

InFocus

The vision impairment &
complex needs charity

Annual Report

2022/23

Including the Trustees' Report and
Annual Accounts for the
year ending 31st August 2023

www.infocus-charity.org.uk



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Introduction

This year’s Annual Report celebrates the incredible achievements of young people with vision impairment and complex needs.

Since its foundation in the 19th century the charity has supported countless children and young adults to become more independent, find their voice and take their place in society. We’ve been based here in Exeter for much of our time but have also looked beyond our city and county to support people from across the UK.

We are about to enter the final year of our current Strategic Plan. Since 2019 we have been working tirelessly with our families, funders, supporters, staff and volunteers to give the very best to the young people who need our unique combination of expertise, experience and resources.

In the last twelve months we have accelerated our redevelopment of the site and its facilities for young people. We have worked to meet the challenges in the recruitment crisis across the care sector by looking for new ways to support and develop the next generation of specialist staff.

We have been innovative with our use of resources and honest in our reviews of how we work. We have worked to constantly improve the services we deliver whilst actively looking for more ways to reach more families.

Most importantly we continue to be fiercely ambitious for the young people we support, working together to make sure they can live fulfilling adult lives.



Pamela Marsden
Chair of Trustees



Jane Bell
Chief Executive Officer

Thank you...

InFocus Charity would like to thank:

Our Ambassadors Michael Caines MBE DL and Judi Spiers.

Jacqui Taylor of Otter Garden Centres for her continued generosity and financial support to our West Hill Outdoor Learning Centre.

Our volunteers across charity retail (our e-commerce project, together with shops in Honiton, Sidmouth, Ottery St Mary, Exeter Heavitree, Exeter Sidwell Street and Exeter Cowick Street), our horticulture projects at the West Hill Outdoor Learning Centre and Topsham Road, and everyone else who volunteers in so many different ways.

All our partner work placement employers.

Our amazing and dedicated staff team.

The parents, carers and families of our young people.

Our Trustees and advisory members who give their time and expertise so generously.

Former pupils and users of our services, their families, Members of the West of England School Association (WESA), and all who are supporting us as part of the InFocus Community.

Volunteer and fundraising groups from: Thomson Reuters, Axewoods, Dealerweb, Launch and CAP Technologies.

All our donors and supporters.



During the past year we have been lucky to have met with so many generous people who give money or time to support the work of InFocus.

Former pupil, Glenda Benger MBE, completed an amazing 2,280 mile virtual challenge walking the famous Route 66. She raised over £1,300 for the charity, and completed the distance at InFocus HQ with family, friends, staff and current College students.

Local businesses have taken part in all sorts of volunteering and fundraising projects, helping to transform our specialist facilities through their time, talents and donations.

Our charity shops have continued to thrive. During the year we marked the 15th anniversary of volunteer Gareth Richards' time with InFocus. Gareth (pictured, right) also helps with events, takes on sponsorship challenges and hosts an annual skittles evening – helping to raise £1,000s over the years.

Our volunteers are invaluable! With their support, we're able to run our charity shops, maintain our 13-acre site in Exeter and 10-acre Outdoor Learning Centre at West Hill, help shape the charity as Trustees, and so much more.



We recently welcomed a new team of volunteers to a new charity shop in Ottery St Mary, joining staff members Heidi and Helen in the shop (pictured, left).

This year we have also been touched by people who have remembered InFocus in their will. These gifts - large and small - have helped give young adults with complex disability and vision impairment greater independence in a world where barriers still exist. They have helped people to make the most of their limited vision. Perhaps most importantly, they have helped to give a voice to people whose voices are often not heard in society.

"InFocus supporters helped us to provide the best equipment, facilities and support for our young people. Thank you!"

Highlights:

Delivering

impact

We want the best for the people who are supported by InFocus.

During the year the young adults from all our services thrived, and made progress towards their goals and aspirations.



