

Charity registration number 1045617 (England and Wales)

Charity registration number SC039170 (Scotland)

Company registration number 03036802 (England and Wales)

AFASIC

**ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

AFASIC

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	C Hammond (Treasurer) J Emin (Chair) C Everingham G Drewitt J Butcher
Corporate Management Team	L Lascelles (Chief Executive) M Thompson (Director Fundraising & Support Services)
Secretary	L Lascelles (Chief Executive)
Charity number (England and Wales)	1045617
Charity number (Scotland)	SC039170
Company number	03036802
Registered office	St Margaret's House 15 Old Ford Road London E2 9PJ
Independent examiner	Lee, Dicketts & Co 3 East Point High Street Seal Sevenoaks Kent TN15 0EG
Bankers	Lloyds 4 High Street Dartford Kent DA1 1BY

AFASIC

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 7
Independent examiner's report	8
Statement of financial activities	9 - 10
Statement of financial position	11
Notes to the financial statements	12 - 23

AFASIC

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

Afasic is a UK parent-led charity, established in 1968, that supports and provides information for families with children and young adults who have Speech Language and Communication Needs (SLCN), with a focus on Developmental Language Disorder (DLD).

Afasic's vision is that every child and young adult with SLCN, including DLD, should be enabled to overcome the challenges they face and become the best they can be.

Afasic's core purpose is to provide information and support for families, parents, other carers and also to health, education and care professionals, to enable them to better understand, help and advocate for children with SLCN, with a focus on DLD; and to enable children and young adults to develop key skills, improve social integration and gain access to educational and legal entitlements.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Achievements and performance

A summary of our main areas of work and achievements during the past year is given below.

Transition Courses:

These are courses for children with persistent speech, language and communication difficulties who are about to make the key educational transition from primary to secondary school. They aim to improve opportunities for these children to make a positive start at secondary, make the most of their education, and to take a full and active role in school life, with long-term benefits for them, their families, the school and the community as a whole.

Despite some challenges this year, ten primary to secondary transition courses were successfully delivered during the summer of 2023, with 115 children benefiting from these, and positive outcomes for both children and parents.

Students had a mixed profile of communication needs. The majority had receptive and expressive language difficulties and Developmental Language disorder (DLD), some with social communication and general learning difficulties. Results of post course questionnaires showed most children enjoyed the transition course and increased their confidence, raising their understanding of the requirements of secondary and learning strategies to assist them with introducing themselves and interacting with unfamiliar peers and adults. Most of the students rated their enjoyment of the course with either 4 or 5 stars (out of 5). Students also reported that after the course they felt more confident about starting at secondary school.

"My favourite thing about the course was learning about friendships and playing in the breaks." Student.

"Thank you for a great course, it has really helped my child with her fears around secondary school. She felt that having the chance to speak with a student of a school really helpful and being able to ask them questions." Parent.

"It was really nice to hear from other parents fears or concerns about their child and that you are not alone feeling like that!" Parent.

AFASIC

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

We are very grateful for the support that we received from the Weinstock Fund, the Big Give, the Four Acre Trust, and the Borrowes Charitable Trust that helped to ensure these courses could take place.

Parent training:

The 'DLD Together' project has been developed by Afasic and the charity NAPLIC to fill a gap in support for families who have a child (or children) affected by DLD, which has been identified by both parents and professionals. The DLD Together course provides an invaluable resource to parents who may not have even heard of DLD until their child was diagnosed. Many families report feeling very isolated as they do not know other families who have a child with a diagnosis of DLD.

NAPLIC and Afasic have created a seven-week course that helps parents and carers better understand the condition, support their child at home, become effective advocates for their child, and enables them to meet other parents to build a support network. Over 200 professionals have now been trained to deliver the courses and we have run a total of 54 courses so far, which have benefited over 330 families.

"The course was extremely useful at giving helpful advice for now as well as for the future and was very supportive" (parent).

"We regularly WhatsApp each other in our DLD group chat. We support and champion our amazing children who have DLD. We are planning another DLD family get together during October half term! This would not have been possible with the course. Thank you." (parent).

"The course greatly improved my overall knowledge of DLD this also helped me understand my daughter's behaviour".

We are grateful to the Communication Consortium for their support for this developing project, without which this would not have been possible.

