges of Covid-19, we continued to keep focused on the strategic plan, maintaining the sound financial footing and building for our future beneficiaries.

A key part of the ongoing development of the charity has been to revisit our brand identity. After much growth over the last few years, the time is now right to re-iterate our core values, increase our public persona and to bring some uniformity to all of our brand collateral.

At the time of writing this report, we are in the final stages of research and development and work begins in the next few weeks on updating our collateral and developing a new website. The re-launch is planned for November 2021, and I look forward to sharing details of this with you nearer the time.

In Adult Services, we continued to increase our supported living provision whilst reviewing our residential portfolio. A new seven unit supported living residence, Aspire, was opened in February 2021 in Bournemouth, collaborating with a national housing association. At the same time, we closed the doors of our Manor Road care home, whilst continuing to support the outgoing residents in their new homes.

Portfield School continued to meet demand with the addition of another class. A number of structural changes were made to enhance the education and therapy provision. This development provides education, therapeutic input and increased positive behaviour support. Valuable additions were also made to the therapy team, giving further support to student development. Despite the Covid outbreak, students continued to enjoy a wide offering of activities and development opportunities, albeit through different approaches. The school remained open throughout the year, thanks to the formidable efforts of the school staff team.

Plans for the opening of the Chris Page Centre continued, although Covid put paid to the plans to open in 2020. The Chris Page Centre will offer assessments and diagnoses locally; addressing community needs for shorter waiting lists and avoiding lengthy travel.

Our Community Connection Service, which provides information and signposts people, made important strides. It has also provided valuable insight and has highlighted needs that will feed into our future development plans.

The Sensory Multi Use Games Area was completed in April and has been a massive hit with the children at the school. New trampolines were fundraised for and installed as was the first part of an amazing new school playground. We are very grateful to all our generous donors for their invaluable contributions.

We welcomed Meherzin Das, Mark Brosnan and Andrew Willshire as new trustees. Jonathan Beebee, Martin James, Adrian Trevett and Elaine Eager retired as trustees during the year and I would like to extend my thanks to them for their wonderful contributions to the charity.

I would also like to thank the rest of the Trustee Board and to Siún Cranny, Chief Executive, and the rest of her management team, for the amazing way they have steered the charity through the challenges of the last year.

Our volunteers, donors and supporters give so generously and are fundamental to our work, I would like to take the opportunity to thank them too, for everything they do for our charity and the differences they make to people's lives.

I leave my final thanks and gratitude to the Autism Wessex workforce, who have taken heroism to a new level this last year. It would be wrong to hold out any particular individual as it has been a monumental team effort, but what we achieve as Autism Wessex is not possible without each and every of them.

Malcolm Farrell,
Chairman, Autism Wessex



Trustees' Annual Report

Incorporating the Directors'
and Strategic Report





Autism Wessex - our vision and strategy

Established in 1968, and originally founded by parents of children with autism, the charity provides high quality specialist care and education to children and adults with autism and supports their families and carers. We currently work across the counties of Dorset, Hampshire, Somerset, and Wiltshire.

Our vision

Our vision is a world where people with autism are active citizens enjoying maximum independence and a good quality of life.

Our mission

- To provide consistent, high quality education, care and support to anyone affected by autism.
- To raise awareness and promote understanding.

Our promises

- ✓ To the people we work for: We promise we'll listen to you and work with you to help you achieve your ambitions and fulfill your potential.
- ✓ To our commissioners: We promise to listen and to develop solutions that are cost effective.
- ✓ To those who donate: We promise to use your donations wisely and carefully to transform the lives of those we serve.
- ✓ To our colleagues: We promise to value you, involve you and to communicate with you in an accessible way.

Our Services

Residential Homes

We operate six residential homes for adults across the region for small group living in the community. Each home employs specially trained staff and provides a safe, supportive and positive environment, ensuring that personal interests, hobbies and needs are considered and met.

Community Support Service

We provide supported living services to people of all ages in their own homes and in the community. We provide services across the counties of Dorset, and parts of Somerset and Hampshire. Our commitment is to provide every single person we support with the framework to identify the opportunities that are available to them, make considered choices about what they want to achieve and work in partnership to successfully achieve those aims. The Community Support Service has offices in Christchurch and Dorchester.

Portfield School

Portfield School is a thriving non-maintained school for 90 pupils in purpose-built accommodation in Parley, near Christchurch, and at its 14-plus 'Life Skills' facility in Christchurch. The school specialises in education for children and young people from ages of 4 to 19 with a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Condition.

