

# BEXLEY DEAF GROUP

England & Wales · Charity number 1039183

## Details

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Other names	BEXLEY DEAF CENTRE
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Company number	<a href="#">02942265</a>
Registered	1994-07-01
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a>

## Contact

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**Address** The Learning and Enterprise College  
5 Brampton Road  
Bexleyheath  
Kent  
DA7 4EZ

**Phone** 01322351122

**Email** [info@bexleydeafcentre.co.uk](mailto:info@bexleydeafcentre.co.uk)

**Website** [www.bexleydeafcentre.com](http://www.bexleydeafcentre.com)

## Activities

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**Objects:** TO RELIEVE DEAF PERSONS RESIDENT IN THE LONDON BOROUGH OF BEXLEY IN ANY MANNER WHICH IS NOW OR SHALL HEREAFTER BE DEEMED TO BE CHARITABLE IN LAW

**Activities:** Bexley Deaf Centre provides support and encouragement to Hearing Impaired People and their families within the Bexley Borough.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin

## Geography

- **Area of benefit:** THE LONDON BOROUGH OF BEXLEY
- Bexley
- Kent

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£135,797	£140,727	-	-
2024-03-31	£204,814	£127,674	-	-
2023-03-31	£161,693	£155,759	-	-
2022-03-31	£88,955	£107,454	-	-
2021-03-31	£173,789	£97,277	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>David Foot</b>	Chair	2018-10-30
Amanda Challinor		2026-04-01
Belliappa Konganda		2025-04-01
Mark Raymond Gately		2018-10-30
Neale Huelin		2026-04-01
Rory McDonnell		2026-04-01
Sarah Lavender		2026-04-01
Tim Collett		2026-04-01

**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**

England & Wales - Charity number 1039183

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# Accounts

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**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**Registered Charity number: 1039183**

**Company Registration Number: 02942265**

**Independent Examiner:**

Sadler Davies (Trading as: Finsbury Robinson Ltd)  
Top Floor, West Hill House, Dartford, Kent DA1 2EU

**Registered Address:**

The Learning and Enterprise College, 5 Brampton Road,  
Bexleyheath, Kent DA7 4EZ

**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**

**Year Ended 31st March 2025**

Contents:

	Page
Reference and Administration Details	1
Report of the Trustees	2 - 5
Statement of Assets & Liabilities	6
Statement of Financial Activities	7
Notes to the Financial Statements	8 - 10
Independent Examiners report	11

# BEXLEY DEAF GROUP

1

## Reference and Administration Details for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

Company Registration Number 02942265

Charity Number 1039183

Registered Office The Learning & Enterprise College, 5 Brampton Road,  
Bexleyheath, DA7 4EZ

Directors and trustees: David Foot (Chair)  
Mark Raymond Gately  
Barry Hartwell  
Belliappa Konganda  
Nikolas Murley  
Melanie Porte  
Oyin Olaitan Rogers  
Balkar Thind

Chief Executive Officer Mrs Tania Bushell

Bankers CAF Bank Ltd  
25 Kings Hill Avenue  
West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ

Independent Examiner Sadler Davies (Trading as: Finsbury Robinson Ltd)  
Top Floor, West Hill House,  
Dartford Kent DA1 2EU

## Trustees' Annual Report for the period from 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025

### **Governing Document**

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 23rd June 1994 and registered as a charity on 1st July 1994. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

We appoint Trustees through a programme of local advertising and recruitment, where we utilise local communication channels and partners, such as our local Council for Voluntary Services and service user groups. We advertise the skills and requirements needed to enhance the Board and applications are then reviewed by the Trustee Board. Shortlisted applicants have the opportunity to observe a Trustee Board meeting, ask informal questions prior to an interview with Trustee members and appointment.

The Charity's structure is as follows:

General day to day management of the centre is the responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer. All major decisions and expenditure must be presented to and agreed by the Trustees. There are no major risks that would affect the delivery of services provided by the charity.

The charity relies on a grant jointly funded from Bexley Council and South East London ICS, which provides most of the income for the charity to run. The trustees recognise the risk that should the grant not be awarded the charity would have to find different sources of funding.

### **Objectives and activities and public benefit**

To relieve deaf persons resident in the London Borough of Bexley in any manner which is now or shall hereafter be deemed to be charitable in law. Bexley Deaf Group provides support and encouragement to hearing impaired people and their families within the Bexley borough.

To promote improvements in all facilities (i.e. medical, environmental, educational and recreational) for Deaf and hard of hearing people irrespective of racial background, religion, gender, age or degree of hearing loss, resident in the London Borough of Bexley. It aims to enable these residents to enjoy the same quality of life as that enjoyed by those with unimpaired hearing.

### **Achievements and performance**

This year has been another productive and rewarding one for the Bexley Deaf Group. Alongside our usual day-to-day work to support our local Deaf and hard-of-hearing community, we have been working hard on raising our profile within the wider community.

The centre is now fully established in Brampton Road; due to our new location and excellent transport links, Bexley Deaf Centre has found a fantastic new space to operate from. We have continued to meet the needs of the community with the added bonus of being able to deliver most of our courses on the premises and in one consistent space.

Our British Sign Language (BSL) Courses are proving to be as popular as ever. Many of these courses are at capacity and upcoming courses have waiting lists. This is testament to our teaching and office staff who ensure that we provide a high quality, efficient service. We have consistently offered BSL levels 1 and 2 over the past 25 years, and this year we have introduced Level 3.

We celebrated our students' achievements by holding a presentation evening at The Star in Sidcup. Our students were awarded their certificates by Daniel Francis MP and the evening was a huge success, one which will now be repeated every year.

In addition to our BSL courses, we welcomed a group of 12 hearing aid users and delivered two, 8 week courses in lipreading skills which were a huge success. These courses provide valuable techniques and tips

in how to manage hearing loss and empowers hard of hearing people to have the confidence to speak up about their issues.

We were very pleased to welcome London Fire Brigade's Borough Commander for Bexley onto our BSL level 1 course and subsequently level 2. He was very keen on getting all Bexley firefighters trained in basic BSL to ensure that they would be able to communicate with a BSL user in the event of an emergency. We worked alongside the Commander to facilitate courses that would work around shift patterns and this flexible approach proved to be a resounding success. It is hoped that this training can be repeated every 2 years and shows how organisations can collaborate in order to improve the lives of our local Deaf community.

We were invited along to an open day hosted by London Fire Brigade where we set up our own stall and had a core group of volunteers to help liaise with the public. A demonstration was set up for the general public where one of our Deaf residents was cut out of a car. Bexley firefighters were able to show off their newly learnt BSL skills which proved to be a huge success. Many people expressed an interest in learning BSL and as a result, we had many sign-ups for our courses.

This year saw a special achievement in Bexley Deaf Centre's history. We celebrated our 30<sup>th</sup> year and to recognise this we held a celebration on the 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024. It was a prestigious event which was attended by Mr Daniel Francis MP, The Mayor of Bexley, Councillor Sue Gower MBE, alongside the leader of Bexley Council, Baroness Theresa O'Neill, the Director of Adult Social Care and Health for Bexley, Yolande Dennehy and finally the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health, Councillor Melvin Seymour. We were joined by 80 people from the Deaf and hard of hearing communities, along with supporters and other stakeholders. Barry Hartwell gave a compelling talk about the history of BDC, followed by a presentation from our CEO and a speech by our Chair. We were also joined by Kenneth Gibbons, whose father was one of the founders of the charity. He was asked to cut our celebration cake and gave a short speech about how proud he was to be representing his father and recognised the hard work of the staff in making the deaf centre the charity it is today.

During this event we were presented with a copy of the text of an 'Early Day Motion' raised by Mr Daniel Francis MP, which had been announced in Parliament and recorded as such. It read:

***'That this House congratulates Bexley Deaf Centre on its 30th anniversary of being recognised as a charity and celebrates the opening of a new Deaf Centre in Brampton Road, Bexleyheath earlier this year; notes that Bexley Deaf Centre was originally commissioned by the local authority to help people maintain their hearing aids and distribute batteries; highlights that their services now include British Sign Language courses, a hearing aid clinic, a job club, advocacy and information advice and deaf awareness in schools; further notes that Bexley Deaf Centre's services are now accessed on average over 10,000 times a year; thanks all staff and volunteers for their continued dedication; and wishes the Bexley Deaf Centre all the best for the future.'*** <https://edm.parliament.uk/early-day-motion/62835>

We were very pleased to be successful in securing funding from Lloyds Bank Foundation who awarded us £75,000 in unrestricted funding, released over a three-year period. This funding has allowed us to employ a part-time member of staff in response to the increasing demand for benefit support and advice for the Deaf community.

We adjusted our current website, which is now a new snappier and more accessible site for our users to learn about what we do, services we provide, and up to date information in both British Sign Language and written English. However, we are currently in the process of developing a new website that will bring a whole new look to the charity and one which will incorporate our aims in our new strategy which is due to begin in the next financial year.

Bexley Council contacted us with the view to integrating more BSL on their website, thereby meeting their statutory obligations under the Accessible Information Standard. They have a new resident engagement platform called 'Ask Bexley' and were keen to get important content provided in BSL.

They asked us to create signed videos for this website, encouraging Deaf Bexley residents to have their say on important issues in the community. This important piece of work ensures that Deaf residents are treated equitably and is in keeping with our mission statement of 'Working with Deaf people for Equality'. We have now been commissioned to provide another 10 short info-videos throughout the next year. We were successful in securing funding to set up some Pickleball sessions for our Deaf community as it was something they were very keen to learn. We purchased starter equipment and were lucky enough to find a Deaf Pickleball coach who brought such energy and excitement to the sessions they took off immediately. Due to this success, we hosted the UK's very first Pickleball festival in January which was attended by 50 participants from all over the country including Derby, the West Country and one person from Canada.

Bexley Deaf Pickleball Club is now a thriving group and is self-run. There is now a national league and Deaf Pickleball groups are popping up all over the country. It is a very popular sport in the Deaf community but recognition should go to James Townsend who has been the driving force behind this phenomenon.

Finally, in a first for BDC, a group of six people including our CEO and Chair embarked on the 'Yorkshire 3 Peaks Challenge' this year to raise money for the centre and for Bexley Deaf Club. This event is very tough, requiring participants to walk over 25 miles, climbing 3 mountains in the process, all in under 12 hours. Our group completed it in 9 hours and 42 minutes and was a hugely successful event, raising an impressive total of £4,200. The funds were shared equally between the 2 organisations and will be used to fund various activities in the coming year.

Our work in the Bexley Deaf community remains at the heart of our day-to-day lives. The Deaf Centre remains a place where people can drop in for hearing checks, hearing aid maintenance, and general advice and support.

Our CEO is involved in a number of professional networking opportunities within Bexley and is committed to raising awareness of Bexley Deaf Centre and the importance of our services within the borough.

Our commissioned services include:

- Hearing aid information and maintenance
- Outreach clinics and home visits
- Lip reading classes for hard of hearing people
- BSL classes, levels 1,2 and 3
- Deaf Awareness for organisations
- Job-seekers club
- Pickleball and Bowls
- Advocacy and information
- HearCheck

### **Financial Review**

The expenditure of the charity exceeded the income, resulting in a deficit of £4,929.62 (2024: surplus £77,140.29) in the year and has £116,433.69 (2024: £126,067.44) unrestricted reserves.

The charity has a policy on reserves, to keep at least 3 months expenditure in the unrestricted reserve.

The restricted reserve of £44,159.07 is the unspent balance of funding for the following projects:

- SEL ICS (South East London Integrated Care System) supported the development of our befriending 'Lend an Ear' project.
- SEL ICS (South East London Integrated Care System) supported the GP Access Project; working to improve accessibility to healthcare for the deaf community.
- Sport England, through BVSC, fund the walking football project; providing access to sport for people who are deaf or disabled.

- Lloyds Bank Foundation supports our benefit support and advice provision.