The importance of "voice and choice"

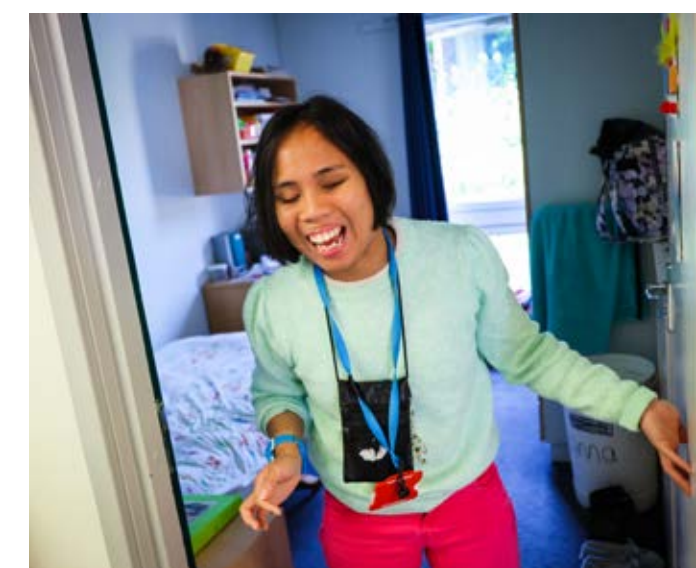
The young adults we support face huge barriers to learning, living and taking an active, independent place in their communities.

One of the most important things that we can do is to help our young people to have more of a say of what happens in their lives.

Some people come to InFocus unable to understand or express simple choices like yes or no. Throughout the year we have helped all the people we support to find their voice, and be more involved in decision-making.

This has helped them to take more control over what happens in their day. This might be choosing an activity, deciding what to eat and drink, or being able to tell someone that they need to use the bathroom.

It is also critical for accessing learning (whether that's formal learning in College, or the ongoing learning journey away from education).

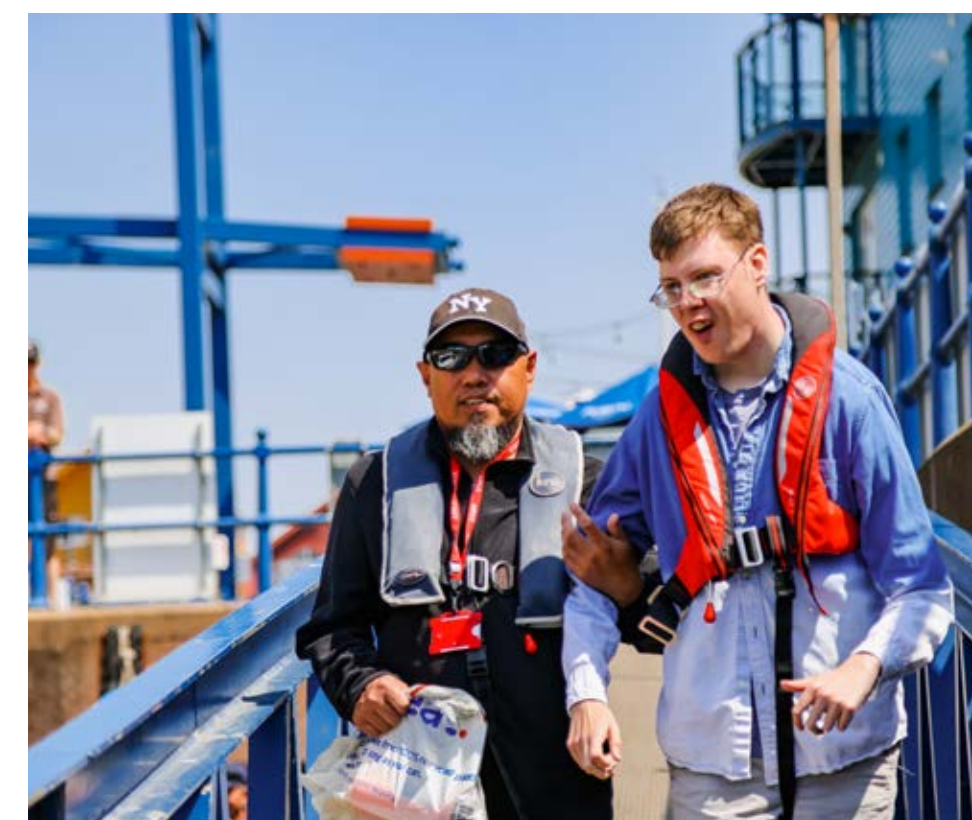


Accessible sailing with Exe Sailing Club

We think that everyone should get to follow their passions and do things that they really enjoy.

Lots of opportunities might typically be off-limits to young people with complex needs and vision impairment. At InFocus we work with partners like Exe Sailing Club to create amazing experiences that our young people can enjoy.

We believe that they should have the same chances as their peers to try new things and maybe find a lifelong passion for a hobby or sport.