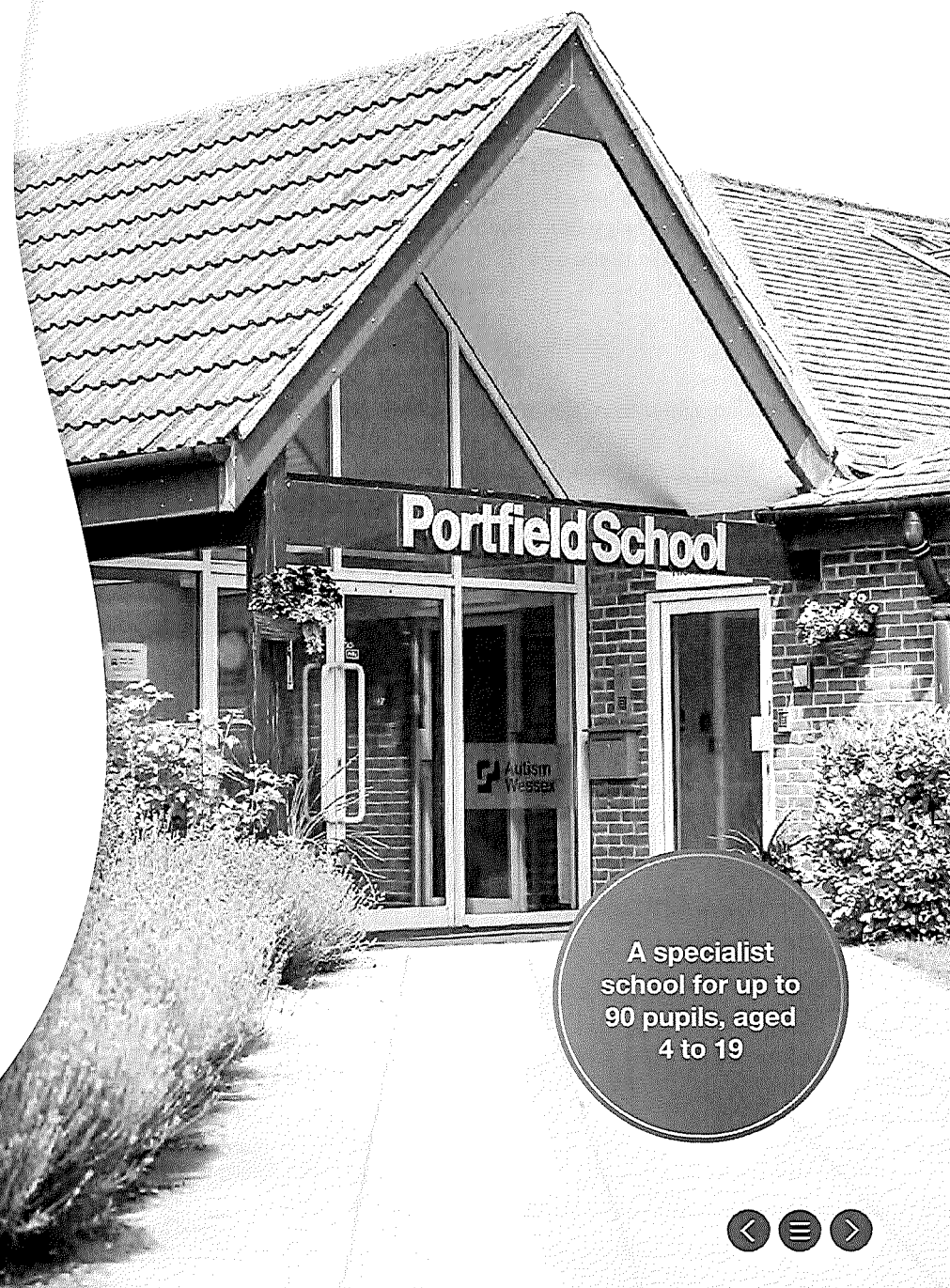
Community Connection Service

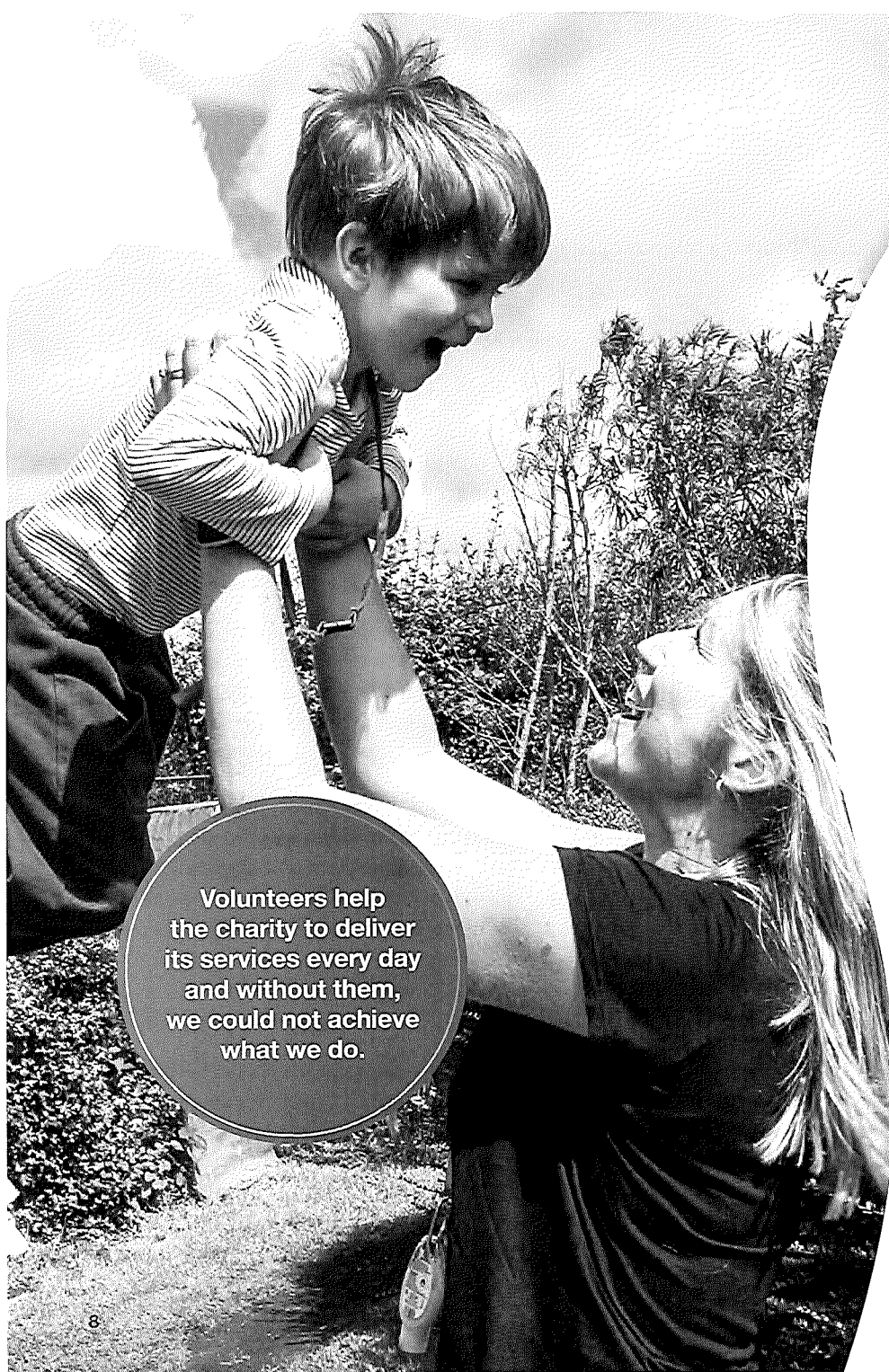
Our Community Connector provides signposting and information on autism and associated conditions and can help with:

- your or your child's education options
- support in education
- training for professionals in education
- education resources
- how to talk about you or your child's condition

Charity Hub

Our business support functions comprise the Chief Executive, Finance, IT, HR, Facilities and Fundraising.





**Volunteers help
the charity to deliver
its services every day
and without them,
we could not achieve
what we do.**



Public Benefit Statement

The charity's trustees have given due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and to its supplementary guidance in respect of fee charging charities.

The trustees are satisfied that, through its primary activities, the charity provides identifiable benefits and that these are consistent with its charitable objects. The trustees do not consider that these activities produce any identifiable detriment or harm.

The trustees are satisfied that the benefits provided by the charity are available to beneficiaries consistent with its charitable aims – people with autism, learning difficulties and mental health difficulties and their families/carers.

In acknowledging that the charity charges fees for many of its services the trustees are satisfied that no individual is unreasonably restricted through action by the charity from benefiting from its activities through an inability to pay and/or through poverty.

The trustees are satisfied that any private benefit is incidental to its public benefit activity.

Volunteers

The trustees gratefully acknowledge the contribution of volunteers who provide support for service delivery activities and fundraising events. Volunteers help the charity to deliver its services every day and without them, we could not achieve what we do. We are privileged to be able to call on many volunteers who themselves have experience of autism: they enrich our lives, provide advice and help us continually improve what we do.

Strategic Report

The Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report Regulations 2013) requires the charity to prepare a strategic report. The strategic report comprises of the following sections:

- 1 Objectives and activities
- 2 Achievements and performance
- 3 Financial review
- 4 Plans for future periods

1 Objectives and activities

The Articles of Association state that the charity is: "For the public benefit for the provision of education, social care, advocacy and other support services to those whose lives are affected by autism, learning and developmental difficulties or mental health difficulties."

The charity's main activities undertaken in relation to those purposes are defined through its vision and mission statement.

Progress against strategic priorities

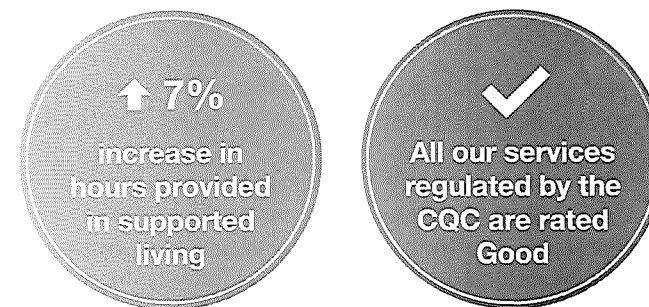
In 2017, the charity adopted the following strategic goals:

- Support more people affected by autism and associated difficulties.
- Raise awareness and acceptance of autism in the local community.
- Deliver our mission and vision as effectively and efficiently as possible.
- Become a robust and sustainable financial entity.

2 Achievements and performance in the past year

Community and residential services

Our Adult Services continued to grow with an overall increase in hours of 7% over the year. The share represented by supported living at the end of the year continued to increase from 45% to 58%. Much of this was driven by the opening of the Aspire residence, with seven residential units and the associated closure of the Manor Road care home in February 2021. We have continued to work with local authority commissioners to address the financial viability of services with some positive results but with more still to do.



The operation was largely impacted by the Covid epidemic but remained fully operational throughout. Considerable additional measures were implemented to manage infection control, including paying staff at normal wages whilst being required to self-isolate and the implementation of testing. Significant support was received from local authorities to help manage the additional resources and costs.

Given the current situation, we did not have any Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspections during the course of the year. All our services regulated by the CQC are rated Good.

Education

The school roll increased from 82 at the end of March 2020 to 89 at the end of March 2021. This increase was managed through the addition of a further class at Portfield. The school remained open throughout the Covid lockdowns, continuing to provide full services but adopting alternative approaches to ensure infection control measures were appropriately met.

The school introduced new Integrated Support Lead and Assistant roles to enhance the education and therapy provision. This development provides education, therapeutic input and increased positive behaviour support. Dance and music therapy have also been added to the overall offering.

Outdoor learning has continued to be enhanced with the opening of the Sensory Multi-Use Games Area, which has transformed sport and activity for students. The school has also benefitted from new trampolines and the first developments of a new playground.

Our people

Employees represent our greatest investment and are our most valuable asset. Acquiring and retaining the highest calibre talent is our priority. Our three-year people plan focusses on employee engagement; ensuring our people have the best possible experience. A fully interactive on-boarding platform, personal development and bespoke, accredited training programmes have been developed to encourage a positive culture and career progression where people wish to stay. The senior management team communicates regularly to the charity to ensure they are kept apprised of organisational issues and performance. The Staff Forum meets quarterly, with representation from across the charity, to ensure employee views are represented and considered.

Over the course of the year, significant focus was placed on supporting the mental health of colleagues, particularly with the backdrop of the pandemic and challenging working conditions. This included a further roll out of the Mental Health First Aiders, an increase in welfare calls, additional recognition payments and the sharing of individual care packages.