Helpline & Support for Parents:

Providing information and support for parents is at the heart of all that we do and was the driving force behind the establishment of the charity 55 years ago. The Afasic helpline continues to provide an essential source of one to one tailored information, support and advice for parents to enable them to better understand, help and advocate for their child.

"Thank you very much for the information you sent to me. It was very helpful."

"Thank you for taking the time to reply to my email. What you have written is helpful. I sing the praises of Afasic to others who have children with developmental speech disorders. Keep up the good work."

"Thanks ever so much for your thoroughly informative email, I also appreciate your insightfulness and genuine caring spirit."

We are grateful to the WO Street Charitable Trust for their donation towards the costs of this key service.

Website & Information:

Our website, social media and monthly email updates continue to provide a key point of access to vital information about speech, language and communication needs with a wide range of free downloadable resources available from our website. Our social media officer is successfully growing the reach of our messages and information to new audiences and we now have over 20,000 followers across all platforms. Printed publications offer more detailed information on accessing benefits, therapy, practical activities for parents to do with their child, and their legal rights.

AFASIC

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Collaboration:

Afasic works in collaboration with several organisations, including the Council for Disabled Children, the Special Education Consortium (SEC), the Disabled Children's Partnership (DCP), the Speech language and communication Alliance (previously the Communication Consortium), the National Association of Professionals concerned for Language Impaired Children (Naplic), the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT) and Speech and Language UK (formally ICAN). We also collaborate on specific research initiatives with Bristol University, and others. We have collaborated on some parent information with Moor House Specialist School and College's research centre.

Developing a DLD vision: Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) is still an under-recognised condition, and Afasic, RCSLT, Naplic and Speech and Language UK and UCL Professor Courtenay Norbury have held several online sessions with adults and young people with DLD and their families to pull together five key visions which will help guide everyone's work, and although this project has had a long gestation period, this was launched on 'DLD Awareness Day' on the 20th October 2023.

Financial and business review

This has been another difficult year in terms of income for Afasic. The economic uncertainty and cost of living crisis continues to impact on levels of individual donations and sponsorship and as a small specialist charity dealing with a little-known condition it remains difficult to recruit participants for events.

Total income for the year was £172,494, a reduction of £8,000 compared to last year. At the same time, operating costs have increased due to inflationary pressures, with total costs rising by £22,000 compared to the previous year.

Income from trusts & foundations is increasingly hard to obtain as the focus and priority for many seems to be elsewhere at the moment, and just the sheer weight of numbers of applications they are receiving are impacting on the success of our applications. As a result, income from trusts and foundations has reduced by £8,500 compared to the previous year.

It is pleasing to see that income from individual donations and subscriptions has in fact remained static at over £91,000, but income from fundraising events has reduced by £4,500 compared to the previous year. These figures show that income levels are still fragile and that there is increasing competition for funding that exists.

Against unrestricted income of £128,160 (2023 £124,106), there was expenditure of £157,254 (2023: £152,303), leaving a net deficit for the year of £29,094 in the unrestricted general fund (2023: net deficit of £28,197).

For restricted funds there was income of £44,334 (2023 £57,495) and expenditure of £75,652 (2023: £79,372), which has resulted in a net deficit of £27,455 for the year in restricted funds after transfers (2023: net deficit of £21,877).

Designated funds have reduced by £23,973 (2023: £1,013) as the trustees have agreed to use the designated fund to ensure that we can continue to provide and develop our key services and projects for families and children whilst additional funding is obtained in the longer term.

Overall, there is a net deficit for the year of £80,522, compared to a net deficit the previous year of £51,087.

General unrestricted funds available for general charitable purposes as at the 31st March 2024 were £117,603, which is within the level of unrestricted funds required by the trustees (see reserves policy below).

These remain uncertain times, but the trustees continue to be positive and the first quarter of the new financial year has shown glimmers of hope in terms of income, with total income for the quarter to the end of June 2024 being the highest for the past 5 years at over £112,000. In the meantime, the trustees will continue to keep a careful watch on the financial position to ensure that the important work of the organisation can continue into the future.

AFASIC

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Reserves policy:

The trustees have an agreed reserves policy that takes into account the main risks to the organisation highlighted through the risk management policy.