Celebrating Pride: InFocus community unites for equality and acceptance

With a commitment to support and advocate for the LGBTQ+ community, InFocus organised a festive event that showcased our young people's dedication to equality, acceptance, and was a celebration of diversity.

From colourful decorations to heartfelt testimonials, the festivities were a testament to our young people's collective spirit and commitment to creating a more inclusive world.

During the festivities, one remarkable InFocus student fearlessly shared their heartfelt experience as a member of the LGBTQ+ community. Their words echoed the sentiments of many within the community:

“I love being part of the LGBTQ+ community. I love being who I am and finding other people like me. I’m very open about my identity and I’d like to be able to stay this way. While the community is wonderful, it can often feel like the rest of the world is against us. Which is why it is so important that people do support us and help make the world a better place for everyone. This is what we want. A world where we can be accepted for who we are and not judged for being different.”

Sharing our stories: 10 years of Princesshay

Young adults from Jigsaw raised awareness in the community

Local shopping centre Princesshay invited local charities - including InFocus - to mark the Exeter retail hub's 10th anniversary. Young people from our Jigsaw service enjoyed exploring the theme of "Reuse and Recycle" over several weeks, before travelling into Exeter to decorate the tree.

The project continued to raise awareness of InFocus in the city centre (the charity - under its previous name - was Princesshay's first Charity of the Year). There was also an opportunity for the young people at Jigsaw to travel into the community and chat to members of the public during the morning of tree decorating.

InFocus Tree decorator Megan - who attends Jigsaw - said:

“I loved putting the decorations on the Christmas tree! It was fun, and I think it looks great.”



Building a community

We are passionate about supporting people to be active members of their communities.

During the year our young people chose to take part in events and projects across their local community.

There were also opportunities to come together with other young adults with complex needs and vision impairment from across our InFocus "family".

Developing skills for life

We want people who have been to InFocus Charity's College or adult services to develop the skills they need to live fulfilling adult lives.



InFocus College students move abroad as part of a month of many "firsts"

In a remarkable display of determination and resilience, six intrepid students from InFocus College recently embarked on a transformative three-week journey to a banana plantation in Gran Canaria. The learning adventure was part of InFocus College's activities month. These students, all with vision impairment and complex needs, courageously stepped out of their comfort zones to enrich their learning and develop the essential skills necessary for their transition into adulthood.

The students' experience in Gran Canaria went beyond mere sightseeing and cultural immersion. The true magic happened when they fully embraced day-to-day life on the plantation. They shouldered responsibilities such as cooking, cleaning, and even shopping at the local supermarket, all while interacting with the locals—supported by their Spanish lessons.

Matt Clarke, the Team Leader, marvelled at the remarkable bonds forged among the students during the three-week adventure. He said, "It's been incredible watching the students bond over the past three weeks. Being away from home for an extended period, immersed in a different culture, has truly brought the group together. The genuine care and support they've shown each other are a testament to their characters and their ability to overcome challenges."

Student Briony, reflected on her time in Gran Canaria and said:

"I have overcome my fear of eating with a group of people in public. I went out of my comfort zone and tried 15 new foods such as clams and olives. I've become a lot more independent by cleaning and cooking for myself. I also faced my fear of going into the sea by taking part in kayaking, going on a speed boat and swimming in the sea".

The opportunity for the students to embark on this life-changing trip to Gran Canaria was made possible through the collaboration with Eat That Frog, an innovative further education organisation operating a specialist college across various sites in Devon and Cornwall

The impact of this trip extends far beyond the three weeks spent in Gran Canaria.

The experience serves as a powerful reminder that, given the right support and opportunities, people with vision impairment and complex needs can overcome obstacles, seize remarkable experiences, and thrive in their journey toward adulthood.



Getting our and about around Devon

At InFocus we continue to support our young people to become independent travellers in their communities.

For some it might be practising routes into Exeter on the bus to do their shopping. Other students have spent time becoming more confident at travelling by train so they can access work or volunteering after they leave our college.

Specialist ROVIs (Rehabilitation Officer Visual Impairment) develop individual training programmes as part of our integrated curriculum (in College) and skills development (across InFocus).

Report of the Trustees

for the year ending

31st August 2023

Introduction

The board of Trustees of InFocus Charity present their annual report and audited accounts for the year ended 31st August 2023 and confirm that they comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011 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) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)).

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty imposed on them by s17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission’s guidance on public benefit, including the guidance ‘Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)’.