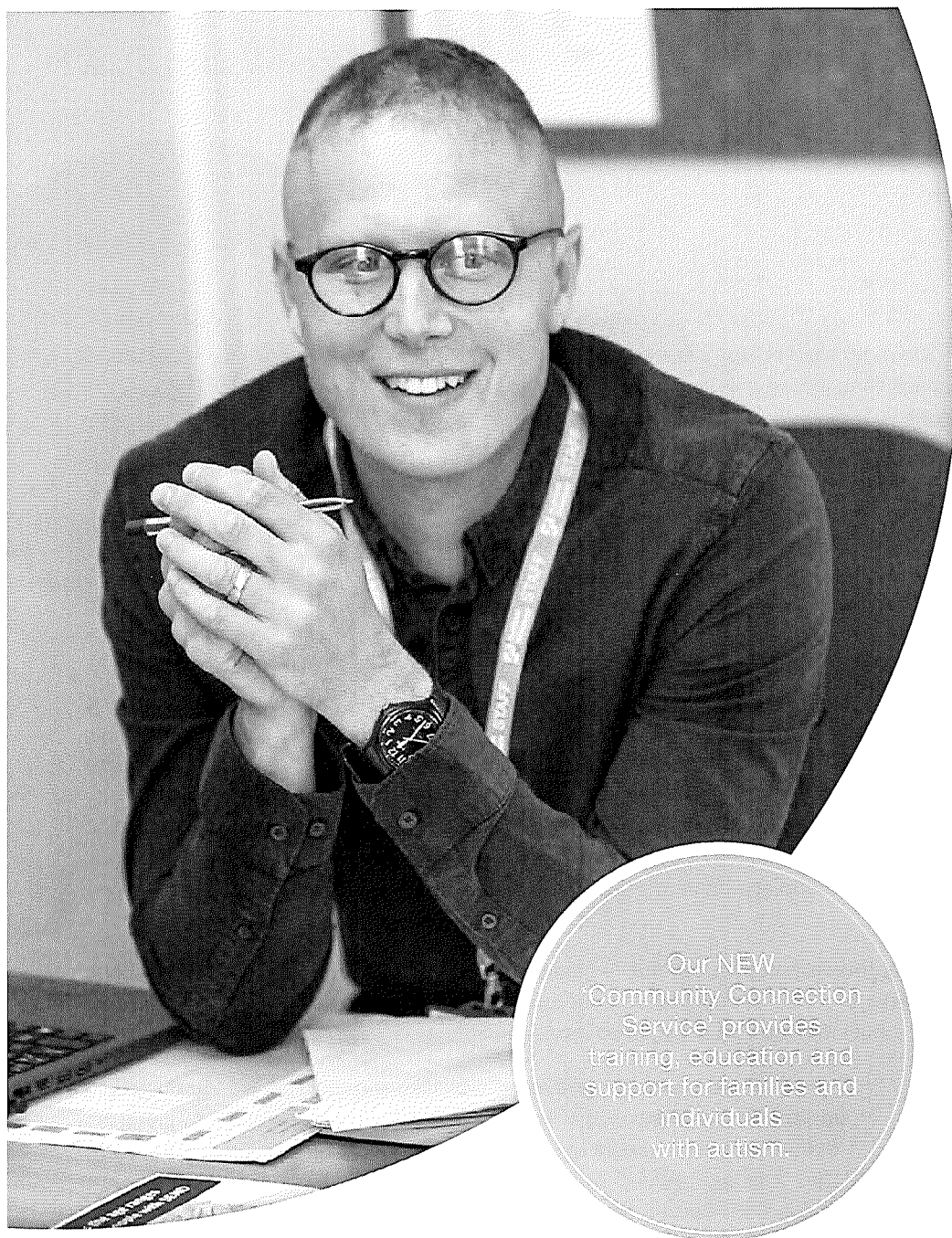
The range of mandatory and optional training continued to be developed and delivered, but with an increased focus on computer based and remote learning due to the circumstances. More input from the recruitment team was provided to support the growing business and to recognise the increased demand for care workers across the



industry. The Human Resources team launched a new HR self-service portal and mobile app as well as a redesigned and modernised online Employee Handbook.

The charity will always provide a productive working environment, where all employees are treated equally with dignity and respect. We are committed to the fair treatment of our staff, workers, volunteers, Trustees and governors regardless of race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, responsibilities for dependents, age, and physical/mental disability.

Our Equal Opportunities Policy sets out our commitment to promoting equal opportunities in employment. This includes our approach to recruitment and selection, to part-time and fixed-term work and to making reasonable and appropriate adjustments for disabilities.



Our NEW
'Community Connection
Service' provides
training, education and
support for families and
individuals
with autism.

Community Connection Service

The service was set up in September 2019 and currently offers signposting to Autism Wessex services and other local organisations which provide advice specifically on autism and related issues. Enquiries are received by telephone or email and in response, appointments are made. We also provide information on autism and related issues.

The service plans to provide training and education to local businesses whilst working with the training and fundraising teams to be more visible in the community for families or individuals with autism.

Over the course of the year, the service has dealt with enquiries from:

- ✓ individuals with autism (recently diagnosed or seeking diagnosis)
- ✓ individuals requiring counselling services
- ✓ families in crisis due to autism
- ✓ families looking for access to therapeutic services not available to them on the NHS
- ✓ local authority family support workers
- ✓ CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service)
- ✓ counsellors
- ✓ GPs
- ✓ social services
- ✓ schools looking for access to training or advice to support specific pupils with autism in a mainstream setting

Fundraising

We are committed to protecting donors and the public, including vulnerable people, from any unreasonably intrusive or persistent fundraising approaches and will not apply any undue pressure on them to donate. We deal with existing and potential donors both gently and with extreme care, protecting the charity's reputation and values. We will work with some gentle persuasion but we do not use any external professional fundraising services.

To provide further reassurance, and to demonstrate compliance with the regulation for fundraising activities, we are registered with the Fundraising Regulator. We have adopted the regulator's Code of Fundraising Practice, and use the Fundraising Regulator's logo on all fundraising communications.

Autism Wessex has not received any requests to remove or suppress donor data from the Fundraising Preference Service. We have a process in place to deal with complaints and are pleased to confirm that we have not had any related to fundraising during the year. Performance in fundraising over the period, which coincided with the Covid outbreak has proved extremely challenging. Community engagement activities had to be curtailed and the focus of fundraising activity substantially changed with many donors changing their approach to giving. As a result, fundraised income fell by 40% over the period.

Valuable support from local businesses during lockdown was passed on to our service users and their families.

Activity did not stop, however, and major successes were the completion of the Sensory Multi Use Games Area, the installation of new trampolines at the school and a safe space cabin at our Higher Ground care home. Important pledges were also received, to support projects going forward such as completion of the new school playground, development of a model classroom and a new minibus. We were also very grateful for all the local business support early in lockdown that we were able to pass on to our service users and their families.

The completion of the Sensory Multi Use Games Area was a major success.

3 Financial Review

Review of the financial position at the end of the reporting period. The charity's income for the period increased from £10,218,057 to £11,593,312, an increase of 13.4%.

This income derived from:

Education contracts:	£4,522,703
Residential home contracts:	£3,499,563
Community support services:	£3,213,091
Fundraising:	£353,225
Other activities:	£4,730

Expenditure in respect of those activities increased from £9,811,154 to £10,713,285, an increase of 9.0%.

Education services:	£3,897,118
Social care:	£6,630,483
Fundraising:	£153,020
Information and signposting service/non-contracted services:	£32,664

The combined activity generated a surplus of £880,027 against £406,903 for the previous period. The result for the year included the release of an exceptional provision of £300,000 following the decision of the Supreme Court not to uphold an appeal in respect of sleep-in rates. Excluding this release, the surplus was £580,027, a surplus of 5.0% of turnover (2019-20: 4.0%). Most of this surplus is required to maintain free reserves at target levels given the growth in the charity.

The income and expenditure results support the charity's objectives: "For the public benefit for the provision of education, social care, advocacy and other support services to those whose lives are affected by autism, learning and developmental difficulties or mental health difficulties."

The charity's net assets have increased from £12,659,302 to £13,539,329.



Financial reserves and investment policy

Funds and reserves fall into the following categories:

Restricted funds are those funds only available for expenditure in accordance with the donors' directions. Details of these are set out in the notes to the annual accounts.

Fixed asset funds represent the fixed assets of Autism Wessex, the vast majority of which are the freeholds of Portfield School and the residential homes. Without them, Autism Wessex could not operate. They are shown separately to other unrestricted funds due to the size and importance of these assets.

Designated funds are set aside at the discretion of the Trustees for a specific future purpose. At the end of the year, the Trustees agreed to designate an amount of £550,000 specifically to recognise the additional risk around the Corona Virus outbreak and the ability to maintain front line worker resource.

Free reserves are freely available for general use. They are retained to enable the Trustees to provide assurance to our service users, the public and local authorities that Autism Wessex will be able to sustain its contractual commitments to deliver care and education services. These funds are primarily held in cash for liquidity purposes.

Free reserves are set at a level to withstand any short-term financial risks, the main ones being the additional costs of managing a significant shortage of skilled care workers or teaching assistants and/or the loss of revenue of a significant number of service user contracts.

Based on the short term risks, the Trustees have targeted a free reserves holding of three months' expenditure. Should projections of free reserves fall outside the range of two to four months' expenditure the Trustees will review the business plan and make changes as appropriate, including consideration of the fixed assets employed in the business and the methods in which they are financed.

At the end of March 2021, the charity had free reserves of £2.60m, equating to 2.9 months of expenditure, in line with its free reserves target (on the equivalent basis 31 March 2020: 2.9 months). Total funds amounted to £13.54m of which £2.20m is restricted, £7.99m represents the value of operational fixed assets and £0.55m was designated for a Covid-19 contingency fund and £0.20m was designated to invest in the launch of the Chris Page Centre.

The details of all funds are shown in notes 16 and 17 to the financial statements.

The charity's policy is primarily to hold sufficient liquid funds to meet its operational requirements, as determined by cash flow projections and regular risk assessment. These liquid reserves are backed up by a large property portfolio, much of which is freehold, not committed as security against existing borrowing, and so would provide a source of further medium term liquidity should the need arise.