The policy of the trustees is to maintain unrestricted reserves at a level sufficient to support the core activities of the organisation for a minimum of six months and up to twelve months. This level of reserves is deemed prudent by the trustees, to ensure that the work and services of the organisation can be planned with some certainty. This policy is reviewed by the trustees on an annual basis.

At the year end, unrestricted reserves (excluding the designated fund) provided 9 months cover for budgeted unrestricted expenditure (previous year 11.6 months). This is therefore within the level of cover required by the trustees under this policy.

The trustees will continue to monitor the reserves position closely over the coming year.

Going concern:

These accounts are prepared on the going concern basis. The trustees have a reasonable expectation that Afasic will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. However, the general economic environment means it is difficult to project with any certainty the likely level of unrestricted funding that will be received over the next 12 months.

The cost of living crisis and economic uncertainty is having a continuing impact but overall the income of the organisation has held up well given all that has happened over the past few years and work undertaken to reduce overheads in previous years means that Afasic is comparatively well placed to sustain its work and support for children and families that need it now more than ever.

Principal funding sources:

We are very grateful to the many individuals who have contributed towards the work of Afasic through membership fees, individual donations and taking part in a range of events during the year. These are all vital sources of income for us and help ensure that we can maintain and develop our key services. In addition to these, major funding contributions and significant grants have been very gratefully received during the year from the following:

Trusts & Foundations:

The Adint Charitable Trust, the Andor Charitable Trust, the Communication Consortium, the Grocers Charity, Kingsgrove Trust, Masonic Charitable Foundation, PF Charitable Trust, Sir James Roll Charitable Trust, Woodroffe Benton Foundation, WO Street Charitable Trust, and the Worshipful Company of Insurers.

Companies:

Akira Financial Ltd, Oxed & Assessment Ltd, Seveer Media Ltd.

Individuals & Events:

We greatly appreciate the continued generous support for our work from our members and individual donors, without which much of what we do would not be possible. In particular, we greatly appreciate the very kind legacies left to us during the year by long term supporters Clive Craigmile, John Quinn and Rosanna McCarthy.

In December 2023 we had our second 'Big Give Christmas Challenge' where all donations received were doubled. This was to raise funds for our transition courses and amazingly we reached our target of £10,000! Many thanks to all those who donated, the people who 'matched' their donations – The Reed Foundation, Dorothy Bishop, Jon Emin and Stewart Clark, and of course the Big Give for the opportunity to take part in their Christmas Challenge Campaign.

We are also very grateful to everyone who took part in one of our fundraising events during the year, including our third 'Dash for DLD', our amazing and inspiring London marathon runners, all the cyclists who took part in one of our bike rides during the year, all those taking part in our 'sponsored walk', and everyone 'doing their own thing' to help raise funds for us. Thanks to all of you – you are amazing and really do help to make a difference!

AFASIC

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

As a small specialist charity dealing with a little-known condition it is very hard to raise funds to maintain the ongoing delivery of our work, made even more difficult by the cost of living crisis and other more 'visible' and 'urgent' calls for support. Given this, and the continuing difficult economic climate, the trustees would like to sincerely thank all of our supporters who have contributed towards our work during the year. This is greatly appreciated and has helped to make a real difference to the daily lives of the children, young adults and families that we help.

Investment policy:

The Memorandum and Articles of Association give the charity the power to invest moneys not immediately required for its purposes as it sees fit. The Trustee Board agreed an investment policy in December 2004 that states:

- An amount of cash for working capital of up to £150,000 is to be maintained in the organisation's current and accessible deposit accounts at any one time.
- Balances above this figure that are not required to cover short / medium term liabilities are to be available for investment.
- There are currently no funds held in investments.

Risk management:

The Board of Trustees adopted a risk management policy in December 2004 and established a risk register, both of which are reviewed and updated as necessary on at least an annual basis. The policy and register have identified the major risks to which the organisation is exposed and outline strategies, systems and procedures to manage these.

Afasic has policies in place including a health and safety policy, child protection policy, equal opportunities policy, and data protection policy as well as procedures laid down in a staff handbook to ensure that all staff and volunteers comply with these.

Financial risk management is an integral part of the operational framework of the business and strategic planning, project management and financial reporting procedures are in place.