InFocus Charity is a registered charity (registered number 1058937) and company limited by guarantee.

Objectives and Activities

Introduction

The objects of the Charity are:

The relief of persons with a vision impairment and complex needs (whether this is a physical, other sensory or cognitive impairment) by:

- supporting the education and training of persons with a vision or other sensory impairment by such means as the Trustees think fit including (but not limited to) the provision of a day and residential education facility
- providing care for persons with a vision or other sensory impairment and support for them to live independently in the community
- supporting the employment of persons with a vision impairment or other sensory complex impairment

InFocus Charity supports the education, care, health and independence of persons with a vision impairment or other sensory impairment. Income is generated from:

- Local Authority fee income
- Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA)
- private fee income
- charitable activities which include income from our five charity shops, eBay shop and fundraising
- investment income.

Vision, mission and values

Our vision is a world where young people with visual impairment and additional needs are able to take their place in society, where they are valued for their contribution and their rights and independence are supported.

Our mission is to empower children, young people and adults with visual impairment and additional needs to live fulfilling young and adult lives through the delivery of a range of education, care, and support services.

To succeed in our mission we will:

- provide outstanding services centred around our young people
- make best use of our specialist knowledge about visual impairment and complex needs
- work in partnership with others
- be a resilient, innovative and ambitious organisation and a great employer.

Our Operational Values as a staff team are:

- Together everyone achieves more (T.E.A.M.)
- Learning happens everywhere
- Even better if...
- Celebrate what you want to see more of.

The Community Values (things important to our young people) are:

- The right support to learn and develop
- A sense of belonging
- Enjoyment and fun
- Respect and kindness.

Activities

In 2022/23 the charity supported:



40 students in education who attend our college

Young people in education attended InFocus College for 38 week, day and residential placements (full or part time). We continued to offer split placements (working in conjunction with other providers) and Supported Internships (combining education, employability skills training and work experience as part of a stepping-stone towards paid employment).

15 young people who thrived in our supported living accommodation

Residents in supported living accommodation are encouraged to be as independent as possible, with just the right amount of support from specialist staff.

20 young people living in St David’s House residential care

St David’s House is set in beautiful grounds at the edge of Exeter. Young adults live across three small lodges that have been adapted to meet their needs. They have access to the local community (and further afield), and can also use some of the shared facilities provided by InFocus.

17 people at Jigsaw, a community service for young adults

Jigsaw is a place where young adults living in the community can build a peer group and enjoy a range of activities. Specialist staff meet a wide range of complex care needs and support the people accessing the service to develop their own friendships.



Everything we do is made by possible by a dedicated team of specialist staff that includes:

- professional therapists offering speech and language therapy, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, music therapy and psychological support
- Rehabilitation Officers of the Visually Impaired (ROVI)
- Vision Impairment (VI) Advisory Team with a specialist knowledge of VI and Cerebral Vision Impairment (CVI)
- nurses and health care assistants, working together with visiting clinicians and GP services
- tutors and teachers experienced in teaching vision impaired students, supported by a team of specifically trained and qualified team leaders and enablers, in the classroom and in the residential student houses
- all our staff who support the safe and effective running of the charity.

"We’re now supporting even more young people to learn, become more independent, and use their voice."



Achievements and Performance

Strategic Plan

2022/23 is the fourth year of our five-year Strategic Plan. The 2019-2024 Strategic Plan set out ambitious plans for InFocus Charity (known as WESC Foundation at the time). It detailed how we plan to grow our services and increase the positive impact for our beneficiary group – children, young people and adults with vision impairment and complex needs.

The plan sets out five key objectives, underpinned by both a financial strategy and a marketing and communication strategy. It describes how over the five years we will make sure we get the basics right, whilst reaching towards improvement, innovation, and expansion.

We enter the final year of the strategic plan celebrating our impact, reflecting on where this is work to do, and looking to the future and the next period in the life of InFocus Charity.



Achievements

in 2022/23

Our people

We filled roles across our fundraising, marketing, health, therapy and catering teams during the year. The recruitment landscape across the UK has continued to be challenge, and as a result we ended the year with vacancies in our college and adult care and support teams.

The new Staff Forum was launched in the year and is already proving to be effective. It has engaged with a wide range of subjects and will be consulted on the new Remuneration Policy during the first quarter of 2023/24.

The review of training led to a revamped staff induction process. We are continuing to see wider improvement in timely compliance with training.