The charity's policy, where liquid reserves exceed the needs of medium term cash flow forecasts, is to fund planned expansion of the charity's operational property portfolio, which supports services provided to its beneficiaries, or to pay down long term debt. If liquid funds were to exceed these requirements, the charity's policy would be to invest in appropriate long term commercial investments, based on its investment policy and a financial analysis of the options available. Income from these longer term commercial investments would be used to support the operational activities of the charity. Currently, no longer-term commercial investments are being held and there are no indications that this will be the case in the foreseeable future.

Annual trustee risk statement

The trustees are responsible for the management of risks faced by Autism Wessex. We define key strategic and operational risks as those that, without effective and appropriate mitigation, would have a severe impact on our work, our reputation or our ability to achieve our ambitions.

The trustees work to an established risk management process to assess business risks and implement risk management strategies. This involves identifying the types of risks faced, prioritising risks in terms of potential impact and likelihood of occurrence, and identifying means of mitigating the risks. These risks are reported to the trustees, allowing them to challenge any assumptions management have made about risks and understand

the context in which decisions are taken. This helps to ensure that the most serious risks are being managed effectively.

The key controls used include:

- ✓ Formal agendas and minutes for all Committees and Board activity.
- ✓ Detailed terms of reference for all Committees and approvals process for all actions by the Board.
- ✓ Comprehensive strategic and operational planning, budgeting and management accounting.
- ✓ Clear organisational structure and lines of reporting.
- ✓ Formal written and reviewable policies.
- ✓ Clear authorisation, delegations and approval levels.
- ✓ Trustee approved risk management policy and associated procedures.



Key risks and uncertainties

Principal risks currently identified and associated mitigating controls are:

Regulatory and compliance risks

To mitigate the risk of failure to maintain high levels of safeguarding for service users, we have implemented a comprehensive safeguarding strategy across the charity with reporting systems and staff training. Trustee and external reviews are undertaken to ensure the robustness of our systems and external whistle blowing support is in place for staff.

There is a risk that we fail to meet the regulatory standards expected of our operational teams. To mitigate this we have rigorous internal systems and standards in place. We conduct spot checks of these standards and internal audits. The Practice and Standards Committee is responsible for monitoring our practices and reports to the Board of Trustees.

Financial risks

We face a loss of income and challenges in agreeing uplifts or financial reviews with local authorities. To mitigate this we have developed costing models to be used in pricing discussions, strengthening relationships with local authorities and incorporating a full review of the financial operating model into the strategic review.

Operational risks

Challenges in recruiting the required levels of appropriately qualified staff to maintain and expand services persist. We have taken a number of steps over the past year with respect to recruitment and retention practices and keep them under close review.

We take our responsibilities over the handling of sensitive data very seriously and have taken the opportunity of the new GDPR rules to review our responsibilities to protect personal data and prevent data breaches.

External risks

In common with similar organisations, we face the risk of disruption to our IT services through cyber-attack or other actions. To mitigate this we have embedded security within our systems and back-up servers to protect data. We also have ongoing external oversight of our systems and support staff through training and awareness campaigns together with stringent password protection.

Implications of Covid-19

Changes have been made across the charity to ensure the safety of our staff and service users. The main risks have been to ensure adequate levels of staffing at a time of increased absence and to ensure safety through increased infection control measures including regular testing.



4 Our plans for 2021/2022

Education

The school continues to grow, and the school roll is expected to exceed 90 students from September for the first time. Demand for educational services remains high and we are developing plans to grow our existing offering but also to extend our provision beyond our current offering which ends at 19 years.

Community and residential services

The increased focus on growing our supported living offering will also continue, building on the model adopted for Aspire. This provision will continue to run alongside our existing residential homes, working with local authorities to ensure the long term viability of services.

Specialist assessment centre

We are implementing a specialist autism service that focuses on offering autism assessments supported by a range of therapeutic services for both children and adults diagnosed with autism. The Chris Page Centre is staffed by a multi-disciplinary team who specialise in autism and neuro-developmental disorders, with access to the latest research to deliver quality leading edge clinical excellence.

Other developments

The charity is looking to expand its Community Connection Service into neighbouring counties, recognising that the offering, which is currently restricted to Dorset, has a wider appeal and can support more families and individuals in need of support.

We are also developing our support for autistic people in the workplace, be this through helping identify opportunities for job seekers or through supporting employers to optimise the benefits from increasing the diversity in their workforces. Plans are in place to hold an event, Autism Works, to educate employers on the possibilities of employing autistic personnel.

Administrative Details

Autism Wessex is a company limited by guarantee (Company number 2506982) and a registered charity (Charity number 1000792).
Registered office: Parley 2, Portfield School, Parley Lane, Christchurch, Dorset BH23 6BP

Trustees

The Trustees of the charity during the year and to the date of signing are as follows:

Mr J Brazier	Appointed 6 February 2020.
Ms G Crouch	Appointed 30 April 2018.
Mr H Dampney	Appointed 19 November 2018.
Mr M Farrell	Appointed 11 December 2017. Chair since 19 November 2018.
Mr H Nash	Appointed 3 September 2018. Vice chair since 8 February 2021.
Ms J Shield	Appointed 1 August 2019.
Mr R Strachan	Appointed 30 April 2019.
Ms M Das	Appointed 4 September 2020.
Mr M Brosnan	Appointed 19 October 2020.
Mr A Willshire	Appointed 17 December 2020.

Trustees who left during the year

Mr A Trevett	<i>Resigned 6 April 2020.</i>
Mr J Beebee	<i>Resigned 6 April 2020.</i>
Mr M James	<i>Resigned 19 October 2020.</i>
Mrs E Eager	<i>Appointed 23 July 2020. Resigned 10 March 2021.</i>

Chief Executive Officer

Siún Cranny

Solicitors

Paris Smith LLP, 1 London Rd, Southampton SO15 2AE

Bankers

National Westminster Bank plc, 42 Southbourne Grove, Bournemouth BH6 3RT

Auditors

Rothmans Audit LLP, Avebury House, 6 St Peter Street, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8BN

Structure, Governance and Management

Autism Wessex is an incorporated charity governed by its Articles of Association dated 19 November 2018. The minimum number of trustees prescribed by the Articles is six; currently there are ten trustees.

Trustees may be appointed at any time by resolution of trustees, who are also the members of the charity. Trustees hold office for three years, subject to the terms of the Articles of Association. A trustee may be re-appointed for a further term in office up to a maximum of three terms of three years. They are subsequently eligible for re-appointment after the second anniversary of their retirement. This provision, which was adopted at the Annual General Meeting on 19 November 2019, provides for progressive refreshing of the Board and acknowledges the recommendation in the Charity Governance Code for smaller charities that trustees should be appointed for an agreed length of time.

The Chairman of the Board of Trustees is elected by the Board at the first meeting following an Annual General Meeting. The Board of Trustees meets quarterly and is supported by the Finance and Audit Committee, the Practice and Standards Committee, Portfield School Governing Body and the Nominations Committee. All are accountable to the Board and have delegated powers and responsibilities, which are specified in their terms of reference.

Prospective trustees are interviewed to assess their suitability for a trustee position and are invited to attend a Board meeting before formal consideration of their appointment. A comprehensive induction programme is implemented for each trustee, including face-to-face and on-line training, visits to services, mentoring and continuing support from the Chairman, other Board members and the Executive. All trustees are required to undertake safeguarding training.

Daily operational running of Autism Wessex, including finance, human resources and service-related activity, is delegated to the Chief Executive Office (CEO) based at the Charity Hub in Christchurch.

The trustees of the charity are volunteers and receive no remuneration. The pay and remuneration of the charity's CEO are set by the Board of Trustees. Some employees are subject to national pay scales.

Trustee indemnity

As permitted by the Articles of Association, the trustees have the benefit of an indemnity, which is a qualifying third party indemnity provision as defined by Section 234 of the Companies Act 2006. The charity holds directors' and officers' liability insurance.

Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Autism Wessex for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual report, which includes the strategic report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law, the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of a charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- ✓ select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ✓ observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS102);
- ✓ make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- ✓ state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- ✓ prepare the financial statements on the ongoing concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.



The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Financial statements are published on the charity's website in accordance with legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements, which may vary from legislation in other jurisdictions. The maintenance and integrity of the charity's website is the responsibility of the trustees. The trustees' responsibility also extends to the ongoing integrity of the financial statements on the website.

The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Charities SORP (FRS102 – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice – applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland Second Edition (effective 1 January 2019) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006.

Members of the charity are limited to the serving members of the volunteer Board of Trustees at any given time, who are limited to a guarantee of £1 each in the event of the charity being wound up.