Plans for the future:

Our key aims for the coming year are outlined below:

- To expand the reach of the 'DLD Together' parent training programme now that 3 year funding has been obtained, and to develop a parent support network.
- To maintain and develop our summer transition courses for children facing the key move to secondary school, subject to funding, with courses able to be delivered either virtually or face to face; including the development of a 'national' course model.
- To continue developing our website content and resources to provide a source of key information for parents and families, whenever they need it.
- To continue providing information, support and advice to parents, carers and families through the Afasic parents' helpline service and our social media feeds.

To continue collaborating with partners, professionals, key researchers, voluntary sector (e.g. NAPLIC, CDC, SEC, DCP, Speech and Language UK the speech language and Communication Alliance and professional bodies such as the RCSLT.

Structure, governance and management

The organisation is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. The organisation was registered as a charity on 4 July 1968, and incorporated on 23 March 1995. 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, as amended to allow for current governance arrangements on 6 November 2004. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

The organisation was registered with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator on 17th January 2008 under number SC039170.

AFASIC

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

C Hammond (Treasurer)

J Emin (Chair)

J Perry

(Resigned 5 July 2024)

C Everingham

G Drewitt

J Butcher

Recruitment and appointment of trustees:

The trustees are all volunteers. The board comprises both elected and co-opted members. In addition to the Honorary Officers, up to six board members can be elected at the AGM.

To ensure that the work of the charity is informed by a mix of business, financial and technical advice, the Board also has four co-opted places designated for individuals with an interest in and the potential to offer valuable contribution to the effectiveness of the organisation. The Chair and Vice Chair must be parents of a child with a speech and language impairment. All members are circulated with invitations to nominate trustees and Honorary Officers prior to the AGM, along with details and nomination forms.

Organisational structure:

The Board of Trustees, which can have a maximum of 13 members, administers the charity and meets on at least a quarterly basis. The day-to-day management of the organisation is in the hands of the Chief Executive.

Trustee induction and training:

Each new trustee receives induction from the Chair and / or Chief Executive as to their role and responsibilities and the work of the organisation. They are provided with a copy of "The Good Trustee Guide" published by NCVO, along with a copy of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, latest audited accounts and annual review, strategic and business plans, and details of major projects and services.

Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where this will help them in their role, in addition to internal training provided by staff and trustees.

AFASIC

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees, who are also the directors of Afasic for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

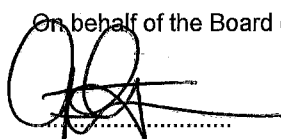
In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees



J Eimin (Chair)

Trustee

Dated: 4th October 2024

AFASIC

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF AFASIC

We report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Afasic (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 (the 2005 Act), the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act). You are satisfied that the financial statements of the charity are not required by charity or company law to be audited and have chosen instead to have an independent examination.

Having satisfied ourselves that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, we report in respect of our examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 44 (1) (c) of the 2005 Act and section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out our examination we have followed the requirements of Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity is required by company law to prepare its accounts on an accruals basis and is registered as a charity in Scotland your examiner must be a member of a body listed in Regulation 11(2) of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). We confirm that we are qualified to undertake the examination because we are a member of Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

We have completed our examination. We confirm that no matters have come to our attention in connection with the examination giving us cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of Regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

We have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Lee, Dicketts & Co



3 East Point
High Street
Seal
Sevenoaks
Kent
TN15 0EG

Dated: 31 October 2024

AFASIC

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Current financial year		Unrestricted funds general	Unrestricted funds Designated fund	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	Notes	2024 £	2024 £	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	2	75,888	-	15,814	91,702	91,739
Charitable activities	3	42,000	-	28,512	70,512	84,502
Investments	4	8,365	-	8	8,373	2,176
Other income	5	1,907	-	-	1,907	2,267
Total income		128,160	-	44,334	172,494	180,684
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	6	21,533	-	-	21,533	16,007
Charitable activities	7	135,690	20,110	75,652	231,452	215,764
Other expenditure	13	31	-	-	31	-
Total expenditure		157,254	20,110	75,652	253,016	231,771
Net expenditure		(29,094)	(20,110)	(31,318)	(80,522)	(51,087)
Transfers between funds		-	(3,863)	3,863	-	-
Net movement in funds	10	(29,094)	(23,973)	(27,455)	(80,522)	(51,087)
Reconciliation of funds:						
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		146,697	204,235	94,789	445,721	496,808
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		117,603	180,262	67,334	365,199	445,721