Our Trustees continue to give their time to InFocus. Recruitment for new members of the Board is ongoing.

Development projects

The new Skills Centre has been used by people from across our services. Young people from Jigsaw and InFocus College have taken advantage of the training kitchen and used the multi-purpose spaces for a range of activities. An independent living training flat was completed during the year thanks to a generous gift from the Northbrook Community Trust.

Fundraising income was supported by legacy gifts during the year. These allowed the continued refurbishment across the site including Jigsaw and residential accommodation in St David’s House and Supported Living. In-year the estates team have refurbished seven bedrooms and a number of ensuites and bathroom areas. We welcomed a new group of young people into the Slade flat as part of our College Residential programme and adapted the Burrington bungalow to provide accommodation for a new young person.

We have also trialled new adaptations to our spaces, including sensory lighting and noise reduction technologies.

Supported Living has increased to full capacity, and progress has been made on other projects including the new care home.

As the year closes, we have almost completed the work on the two electric access gates. Work has been slightly delayed by the reliance on third parties, but the gates should be in operation by the end of the Autumn Term 2023. Work has commenced on improving the ICT connection to a number of areas across site which will include the laying of new fibres.



Operations and commercial

With utility costs continuing to increase a priority in-year was to review and reduce energy consumption. In-year we have made a few changes which will help the overall energy use:

We upgraded thermostats across the site, particularly in high usage areas such as the pool. We also installed a new control panel which allows a more comprehensive handling of energy use, this has seen a reduction in boiler usage. Across site we continued to replace lighting with sensor-activated lighting and low energy lighting. Where possible we have also reduced ceiling height to increase heat effectiveness.

Prior to the sharp increase in energy prices, we had the foresight to enter into a fixed term capped energy tariff with an energy consultant. This meant that whilst energy prices increased the combined cost of all utilities is almost identical to that spent in 2021/22. This capped contract has expired for gas at the end of August and will expire for electricity at the end of August 2024. Whilst we have seen gas prices increase for the new year, again we have been able to cap these at a competitive rates. Energy consumption will continue to be a priority in the coming years.

The operating profit margin across charity retail improved compared to 2021/22. Sales also increased, and the retail portfolio has increased its contribution to the work of the charity. We also opened a new charity shop in Ottery St Mary. The West Hill Outdoor Learning Centre now focuses on offering educational placements to young people from specialist colleges in the region, and was available to all the young people supported directly by InFocus Charity.

The trustees reviewed and amended the reserves policy in January 2023. The updated reserves policy includes a designated fund for delayed payments. It also considered the current contracts and operating costs. We are still prioritising achieving the level of reserves outlined in the charity’s Reserves Policy (see Reserves and Financial Health, page 28).



Quality of provision

The new curriculum is helping to prepare young adults in College for their lives beyond InFocus. It is effective across the learning pathways, and we anticipate that it will be fully-embedded by the end of 2023/24. Therapeutic input for each student in College is now fully-integrated into curriculum and is having a measurable impact.

Ofsted visited the College for a monitoring visit in June 2023. They recognised that progress had been made in:

- the development of the curriculum
- the way that therapy sessions are integrated into the classroom
- the opportunity for (and impact of) enrichment activities
- the availability of work placements and careers advice for all our students
- specialist training for our staff.

We accept that we need more time to fully-embed the curriculum across the College, and continue on our improvement journey towards becoming an Ofsted “Good” College. Young people at our College are safe, happy, and benefitting from an education that is having a positive impact on their lives. Our parents and other stakeholders recognise this too, and are supportive of the steps we are taking.

CQC still rate our residential provision (St David’s House and College Residential) as Outstanding. We received a Direct Monitoring Activity by the CQC in December 2022. Although no published report is produced the outcome was that no further regulatory action was required.

Our Safeguarding is deemed effective across all our inspections. We have developed a new lockdown procedure that will be implemented in 2023/24.



Operational improvements

A new Marketing Manager is in post, and a Marketing for Admissions strategy is in place. Part of this includes a strategic priority to work more closely with other VI networks and organisations in the region, as well as building and continuing to strengthen strategic partnerships with feeder schools around the UK.

We have seen referrals for our community services increase from both internal and external routes. Our Supported Living service is full and Jigsaw almost doubled its number of beneficiaries over the year. As a result, we are considering how to expand these services during 2023/24.