Statement as to disclosure of information to auditors

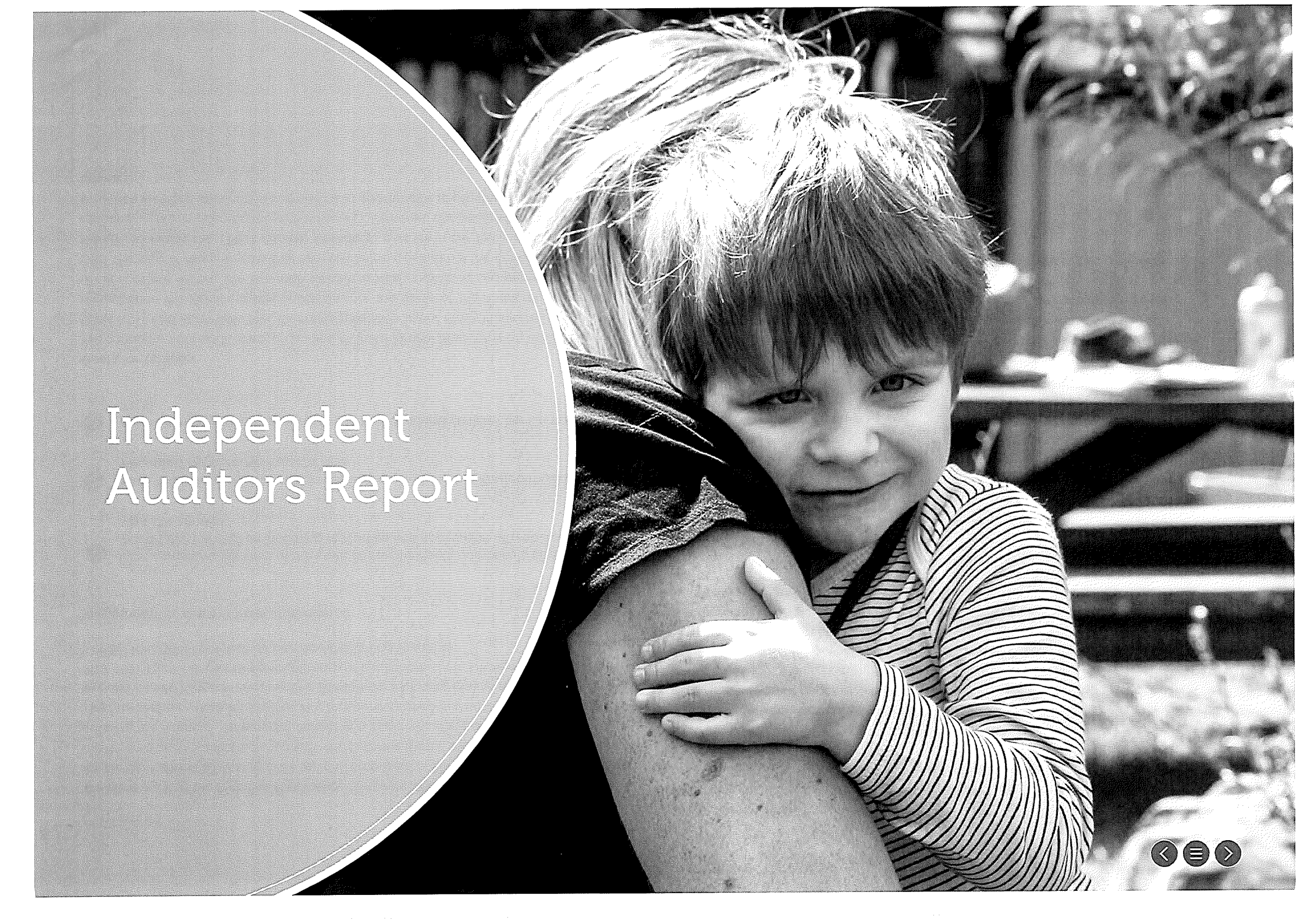
The members of the Board of Trustees who were in office on the date of approval of these financial statements have confirmed that, as far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the auditors are unaware. Each member of the Board has confirmed that they have taken all reasonable steps that they ought to have taken as members of the Board in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that it has been communicated to the auditor.

Approved on behalf of the trustees

Malcolm Farrell
Chairman

Date: _____

18 October 2021



Independent Auditors Report



Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Autism Wessex ('the charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Income and Expenditure Account, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard FRS 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- ✓ give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- ✓ have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- ✓ have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, including the trustees' report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report and the strategic report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report and the strategic report included within the trustees' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the director's report or the strategic report included within the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable,

matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

The extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charitable company through discussions with the trustees and other management, and from our knowledge and experience of the charities sector;

- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the charitable company, including the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, care legislation, schools legislation, safeguarding legislation, data protection, employment, environmental and health and safety legislation;

- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence. The identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and

- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries during the year and at the year-end to identify unusual transactions;

- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in note 1.18 were indicative of potential bias;

- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims;
- reviewing correspondence with relevant regulators, including OFSTED, CQC and the Environment Agency and the company's legal advisors; and

- reviewed legal and professional expenditure incurred in the year.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Susan Sullivan FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Rothmans Audit LLP, Statutory Auditors

Avebury House, St Peter Street, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 8BN



Date: 3 November 2021

Financial Statements



Statement of Financial Activities — Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	2021 Total Funds (£)	2020 Total Funds (£)
Income					
Donations and legacies	2	285,038	68,189	353,227	187,791
Charitable activities	3	10,981,244	258,841	11,240,085	10,030,266
Total income		11,266,282	327,030	11,593,312	10,218,057
Expenditure					
Raising funds	5	153,020	-	153,020	161,882
Charitable activities	6	10,149,854	410,411	10,560,265	9,649,272
Total expenditure		10,302,874	410,411	10,713,285	9,811,154
NET INCOME		963,408	(83,381)	880,027	406,903
Transfers between funds		(22,178)	22,178	-	-
Net movement in funds for the year		941,230	(61,203)	880,027	406,903
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward	16	10,394,352	2,264,950	12,659,302	12,252,399
Total funds carried forward	16	11,335,582	2,203,747	13,539,329	12,659,302

Income and Expenditure Account — Year Ended 31 March 2021

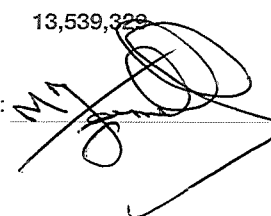
	Notes	2021 (£)	2020 (£)
INCOME		11,593,312	10,218,057
General expenses		(10,713,285)	(9,811,052)
Operating surplus / (deficit)		880,027	407,005
Interest payable and similar charges		-	(102)
SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR		880,027	406,903
ANALYSIS OF SURPLUS			
Unrestricted funds		963,408	378,627
Restricted funds		(83,381)	28,276
SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR		880,027	406,903

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2021

	Notes	2021 (£)	2020 (£)
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	10,122,865	11,198,567
		10,122,865	11,198,567
Current assets			
Debtors	12	751,812	605,931
Cash at bank and in hand		3,895,422	2,007,558
		4,647,234	2,613,489
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	(1,040,770)	(752,754)
Net current assets		3,606,464	1,860,735
Total assets less current liabilities		13,729,329	13,059,302
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	14	(100,000)	(100,000)
Provisions for liabilities	15	(90,000)	(300,000)
Net assets		13,539,329	12,659,302
Funds			
General unrestricted funds	16	2,591,667	2,385,126
Fixed asset reserve	16	6,919,967	6,816,550
Revaluation reserve	16	1,066,612	1,142,676
Covid-19 contingency reserve	16	550,000	50,000
Chris Page Centre		207,336	-
Unrestricted funds		11,335,582	10,394,352
Restricted funds	16	2,203,747	2,264,950
		13,539,329	12,659,302

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the directors on 18 October and signed on their behalf by:

2021



Company Number: 2506982
Malcolm Farrell, Chairman

Cash Flow Statement — Year Ended 31 March 2021

	2021		2020	
	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)
Net cash generated/ (used) from operating activities (Note 1)		1,033,354		632,768
Cash flow from investing activities				
Purchase of tangible assets	(324,267)		(177,232)	
Sale of tangible assets	1,178,777			
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities		854,510		(177,232)
Cash flow from financing activities				
Repayment of loans	-	-	-	-
Interest paid	-		(102)	
Net cash (used) / generated in financing activities		-		(102)
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		1,887,864		455,434
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		2,007,558		1,552,124
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		3,895,422		2,007,558

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

1. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2021 (£)	2020 (£)
Net income	880,027	406,903
Net interest expense	-	102
Depreciation of tangible assets	221,192	223,922
Gain on disposal of tangible assets	-	-
Working capital movements:		
- Decrease / (increase) in debtors	(145,881)	(61,624)
- (Decrease) / increase in creditors	78,016	63,465
Net cash inflow/ (outflow) from operating activities	1,033,354	632,768

2. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At start of year (£)	Cash-flow (£)	At end of year (£)
Cash at bank and in hand	2,007,558	1,887,864	3,895,422
Total	2,007,558	1,887,864	3,895,422

Notes to the Financial Statements



1 Accounting Policies

1.1 General information

Autism Wessex is a company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in England and Wales. The charitable company is a public benefit entity. The address of its registered office is Parley 2, Portfield School, Parley Lane, Christchurch, Dorset, BH23 6BP.

1.2 Accounting convention

These financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention modified to include the revaluation of freehold land and buildings, and comply with United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' ('FRS102') and the Companies Act 2006. In preparing the financial statements the Charity follows best practice as set out in "Charities SORP (FRS 102) Second Edition" effective 1 January 2019. Autism Wessex constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

The charitable company meets its day to day working capital requirements through its bank facilities. The charitable company's forecasts and projections, taking account of a reasonable assessment of possible changes in the funding and operating environment, show that the charitable company should be able to operate within the level of its current facilities. After making enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The charitable company therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented, unless otherwise stated.