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

AFASIC

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Prior financial year		Unrestricted funds general	Unrestricted funds Designated fund	Restricted funds	Total
	Notes	2023 £	2023 £	2023 £	2023 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	73,926	(917)	18,730	91,739
Charitable activities	3	45,742	-	38,760	84,502
Investments	4	2,171	-	5	2,176
Other income	5	2,267	-	-	2,267
Total income		<u>124,106</u>	<u>(917)</u>	<u>57,495</u>	<u>180,684</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	6	16,007	-	-	16,007
Charitable activities	7	136,296	96	79,372	215,764
Total expenditure		<u>152,303</u>	<u>96</u>	<u>79,372</u>	<u>231,771</u>
Net income and movement in funds		<u>(28,197)</u>	<u>(1,013)</u>	<u>(21,877)</u>	<u>(51,087)</u>
Reconciliation of funds:					
Fund balances at 1 April 2022		<u>174,894</u>	<u>205,248</u>	<u>116,666</u>	<u>496,808</u>
Fund balances at 31 March 2023		<u>146,697</u>	<u>204,235</u>	<u>94,789</u>	<u>445,721</u>

AFASIC

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	15		2,020		2,957
Current assets					
Debtors	16	12,157		113,601	
Cash at bank and in hand		357,152		334,694	
		369,309		448,295	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(6,130)		(5,531)	
Net current assets			363,179		442,764
Total assets less current liabilities			365,199		445,721
Net assets excluding pension liability			365,199		445,721
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	20	67,334		94,789	
Unrestricted funds - general		117,603		146,697	
Unrestricted funds - Designated fund	19	180,262		204,235	
		365,199		445,721	

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 4th October 2024



C Hammond (Treasurer)

Trustee

Company registration number 03036802 (England and Wales)

AFASIC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Afasic is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is St Margaret's House, 15 Old Ford Road, London, E2 9PJ.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

These accounts are prepared on the going concern basis. The trustees have a reasonable expectation that Afasic will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, however the general economic environment continues to make it difficult to raise unrestricted funds to cover core services and costs. It remains difficult to project what the likely receipt of unrestricted funding will be over the next 12 months.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in note 19 of the financial statements.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in note 18 of the financial statements.

1.4 Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Where it is clear that the donor has specified a grant to be related to a fixed period for a specified use, these funds will be treated as deferred income and released to the Statement of Financial Activities to match the related expenditure.

AFASIC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Resources expended

The accruals basis is applied to all expenditure.

Expenditure has been allocated according to the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" and is shown under the appropriate sub-heading. Items of expenditure which involve more than one charitable activity, are allocated appropriately between the charitable activities involved on the basis of estimates made by the charity's management.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Fixtures, fittings & equipment	25% reducing balance
Computers	33.3% reducing balance

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

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

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

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

1.9 Basic financial instruments

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any loss arising from impairment is recognised in the profit and loss account in other administrative expenses.

1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

AFASIC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

2	Income from donations and legacies	Unrestricted funds			Unrestricted funds			Restricted funds			Total		
		general	Designated	fund	general	Designated	fund	general	Designated	fund	2024	2023	2023
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
	Donations and gifts	63,519	-	-	45,940	-	-	18,730	-	-	79,303	18,730	64,670
	Legacies receivable	7,172	-	-	22,295	(917)	(917)	-	-	-	7,172	-	21,378
	Subscriptions	5,197	-	30	5,691	-	-	-	-	-	5,227	-	5,691
		75,888	-	-	73,926	(917)	(917)	18,730	-	-	91,702	18,730	91,739

AFASIC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Events	21,688	-	21,688	26,098	10	26,108
Literature	1,612	-	1,612	2,594	-	2,594
Grants receivable for charitable activities	18,700	28,512	47,212	17,050	38,750	55,800
	<u>42,000</u>	<u>28,512</u>	<u>70,512</u>	<u>45,742</u>	<u>38,760</u>	<u>84,502</u>

4 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Interest receivable	8,365	8	8,373	2,171	5	2,176
	<u>8,365</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>8,373</u>	<u>2,171</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2,176</u>

5 Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Royalties	332	249
Management and administration services	1,575	2,018
	<u>1,907</u>	<u>2,267</u>