Catering continues to deliver good value for money. The outcome of a review has recommended a Food Forum to launch during 2023/24 (to bring together representatives of staff from catering, care, College, and the young people we support). Catering staff will spend more time with the young people during food service times, and will increase the amount of specialist training in areas including diabetes and dysphagia.

Over the few years we have seen major infrastructure improvements within the ICT. These include:

- a new cloud back-up system
- new servers
- a complete re-configuration of the ICT structure
- network upgrades
- a review and implementation of ICT securities.

The infrastructure upgrades are now successfully completed, and we go into the new year preparing for the Windows 11 update and improving connection speed across some areas of the organisation.

Objectives for 2023/24

Governance

We will:

- write a new Strategic Plan for 2025-2029
- strengthen the Board of Trustees by recruiting at least two Trustees.

Services, space and expertise

We will:

- be ready to support 45 students in College in September 2024
- buy and refurbish a new care home
- open our completed Skills Centre
- increase the amount of specialist training in vision impairment for our own teams and people in the wider community
- agree a costed campus development plan
- expand supported living opportunities with a partner organisation.

Quality and compliance

We will:

- have “Good” judgement from Ofsted for InFocus College
- have a CQC grading for our adult and college residential provisions that recognises the high standards of care that are in place.



People and culture

We will:

- invest in training, development, and support for all our staff
- make sure that roles, salaries, rotas and shift patterns are supporting the best outcomes for the young people we support.
- launch an alumni programme to engage with people who have been supported by our charity
- continue to reinforce and develop our culture of safeguarding
- reduce our use of agency staff by 20%.

Finance and resources

We will:

- increase revenue from our trading activities
- welcome more people (including from outside of InFocus) to use our facilities including the Skills Centre and West Hill Outdoor Learning Centre
- open a new charity shop
- continue to champion and model financial best-practice.

Technology and environment

We will:

- improve digital connectivity across the InFocus site
- launch and deliver against a new Access Technology strategy
- reduce our use of paper-based storage systems
- find ways to reduce our energy use
- champion cyber security and digital best-practice.

Finance and

Risk

Income and Expenditure

Introduction

The end of year management accounts show an operating surplus of £71,892 against a budget of £15,045. When statutory adjustments are applied the end of year financial statements show a consolidated income for the year of £9,113,289 with expenditure totalling £9,222,059.

The end of year consolidated accounts including net realised and unrealised gains from investments reported a deficit of £133,782. The reported deficit is mainly due to a significant overspend in contract, agency and overtime.

Other key areas for consideration are:

Staffing

Recruitment and retention of staff improved during 2022/23 (including in some of our priority areas like fundraising, catering and health) but we have been unable to avoid the ongoing national situation of low unemployment.

Whilst a priority in 2022/23 was to reduce the reliance on agency staff this has not been achieved due to the continued high level of vacancies we have in our care teams. The use of agency staff to fill these vacancies is unavoidable due to high individual needs of our young people and to continue to deliver high quality care. This has led to a significant overspend on head-related expenditure.

During the year we:

- introduced a new onboarding process for all staff
- developed a new recruitment strategy
- commissioned new photography and videography to use in promotional campaigns
- invested in targeted digital marketing across social media and search
- planned attendance at a series of recruitment events throughout the year
- introduced a welcome bonus for new staff
- enhanced the referral bonus for existing employees who refer new staff.

Several regular agency staff successfully applied for permanent employment with InFocus.

Fees

We applied a moderate inflationary increase to education fees for 2022/23, whilst this was accepted by most of the commissioning local authorities, this was not the case with all authorities which has proved challenging with increasing cost.

Fortunately, adult social care funding has continued to recognise the pressure associated with providing ongoing care and most local authorities have provided an inflationary increase when reviewed in April.

Charity Retail

Sales across our portfolio of charity shops were strong. All shops increased their sales and overall profitability.

During the year we opened an additional shop in Ottery St Mary, East Devon. The total sales and expenditure for charity retail includes the sales from Ottery St Mary April to August 2023, and initial setup costs, respectively.

The cost of sales for online trading increased this year due to changes to rules for specific platforms.

We continued to prioritise sourcing higher-value items from across the region (including local businesses and networking groups), as well as purchasing a small quantity of new-goods and vintage stock for resale.

At the end of the year our charity retail achieved an overall gross income of £600,857 against a budget of £544,702 (including Gift Aid).