1.3 Functional and presentation currency

The charitable company's functional and presentation currency is the pound sterling.

1.4 Funds accounting

Funds held by the Charity are:

Unrestricted general funds – these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds – these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

1.5 Fees receivable

Fees receivable represents the amount invoiced for the provision of services which fall within the company's ordinary activities. Fee income is recognised on a straight-line basis over the period in which the services are delivered.

1.6 Donations and gifts

Voluntary income received by way of donations and gifts to the Charity is included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable. Intangible income is not included unless it represents goods or services, which would have otherwise been purchased. Gifts in kind are included at market value and as resources expended at the same value when distributed.

1.7 Grants receivable

Grants, including grants for the purchase of fixed assets and government grants, are recognised in full in the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are receivable unless they are subject to specified future performance-related conditions in which case they are recognised in income only when the performance-related conditions are met.

1.8 Investment income

Investment income is accounted for in the period in which the Charity is entitled to receipt.

1.9 Fundraising costs

These include the salaries, direct expenditure and overhead costs of the staff who promote fund-raising, including events together with an apportionment of central costs.

1.10 Charitable expenditure

Charitable expenditure are all those costs relating to service deliverance in accordance with the Charity's objectives together with an apportionment of central costs. The method of apportionment for support costs uses the most appropriate basis in each case, as specified in the notes to these accounts.

1.11 Governance costs

Includes those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity and includes the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the Charity.

1.12 Operating Leases

Rentals applicable to operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

1.13 Tangible Fixed assets

The charity categorises its tangible fixed assets between the following asset types:

- Freehold land and buildings (Portfield School campus)
- Freehold land and buildings (community properties)
- Premises improvements
- Fixtures and fittings
- Motor vehicles
- Computer equipment

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost (or deemed cost for community properties held at valuation at the date of transition to FRS102) less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes the original purchase price and costs directly attributed to bringing the asset to its working condition for its intended use.

The Portfield School campus is revalued on a regular basis with the last revaluation having been undertaken as at 31 March 2016.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost or valuation less accumulated depreciation.

Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost or deemed cost of tangible fixed assets over their estimated useful lives as follows:-

- Freehold land and buildings - 2% straight line on buildings only;
land is not depreciated
- Motor vehicles - 20% straight line method per annum
- Computer equipment - 25% straight line method per annum
- Fixtures and fittings - 16.7% straight line method per annum

At each reporting period end date, the Charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible fixed assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.14 Pensions

The pension cost charge represents the contributions payable to the Teachers' Pension Scheme, an insured group personal pension scheme and the new government auto-enrolment scheme. The Charity has no liability under the schemes other than for the payment of those contributions. The pension schemes' arrangement enables the Charity to comply with the requirements of stakeholder pension provisions.

The Teachers' Pension Scheme is a multi-employer plan. Where it is not possible for the charitable company to obtain sufficient information to enable it to account for the plan as a defined benefit plan, it accounts for the plan as a defined contribution plan.

The government auto-enrolment plan is a defined contribution plan. The contributions are recognised as an expense when they are due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals in the balance sheet.

1.15 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.16 Financial instruments

The charitable company has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments in accordance with FRS102. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the transaction value, including any transaction costs. At the end of each accounting period, basic financial instruments are recognised at amortised cost. For debt instruments this is calculated using the effective interest rate method.

Concessionary loans are initially accounted for at the amount received and the carrying value is subsequently adjusted for any accrued interest payable.

1.17 Provisions for Liabilities

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

1.18 Critical accounting judgements and estimation uncertainty

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

(i) *Multi-employer defined benefit pension scheme.*

Certain employees participate in the Teachers' Pension Scheme which is a multi-employer defined pension scheme. The charitable company does not have any commitment to make good any actuarial deficit, nor is it entitled to benefit from any surplus funding. In the judgement of the trustees, the charitable company does not have sufficient information on the assets and liabilities of the scheme and does not have sufficient information to be able to reliably account for its share of the defined benefit obligation and plan assets. Therefore, the scheme is accounted for as a defined contribution scheme.

(ii) *Useful economic lives of tangible assets*

The annual depreciation charge for tangible assets is sensitive to changes in the estimated useful economic lives and residual values of the assets. The useful economic lives and residual values are re-assessed annually. They are amended when necessary to reflect current estimates based on future investments, economic utilisation and physical condition of the assets.

2. Donations And Legacies

	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	2021 (£)	2020 (£)
Donations	37,895	68,189	106,084	178,529
Legacies	247,143	-	247,143	9,262
	285,038	68,189	353,227	187,791

In 2020 the charity received £54,223 of unrestricted donations and £124,306 of restricted donations. All income from legacies was unrestricted.

3. Income from Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	2021 (£)	2020 (£)
Fees	10,981,244	146,904	11,128,148	10,026,526
Covid testing & infection control grants	-	111,937	111,937	-
Training services	-	-	-	3,740
	10,981,244	258,841	11,240,085	10,030,266

In 2020 the charity received £102,442 of restricted fee income and £9,924,084 of unrestricted fee income. All income from training services was unrestricted. Restricted fee income relates to Government Grants received towards the operation of the Portfield School & Life skills site.

4. Net Income

This is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2021 (£)	2020 (£)
Depreciation of tangible assets	221,192	223,922
Rentals payable under operating leases	50,336	115,741
Auditor's remuneration	14,633	13,800
Loss on fixed asset disposal	80,314	-

Auditor's Remuneration in 2021 consists of £10,608 (2020: £10,200) of fees due to Rothmans Audit LLP for the audit of the 2021 accounts plus £4,025 (2020: £3,600) of fees due to Rothmans LLP for the provision of accountancy services. Rothmans LLP is an associate of Rothmans Audit LLP.

5. Cost of Raising Funds

	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	2021 (£)	2020 (£)	Basis of Allocation
Salaries and associated costs	107,425	-	107,425	148,719	Actual
Fundraising costs	15,449	-	15,449	11,417	Actual
Central costs	30,146	-	30,146	1,746	Use of services & staff.
	153,020	-	153,020	161,882	

In 2020 all costs of raising funds were unrestricted.

6. Charitable Activities - Current Year

	Children and Education Services (£)	Social Care Services (£)	Chris Page Centre (£)	Total 2021 (£)	Basis of Allocation
RESTRICTED					
Charitable Activities	238,563	171,848	-	410,411	Actual
TOTAL RESTRICTED CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	238,563	171,848	-	410,411	
UNRESTRICTED					
Charitable Activities	3,055,707	5,618,570	24,986	8,699,263	Actual
	3,055,707	5,618,570	24,986	8,699,263	
Support costs					
HR services	134,643	227,481	-	362,124	Staffing
Facilities costs	118,046	95,606	3,316	216,968	Property use
IT support	71,447	120,711	-	192,158	Key IT use & support
Insurance	47,159	61,389	741	109,289	Actual & use of services
Governance costs	126,626	165,588	2,498	294,712	Use of services & staff
Finance costs	87,923	144,480	1,123	233,526	Use of services & staff
Other central costs	17,004	24,810	-	41,814	Use of services & staff
	602,848	840,065	7,678	1,450,591	
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	3,658,555	6,458,635	32,664	10,149,854	
TOTAL CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	3,897,118	6,630,483	32,664	10,560,265	

During FY2021, the charity reanalysed its support costs and identified additional departments, such as Finance and Facilities. The above table shows the analysis of expenditure using the current metrics and the comparative support costs analysis from FY2020 is included on the next page for reference.

6. Charitable Activities - Prior Year Comparatives

	Children and Education Services (£)	Social Care Services (£)	Advocacy (£)	Total 2020 (£)	Basis of Allocation
RESTRICTED					
Charitable Activities	106,389	1,350	-	107,739	Actual
Depreciation	52,902	37,831	-	90,733	Actual
	159,291	39,181	-	198,472	
Support Costs					
Other central costs	-	-	-	-	Use of services & staff
	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL RESTRICTED CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	159,291	39,181	-	198,472	
UNRESTRICTED					
Charitable Activities	2,992,793	5,262,805	64,346	8,319,944	Actual
	2,992,793	5,262,805	64,346	8,319,944	
Support Costs					
HR services	79,914	175,295	2,578	257,787	Staffing
IT Support	33,821	33,131	2,071	69,023	Key IT use & support
Insurance	28,389	57,959	193	86,541	Actual & use of services
Other central costs	244,425	318,321	5,685	568,431	Use of services & staff
Governance costs	6,787	8,839	158	15,784	Use of services & staff
Loan interest	44	57	1	102	Use of services
Depreciation	86,927	45,919	342	133,188	Actual & use of services
	480,307	639,521	11,028	1,130,856	
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	3,473,100	5,902,326	75,374	9,450,800	
TOTAL CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	3,632,391	5,941,507	75,374	9,649,272	

7. Staff Cost

	2021 (£)	2020 (£)
Wages and salaries	7,135,900	6,758,910
Social security costs	616,174	511,275
Defined contribution pension costs (including Teacher's Pension Scheme)	290,168	211,035
	8,042,242	7,481,220

Emoluments of employees earning over £60,000 per annum, excluding employer pension contributions, fell within the following ranges:

	2021	2020
£60,001-£70,000	2	-
£70,001-£80,000	-	-
£80,001-£90,000	1	-
£90,001-£100,000	1	1

	2021	2020
The average number of employees was		
Average head count	366	384
	366	384

The Board of Trustees, who are the charitable company's directors, the Senior Leadership Group and Senior Management, comprise the key management personnel of the charitable company. The total of employee benefits of key management personnel was £656,761 (2020: £556,453).