**Staffing:** The staffing levels for the year were 3 full time equivalent paid staff and 7 volunteers give their time on an ad hoc basis.

**Investment Policy.** Aside from retaining a prudent amount in reserves most of the charity's funds are spent in the short term, consequently there are no long term investments.

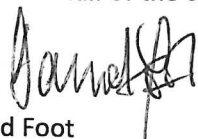
### Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are required under the Charities Act 2011 to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- (a) Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- (b) Make suitable judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- (c) State whether applicable accounting standards of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- (d) Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records, which enable them to disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity, and for ensuring that they comply with applicable law and regulations. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:



Mr David Foot  
Chair of Trustees

× Date:

26/11/2025

**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**  
**STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES**  
Year Ended 31st March 2025

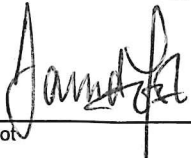
	Note	Unrestricted 2025 £	Designated 2025 £	Restricted 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>Tangible Fixed Assets</b>	2	3,332.68	-	-	3,332.68	3,526.56
<b>Current Assets</b>						
Debtors		665.00	-	-	665.00	-
<b>Cash and Bank</b>						
Cash		84.01	-	-	84.01	34.01
Bank account		113,889.03	94,195.82	44,159.07	252,243.92	257,908.42
Total current assets		114,638.04	94,195.82	44,159.07	252,992.93	257,942.43
Liabilities: amounts falling due within 1 year	3	1,537.03	-	-	1,537.03	1,750.79
<b>Current Assets less Current Liabilities</b>		113,101.01	94,195.82	44,159.07	251,455.90	256,191.64
<b>Total Assets less Current Liabilities</b>		<b>£116,433.69</b>	<b>£94,195.82</b>	<b>£44,159.07</b>	<b>£254,788.58</b>	<b>£259,718.20</b>
<b>FUNDS</b>	9					
Unrestricted: General		116,433.69	-	-	116,433.69	126,067.44
Designated: Daisy Mumford		-	94,195.82	-	94,195.82	94,195.82
Restricted: South East London ICS - Rent		-	-	-	-	9,869.52
Restricted: South East London ICS - Lend an Ear		-	-	3,560.00	3,560.00	10,535.53
Restricted: South East London ICS - GP Access Project		-	-	16,256.00	16,256.00	16,395.82
Restricted: BVSC: Lloyds Bank Foundation		-	-	21,729.00	21,729.00	-
Restricted: BVSC: Deaf Sport Fund		-	-	2,614.07	2,614.07	2,654.07
		<b>£116,433.69</b>	<b>£94,195.82</b>	<b>£44,159.07</b>	<b>£254,788.58</b>	<b>£259,718.20</b>

The company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

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

X   
Mr David Foot  
Date:

26/11/2025

**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**Year Ended 31st March 2025**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted	TOTAL FUNDS	
		General	Designated	Funds	2025	2024
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>						
Voluntary Income	4a	3,802.97	-	-	3,802.97	3,582.65
Charitable Activities	4b	104,046.79	-	27,400.00	131,446.79	200,754.52
Income from investments	4c	547.82	-	-	547.82	476.85
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<u>108,397.58</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,400.00</u>	<u>135,797.58</u>	<u>204,814.02</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>						
Charitable Activities	5a	127,020.31	-	12,826.35	139,846.66	126,741.82
Other expenditure	5b	880.54	-	-	880.54	931.91
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		<u>127,900.85</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,826.35</u>	<u>140,727.20</u>	<u>127,673.73</u>
<b>NET INCOMING / ( OUTGOING ) RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS</b>		(19,503.27)	0.00	14,573.65	(4,929.62)	77,140.29
<b>ADDITIONS TO &amp; RELEASES FROM FUNDS</b>		9,869.52	-	(9,869.52)	-	-
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<u>(9,633.75)</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>4,704.13</u>	<u>(4,929.62)</u>	<u>77,140.29</u>
<b>BALANCES BROUGHT FWD AT 1 APRIL 2024 (2023)</b>		<u>£ 126,067.44</u>	<u>£ 94,195.82</u>	<u>£ 39,454.94</u>	<u>£ 259,718.20</u>	<u>£ 182,577.91</u>
<b>BALANCES CARRIED FWD AT 31 MARCH 2025 (2024)</b>		<u>£ 116,433.69</u>	<u>£ 94,195.82</u>	<u>£ 44,159.07</u>	<u>£ 254,788.58</u>	<u>£ 259,718.20</u>

**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**Year Ended 31st March 2025**

**1 Accounting Policies**

**1a Accounting Convention**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP FRS102) 2015 and the Charities Act 2011. An independent examination is required under the Charities Act 2011.

Abridged financial statements have been filed with Companies House in accordance with the special provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to smaller companies. No audit is required under exemption S 477 of the Companies Act 2006. Exemption has been taken from preparing a cashflow on the grounds that the company qualifies as a small company.

**1b Tangible Fixed Assets**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.  
Office furniture and computer equipment - 20% reducing balance.

**1c Pension Costs**

Bexley Deaf Group has offered the NEST pension plan for all eligible employees.

**1d Fund accounting**

Unrestricted and designated funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor.

**2 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
	£	£
<b>Office Equipment</b>		
Cost	13,934.64	12,984.68
Addition	622.01	949.96
	<u>14,556.65</u>	<u>13,934.64</u>
Accumulated Depreciation 1st April 2024	10,408.08	9,536.17
Charge for year	815.89	871.91
	<u>11,223.97</u>	<u>10,408.08</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE 31st March 2025</b>	<u><b>3,332.68</b></u>	<u><b>3,526.56</b></u>

**3 LIABILITIES FALLING DUE WITHIN 1 YEAR**

Creditors	204.20	460.80
Nest Pension	348.83	326.99
Accrued expenses	984.00	963.00
	<u>1,537.03</u>	<u>1,750.79</u>

**4 INCOMING RESOURCES**

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>TOTAL FUNDS</u>	
	<u>General</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>4a Voluntary Income</b>					
Donations and legacies	3,802.97	-	-	3,802.97	3,582.65
	<u>3,802.97</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,802.97</u>	<u>3,582.65</u>
<b>4b Charitable Activities</b>					
South East London ICS - Service Delivery and Rent	68,971.10	-	-	68,971.10	68,961.10
South East London ICS - GP Access Project	-	-	-	-	25,000.00
South East London ICS - Core Sustainability Fund	-	-	-	-	60,000.00
GWUK Groundwork (Tesco) - Lend an Ear	-	-	-	-	375.00
Community Links Bromley - Health Education England	-	-	2,400.00	2,400.00	21,600.00
Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	-	25,000.00	25,000.00	-
Courses	31,115.69	-	-	31,115.69	24,818.42
Training	3,960.00	-	-	3,960.00	-
	<u>104,046.79</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,400.00</u>	<u>131,446.79</u>	<u>200,754.52</u>
<b>4c Income from investment</b>					
Bank interest	547.82	-	-	547.82	476.85
	<u>547.82</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>547.82</u>	<u>476.85</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	<u><b>£108,397.58</b></u>	<u><b>£0.00</b></u>	<u><b>£27,400.00</b></u>	<u><b>£135,797.58</b></u>	<u><b>£204,814.02</b></u>

**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
Year Ended 31st March 2025

5 RESOURCES EXPENDED	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>TOTAL FUNDS</u>	
	<u>General</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>5a Expenditure on charitable activities</b>					
British Sign Language Courses	19,302.95	-	-	19,302.95	14,250.27
Interpreting Services	1,485.00	-	-	1,485.00	1,090.00
Charitable Activities: Expenses	-	-	1,559.01	1,559.01	1,357.30
Rent of offices	9,470.00	-	-	9,470.00	6,155.50
Meeting room hire	-	-	-	-	127.50
Wages	86,173.62	-	7,982.98	94,156.60	92,332.53
Employers NI	1,000.00	-	1,118.39	2,118.39	1,091.32
Pensions	1,000.00	-	778.35	1,778.35	1,572.63
Telephone	-	-	796.10	796.10	1,158.25
Computer software	579.60	-	-	579.60	449.00
Printing postage stationery	1,361.93	-	-	1,361.93	1,340.55
Travel and subsistence	-	-	149.52	149.52	68.45
Insurance	642.87	-	-	642.87	623.76
Refreshments	507.69	-	-	507.69	361.52
Company accounts filing fees	34.00	-	-	34.00	13.00
Staff training	-	-	442.00	442.00	30.00
Sundry	216.40	-	-	216.40	442.30
Accountancy and book keeping	2,116.00	-	-	2,116.00	1,285.34
Subscriptions	1,325.80	-	-	1,325.80	1,089.00
Legal & Professional	1,804.45	-	-	1,804.45	1,903.60
	<u>127,020.31</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>12,826.35</u>	<u>139,846.66</u>	<u>126,741.82</u>
<b>5b Other expenditure</b>					
Depreciation	815.89	-	-	815.89	871.91
Bank charges	64.65	-	-	64.65	60.00
	<u>880.54</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>880.54</u>	<u>931.91</u>
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<b><u>£127,900.85</u></b>	<b><u>£0.00</u></b>	<b><u>£12,826.35</u></b>	<b><u>£140,727.20</u></b>	<b><u>£127,673.73</u></b>

**6 Trustee Remuneration**

None of the trustees have been paid remuneration or received other benefits from employment with the charity.

**7 Staff Costs**

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
	£	£
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	£94,156.60	£92,332.53
Employer's National Insurance	£1,118.39	£1,091.32
Employer's Pension	£778.35	£1,572.63
<b>Total staff costs</b>	<b><u>£96,053.34</u></b>	<b><u>£94,996.48</u></b>

**8 Trustee Expenses**

None of the trustees have claimed expenses or had their expenses met by the charity.

**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**Year Ended 31st March 2025**

**9 Funds**

<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>BFWD</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Net Movement</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>CFWD</u>
South East London ICS - Rent	9,869.52	-	-	-	(9,869.52)	-
South East London ICS - Lend an Ear	10,535.53	-	6,975.53	(6,975.53)		3,560.00
South East London ICS - GP Access Project	16,395.82	-	139.82	(139.82)		16,256.00
Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	25,000.00	3,271.00	21,729.00		21,729.00
Community Links Bromley - Health Education England	-	2,400.00	2,400.00	-		-
BVSC: Deaf Sport Fund	2,654.07	-	40.00	(40.00)		2,614.07
	<u>39,454.94</u>	<u>27,400.00</u>	<u>12,826.35</u>	<u>14,573.65</u>	<u>(9,869.52)</u>	<u>44,159.07</u>
Designated - Daisy Mumford	<u>94,195.82</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>94,195.82</u>
<u>General</u>	<u>126,067.44</u>	<u>108,397.58</u>	<u>£127,900.85</u>	<u>(19,503.27)</u>	<u>9,869.52</u>	<u>116,433.69</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b><u>£259,718.20</u></b>	<b><u>£135,797.58</u></b>	<b><u>£140,727.20</u></b>	<b><u>(£4,929.62)</u></b>	<b><u>£0.00</u></b>	<b><u>£254,788.58</u></b>

## **BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**

### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

#### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**

This report on the financial statements of the **BEXLEY DEAF GROUP** for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set on pages 1 to 10 is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with s145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

#### **Respective responsibilities of the trustees and the examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) or under Regulation 10(1)(d) of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (the 2006 Accounts Regulations) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 (the 2005 Act)
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. The examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

(1) which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
- to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act;
- have not been met; or
- to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached; or
- which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the accounting rules of the charity's constitution have not been met.