Leased properties

The Trustees have considered the valuation of the leased properties that continue to be leased to Plymouth University. The properties were last externally valued in August 2022. In the current year, given the current economic climate and following a review of market conditions, the Trustees do not believe that the valuation has materially changed since the last external valuation. As a result no revaluation has been made in the current year. An external valuation will be completed prior to the end of year August 2024.

Fundraising

We appointed a new Head of Fundraising in October 2022. Most of the activity for the year was based around unrestricted fundraising through trusts and foundations, challenge events and corporate engagement. We also received several legacy gifts that significantly affected our unrestricted fundraising.

Unrestricted fundraising realised an income of £492,929 against a revised budget of £485,000. The initial forecast for 2022/23 was just over £125,00 which the team more than exceeded.

The cost of fundraising for the year is £45,014.

InFocus Enterprises (previously known as WESC Enterprises)

Total income from venue hire increased slightly against 2021/22, whilst income from catering and vending rose strongly compared to the previous year. This was largely due to the full-time return of visiting students from University of Plymouth.

Use of the swimming pool is still an important source of revenue, as are the new opportunities for hosting external placements at our West Hill Outdoor Learning Centre.

At the start of the year the trading company predicted a surplus of £61,025. At the end of the year the recorded income was £366,919 with expenditure of £244,735 giving an end of year surplus of £122,184. The Board of InFocus Enterprises plans to Gift Aid this surplus to InFocus Charity.

Reserves and financial health

The Board of Trustees received monthly management accounts and key performance indicators to ensure the trustees have oversight of the charity's accounts. This includes income & expenditure against the agreed budget, current and predicted cash flow and analysis of debtors and creditors.

During the year there are two budget reforecasts which allows the Executive team to make the required adjustment to ensure the budget remains on track as much as possible.

Any restricted funds held are reviewed regularly by the Executive team to ensure the funds are used in line with the applied restriction and in ways that will support our young people.

The Trustees reviewed and updated the Reserves Policy in January 2023. When reviewing the Reserves Policy, and free reserves, the Trustees have taken into consideration the increasing running costs of the organisation and the impact this has on the operating reserve level. When setting the recommended level of reserves the Trustees have considered the levels of restricted and unrestricted funding; the balance between the reliability of income in any given period; and the extent to which spend is committed. The Trustees have also considered the increase in delayed periods of termly fees from local authorities. The revised Reserves Policy indicates that we should aim to hold free reserves of:

3 months Operating Reserves* (free reserves)	£2,207,196
Death or loss of contract for service user (designated Funds)	£200,000
Site improvement (designated Funds)	£500,000
Delay in fee payment (designated Funds)	£200,000
Total free reserves required (including designated funds)	£3,107,196

*based on average end of year monthly operating costs.

As of 31st August 2023 the total free reserves were £3,055,540 (see Note 20, page 56). The operating reserves on the above calculations were just over 2.9 months (excluding designated Funds).

The Trustees are mindful that the current reserves do not meet the charity's Reserves Policy and achieving the agreed free reserves remains a priority of the Trustees.

The Trustees continue to be mindful of the ongoing impact the increased cost of living and rising energy prices. The Trustees agree a rolling three-year budget and will continue to monitor in-year performance. We have a higher-than-average number of College students expected to leave at the end of 2023/24 and increasing the number of new students in College is a priority for 2023/24.

We still intend to purchase a second residential home. A number of properties were viewed during 2022/23 but were unsuitable. All onsite adult residential places are now full and we currently have a waiting list of 9 people.

InFocus reviewed its existing income generating activities during the year. Improved practices in charity retail and e-commerce helped improve performance against budget across the portfolio. A decision was made to expand charity retail. The West Hill outdoor activity centre has changed the focus of its work to suit customer demand and the resources available at the project which resulted in increased income during the year. Short-term improvements in the InFocus Café will be made during 2023/24 alongside creating a longer-term plan for commercial catering on site.

The Board monitors financial resilience and currently maintain a reasonable level of reserves. Taking the information available into consideration the Trustees are satisfied that there are no material uncertainties around the ability of InFocus Charity and InFocus Enterprises to continue as a going concern for at least the next 12 months.

Investments

Cash flow continues to be monitored closely. Ensuring billing is completed promptly and chasing outstanding payments in a timely manner has meant that cash flow is healthier compared with 2021/22. Unfortunately, we continue experience delay in some local authorities agreed and paying fees ahead of the academic year. For some local authorities this continued into the spring term. This causes a financial burden on the charity's resources. Working with local authorities to improve this continues to be a priority.