4 employees received payments on termination of employment totalling £14,415. (2020: 4 employees £28,006). This was paid in the year, and charged as an expense in the statement of financial activities.

Pension contributions outstanding at the year-end totalled £44,207 (2020: £35,669).

8. Transactions with Trustees

No Trustee received any remuneration from the charitable company during the year (2020: £nil). No trustees received reimbursement for out of pocket expenses (2020: £268 reimbursed to 3 Trustees). No expenses were paid to third parties on behalf of Trustees (2020: £nil). No Trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charitable company (2020: £nil). Donations of £84 were received from Trustees in the year (2020: £Nil).

9. Indemnity Insurance

Indemnity insurance was renewed this year as approved by the Charity Commission.

10. Taxation

The Charity is registered with the Charity Commission and, because of the tax-exempt status afforded, there is no liability to corporation tax on the results for the year.

11. Tangible Assets

	Freehold Properties (£)	Motor Vehicles (£)	Fixtures, fittings and equipment (£)	Total (£)
Cost				
1 April 2020	11,493,692	228,999	792,108	12,514,799
Additions	210,454	18,991	94,822	324,267
Disposals	(1,274,492)	(12,725)	(19,206)	(1,306,423)
31 March 2021	10,429,654	235,265	867,724	11,532,643
Depreciation				
1 April 2020	604,403	209,394	502,435	1,316,232
Charge for the year	113,333	13,096	94,763	221,192
Elimination on disposal	(87,664)	(12,725)	(27,257)	(127,646)
31 March 2021	630,072	209,765	569,941	1,409,778
Net book value				
31 March 2021	9,799,582	25,500	297,783	10,122,865
31 March 2020	10,889,289	19,605	289,673	11,198,567

The Charity has two classes of freehold properties – its community properties and the Portfield School campus.

The community properties were valued as at 1 April 2014 by Goadsby & Harding. The charitable company applied the transitional arrangements of Section 35 of FRS102 and used this valuation as deemed cost going forward. The properties are being depreciated from the valuation date. As the assets are depreciated or sold an appropriate transfer is made from the revaluation reserve to the unrestricted funds.

The Portfield School campus was revalued as at 31 March 2016 by Goadsby & Harding on a depreciated replacement cost valuation basis.

The historical cost of Portfield School is £6,001,978 and the historical cost of the community properties is £3,701,036.

Included within freehold property is land of £4,874,250 which is not depreciated.

11. Tangible Assets (continued)

Freehold Properties

	At 1 April 2020 (£)	Additions in year (£)	Disposals in year (£)	At 31 March 2021 (£)
Portfield School incl. Therapy Pool	6,443,387	210,454	-	6,653,841
Magdalen Lane	430,000	-	-	430,000
High Croft/Valley View	704,080	-	(704,080)	-
Middle Path, Crewkerne	380,342	-	-	380,342
Manor Road, Christchurch	457,500	-	-	457,500
Rose Cottage, Bransgore	570,412	-	(570,412)	-
Penny Farthing House	612,938	-	-	612,938
Greenways	619,249	-	-	619,249
Barn Close	588,028	-	-	588,028
Higher Ground	687,756	-	-	687,756
TOTAL	11,493,692	210,454	(1,274,492)	10,429,654

12. Debtors

	2021 (£)	2020 (£)
Trade Debtors	344,854	448,356
Other Debtors	1,691	12,958
Prepayments & Accrued Income	405,267	144,617
	751,812	605,931

13. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2021 (£)	2020 (£)
Trade Creditors	179,522	128,568
Taxation & social security	175,699	121,212
Other Creditors	97,045	124,119
Accruals	174,817	96,727
Deferred Income	413,697	282,128
	1,040,770	752,754

Deferred income relates to fees received in advance for school fees and adult residential care.
The proportion of the fees relating to the next accounting period have been deferred.

	2021 (£)	2020 (£)
As at 1 April 2020	282,128	241,680
Amount released to income from charitable activities	(282,128)	(241,680)
Amount deferred in year	413,687	282,128
As at 31 March 2021	413,687	282,128

14. Loans

	2021 (£)	2020 (£)
Other loans	100,000	100,000
	100,000	100,000

The other loan is an interest free loan from the Talbot Village Trust granted during the year ending 31 March 2014. Security is held over Greenways and should the property cease to be used for charitable activities it would be due for repayment. The Trustees consider this to be a concessionary loan as it is for the furtherance of the objects of the charitable company and the Talbot Village Trust.

15. Provisions for Liabilities

	2021 (£)	2020 (£)
As at 1 April 2020	300,000	250,000
Provided in Year	90,000	50,000
Released in Year	(300,000)	-
As at 31 March 2021	90,000	300,000

Provisions for liabilities as at 31 March 2020 represented the Trustees estimate of the anticipated expense to the charitable company in respect of sleep-in back pay to that date. Following the Supreme Court ruling on 19 March 2021, which upheld that sleep-in shifts are not working time for NMW purposes, this provision has now been released in full.

Provisions for liabilities as at 31 March 2021 relate to potential penalties for late filing of the charity's ESOS assessment.

16. Total Funds — Current Year

	At 1 April 2020 (£)	Income (£)	Expenditure (£)	Transfers (£)	At 31 March 2021 (£)
Restricted Funds					
Portfield School — Buildings	1,746,172	-	(71,519)	104,699	1,779,352
Portfield School — Fixtures & Fittings	-	-	(192)	12,579	12,387
Adult Services — Buildings	376,029	-	(37,831)	-	338,198
Adult Services — Fixtures & Fittings	-	-	(616)	6,965	6,349
Employability	10,662	-	-	-	10,662
Therapy equipment & IT	2,721	-	(2,721)	-	-
Education & Skills Funding	18,974	146,904	(148,463)	-	17,415
Barnes Lane Activities	202	-	-	-	202
Childwick Trust Horse Riding	10,800	-	-	-	10,800
Portfield School Bikeability	4,153	-	(4,705)	552	-
Sensory Multi-Use Games Area	55,865	27,500	-	(83,365)	-
Portfield School Model Classroom	15,101	950	-	-	16,051
Trampolines — Bouncing for Brilliance	3,240	9,339	-	(12,579)	-
Forest School	2,925	1,166	(963)	-	3,128
Volunteer Co-Ordinator	8,106	-	-	-	8,106
COVID support	10,000	-	(10,000)	-	-
Portfield School Playground	-	21,334	-	(21,334)	-
Higher Ground Cabin	-	7,500	(223)	(6,965)	312
Infection Control	-	96,850	(113,747)	16,897	-
Testing	-	7,327	(6,542)	-	785
Workforce	-	7,760	(12,489)	4,729	-
Other	-	400	(400)	-	-
Total restricted funds	2,264,950	327,030	(410,411)	22,178	2,203,747

16. Total Funds — Current Year (Continued)

	At 1 April 2020 (£)	Income (£)	Expenditure (£)	Transfers (£)	At 31 March 2021 (£)
Unrestricted funds	2,385,126	11,026,282	(10,121,211)	(698,530)	2,591,667
Designated funds					
Fixed asset reserve	6,816,550	-	(98,999)	202,416	6,919,967
Revaluation reserve	1,142,676	-	-	(76,064)	1,066,612
Covid-19 contingency reserve	50,000	-	(50,000)	550,000	550,000
Chris Page Centre	-	240,000	(32,664)	-	207,336
Total unrestricted funds	10,394,352	11,266,282	(10,302,874)	(22,178)	11,335,582
Total funds	12,659,302	11,593,312	(10,713,285)	-	13,539,329

16. Total Funds — Prior Year Comparatives

	At 1 April 2019 (£)	Income (£)	Expenditure (£)	Transfers (£)	At 31 March 2020 (£)
Restricted Funds					
Portfield School — Buildings	1,810,584	-	(64,376)		1,746,172
Adult Services — Buildings	413,860	-	(37,831)		376,029
Employability	18,740	-	(8,078)		10,662
Therapy equipment & IT	5,000	-	(2,279)		2,721
Education & Skills Funding	-	102,442	(76,628)	(6,840)	18,974
Barnes Lane Activities	-	1,365	(1,163)		202
Childwick Trust Horse Riding	-	13,500	(2,700)		10,800
Portfield School Bikeability	-	9,446	(3,294)	(1,999)	4,153
Sensory Multi-Use Games Area	-	58,500	-	(2,635)	55,865
Portfield School Model Classroom	-	15,101	-		15,101
Trampolines — Bouncing for Brilliance	-	3,240	-		3,240
Forest School	-	4,000	(1,075)		2,925
Volunteer Co-Ordinator	-	8,106	-		8,106
COVID support	-	10,200	(200)		10,000
Portfield School — General	-	848	(848)		-
Total restricted funds	2,248,148	226,748	(198,472)	(11,474)	2,264,950
Unrestricted funds	8,861,575	9,991,309	(9,612,682)	(6,855,076)	2,385,126
Designated funds					
Fixed asset reserve	-	-	-	6,816,550	6,816,550
Covid-19 contingency reserve	-	-	-	50,000	50,000
Revaluation reserve	1,142,676	-	-		1,142,676
Total unrestricted funds	10,004,251	9,991,309	(9,612,682)	11,474	10,394,352
Total funds	12,252,399	10,218,057	(9,811,154)	-	12,659,302

16. Total Funds — Description of Funds

Restricted Funds

Portfield School — Buildings

This fund represents the donations received for and expensed on the Parley Site Buildings, less depreciation on those assets.