**Gemma L Fogarty FCA**  
**Sadler Davies**  
**Trading as: Finsbury Robinson Ltd**  
**Top Floor, West Hill House,**  
**Dartford,**  
**Kent DA1 2EU**

**Date: 6<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**

England & Wales - Charity number 1039183

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# Accounts

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**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
of the  
**TRUSTEES**

**for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**Charity registration number 1039183**

**Bank:**

Charities Aid Foundation Bank

**Independent Examiner:**

Sadler Davies

Trading as: Finsbury Robinson Ltd

Top Floor, West Hill House,

Dartford, Kent DA1 2EU

# Bexley Deaf Group (BDG)

## Trustees' Annual Report for the period from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

Company Limited by Guarantee Number: 02942265

Charity Number: 1039183

Registered Office: The Learning & Enterprise College, 5 Brampton Road, Bexleyheath, DA7 4EZ

Bankers: CAF Bank

Accountants: Sadler Davies, Trading as: Finsbury Robinson Ltd, Top Floor, West Hill House, Dartford, Kent DA1 2EU

### **Directors and trustees:**

The directors of the charitable company (the charity) are its trustees for the purpose of charity law.

David Foot	Chair and Director
Mark Raymond Gately	Trustee and Director
Barry Hartwell	Trustee and Director
Belliappa Konganda	Trustee and Director
Nikolas Murley	Trustee and Director
Melanie Porte	Treasurer and Director
Oyin Olaitan Rogers	Trustee and Director
Balkar Thind	Trustee and Director
Michael Colget	Trustee and Director – resigned June 2023

### **Key management personnel:**

Chief Executive Officer – Mrs Tania Bushell

No trustees have received remuneration from employment with the charity.

### **Governing Document**

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 23rd June 1994 and registered as a charity on 1st July 1994. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

We appoint Trustees through a programme of local advertising and recruitment, where we utilise local communication channels and partners, such as our local Council for Voluntary Services and service user groups. We advertise the skills and requirements needed to enhance the Board and applications are then reviewed by the Trustee Board. Shortlisted applicants have the opportunity to observe a Trustee Board meeting, ask informal questions prior to an interview with Trustee members and appointment.

The Charity's structure is as follows:

General day to day management of the centre is the responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer. All major decisions and expenditure must be presented to and agreed by the Trustees.

There are no major risks that would affect the delivery of services provided by the charity.

The charity relies on a grant jointly funded from Bexley Council and South East London ICS, which provides most of the income for the charity to run. The trustees recognise the risk that should the grant not be awarded the charity would have to find different sources of funding.

### **Objectives and activities and public benefit**

To relieve deaf persons resident in the London Borough of Bexley in any manner which is now or shall hereafter be deemed to be charitable in law. Bexley Deaf Group provides support and encouragement to hearing impaired people and their families within the Bexley borough.

To promote improvements in all facilities (i.e. medical, environmental, educational and recreational) for Deaf and hard of hearing people irrespective of racial background, religion, gender, age or degree of hearing loss, resident in the London Borough of Bexley. It aims to enable these residents to enjoy the same quality of life as that enjoyed by those with unimpaired hearing.

### **Achievements and performance**

This year has been another productive and rewarding one for the Bexley Deaf Group. Alongside our usual day-to-day work to support our local Deaf and hard-of-hearing community, we have also been involved in two important research projects relating to health care and the Deaf community.

The first of these was a continuation of our GP Access project, in partnership with the NHS. The project aims to make existing pathways to healthcare more accessible for the Deaf community in Bexley; to provide targeted support to Bexley GP practices to improve their engagement with Deaf clients; and to provide tools and training to local social prescribers in specific deaf support.

Building on the success of last year, we have continued to work with GP practices to update their websites with accessibility information, including BSL videos; to train them in the effective use of loop systems; and to support them in improving access to healthcare to the Deaf and hard of hearing. Our deaf awareness training, which initially covered GP surgeries, including support staff, has now been opened out to paramedics, advanced practitioners and nurses.

The second of our healthcare research projects was an initiative to help identify why there are so few Deaf people working within the South East London health and care workforce. Commissioned by Health Education England, the objectives of the project were to capture feedback from Deaf adults and young people; to understand the challenges faced by Deaf people when accessing jobs in the SEL health and care workforce; and to understand any communication issues/barriers that Deaf people experience in the workplace.

The project outcomes were to provide solutions to encourage more Deaf people to work in the healthcare sector; to devise a system where Deaf people are well supported when working within a healthcare setting in keeping with statutory guidelines; and to ensure that healthcare professionals and colleagues are educated in deaf awareness to enable them to understand communication barriers and Deaf culture.

To this end, we engaged with as many of the local Deaf population as possible, via focus groups, face-to-face conversations and email responses. We used our own service user contacts as well as those known to social services who may not necessarily use our services. We consulted our colleagues in the sensory support team who provided valuable insight and helped us to contact some of the harder to reach members of the Deaf community.

Our research uncovered some valuable feedback and fascinating insights into the type of barriers that Deaf people face in pursuing a career in the health and care sector. It is hoped that our work will aid South East London ICS in breaking down these barriers, which will not only enable more Deaf people to gain employment with the trust but also benefit the wider Deaf population.

Following on from our GP Access project, and as part of an ongoing drive to provide public and healthcare information in British Sign Language, we have recorded some short BSL information videos for Bexley Council. This service forms part of a broader initiative by the local authority to better meet the needs of the Deaf community and more importantly to meet the council's statutory obligations under the

Accessible Information Standard. Our CEO currently sits on the Bexley Wellbeing Partnership Accessibility sub-group with the aim to ensure that all public information is available in British Sign Language.

Although our research projects have been an important part of this year, our work in the Bexley Deaf community remains at the heart of our day-to-day lives. Our Lend an Ear befriending project provides practical and emotional support to vulnerable Deaf and hard-of-hearing members of our community within their homes, while the Deaf Centre remains a place where people can drop in for hearing checks, hearing aid maintenance, and general advice and support.

Our website has been revamped in a more contemporary and animated style while remaining accessible and informative, with a new welcome video in British Sign Language and subtitles featuring prominently on our home page.

Our sign language classes, which offer BSL levels 1 and 2, continue to be very successful, and this year saw the relaunch of our lipreading classes. Our deaf awareness provision to schools, companies and the community has included sessions for Sixth Formers at Blackfen School, employees of Workspace Group PLC, and council staff at Bexley Civic Offices, as well as training for 55 firefighters and support staff of the London Fire Brigade.

We have all been keeping fit and having fun with the launch of regular Deaf Bowls and Deaf Pickle Ball sessions, while, on a more cultural note, our annual Christmas Carol concert with our signing choir and the children of Pelham School was, as always, an extremely well attended and well received event.

We are excited to announce that we are shortly due to move into new premises in Bexleyheath. Not only will these premises provide superior resources but also benefit from excellent transport links and will enhance our ability to meet our clients' needs. The move will coincide with the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the charity so we are looking forward to a double celebration in the coming months.

Our commissioned services include:

- hearing aid information and maintenance
- outreach clinics and home visits
- lip reading classes for hard of hearing people
- BSL classes and deaf awareness
- job-seekers club
- Pickleball and Bowls
- Advocacy and information
- HearCheck

### **Financial Review**

The income of the charity exceeded the expenditure, resulting in a surplus of £77,140.29 (2023 surplus £5,934.43) in the year and has £126,067.44 (2023 £43,283.10) unrestricted reserves.

The charity has a policy on reserves, to keep at least 3 months expenditure in the unrestricted reserve.

The restricted reserve of £39,454.94 is the unspent balance of funding for the following projects:

- SEL ICS (South East London Integrated Care System) supported the development of our befriending 'Lend an Ear' project.
- SEL ICS (South East London Integrated Care System) supported the GP Access Project; working to improve accessibility to healthcare for the deaf community.
- Sport England, through BVSC, fund the walking football project; providing access to sport for people who are deaf or disabled.

**Staffing:** The staffing levels for the year were 3 full time equivalent paid staff and 7 volunteers give their time on an ad hoc basis.

**Investment Policy.** Aside from retaining a prudent amount in reserves most of the charity's funds are spent in the short term, consequently there are no long term investments.

**Trustees' responsibilities**

The trustees are required under the Charities Act 2011 to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- (a) Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- (b) Make suitable judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- (c) State whether applicable accounting standards of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- (d) Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records, which enable them to disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity, and for ensuring that they comply with applicable law and regulations. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

*David Foot*

David Foot (Dec 16, 2024 11:47 GMT)

Mr David Foot  
Chair of Trustees

Date: 16/12/24

**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**  
Charity Number  
**Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31st March 2024**

5

	Note	Unrestricted 2024 £	Designated 2024 £	Restricted 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Tangible Fixed Assets</b>	2	3,526.56	-	-	3,526.56	3,448.51
<b>Current Assets</b>						
<b>Monetary Assets</b>						
Cash		34.01	-	-	34.01	14.01
Bank account		124,257.66	94,195.82	39,454.94	257,908.42	180,321.22
Total current assets		124,291.67	94,195.82	39,454.94	257,942.43	180,335.23
Liabilities: amounts falling due within 1 year	3	1,750.79	-	-	1,750.79	1,205.83
<b>Current Assets less Current Liabilities</b>		122,540.88	94,195.82	39,454.94	256,191.64	179,129.40
<b>Total Assets less Current Liabilities</b>		<b>£126,067.44</b>	<b>£94,195.82</b>	<b>£39,454.94</b>	<b>£259,718.20</b>	<b>£182,577.91</b>
<b>FUNDS</b>	6					
Unrestricted: General		126,067.44	-	-	126,067.44	43,283.10
Designated: Daisy Mumford		-	94,195.82	-	94,195.82	94,394.82
Restricted: South East London ICS - Rent		-	-	9,869.52	9,869.52	3,713.92
Restricted: South East London ICS - Lend an Ear		-	-	10,535.53	10,535.53	15,483.00
Restricted: GWUK Groundwork (Tesco) - Lend an Ear		-	-	-	-	6,125.00
Restricted: South East London ICS - GP Access Project		-	-	16,395.82	16,395.82	14,539.70
Restricted: BVSC: Info Video Fund		-	-	-	-	1,000.00
Restricted: BVSC: Walking Football Project		-	-	2,654.07	2,654.07	4,038.37
		<b>£126,067.44</b>	<b>£94,195.82</b>	<b>£39,454.94</b>	<b>£259,718.20</b>	<b>£182,577.91</b>

Signed by

*David Foot*

David Foot (Dec 16, 2024 11:47 GMT)

Mr David Foot

Date: 16/12/24

**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

6

	Note	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted	TOTAL FUNDS	
		General	Designated	Funds	2024	2023
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>						
Voluntary Income	4a	3,582.65	-	-	3,582.65	3,556.01
Charitable Activities	4b	81,468.42	-	119,286.10	200,754.52	157,853.13
Income from investments	4c	476.85	-	-	476.85	284.21
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<u>85,527.92</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>119,286.10</u>	<u>204,814.02</u>	<u>161,693.35</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>						
Charitable Activities	5a	1,811.67	199.00	124,731.15	126,741.82	154,835.50
Other expenditure	5b	931.91	-	-	931.91	923.42
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		<u>2,743.58</u>	<u>199.00</u>	<u>124,731.15</u>	<u>127,673.73</u>	<u>155,758.92</u>
<b>NET INCOMING / ( OUTGOING )</b>						
<b>RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS</b>		82,784.34	(199.00)	(5,445.05)	77,140.29	5,934.43
<b>ADDITIONS TO &amp; RELEASES FROM FUNDS</b>		-	-	-	-	-
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<u>82,784.34</u>	<u>(199.00)</u>	<u>(5,445.05)</u>	<u>77,140.29</u>	<u>5,934.43</u>
<b>BALANCES BROUGHT FWD AT 1 APRIL 2023 (2022)</b>		<u>£ 43,283.10</u>	<u>£ 94,394.82</u>	<u>£ 44,899.99</u>	<u>£ 182,577.91</u>	<u>£ 176,643.48</u>
<b>BALANCES CARRIED FWD AT 31 MARCH 2024 (2023)</b>		<u>£ 126,067.44</u>	<u>£ 94,195.82</u>	<u>£ 39,454.94</u>	<u>£ 259,718.20</u>	<u>£ 182,577.91</u>

**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

7

**1 Accounting Policies**  
**1a Accounting Convention**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP FRS102) 2015 and the Charities Act 2011. An independent examination is required under the Charities Act 2011.