6 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Fundraising and publicity		
Other fundraising costs	6,552	3,121
Staff costs	14,981	12,886
	<u>21,533</u>	<u>16,007</u>

AFASIC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

7 Expenditure on charitable activities	Information Parents and families and awareness		Children and young people		Total		Information and awareness		Parents and families		Children and young people		Total	
	2024	£	2024	£	2024	£	2023	£	2023	£	2023	£	2023	£
Direct costs														
Staff costs	47,299		20,558		121,540		34,839		54,046		23,505		112,390	
Depreciation and impairment	301		303		905		446		446		450		1,342	
Services	2,834		16,657		32,208		3,722		5,213		16,549		25,484	
Property costs	8,934		8,934		29,779		8,096		10,795		8,096		26,987	
Administrative costs	3,066		3,980		11,339		2,103		7,517		2,225		11,845	
Other staff costs	318		1,277		3,433		668		920		945		2,533	
	62,752		51,709		199,204		49,874		78,937		51,770		180,581	
Share of support and governance costs (see note 9)														
Support	8,381		8,593		28,034		9,832		11,712		10,161		31,705	
Governance	1,361		1,404		4,214		1,115		1,204		1,159		3,478	
	72,494		61,706		231,452		60,821		91,853		63,090		215,764	
Analysis by fund														
Unrestricted funds - general	49,910		31,070		135,690		57,851		49,200		29,245		136,296	
Unrestricted funds - Designated fund	20,110		-		20,110		32		32		32		96	
Restricted funds	2,474		30,636		75,652		2,938		42,621		33,813		79,372	
	72,494		61,706		231,452		60,821		91,853		63,090		215,764	

AFASIC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

8 Description of charitable activities

Information and awareness

Providing and disseminating information on speech, language and communication needs and raising awareness of this hidden disability.

Parents and families

Supporting and empowering parents and families of children and young people with speech, language and communication needs, enabling them to advocate for their child.

Children and young people

Enabling children and young people with speech, language and communication needs to develop their communication, social and life skills.

9 Support costs allocated to activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs	22,306	16,896
	5,230	14,354
	498	455
Governance costs	4,214	3,478
	<u>32,248</u>	<u>35,183</u>
Analysed between:		
Information and awareness	9,742	10,947
Parents and families	12,509	12,916
Children and young people	9,997	11,320
	<u>32,248</u>	<u>35,183</u>

10 Net movement in funds

	2024 £	2023 £
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	905	1,342
Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	31	-
	<u>936</u>	<u>1,342</u>

11 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the year, but they were reimbursed a total of £263 travelling expenses (2023 - £32).

AFASIC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

12 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
	8	8
Employment costs	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	150,524	134,736
Social security costs	4,706	4,312
Other pension costs	3,597	3,124
	158,827	142,172

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

13 Other expenditure

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Net loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	31	-

14 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

AFASIC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

15 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £	Computers £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2023	26,770	16,025	42,795
Disposals	-	(240)	(240)
At 31 March 2024	26,770	15,785	42,555
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 April 2023	25,950	13,889	39,839
Depreciation charged in the year	205	700	905
Eliminated in respect of disposals	-	(209)	(209)
At 31 March 2024	26,155	14,380	40,535
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2024	615	1,405	2,020
At 31 March 2023	820	2,137	2,957

16 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	10,122	7,294
Prepayments and accrued income	2,035	106,307
	12,157	113,601

The debtors figure has previously included a legacy of £104,550 which represented the outstanding balance of a considerably delayed distribution of the estate due to issues outside the control of Afasic. The remaining legacy balance of £103,633 was received in April 2023 and as a result the debtors figure has significantly reduced.

17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Other taxation and social security	2,441	2,097
Trade creditors	3,275	3,206
Other creditors	414	228
	6,130	5,531

AFASIC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

18 Retirement benefit schemes

	2024 £	2023 £
Defined contribution schemes		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	3,597	3,124

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

19 Unrestricted funds - Designated fund

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2024 £
Legacy income - strategic plan	133,235	-	-	(37,000)	96,235
Parent support service & helpline	15,000	-	-	(3,863)	11,137
Summer Transition Courses	38,000	-	-	-	38,000
DLD Together parent training project	18,000	-	(4,553)	-	13,447
Social Media Officer	-	-	(15,557)	37,000	21,443
	<u>204,235</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(20,110)</u>	<u>(3,863)</u>	<u>180,262</u>

Previous year:

	At 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2023 £
Legacy income - strategic plan	134,248	(917)	(96)	-	133,235
Parent support service & helpline	15,000	-	-	-	15,000
Summer Transition Courses	38,000	-	-	-	38,000
DLD Together parent training project	18,000	-	-	-	18,000
	<u>205,248</u>	<u>(917)</u>	<u>(96)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>204,235</u>

AFASIC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

19 Unrestricted funds - Designated fund

(Continued)

The long awaited final payment of the legacy left to Afasic by Joy Newman of £103,633 was received in April 2023.