Adult Services — Buildings

This fund represents the donations received for and expensed on Adult Services Residential Homes.

Employability

This fund represents grants received to fund an internship for students attending the Life Skills programme.

Therapy equipment and IT

This fund represents donations received for therapy and IT equipment at Portfield School.

Education and Skills Funding

This fund represents grants received for the benefit of pupils at Portfield School, such as pupil premium, sport premium and EFA capital grants.

Barnes Lane Activities

This fund represents grants received to provide additional activities for residents at Barnes Lane.

Childwick Trust Horse Riding

This fund represents grants received to establish a Horse Riding Therapy programme to benefit all of the charity's service users.

Portfield School Bikeability

This fund represents grants received to establish a Wheels Workshop and provide Bikeability training to pupils at Portfield School and its Life Skills service.

Sensory Multi-Use Games Area

This fund represents donations received towards the creation of a SMUGA at Portfield School.

Portfield School Model Classroom

This fund represents donations received towards the creation of a Model Classroom at Portfield School.

Trampolines — Bouncing for Brilliance

This fund represents donations received towards the purchase of three trampolines for pupils at the Portfield School and Life Skills site.

Forest School

This fund represents income received towards the operation of a forest school for pupils at Portfield School.

Volunteer Co-Ordinator

This fund represents donations received for the employment of a volunteer co-ordinator.

COVID support

This fund represents grants received to provide support to care workers, school staff and school pupils and their families during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Portfield School Playground

This fund represents donations received for new playground equipment at Portfield School.

Portfield School — Fixtures and Fittings

This fund represents the donations received for and expensed on the Children's Services Fixtures Fittings & Equipment, less depreciation on those assets.

Adult Services — Fixtures and Fittings

This fund represents the donations received for and expensed on the Adult Services Fixtures Fittings & Equipment, less depreciation on those assets.

Higher Ground Cabin

This fund represents donations received for the construction of a garden cabin at Higher Ground.

Infection control

This fund represents infection control grants received in respect of the residential living facilities operated by the Charity.

Testing & Workforce Grants

These funds represent grants received to facilitate testing of residents and care workers respectively, during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Other

These funds represent other restricted donations received by the Charity and expended in the period.

Designated funds

Fixed Assets

This fund represents the net book value of tangible fixed assets, except for those already held within restricted or revaluation reserves.

Covid-19 Contingency

This fund has been allocated to hold contingency funding to enable the Charity to respond to the Covid-19 outbreak.

Revaluation Reserve

This fund represents the historic accumulated revaluation gains on the fixed assets.

Chris Page Centre

This fund has been allocated to hold funding received from a legacy left by Mr Page, which the Charity intends to use to develop a new Chris Page Centre.

17. Analysis of Total Assets Between Funds – Current Year

	Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets/ (liabilities) (£)	Provisions & Long Term Liabilities (£)	Total as at 31 March 2021 (£)
Restricted Funds				
Portfield School – Buildings	1,779,352	-		1,779,352
Portfield School – Fixtures & Fittings	12,387	-		12,387
Adult Services – Buildings	338,198	-		338,198
Adult Services – Fixtures & Fittings	6,349	-		6,349
Employability	-	10,662		10,662
Education & Skills Funding	-	17,415		17,415
Barnes Lane Activities	-	202		202
Childwick Trust Horse Riding	-	10,800		10,800
Portfield School Model Classroom	-	16,051		16,051
Forest School	-	3,128		3,128
Volunteer Co-Ordinator	-	8,106		8,106
Higher Ground Cabin	-	312		312
Testing	-	785		785
Total restricted funds	2,136,286	67,461	-	2,203,747
 Unrestricted funds	 -	 2,781,667	 (190,000)	 2,591,667
Designated funds				
Fixed asset reserve	6,919,967	-	-	6,919,967
Revaluation reserve	1,066,612	-	-	1,066,612
Covid-19 contingency reserve	-	550,000	-	550,000
Chris Page Centre	-	207,336	-	207,336
Total unrestricted funds	7,986,579	3,539,003	(190,000)	11,335,582
Total funds	10,122,865	3,606,464	(190,000)	13,539,329

17. Analysis of Total Assets Between Funds – Prior Year Comparatives

	Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets/ (liabilities) (£)	Provisions & Long Term Liabilities (£)	Total as at 31 March 2020 (£)
Restricted Funds				
Portfield School — Buildings	1,746,172	-		1,746,172
Adult Services — Buildings	376,029	-		376,029
Employability	-	10,662		10,662
Therapy equipment & IT	-	2,721		2,721
Education & Skills Funding	-	18,974		18,974
Barnes Lane Activities	-	202		202
Childwick Trust Horse Riding	-	10,800		10,800
Portfield School Bikeability	-	4,153		4,153
Sensory Multi-Use Games Area	-	55,865		55,865
Portfield School Model Classroom	-	15,101		15,101
Trampolines - Bouncing for Brilliance	-	3,240		3,240
Forest School	-	2,925		2,925
Volunteer Co-Ordinator	-	8,106		8,106
COVID Support	-	10,000		10,000
Portfield School - General	-	-		-
Total restricted funds	2,122,201	142,749	-	2,264,950
 Unrestricted funds	 1,117,140	 1,667,986	 (400,000)	 2,385,126
Designated funds				
Fixed asset reserve	6,816,550	-	-	6,816,550
Covid-19 contingency reserve	-	50,000	-	50,000
Revaluation reserve	1,142,676	-	-	1,142,676
Total unrestricted funds	9,076,366	1,717,986	(400,000)	10,394,352
Total funds	11,198,567	1,860,735	(400,000)	12,659,302

18. Operating Lease Commitments

At the balance sheet date, the company had the following minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases for each of the following periods:

	Plant and Machinery		Land and Buildings	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)
Payments due:				
Not later than one year	10,580	39,479	9,600	11,105
Later than one and not later than 5 years	20,005	143	1,736	11,336
Later than five year	-	-	-	-
	30,585	39,622	11,336	22,441

19. Financial Instruments

	2021	2020
	(£)	(£)
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost:		
Fees and sundry debtors	344,854	448,356
Cash at bank and in hand	3,895,422	2,007,558
	4,240,276	2,455,914
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost:		
Other loans	100,000	100,000
Trade creditors	179,522	128,568
	279,522	228,568

20. Members' Liability

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee having no share capital. Each member undertakes to contribute such amount (not exceeding £1) as may be required in the event of the Charity being wound up.

21. Capital Commitments

There were no material capital commitments as at the balance sheet date.

22. Related Party Transactions

Transactions with Trustees are disclosed at Note 8. There were no other Related Party Transactions.

23. Control

The charitable company is controlled by its Trustees acting in concert.

24. Pension commitments and other post-retirement benefits

Defined contribution scheme

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme for non-teaching staff, together with the government auto-enrolment scheme. The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the charitable company in independently administered funds.

Defined benefit scheme

The charitable company contributes to the Teachers' Pension Scheme for the benefit of its teaching staff, which is a defined benefit scheme. The assets of the scheme are administered by the Teachers' Pension Agency which instructs the company as to the level of contributions, with eligible employees making a tiered percentage contribution and employers' contributions made at a fixed rate of 16.48% until September 2019 and 23.68% thereafter. The company does not have any commitment to make good an actuarial deficit, nor is it entitled to benefit from surplus funding. Accordingly, the scheme is accounted for as if it is a defined contribution scheme.

25. Comparative Figures for the Statement of Financial Activities

	2020 Unrestricted Funds (£)	2020 Restricted Funds (£)	2020 Total Funds (£)
Income			
Donations	63,485	124,306	187,791
Charitable Activities	9,927,824	102,442	10,030,266
Total Income	9,991,309	226,748	10,218,057
Expenditure			
Raising funds	161,882	-	161,882
Charitable activities	9,450,800	198,472	9,649,272
Total Expenditure	9,612,682	198,472	9,811,154
NET INCOME	378,627	28,276	406,903
Transfers between funds	11,474	(11,474)	-
Net movement in funds for the year	390,101	16,802	406,903
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:			
Total funds brought forward	10,004,251	2,248,148	12,252,399
Total funds carried forward	10,394,352	2,264,950	12,659,302

Thank You

Back to the the start

Annual Report and
Financial Statements

Year End 31 March 2021

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Parley Lane, Christchurch, BH23 6BP



Autism Wessex | Company Number: 2506982 | Registered Charity Number: 1000792