Abridged financial statements have been filed with Companies House in accordance with the special provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to smaller companies. No audit is required under exemption S 477 of the Companies Act 2006. Exemption has been taken from preparing a cashflow on the grounds that the company qualifies as a small company.

**1b Tangible Fixed Assets**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.  
Office furniture and computer equipment - 20% reducing balance.

**1c Pension Costs**

Bexley Deaf Group has offered the NEST pension plan for all eligible employees.

**1d Fund accounting**

Unrestricted and designated funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.  
Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor.

**2 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Office Equipment</b>		
Cost	12,984.68	12,759.79
<b>Addition</b>	949.96	224.89
	13,934.64	12,984.68
Accumulated Depreciation 1st April 2023	9,536.17	8,685.25
Charge for year	871.91	850.92
	10,408.08	9,536.17
NET BOOK VALUE 31st March 2024	3,526.56	3,448.51

**3 LIABILITIES FALLING DUE WITHIN 1 YEAR**

Creditors	460.80	-
Nest Pension	326.99	255.83
Accrued expenses	963.00	950.00
	1,750.79	1,205.83

**4 INCOMING RESOURCES**

	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Designated</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	
	<b>General</b>	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Funds</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>4a Voluntary Income</b>					
Donations and legacies	3,582.65	-	-	3,582.65	3,556.01
	3,582.65	-	-	3,582.65	3,556.01
<b>4b Charitable Activities</b>					
Access to work reclaims	-	-	-	-	2,675.00
South East London ICS - Service Delivery and Rent	56,650.00	-	12,311.10	68,961.10	86,187.92
South East London ICS - Lend an Ear	-	-	-	-	15,483.00
South East London ICS - GP Access Project	-	-	25,000.00	25,000.00	30,000.00
South East London ICS - Core Sustainability Fund	-	-	60,000.00	60,000.00	-
GWUK Groundwork (Tesco) - Lend an Ear	-	-	375.00	375.00	6,125.00
BVSC: Info Video Fund	-	-	-	-	1,000.00
Community Links Bromley - Health Education England Courses	24,818.42	-	21,600.00	21,600.00	-
	24,818.42	-	-	24,818.42	16,382.21
	81,468.42	-	119,286.10	200,754.52	157,853.13
<b>4c Income from investment</b>					
Bank interest	476.85	-	-	476.85	284.21
	476.85	-	-	476.85	284.21
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	<b>£85,527.92</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£119,286.10</b>	<b>£204,814.02</b>	<b>£161,693.35</b>

**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

8

5	RESOURCES EXPENDED	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>TOTAL FUNDS</u>		
		<u>General</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	
		£	£	£	£	£	
5a	<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>						
	British Sign Language Courses	1,798.67	-	12,451.60	14,250.27	9,790.60	
	Interpreting Services	-	-	1,090.00	1,090.00	2,115.00	
	Charitable Activities: Expenses	-	-	1,357.30	1,357.30	4,815.13	
	Rent of offices	-	-	6,155.50	6,155.50	39,574.00	
	Meeting room hire	-	-	127.50	127.50	-	
	Wages	-	-	92,332.53	92,332.53	90,023.49	
	Employers NI	-	-	1,091.32	1,091.32	376.16	
	Pensions	-	-	1,572.63	1,572.63	1,264.96	
	Telephone	-	-	1,158.25	1,158.25	987.08	
	Computer software	-	-	449.00	449.00	-	
	Printing postage stationery	-	-	1,340.55	1,340.55	1,261.06	
	Travel and subsistence	-	-	68.45	68.45	16.40	
	Insurance	-	-	623.76	623.76	719.90	
	Refreshments	-	-	361.52	361.52	220.50	
	Company accounts filing fees	13.00	-	-	13.00	13.00	
	Staff training	-	-	30.00	30.00	-	
	Sundry	-	-	442.30	442.30	324.50	
	Accountancy and book keeping	-	-	1,285.34	1,285.34	1,054.72	
	Subscriptions	-	199.00	890.00	1,089.00	564.00	
	Legal & Professional	-	-	1,903.60	1,903.60	1,715.00	
		<u>1,811.67</u>	<u>199.00</u>	<u>124,731.15</u>	<u>126,741.82</u>	<u>154,835.50</u>	
5b	<b>Other expenditure</b>						
	Depreciation	871.91	-	-	871.91	850.92	
	Bank charges	60.00	-	-	60.00	72.50	
		<u>931.91</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>931.91</u>	<u>923.42</u>	
	<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<b><u>£2,743.58</u></b>	<b><u>£199.00</u></b>	<b><u>£124,731.15</u></b>	<b><u>£127,673.73</u></b>	<b><u>£155,758.92</u></b>	
6	<b>Funds</b>						
	<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>BFWD</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Net Movement</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>CFWD</u>
	South East London ICS - Rent	3,713.92	12,311.10	6,155.50	6,155.60	-	9,869.52
	South East London ICS - Lend an Ear	15,483.00	-	4,947.47	(4,947.47)	-	10,535.53
	South East London ICS - GP Access Project	14,539.70	25,000.00	23,143.88	1,856.12	-	16,395.82
	South East London ICS - Core Sustainability Fund	-	60,000.00	60,000.00	-	-	-
	GWUK Groundwork (Tesco) - Lend an Ear	6,125.00	375.00	6,500.00	(6,125.00)	-	-
	BVSC: Info Video Fund	1,000.00	-	1,000.00	(1,000.00)	-	-
	Community Links Bromley - Health Education England	-	21,600.00	21,600.00	-	-	-
	BVSC: Walking Football Project	4,038.37	-	1,384.30	(1,384.30)	-	2,654.07
		<u>44,899.99</u>	<u>119,286.10</u>	<u>124,731.15</u>	<u>(5,445.05)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>39,454.94</u>
	Designated - Daisy Mumford	<u>94,394.82</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>199.00</u>	<u>(199.00)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>94,195.82</u>
	<u>General</u>	<u>43,283.10</u>	<u>85,527.92</u>	<u>£2,743.58</u>	<u>82,784.34</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>126,067.44</u>
	<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b><u>£182,577.91</u></b>	<b><u>£204,814.02</u></b>	<b><u>£127,673.73</u></b>	<b><u>£77,140.29</u></b>	<b><u>£0.00</u></b>	<b><u>£259,718.20</u></b>

## **BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**

### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

#### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**

This report on the financial statements of the **BEXLEY DEAF GROUP** for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set on pages 5 to 8 is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with s145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

#### **Respective responsibilities of the trustees and the examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) or under Regulation 10(1)(d) of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (the 2006 Accounts Regulations) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 (the 2005 Act)
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

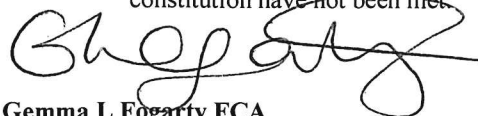
Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. The examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

(1) which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
- to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act;
- have not been met; or
- to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached; or
- which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the accounting rules of the charity's constitution have not been met.



**Gemma L Fogarty FCA**  
**Sadler Davies**  
**Trading as: Finsbury Robinson Ltd**  
**Top Floor, West Hill House,**  
**Dartford,**  
**Kent DA1 2EU**

Date: 04/12/2024

**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**

England & Wales - Charity number 1039183

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# Accounts

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**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
of the  
**TRUSTEES**

**for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

**Charity registration number 1039183**

**Bank:**

Charities Aid Foundation Bank

**Independent Examiner:**

SADLER FOGARTY SERVICES LTD  
T/AS Sadler Davies & Co  
Chartered Accountants  
3 Enterprise House  
8 Essex Road  
KENT DA1 2AU

# Bexley Deaf Group (BDG)

## Trustees' Annual Report for the period from 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023

Company Limited by Guarantee Number: 02942265

Charity Number: 1039183

Registered Office: 20 Whitehall Lane, Erith, Kent DA8 2DH

Bankers: CAF Bank

Accountants: Sadler Fogarty Services Ltd, T/AS Sadler Davies & Co, Chartered Accountants,  
3 Enterprise House, 8 Essex Road, Dartford, Kent DA1 2AU

### **Directors and trustees:**

The directors of the charitable company (the charity) are its trustees for the purpose of charity law.

Mr David Foot	Chair and Director
Mr Michael Colget	Vice Chair and Director
Ms Melanie Porte	Treasurer and Director
Mr Mark Raymond Gately	Trustee and Director
Mr Balkar Thind	Trustee and Director
Mr Barry Hartwell	Trustee and Director
Mr Nikolas Murley	Trustee and Director
Ms Maria Goddard	Trustee and Director – Resigned 3 November 2022

### **Key management personnel:**

Chief Executive Officer – Mrs Tania Bushell

No trustees have received remuneration from employment with the charity.

### **Governing Document**

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 23rd June 1994 and registered as a charity on 1st July 1994. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

Trustee selection method- Chair and Directors are elected to stand for 3 years, Treasurer and Company Secretary are elected annually. All other Trustees are voted on to the board and serve a maximum of 5 years.

The Charity's structure is as follows:

General day to day management of the centre is the responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer. All major decisions and expenditure must be presented to and agreed by the Trustees.

There are no major risks that would affect the delivery of services provided by the charity.

The charity relies on a grant jointly funded from Bexley Council and Bexley Clinical Commissioning Group, which provides most of the income for the charity to run. The trustees recognise the risk that should the grant not be awarded the charity would have to find different sources of funding.

### **Objectives and activities and public benefit**

To relieve deaf persons resident in the London Borough of Bexley in any manner which is now or shall hereafter be deemed to be charitable in law. Bexley Deaf Group provides support and encouragement to hearing impaired people and their families within the Bexley borough.

To promote improvements in all facilities (i.e. medical, environmental, educational and recreational) for Deaf and hard of hearing people irrespective of racial background, religion, gender, age or degree of hearing loss, resident in the London Borough of Bexley. It aims to enable these residents to enjoy the same quality of life as that enjoyed by those with unimpaired hearing.

### **Achievements and performance**

This year saw the launch of our flagship GP Access project, in partnership with the NHS. The project has three aims: to make existing pathways to healthcare more accessible for the deaf community in Bexley; to provide targeted support to GP practices in Bexley to help improve their engagement with deaf clients; and to provide tools and training to local social prescribers in specific deaf support.

The fulfilment of these aims has been multi-faceted: information gathering by means of focus groups involving representatives of the deaf community; the development of BSL videos and other content to provide accessibility information on GP practices' websites; the provision of deaf awareness training to GPs, reception staff and social prescribers; and the recruitment of local deaf and hard of hearing champions who provide feedback and advice for surgeries to provide access to healthcare.

The project has been enthusiastically greeted by the Bexley deaf community and GP surgeries alike. It was immediately clear that there is a real need for greater dialogue and understanding between the two parties, with surgeries needing to improve their access arrangements and the deaf community needing to be made more aware of the existing support available to them. The importance of the ability to communicate with one's surgery cannot be understated, not only to be able to make use of the services of that surgery but also because GPs act as gateways to accessing wider healthcare provision.

Such has been the success of the GP Access project that our CEO and Project Manager were invited to present the project at a meeting of the South East London Integrated Care Board. The presentation was very well received, with the initiative highly commended by the Board. It was a privilege to represent the deaf community and the borough of Bexley in this manner, as well as to highlight the issues surrounding accessibility at such an important meeting.

Leading on from this project, we have started working on a new accessible information strategy in conjunction with South East London ICS and Bexley Council. The aim is to get to a position where all public and healthcare information is provided in British Sign Language. We hope to be able to provide positive updates on this important piece of collaborative work in next year's report.

Our Lend an Ear befriending project continues to provide practical and emotional support to vulnerable deaf and hard-of-hearing members of our community within their homes, while the Deaf Centre remains a place where people can drop in for hearing checks, hearing aid maintenance, and general advice and support.