Specific funds totalling £108,000 have been allocated by the trustees towards the costs of maintaining and developing key services and projects of the organisation to ensure that these can continue in the future, as shown below:

Parent support service & helpline - £15,000
Summer Transition Courses - £38,000
DLD Together parent training project - £18,000
Social media officer - £37,000.

Remaining funds will be invested in the future development of Afasic and its charitable activities as required.

20 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	Movement in funds				
	Balance at 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Works across the nations					
CYMRU	897	-	(11)	-	886
Northern Ireland	242	-	(11)	-	231
Supporting parents and professionals					
Parent Support Service	5,402	3,618	(12,883)	3,863	-
Local Groups	24,410	14,351	(10,168)	-	28,593
Supporting children and young people					
Summer School	42,456	16,185	(27,078)	-	31,563
Bryony Walker Fund	5,378	-	-	-	5,378
West Midlands	245	-	(84)	-	161
DLD Together	15,759	10,180	(25,417)	-	522
	<u>94,789</u>	<u>44,334</u>	<u>(75,652)</u>	<u>3,863</u>	<u>67,334</u>

Details of certain restricted funds, including income from grants and donations are as follows:

Works across the nations:

CYMRU

Our projects in Wales came to an end in March 2018 as funding bids were unsuccessful and we were unable to find the funds necessary to maintain and develop our work there beyond this period.

Northern Ireland

Previously funded by a grant from the Big Lottery Fund for work with young people in Northern Ireland. This project has now been completed.

AFASIC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

20 Restricted funds

(Continued)

Supporting parents and professionals:

Parent Support Service

This service provides support to parents through a telephone helpline, social media feeds, production and distribution of literature and development of resources on the Afasic website. Support towards the costs of this work has been provided by the WO Street Charitable Trust.

Local Groups

Members who come together to form groups at a local level to provide mutual support, organise activities for children and young people and work in partnership with local authorities. Funds are raised and spent locally.

DLD Together

A programme of remote training courses for parents of a child who has been diagnosed with Developmental Language Disorder. Funding for this highly regarded project has come from a grant of £30,000 from the Communication Consortium.

Supporting children and young people:

Transition Summer Schools

This is a programme of innovative courses for children facing the move from primary to secondary school. These week long courses aim to prepare the children for this move, arm them with strategies for dealing with things like bullying, and develop their social and language skills. We are very grateful to the main funders for this year's courses, which included: The Weinstock Fund, the Four Acre Trust, the Borrowes Charitable Trust and donations from the Big Give Christmas Challenge.

Bryony Walker Fund

A fund set up with donations made in memory of our trustee and Vice Chair Bryony Walker who sadly passed away in 2014 to be used for work with young people.

West Midlands Funds

Funds to be used for our work in the West Midlands areas.

Afasic is very grateful to all the donors mentioned above for their support of our work during this period.

21 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds general	Unrestricted funds Designated fund	Restricted funds	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2024
	£	£	£	£
At 31 March 2024:				
Tangible assets	2,020	-	-	2,020
Current assets/(liabilities)	115,583	180,262	67,334	363,179
	<u>117,603</u>	<u>180,262</u>	<u>67,334</u>	<u>365,199</u>

AFASIC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

21 Analysis of net assets between funds

(Continued)

	Unrestricted funds general	Unrestricted funds Designated fund	Restricted funds	Total
	2023 £	2023 £	2023 £	2023 £
At 31 March 2023:				
Tangible assets	2,955	-	2	2,957
Current assets/(liabilities)	143,742	204,235	94,787	442,764
	<u>146,697</u>	<u>204,235</u>	<u>94,789</u>	<u>445,721</u>

22 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2023 - none).