Our sign language classes, which offer BSL levels 1 and 2, continue to be oversubscribed, and we have recently secured funding to allow the relaunch of our lipreading classes. Deaf awareness sessions to schools, companies and the community remain an important part of our work, and we were particularly delighted with our recent sessions delivered through Bexley Disability Sport Network to local leisure centres and independent coaches.

In May, we celebrated the Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee along with the rest of the country, hosting a Jubilee party for the deaf and hard of hearing in Bexley and their families. December saw the return of our annual Christmas Carol concert with our signing choir and the children of Pelham School.

Absent for two years due to the pandemic, this year's concert was a huge success, with attendees of the packed church including the Mayor of Bexley.

One of the longest-serving members of our board, Maria Goddard, stepped down in the autumn. We are very grateful for all the support Maria has given over the years as a trustee and are delighted that she remains an active volunteer for the charity. We could not offer as many activities as we do without our team of dedicated volunteers. The Trustees would like to express their deepest thanks and recognition to the people who make our work possible and provided such incredible support to our clients.

Looking ahead to the coming year: as well as our continued focus on quality of services and meeting as much demand as possible, we will also be undertaking a review of our strategy. Whilst we have met several of our aims, our existing strategy was launched as the Covid-19 pandemic began and we recognise that many things have changed since that time. We will be refreshing this strategy by talking to service users, clients, staff and partners about what is important to them, to ensure our work is always driven by the needs of the people we support.

We will be seeking alternative premises for the Deaf Centre in the coming year as the owners of the property in which we currently reside, Bexley Council, have redevelopment plans for the site. We will endeavour to secure premises that are suitable for our clients' needs and have the right resources for our existing services and future plans. We also intend to develop our fundraising work and diversify our funding streams, to ensure that we continue our mission and carry on investing in the services our clients need.

Our commissioned services include:

- hearing aid information and maintenance
- outreach clinics and home visits
- lunch club and outings for over 50s Deaf
- BSL classes, lip reading classes and deaf awareness
- job-seekers club
- walking football, and
- advocacy

### **Financial Review**

The income of the charity exceeded the expenditure, resulting in a surplus of £5,934.43 (2022 deficit £18,498.64) in the year and has £43,283.10 (2022 £63,447.14) unrestricted reserves.

The charity has a policy on reserves; to keep at least 3 months expenditure in the unrestricted reserve.

The restricted reserve of £44,899.99 is the unspent balance of funding for the following projects:

- GWUK Groundwork (Tesco) and SEL ICS (South East London Integrated Care System) supported the development of our befriending 'Lend an Ear' project.
- SEL ICS (South East London Integrated Care System) supported the GP Access Project; working to improve accessibility to healthcare for the deaf community.
- Sport England, through BVSC, fund the walking football project; providing access to sport for people who are deaf or disabled.
- Info Video fund will be used to film information videos in BSL for the Bexley Deaf Centre website.

**Staffing:** The staffing levels for the year were 3 full time equivalent paid staff and 7 volunteers give their time on an ad hoc basis.

**Investment Policy.** Aside from retaining a prudent amount in reserves most of the charity's funds are spent in the short term, consequently there are no long term investments.

**Trustees' responsibilities**

The trustees are required under the Charities Act 2011 to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- (a) Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- (b) Make suitable judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- (c) State whether applicable accounting standards of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- (d) Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records, which enable them to disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity, and for ensuring that they comply with applicable law and regulations. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:



Mr David Foot  
Chair of Trustees

Date:

29th NOV 2023

**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**  
Charity Number  
**Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31st March 2023**

5

	Note	Unrestricted 2023 £	Designated 2023 £	Restricted 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<b>Tangible Fixed Assets</b>	2	3,448.51	-	-	3,448.51	4,074.54
<b>Current Assets</b>						
<b>Monetary Assets</b>						
Cash		14.01	-	-	14.01	25.01
Bank account		41,026.41	94,394.82	44,899.99	180,321.22	174,081.87
Total current assets		41,040.42	94,394.82	44,899.99	180,335.23	174,106.88
Liabilities: amounts falling due within 1 year	3	1,205.83	-	-	1,205.83	1,537.94
<b>Current Assets less Current Liabilities</b>		39,834.59	94,394.82	44,899.99	179,129.40	172,568.94
<b>Total Assets less Current Liabilities</b>		<b>£43,283.10</b>	<b>£94,394.82</b>	<b>£44,899.99</b>	<b>£182,577.91</b>	<b>£176,643.48</b>
<b>FUNDS</b>	6					
Unrestricted: General		43,283.10	-	-	43,283.10	63,447.14
Designated: Daisy Mumford		-	94,394.82	-	94,394.82	104,561.34
Restricted: Bexley Clinical Commissioning Group (Rent)		-	-	3,713.92	3,713.92	-
South East London ICS - Lend an Ear		-	-	15,483.00	15,483.00	-
GWUK Groundwork (Tesco) - Lend an Ear		-	-	6,125.00	6,125.00	-
South East London ICS - GP Access Project		-	-	14,539.70	14,539.70	-
BVSC: Info Video Fund		-	-	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
BVSC: Walking Football Project		-	-	4,038.37	4,038.37	4,235.00
Locality Advice Fund		-	-	-	-	4,400.00
		<b>£43,283.10</b>	<b>£94,394.82</b>	<b>£44,899.99</b>	<b>£182,577.91</b>	<b>£176,643.48</b>

Signed by



Mr David Foot

Date:

29th Nov 2023

**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

6

	Note	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	TOTAL FUNDS	
		General	Designated		2023	2022
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>						
Donations and Legacies	4a	46,456.01	-	43,287.92	89,743.93	73,682.92
Charitable Activities	4b	19,057.21	-	52,608.00	71,665.21	15,272.34
Income from investments	4c	284.21	-	-	284.21	-
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<u>65,797.43</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>95,895.92</u>	<u>161,693.35</u>	<u>88,955.26</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>						
Charitable Activities	5a	85,038.05	10,166.52	59,630.93	154,835.50	106,349.97
Other expenditure	5b	923.42	-	-	923.42	1,103.93
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		<u>85,961.47</u>	<u>10,166.52</u>	<u>59,630.93</u>	<u>155,758.92</u>	<u>107,453.90</u>
<b>NET INCOMING / ( OUTGOING )</b>						
<b>RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS</b>		(20,164.04)	(10,166.52)	36,264.99	5,934.43	(18,498.64)
<b>ADDITIONS TO &amp; RELEASES FROM FUNDS</b>		-	-	-	-	-
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<u>(20,164.04)</u>	<u>(10,166.52)</u>	<u>36,264.99</u>	<u>5,934.43</u>	<u>(18,498.64)</u>
<b>BALANCES BROUGHT FWD AT 1 APRIL 2022 (2021)</b>						
		<u>£ 63,447.14</u>	<u>£ 104,561.34</u>	<u>£ 8,635.00</u>	<u>£ 176,643.48</u>	<u>£ 195,142.12</u>
<b>BALANCES CARRIED FWD AT 31 MARCH 2023 (2022)</b>						
		<u>£ 43,283.10</u>	<u>£ 94,394.82</u>	<u>£ 44,899.99</u>	<u>£ 182,577.91</u>	<u>£ 176,643.48</u>

**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

7

**1 Accounting Policies**

**1a Accounting Convention**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP FRS102) 2015 and the Charities Act 2011. An independent examination is required under the Charities Act 2011.

Abridged financial statements have been filed with Companies House in accordance with the special provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to smaller companies. No audit is required under exemption S 477 of the Companies Act 2006. Exemption has been taken from preparing a cashflow on the grounds that the company qualifies as a small company.

**1b Tangible Fixed Assets**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.  
Office furniture and computer equipment - 20% reducing balance.

**1c Pension Costs**

Bexley Deaf Group has offered the NEST pension plan for all eligible employees.

**1d Fund accounting**

Unrestricted and designated funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.  
Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor.

**2 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£
<b>Office Equipment</b>		
Cost	12,759.79	10,843.79
<b>Addition</b>	<u>224.89</u>	<u>1,916.00</u>
	<u>12,984.68</u>	<u>12,759.79</u>
Accumulated Depreciation 1st April 2022	8,685.25	7,678.32
Charge for year	<u>850.92</u>	<u>1,006.93</u>
	<u>9,536.17</u>	<u>8,685.25</u>
NET BOOK VALUE 31st March 2023	<u>3,448.51</u>	<u>4,074.54</u>

**3 LIABILITIES FALLING DUE WITHIN 1 YEAR**

Staff Wages	-	-
Nest Pension	255.83	237.94
Accrued expenses	950.00	1,300.00
	<u>1,205.83</u>	<u>1,537.94</u>

**4 INCOMING RESOURCES**

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>TOTAL FUNDS</u>	
	<u>General</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>4a Voluntary Income</b>					
Donations and legacies	3,556.01	-	-	3,556.01	14,969.10
Grant from Bexley Clinical Commissioning Group/ Bexley Council	42,900.00	-	43,287.92	86,187.92	58,713.82
	<u>46,456.01</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>43,287.92</u>	<u>89,743.93</u>	<u>73,682.92</u>
<b>4b Charitable Activities</b>					
Access to work reclaims	2,675.00	-	-	2,675.00	2,555.00
South East London ICS - Lend an Ear	-	-	15,483.00	15,483.00	-
GWUK Groundwork (Tesco) - Lend an Ear	-	-	6,125.00	6,125.00	-
South East London ICS - GP Access Project	-	-	30,000.00	30,000.00	-
BVSC: Info Video Fund	-	-	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
Courses	16,382.21	-	-	16,382.21	12,717.34
	<u>19,057.21</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>52,608.00</u>	<u>71,665.21</u>	<u>15,272.34</u>
<b>4c Income from investment</b>					
Bank interest	284.21	-	-	284.21	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>284.21</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	<u>£65,513.22</u>	<u>£0.00</u>	<u>£95,895.92</u>	<u>£161,693.35</u>	<u>£88,955.26</u>

**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

8

5 RESOURCES EXPENDED	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>TOTAL FUNDS</u>	
	<u>General</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>5a Expenditure on charitable activities</b>					
British Sign Language Courses	9,790.60	-	-	9,790.60	-
Interpreting Services	2,115.00	-	-	2,115.00	-
Charitable Activities: Expenses	-	-	4,815.13	4,815.13	8,247.13
Rent of offices	-	-	39,574.00	39,574.00	7,427.64
Wages	64,615.17	10,166.52	15,241.80	90,023.49	82,441.56
Employers NI	376.16	-	-	376.16	565.94
Pensions	1,264.96	-	-	1,264.96	1,223.64
Telephone	987.08	-	-	987.08	891.04
Printing postage stationery	1,261.06	-	-	1,261.06	1,161.02
Travel and subsistence	16.40	-	-	16.40	19.80
Insurance	719.90	-	-	719.90	719.90
Refreshments	220.50	-	-	220.50	-
Company accounts filing fees	13.00	-	-	13.00	13.00
Sundry	324.50	-	-	324.50	172.68
Accountancy and book keeping	1,054.72	-	-	1,054.72	1,697.02
Subscriptions	564.00	-	-	564.00	249.00
Legal & Professional	1,715.00	-	-	1,715.00	1,520.60
	<u>85,038.05</u>	<u>10,166.52</u>	<u>59,630.93</u>	<u>154,835.50</u>	<u>106,349.97</u>
<b>5b Other expenditure</b>					
Depreciation	850.92	-	-	850.92	1,006.93
Bank charges	72.50	-	-	72.50	97.00
	<u>923.42</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>923.42</u>	<u>1,103.93</u>
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<b><u>£85,961.47</u></b>	<b><u>£10,166.52</u></b>	<b><u>£59,630.93</u></b>	<b><u>£155,758.92</u></b>	<b><u>£107,453.90</u></b>

**6 Funds**

<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>BFWD</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>CFWD</u>
				<u>Movement</u>		
Bexley Clinical Commissioning	-	43,287.92	39,574.00	3,713.92	-	3,713.92
South East London ICS - Lend an Ear	-	15,483.00	-	15,483.00	-	15,483.00
GWUK Groundwork (Tesco) - Lend an Ear	-	6,125.00	-	6,125.00	-	6,125.00
South East London ICS - GP Access Project	-	30,000.00	15,460.30	14,539.70	-	14,539.70
BVSC: Info Video Fund	-	1,000.00	-	1,000.00	-	1,000.00
BVSC: Walking Football Project	4,235.00	-	196.63	(196.63)	-	4,038.37
Locality Advice Fund	4,400.00	-	4,400.00	(4,400.00)	-	-
	<u>8,635.00</u>	<u>95,895.92</u>	<u>59,630.93</u>	<u>36,264.99</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>44,899.99</u>
Designated - Daisy Mumford	<u>104,561.34</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,166.52</u>	<u>(10,166.52)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>94,394.82</u>
<u>General</u>	<u>63,447.14</u>	<u>65,797.43</u>	<u>£85,961.47</u>	<u>(20,164.04)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>43,283.10</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b><u>£176,643.48</u></b>	<b><u>£161,693.35</u></b>	<b><u>£155,758.92</u></b>	<b><u>£5,934.43</u></b>	<b><u>£0.00</u></b>	<b><u>£182,577.91</u></b>

GWUK Groundwork (Tesco) and South East London ICS (South East London Integrated Care System) supported the development of our befriending 'Lend an Ear' project.

South East London ICS (South East London Integrated Care System) supported the GP Access Project; working to improve accessibility to healthcare for the deaf community.

Sport England, through BVSC, fund the walking football project; providing access to sport for people who are deaf or disabled.

Funding received from BVSC will be used to fund information videos in BSL for the Deaf Centre website.

Locality Advice Fund funded a designated freelance consultant to advise and support the CEO.

## **BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**

### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

#### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**

This report on the financial statements of the **BEXLEY DEAF GROUP** for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set on pages 5 to 8 is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with s145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

#### **Respective responsibilities of the trustees and the examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) or under Regulation 10(1)(d) of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (the 2006 Accounts Regulations) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 (the 2005 Act)
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. The examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

(1) which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
- to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act:
- have not been met; or
- to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached; or
- which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the accounting rules of the charity's constitution have not been met.



**Graham E.J. Sadler FCA**  
**SADLER DAVIES & CO**  
**Chartered Accountants**  
**3 Enterprise House**  
**8 Essex Road**  
**Dartford,**  
**Kent, DA1 2AU**

Date: 28/11/23

**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**

England & Wales - Charity number 1039183

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# Accounts

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**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**of the**  
**TRUSTEES**

**for the Year Ended 31 March 2022**

**Charity registration number 1039183**

**Bank:**

Charities Aid Foundation Bank

**Independent Examiner:**

SADLER FOGARTY SERVICES LTD  
T/AS Sadler Davies & Co  
Chartered Accountants  
3 Enterprise House  
8 Essex Road  
KENT DA1 2AU

# Bexley Deaf Group (BDG)

## Trustees' Annual Report for the period from 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022

Company Limited by Guarantee Number: 02942265

Charity Number: 1039183

Registered Office: 20 Whitehall Lane, Erith, Kent DA8 2DH

Bankers: CAF Bank

Accountants: Sadler Fogarty Services Ltd, T/AS Sadler Davies & Co, Chartered Accountants,  
3 Enterprise House, 8 Essex Road, Dartford, Kent DA1 2AU

### **Directors and trustees:**

The directors of the charitable company (the charity) are its trustees for the purpose of charity law.

Mr David Foot	Chair and Director
Mr Michael Colget	Vice Chair and Director
Ms Melanie Porte	Treasurer and Director
Mr Mark Raymond Gately	Trustee and Director
Mr Balkar Thind	Trustee and Director
Mr Barry Hartwell	Trustee and Director
Ms Maria Goddard	Trustee and Director
Mr Nikolas Murley	Trustee and Director
Mr Brian Dietz	Trustee and Director – Resigned 23rd November 2021

### **Key management personnel:**

Chief Executive Officer – Mrs Tania Bushell

No trustees have received remuneration from employment with the charity.

### **Governing Document**

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 23rd June 1994 and registered as a charity on 1st July 1994. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

Trustee selection method- Chair and Directors are elected to stand for 3 years, Treasurer and Company Secretary are elected annually. All other Trustees are voted on to the board and serve a maximum of 5 years.

The Charity's structure is as follows:

General day to day management of the centre is the responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer. All major decisions and expenditure must be presented to and agreed by the Trustees.

There are no major risks that would affect the delivery of services provided by the charity.

The charity relies on a grant jointly funded from Bexley Council and Bexley Clinical Commissioning Group, which provides most of the income for the charity to run. The trustees recognise the risk that should the grant not be awarded the charity would have to find different sources of funding.

### **Objectives and activities and public benefit**

To relieve deaf persons resident in the London Borough of Bexley in any manner which is now or shall hereafter be deemed to be charitable in law. Bexley Deaf Group provides support and encouragement to hearing impaired people and their families within the Bexley borough.

To promote improvements in all facilities (i.e. medical, environmental, educational and recreational) for Deaf and hard of hearing people irrespective of racial background, religion, gender, age or degree of hearing loss, resident in the London Borough of Bexley. It aims to enable these residents to enjoy the same quality of life as that enjoyed by those with unimpaired hearing.

### **Achievements and performance**

This year has been an incredibly busy and productive one as we focused on bringing services back to normal after the disruption of the previous year, while at the same time continuing some of the initiatives started during the pandemic.

As restrictions eased, we saw a noticeable uptick in people visiting Bexley Deaf Centre for much needed help with hearing checks, hearing aid maintenance and general advice. Our sign language classes have seen a surge of interest and we were delighted to be able to return to in-person teaching. We have increased our provision of BSL levels 1 and 2 courses; and one of the highlights of the year was teaching sign language to some very enthusiastic and eager-to-learn children at an after-school club at St Thomas Moore's primary school in Bexleyheath.

It was a pleasure to be able to increase the provision of deaf awareness sessions to schools, companies and the community. Our deaf awareness training of sixty healthcare professionals from Greenwich & Bexley Community Hospice and that of fifty-one leisure staff from Parkwood Leisure were particularly well received, with every attendee rating the sessions as either good or outstanding. Sessions such as these not only improve understanding and communication with hearing impaired colleagues and clients, but also lead to a more diverse and inclusive workplace.

We have updated the facilities of our job club, thanks to generous support from BVSC, as part of their Bexley Giving project. Initially online, once restrictions were lifted the demand was very much for an in-person service, so we were delighted to see a return of the job club to Bexley Deaf Centre along with new computers and equipment.

Our Lend an Ear befriending project continues to provide valuable practical and emotional support to vulnerable deaf and hard-of-hearing members of our community. Kick-started with National Lottery funding as part of the Covid response, the project has been so successful that we were determined to continue with the service as the country emerged from the pandemic. We are delighted to report that, going into the next financial year, we have secured funding from Bexley CCG and from Tesco's Every Little Helps fund that will allow us to continue our Lend an Ear project for the next three years.

On a sporting note, at the beginning of the financial year Bexley Deaf Centre was approached to take part in a new initiative organised by Bexley Council. Their aim was to improve access to sport for people who are deaf or disabled. We have played a huge part in the success of this project, which has been continued into 2024. We have successfully secured extra funding to allow our walking football sessions to continue and, through our consultation with local deaf people, are in the process of setting up deaf bowls which will start in Spring 2023. The network has also helped to support deaf badminton organised through Bexley Deaf Club.

One of our longest-serving and much-valued trustees, Brian Diez, decided that after ten years on the board it was time for him to step down. We are very grateful for all the dedication Brian has shown over the years and are happy that he will continue his association with Bexley Deaf Group through his voluntary work at the Centre.

Next year we are looking forward to the start of a year-long GP Access project in partnership with the NHS.

Our commissioned services include:

- hearing aid information and maintenance
- outreach clinics and home visits
- lunch club and outings for over 50's Deaf
- BSL classes, lip reading classes and deaf awareness
- job-seekers club
- walking football, and
- advocacy

### **Financial Review**

The expenditure of the charity exceeded the income resulting in a deficit of £18,498.64 (2021 surplus £76,511.84) in the year and has £63,447.14 (2021 £74,084.18) unrestricted reserves.

The charity has a policy on reserves, to keep at least 3 months expenditure in the unrestricted reserve.

The restricted reserve of £8,635 is the unspent balance of funding for the following projects:

- Walking Football Project – Funded by the BVSC
- Locality Advice Fund

**Staffing:** The staffing levels for the year were 3 full time equivalent paid staff and 7 volunteers give their time on an ad hoc basis.

**Investment Policy.** Aside from retaining a prudent amount in reserves most of the charity's funds are spent in the short term, consequently there are no long term investments.

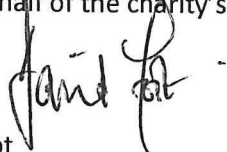
### **Trustees' responsibilities**

The trustees are required under the Charities Act 2011 to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- (a) Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- (b) Make suitable judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- (c) State whether applicable accounting standards of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- (d) Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records, which enable them to disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity, and for ensuring that they comply with applicable law and regulations. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:



Mr David Foot  
Chair of Trustees

Date: 3-11-2022

**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**  
Charity Number  
**Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31st March 2022**

4

	Note	Unrestricted 2022 £	Designated 2022 £	Restricted 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
<b>Tangible Fixed Assets</b>	2	4,074.54	-	-	4,074.54	3,165.47
<b>Current Assets</b>						
<b>Monetary Assets</b>						
Cash		25.01	-	-	25.01	7.60
Bank account		60,885.53	104,561.34	8,635.00	174,081.87	193,309.19
Total current assets		60,910.54	104,561.34	8,635.00	174,106.88	193,316.79
Liabilities: amounts falling due within 1 year	3	1,537.94	-	-	1,537.94	1,340.14
<b>Current Assets less Current Liabilities</b>		59,372.60	104,561.34	8,635.00	172,568.94	191,976.65
<b>Total Assets less Current Liabilities</b>		<b>£63,447.14</b>	<b>£104,561.34</b>	<b>£8,635.00</b>	<b>£176,643.48</b>	<b>£195,142.12</b>
<b>FUNDS</b>	6					
Unrestricted: General		63,447.14	-	-	63,447.14	74,084.18
Designated: Daisy Mumford		-	104,561.34	-	104,561.34	113,741.79
Restricted: BVSC - Job Club Online Project		-	-	-	-	5,766.00
Restricted: National Lottery Community Fund - Lend an Ear Project		-	-	-	-	1,550.15
BVSC - Walking Football Project		-	-	4,235.00	4,235.00	-
Locality Advice Fund		-	-	4,400.00	4,400.00	-
		<b>£63,447.14</b>	<b>£104,561.34</b>	<b>£8,635.00</b>	<b>£176,643.48</b>	<b>£195,142.12</b>

Signed by



Mr David Foot

Date:

3-11-2022

**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

5

	Note	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted	TOTAL FUNDS	
		General	Designated	Funds	2022	2021
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>						
Donations and Legacies	4a	59,666.30	902.80	13,113.82	73,682.92	150,886.09
Charitable Activities	4b	15,272.34	-	-	15,272.34	22,903.23
Income from investments	4c	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<u>74,938.64</u>	<u>902.80</u>	<u>13,113.82</u>	<u>88,955.26</u>	<u>173,789.32</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>						
Charitable Activities	5a	84,471.75	10,083.25	11,794.97	106,349.97	96,428.53
Other expenditure	5b	1,103.93	-	-	1,103.93	848.95
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		<u>85,575.68</u>	<u>10,083.25</u>	<u>11,794.97</u>	<u>107,453.90</u>	<u>97,277.48</u>
<b>NET INCOMING / ( OUTGOING )</b>						
<b>RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS</b>		(10,637.04)	9,180.45	1,318.85	(18,498.64)	76,511.84
<b>ADDITIONS TO &amp; RELEASES FROM FUNDS</b>		-	-	-	-	-
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<u>(10,637.04)</u>	<u>9,180.45</u>	<u>1,318.85</u>	<u>(18,498.64)</u>	<u>76,511.84</u>
<b>BALANCES BROUGHT FWD AT</b>						
<b>1 APRIL 2020 (2019)</b>		<u>£ 74,084.18</u>	<u>£ 113,741.79</u>	<u>£ 7,316.15</u>	<u>£ 195,142.12</u>	<u>£ 118,630.28</u>
<b>BALANCES CARRIED FWD AT</b>						
<b>31 MARCH 2021 (2020)</b>		<u>£ 63,447.14</u>	<u>£ 104,561.34</u>	<u>£ 8,635.00</u>	<u>£ 176,643.48</u>	<u>£ 195,142.12</u>

**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

6

**1 Accounting Policies**

**1a Accounting Convention**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP FRS102) 2015 and the Charities Act 2011. An independent examination is required under the Charities Act 2011.

Abridged financial statements have been filed with Companies House in accordance with the special provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to smaller companies. No audit is required under exemption S 477 of the Companies Act 2006. Exemption has been taken from preparing a cashflow on the grounds that the company qualifies as a small company.

**1b Tangible Fixed Assets**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.  
Office furniture and computer equipment - 20% reducing balance.

**1c Pension Costs**

Bexley Deaf Group has offered the NEST pension plan for all eligible employees.

**1d Fund accounting**

Unrestricted and designated funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor.

**2 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£
<b>Office Equipment</b>		
Cost	10,843.79	9,698.33
<b>Addition</b>	1,916.00	1,145.46
	12,759.79	10,843.79
Accumulated Depreciation 1st April 2021	7,678.32	6,898.37
Charge for year	1,006.93	779.95
	8,685.25	7,678.32
NET BOOK VALUE 31st March 2022	4,074.54	3,165.47

**3 LIABILITIES FALLING DUE WITHIN 1 YEAR**

Staff Wages	-	152.20
Nest Pension	237.94	237.94
Accrued expenses	1,300.00	950.00
	1,537.94	1,340.14

**4 INCOMING RESOURCES**

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>TOTAL FUNDS</u>	
	<u>General</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>4a Voluntary Income</b>					
Donations and legacies	4,666.30	902.80	9,400.00	14,969.10	88,458.45
Grant from Bexley Clinical Commissioning Group/ Bexley Council	55,000.00	-	3,713.82	58,713.82	62,427.64
	59,666.30	902.80	13,113.82	73,682.92	150,886.09
<b>4b Charitable Activities</b>					
Access to work reclaims	2,555.00			2,555.00	1,934.00
National Lottery Community Fund - Lend an Ear				-	9,190.00
BVSC - Job Club Online Project Courses	12,717.34			12,717.34	5,381.47
HMRC JRS Grant				-	631.76
	15,272.34	-	-	15,272.34	22,903.23
<b>4c Income from investment</b>					
Bank interest	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	<b>£74,938.64</b>	<b>£902.80</b>	<b>£13,113.82</b>	<b>£88,955.26</b>	<b>£173,789.32</b>

**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

7

5 RESOURCES EXPENDED	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>TOTAL FUNDS</u>	
	<u>General</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<b>5a Expenditure on charitable activities</b>					
British Sign Language Assessments	-			-	4,146.11
Charitable Activities: Expenses	3,407.44		4,839.69	8,247.13	965.03
Rent of offices	3,713.82		3,713.82	7,427.64	7,427.64
Wages	69,530.98	9,669.12	3,241.46	82,441.56	75,380.12
Employers NI	565.94			565.94	50.23
Pensions	1,223.64			1,223.64	1,106.64
Telephone	891.04			891.04	991.41
Printing postage stationery	995.89	165.13		1,161.02	645.37
Advertising incl website	-			-	169.29
Travel and subsistence	19.80			19.80	210.14
Insurance	719.90			719.90	667.92
Refreshments	-			-	92.07
Company accounts filing fees	13.00			13.00	13.00
Sundry	172.68			172.68	427.90
Accountancy and book keeping	1,697.02			1,697.02	2,394.46
Subscriptions	-	249.00		249.00	-
Legal & Professional	1,520.60			1,520.60	1,741.20
	<u>84,471.75</u>	<u>10,083.25</u>	<u>11,794.97</u>	<u>106,349.97</u>	<u>96,428.53</u>
<b>5b Other expenditure</b>					
Depreciation	1,006.93			1,006.93	779.95
Bank charges	97.00			97.00	69.00
	<u>1,103.93</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,103.93</u>	<u>848.95</u>
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<b><u>£85,575.68</u></b>	<b><u>£10,083.25</u></b>	<b><u>£11,794.97</u></b>	<b><u>£107,453.90</u></b>	<b><u>£97,277.48</u></b>

**6 Funds**

<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>BFWD</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Net Movement</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>CFWD</u>
Bexley Clinical Commissioning		3,713.82	3,713.82	0.00		-
BVSC - Job Club Online Project	5,766.00	-	5,766.00	(5,766.00)		-
National Lottery Community Fund - Lend an Ear	1,550.15	-	1,550.15	(1,550.15)		-
BVSC - Walking Football Project		5,000.00	765.00	4,235.00		4,235.00
Locality Advice Fund		4,400.00	-	4,400.00		4,400.00
	<u>7,316.15</u>	<u>13,113.82</u>	<u>11,794.97</u>	<u>1,318.85</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,635.00</u>
Designated - Daisy Mumford	<u>113,741.79</u>	<u>902.80</u>	<u>10,083.25</u>	<u>(9,180.45)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>104,561.34</u>
<u>General</u>	<u>74,084.18</u>	<u>74,938.64</u>	<u>£85,575.68</u>	<u>(10,637.04)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>63,447.14</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b><u>£195,142.12</u></b>	<b><u>£88,955.26</u></b>	<b><u>£107,453.90</u></b>	<b><u>(18,498.64)</u></b>	<b><u>£0.00</u></b>	<b><u>£176,643.48</u></b>

Bexley Clinical Commissioning Group contribute towards the cost of the rent of the Bexley Deaf group's offices.

Funding awarded by BVSC from The National Lottery Community Fund for the Job Club Online Project, will enable the current Job Club to become an online service.

National Lottery Community Fund supported the development of our befriending 'Lend an Ear' project.

Sport England, through BVSC, fund the walking football project; providing access to sport for people who are deaf or disabled.

Locality Advice Fund will fund a designated freelance consultant to advise and support the CEO.

## **BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**

### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

#### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**

This report on the financial statements of the **BEXLEY DEAF GROUP** for the year ended 31 March 2022, which are set on pages 4 to 7 is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with s145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

#### **Respective responsibilities of the trustees and the examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) or under Regulation 10(1)(d) of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (the 2006 Accounts Regulations) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 (the 2005 Act)
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. The examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

(1) which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
- to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act:
- have not been met; or
- to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached; or
- which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the accounting rules of the charity's constitution have not been met.



**Graham E.J. Sadler FCA**  
**SADLER DAVIES & CO**  
**Chartered Accountants**  
**3 Enterprise House**  
**8 Essex Road**  
**Dartford,**  
**Kent, DA1 2AU**

**Date: 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**

England & Wales - Charity number 1039183

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# Accounts

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**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
of the  
**TRUSTEES**

**for the Year Ended 31 March 2021**

**Charity registration number 1039183**

**Bank:**

Charities Aid Foundation Bank

**Independent Examiner:**

SADLER FOGARTY SERVICES LTD  
T/AS Sadler Davies & Co  
Chartered Accountants  
3 Enterprise House  
8 Essex Road  
KENT DA1 2AU

# Bexley Deaf Group (BDG)

## Trustees' Annual Report for the period from 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021

Company Limited by Guarantee Number: 02942265

Charity Number: 1039183

Registered Office: 20 Whitehall Lane, Erith, Kent DA8 2DH

Bankers: CAF Bank

Accountants: Sadler Fogarty Services Ltd, T/AS Sadler Davies & Co, Chartered Accountants,  
3 Enterprise House, 8 Essex Road, Dartford, Kent DA1 2AU

### **Directors and trustees:**

The directors of the charitable company (the charity) are its trustees for the purpose of charity law.

Mr David Foot	Chair and Director
Mr Michael Colget	Vice Chair and Director
Ms Melanie Porte	Treasurer and Director
Mr Brian Dietz	Trustee and Director
Mr Mark Raymond Gately	Trustee and Director
Mr Balkar Thind	Trustee and Director
Mr Barry Hartwell	Trustee and Director
Ms Maria Goddard	Trustee and Director
Ms Janet Richards	Trustee and Director – Resigned 27 <sup>th</sup> April 2020
Mr Nikolas Murley	Trustee and Director – Appointed 21 <sup>st</sup> October 2020

### **Key management personnel:**

Chief Executive Officer – Mrs Tania Bushell

No trustees have received remuneration from employment with the charity.

### **Governing Document**

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 23rd June 1994 and registered as a charity on 1st July 1994. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

Trustee selection method- Chair and Directors are elected to stand for 3 years, Treasurer and Company Secretary are elected annually. All other Trustees are voted on to the board and serve a maximum of 5 years.

The Charity's structure is as follows:

General day to day management of the centre is the responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer. All major decisions and expenditure must be presented to and agreed by the Trustees.

There are no major risks that would affect the delivery of services provided by the charity.

The charity relies on a grant jointly funded from Bexley Council and Bexley Clinical Commissioning Group, which provides most of the income for the charity to run. The trustees recognise the risk that should the grant not be awarded the charity would have to find different sources of funding.

### **Objectives and activities and public benefit**

To relieve deaf persons resident in the London Borough of Bexley in any manner which is now or shall hereafter be deemed to be charitable in law. Bexley Deaf Group provides support and encouragement to hearing impaired people and their families within the Bexley borough.

To promote improvements in all facilities (i.e. medical, environmental, educational and recreational) for Deaf and hard of hearing people irrespective of racial background, religion, gender, age or degree of hearing loss, resident in the London Borough of Bexley. It aims to enable these residents to enjoy the same quality of life as that enjoyed by those with unimpaired hearing.

### **Achievements and performance**

This year has been dominated by our Covid response. We are extremely proud of the way in which the Deaf Centre and its staff rose to the challenge of supporting members of our deaf and hearing impaired community through multiple lockdowns, in particular giving practical and emotional support to those who were vulnerable, isolated or shielding. We built upon our initial response to the crisis by establishing a befriending "Lend an Ear" project, funded in part by a National Lottery Community Fund. This has been extremely successful and has highlighted an on-going need for this service for which we are currently seeking continuation funding.

We also worked closely with Bexley Council and with our local CCG in their Covid relief efforts, providing information and advice to these organisations to support their interactions with deaf and hard of hearing members within the community.

Our site was temporarily closed at the start of the first lockdown, and while some members of staff were able to work from home and within the community, this was not viable for others. We took advantage of the government job retention scheme for a few members of staff while we made adjustments to our working practices. One member of staff returned from furlough within a matter of weeks to run our befriending project, while the others returned by autumn 2020.

Our BSL classes moved online during the lockdowns, but these have proved less popular than in-person classes, while our lip-reading classes have been suspended for the time being due to the complexities of communication via video link and the ability of older people to engage with technology. This of course is a nationwide issue and one with which our local council has sought to address. They developed a Digital Champions network of local people and organisations willing to help older people gain access to the internet. We were pleased to be asked to be part of this project and are currently offering to help these people access online services etc. when they need help.

A generous legacy from a long-time user of our services has allowed us to hire a part-time fundraiser, with the intention of securing the Deaf Centre's long-term future. The legacy has also allowed us to update some of our office equipment, while much of the rest has been ringfenced to allow us to restart lip reading classes and establish a hard of hearing social club, post-pandemic.

Our commissioned services include:

- hearing aid information and maintenance
- outreach clinics and home visits
- lunch club and outings for over 50's Deaf
- BSL classes, lip reading classes and deaf awareness
- Deaf job-seekers club (currently on-line)
- walking football, and
- advocacy

### Financial Review

The income of the charity exceeded the expenditure giving a surplus of £76,511.84 (2020 £31,462.42) in the year and has £74,084.18 (2020 £78,180.99) unrestricted reserves.

The charity has a policy on reserves, to keep at least 3 months expenditure in the unrestricted reserve.

The restricted reserve of £7,316.15 is the unspent balance of funding for the following projects:

- Job Club Online Project – Funded by The National Lottery Community Fund via BVSC
- Lend an Ear Project - Funded by The National Lottery Community Fund

**Staffing:** The staffing levels for the year were 3 full time equivalent paid staff and 7 volunteers give their time on an ad hoc basis.

**Investment Policy.** Aside from retaining a prudent amount in reserves most of the charity's funds are spent in the short term, consequently there are no long term investments.

### Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are required under the Charities Act 2011 to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- (a) Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- (b) Make suitable judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- (c) State whether applicable accounting standards of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- (d) Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records, which enable them to disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity, and for ensuring that they comply with applicable law and regulations. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Mr David Foot  
Chair of Trustees



Date: 15<sup>th</sup> Oct 2021

**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**  
Charity Number  
**Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31st March 2021**

4

	Note	Unrestricted 2021 £	Designated 2021 £	Restricted 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
<b>Tangible Fixed Assets</b>	2	<u>3,165.47</u>	-	-	<u>3,165.47</u>	<u>2,799.96</u>
<b>Current Assets</b>						
<b>Monetary Assets</b>						
Cash		7.60	-	-	7.60	11.68
Bank account		72,251.25	113,741.79	7,316.15	193,309.19	116,753.66
Total current assets		<u>72,258.85</u>	<u>113,741.79</u>	<u>7,316.15</u>	<u>193,316.79</u>	<u>116,765.34</u>
Liabilities: amounts falling due within 1 year	3	1,340.14		-	1,340.14	935.02
<b>Current Assets less Current Liabilities</b>		<u>70,918.71</u>	<u>113,741.79</u>	<u>7,316.15</u>	<u>191,976.65</u>	<u>115,830.32</u>
<b>Total Assets less Current Liabilities</b>		<u>£74,084.18</u>	<u>£113,741.79</u>	<u>£7,316.15</u>	<u>£195,142.12</u>	<u>£118,630.28</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	6					
Unrestricted: General		74,084.18	-	-	74,084.18	78,180.99
Designated: Daisy Mumford		-	113,741.79	-	113,741.79	36,064.21
Restricted: Bexley Clinical Commissioning Group (Rent)		-	-	-	-	3,713.82
Restricted: BVSC - Job Club Online Project		-	-	5,766.00	5,766.00	-
Restricted: National Lottery Community Fund - Lend an Ear Project		-	-	1,550.15	1,550.15	-
Action on hearing Loss (AOHL)		-	-	-	-	671.26
		<u>£74,084.18</u>	<u>£113,741.79</u>	<u>£7,316.15</u>	<u>£195,142.12</u>	<u>£118,630.28</u>

Signed by



Mr David Foot

Date:

15th Oct 2021

**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

5

	Note	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	TOTAL FUNDS	
		General	Designated		2021	2020
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>						
Donations and Legacies	4a	64,172.27	83,000.00	3,713.82	150,886.09	104,416.48
Charitable Activities	4b	7,947.23	-	14,956.00	22,903.23	23,183.68
Income from investments	4c	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<u>72,119.50</u>	<u>83,000.00</u>	<u>18,669.82</u>	<u>173,789.32</u>	<u>127,600.16</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>						
Charitable Activities	5a	89,000.89	-	7,427.64	96,428.53	95,383.77
Other expenditure	5b	848.95	-	-	848.95	753.97
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		<u>89,849.84</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,427.64</u>	<u>97,277.48</u>	<u>96,137.74</u>
<b>NET INCOMING / ( OUTGOING )</b>						
<b>RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS</b>		(17,730.34)	83,000.00	11,242.18	76,511.84	31,462.42
<b>ADDITIONS TO &amp; RELEASES FROM FUNDS</b>		13,633.53	(5,322.42)	(8,311.11)	-	-
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<u>(4,096.81)</u>	<u>77,677.58</u>	<u>2,931.07</u>	<u>76,511.84</u>	<u>31,462.42</u>
<b>BALANCES BROUGHT FWD AT 1 APRIL 2020 (2019)</b>						
		<u>£ 78,180.99</u>	<u>£ 36,064.21</u>	<u>£ 4,385.08</u>	<u>£ 118,630.28</u>	<u>£ 87,167.86</u>
<b>BALANCES CARRIED FWD AT 31 MARCH 2021 (2020)</b>						
		<u>£ 74,084.18</u>	<u>£ 113,741.79</u>	<u>£ 7,316.15</u>	<u>£ 195,142.12</u>	<u>£ 118,630.28</u>

**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

6

**1 Accounting Policies**  
**1a Accounting Convention**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP FRS102) 2015 and the Charities Act 2011. An independent examination is required under the Charities Act 2011.

Abridged financial statements have been filed with Companies House in accordance with the special provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to smaller companies. No audit is required under exemption S 477 of the Companies Act 2006. Exemption has been taken from preparing a cashflow on the grounds that the company qualifies as a small company.

**1b Tangible Fixed Assets**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.  
Office furniture and computer equipment - 20% reducing balance.

**1c Pension Costs**

Bexley Deaf Group has offered the NEST pension plan for all eligible employees.

**1d Fund accounting**

Unrestricted and designated funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor.

**2 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
<b>Office Equipment</b>		
Cost	9,698.33	9,698.33
<b>Addition</b>	<u>1,145.46</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>10,843.79</u>	<u>9,698.33</u>
Accumulated Depreciation 1st April 2020	6,898.37	6,204.40
Charge for year	<u>779.95</u>	<u>693.97</u>
	<u>7,678.32</u>	<u>6,898.37</u>
NET BOOK VALUE 31st March 2021	<u>3,165.47</u>	<u>2,799.96</u>

**3 LIABILITIES FALLING DUE WITHIN 1 YEAR**

Staff Wages	152.20	-
Nest Pension	237.94	185.02
Accrued expenses	950.00	750.00
	<u>1,340.14</u>	<u>935.02</u>

**4 INCOMING RESOURCES**

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>TOTAL FUNDS</u>	
	<u>General</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>4a Voluntary Income</b>					
Donations and legacies	5,458.45	83,000.00		88,458.45	42,738.84
Grant from Bexley Clinical Commissioning Group/ Bexley Council	58,713.82		3,713.82	62,427.64	61,677.64
	<u>64,172.27</u>	<u>83,000.00</u>	<u>3,713.82</u>	<u>150,886.09</u>	<u>104,416.48</u>
<b>4b Charitable Activities</b>					
Access to work reclaims	1,934.00			1,934.00	1,863.00
National Lottery Community Fund - Lend an Ear	-		9,190.00	9,190.00	-
BVSC - Job Club Online Project	-		5,766.00	5,766.00	-
Courses	5,381.47			5,381.47	21,248.08
Sales of merchandise	-			-	72.60
HMRC JRS Grant	631.76			631.76	-
	<u>7,947.23</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,956.00</u>	<u>22,903.23</u>	<u>23,183.68</u>
<b>4c Income from investment</b>					
Bank interest	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	<u>£72,119.50</u>	<u>£83,000.00</u>	<u>£18,669.82</u>	<u>£173,789.32</u>	<u>£127,600.16</u>

**BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

7

5 RESOURCES EXPENDED	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>TOTAL FUNDS</u>	
	<u>General</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£	£	£
<b>5a Expenditure on charitable activities</b>				
British Sign Language Assessments	4,146.11		4,146.11	341.70
Charitable Activities: Expenses	965.03		965.03	10,374.48
Rent of offices	-	7,427.64	7,427.64	7,427.64
Wages	75,380.12		75,380.12	70,207.56
Employers NI	50.23		50.23	348.71
Pensions	1,106.64		1,106.64	951.48
Telephone	991.41		991.41	1,033.73
Printing postage stationery	645.37		645.37	1,710.53
Advertising incl website	169.29		169.29	309.80
Travel and subsistence	210.14		210.14	50.09
Insurance	667.92		667.92	677.31
Refreshments	92.07		92.07	156.73
Company accounts filing fees	13.00		13.00	13.00
Staff training	-		-	60.00
Sundry	427.90		427.90	-
Accountancy and book keeping	2,394.46		2,394.46	1,129.01
Legal & Professional	1,741.20		1,741.20	592.00
	<u>89,000.89</u>	<u>7,427.64</u>	<u>96,428.53</u>	<u>95,383.77</u>
<b>5b Other expenditure</b>				
Depreciation	779.95		779.95	693.97
Bank charges	69.00		69.00	60.00
	<u>848.95</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>848.95</u>	<u>753.97</u>
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<u><b>£89,849.84</b></u>	<u><b>£7,427.64</b></u>	<u><b>£97,277.48</b></u>	<u><b>£96,137.74</b></u>

**6 Funds**

<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>BFWD</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Net Movement</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>CFWD</u>
Bexley Clinical Commissioning	3,713.82	3,713.82	7,427.64	(3,713.82)	-	-
BVSC - Job Club Online Project	-	5,766.00	-	5,766.00	-	5,766.00
National Lottery Community Fund - Lend an Ear	-	9,190.00	-	9,190.00	(7,639.85)	1,550.15
Action on Hearing Loss	671.26	-	-	-	(671.26)	-
	<u>4,385.08</u>	<u>18,669.82</u>	<u>7,427.64</u>	<u>11,242.18</u>	<u>(8,311.11)</u>	<u>7,316.15</u>
Designated - Daisy Mumford	<u>36,064.21</u>	<u>83,000.00</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>83,000.00</u>	<u>(5,322.42)</u>	<u>113,741.79</u>
<u>General</u>	<u>78,180.99</u>	<u>72,119.50</u>	<u>89,849.84</u>	<u>(17,730.34)</u>	<u>13,633.53</u>	<u>74,084.18</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><b>£118,630.28</b></u>	<u><b>£173,789.32</b></u>	<u><b>£97,277.48</b></u>	<u><b>£76,511.84</b></u>	<u><b>£0.00</b></u>	<u><b>£195,142.12</b></u>

**Bexley Clinical Commissioning Group** contribute towards the cost of the rent of the Bexley Deaf group's offices.

**Funding awarded by BVSC from The National Lottery Community Fund** for the Job Club Online Project, will enable the current Job Club to become an online service.

**National Lottery Community Fund** supported the development of our befriending 'Lend an Ear' project.

**Action on Hearing Loss** was received in February 2017 for Hearing Loss checks, advertising and printing leaflets, wages for an administrator of the scheme and volunteers' travel expenses. A further grant was received in May 2017.

# **BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

#### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE BEXLEY DEAF GROUP**

This report on the financial statements of the **BEXLEY DEAF GROUP** for the year ended 31 March 2021, which are set on pages 4 to 7 is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with s145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

#### **Respective responsibilities of the trustees and the examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) or under Regulation 10(1)(d) of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (the 2006 Accounts Regulations) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 (the 2005 Act)
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. The examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

(1) which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
- to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act;
- have not been met; or
- to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached; or
- which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the accounting rules of the charity's constitution have not been met.

**Graham E.J. Sadler FCA**  
**SADLER DAVIES & CO**  
**Chartered Accountants**  
**3 Enterprise House**  
**8 Essex Road**  
**Dartford,**  
**Kent, DA1 2AU**

**Date: 15<sup>th</sup> October 2021**