During 2022/23 we have seen less volatility within the long-term investments held with Sarasin and Partners, with an overall end-of-year loss of £25,012 compared with a loss of £129,126 in 2021/22.

Following a presentation to the Board in June 2023 by Sarasin and Partners, the Trustees remain positive and confident in the management of their long-term investments.

The long-term investments held by the charity are included when calculating free reserves.

Pension Obligations

Staff are ordinarily enrolled in one of three principal pension arrangements as employees of InFocus Charity. The InFocus Pension schemes are with Aviva (previously Friends Life, now closed to new entrants), NEST and the Teachers' Pension.

As of 31st August 2023 there are 11 staff in the Teachers' Pension, 22 are in Aviva, 171 are in NEST pension scheme and 1 employee has individual pension arrangements. All details of the commitments under the pension schemes are contained within note 27 of the financial statements.

Principal risks and
uncertainties

Introduction

The Board of Trustees are responsible for the overseeing of risks faced by InFocus. The Risk Register is reviewed three times a year by the Board's three Advisory Committees with any recommendations for changes being agreed at the Board.

Detailed analysis of the risks is delegated to the Executive team. These are identified, assessed and controls established to mitigate the risk.

The principal risks that the Board of Trustees identified during 2022/23 are:

Student numbers

2022/23 was the first year without the InFocus School as a feeder school for our college. A new "Marketing for Admissions" strategy is now in place.

Actions so far have included:

- producing new marketing videos and other materials for families of potential students
- identifying and engaging with potential partners (especially from south-west England and south Wales)
- visiting Principals and transition offers in feeder schools to identify how we can work with them to support families.
- attending a wider range of events for professionals and families (including widening our geographical target area.

This has already seen an increase in potential placements at our College.

Staffing

The Trustees awarded a 5% increase in salaries to all staff (except senior managers) from September 2022. The cost-of-living crisis deepened throughout 2022/23, with inflation reaching record levels. Many public and private sector employers responded by raising wages. All of these factors effectively wiped out the benefit of the inflationary increase for InFocus staff.

We are still unable to rely on regular and reasonable fee increases for all our commissioned placements. This means we cannot sustain inflationary increases in staff salaries year-on-year.

During the year we introduced a number of new and improved measures to help with the recruitment and retention of staff (see Achievements in 2022/23). These are beginning to take effect, but it remains to be seen whether these measures will make InFocus competitive against organisations who can offer a higher basic salary.

Where possible we work with a small number of agencies who are often able to provide consistency in staffing.

This means that young people at InFocus are still making progress across all parts of our provision (going well above simply keeping them safe and ensuring their needs are met).

In 2023/24 we will continue to invest in all aspects of recruitment and retention. Plans include:

- continuing with the measures introduced in 2022/23
- building relationships with local colleges to offer work placements and paths to employment
- using insights from our recent digital spend to improve the ROI for that area of our marketing
- testing and evaluating alternative marketing channels.

Quality of Provision

There are effective improvement plans in place for the College, including embedding a new curriculum. All are tested through internal audit, learning walks and external scrutiny from Trustees, external advisors and other education and care leaders.

Ofsted visited for a monitoring visit in June 2023. Improvements were identified, but more needs to be done to fully-embed the curriculum and deliver other improvements around the College. Whilst we know that students are enjoy their time at InFocus College and are making progress, more needs to be done to demonstrate the quality of what we do.

The Trustees are aware that there is a significant risk that quality of provision in College could affect our funding and commissioning in future years.

Risk of cyber attack

There is an ongoing risk of cyber attack. InFocus continues to mitigate this risk by:

- maintaining IASME Governance and Cyber Essentials
- requiring all staff to undertake annual cyber security training
- reviewing our Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity plans on a regular basis.
- holding cyber insurance
- protecting our infrastructure with relevant anti-malware protection
- engaging a third party to carry out penetration testing.

Our buildings

Most of the buildings on site are between 20 and 35 years old, and many are suffering from a period where maintenance and repair was limited.

A programme of regular maintenance is now in place, with key capital projects such as boiler replacement now part of financial and strategic planning. The age of our buildings and infrastructure does mean

that we sometimes must address significant issues in-year.

In 2022/23 we delivered key capital projects thanks to unexpected legacy income (see Achievements in 2022/23). Our current funding model and scale of fundraising both mean see us being dependent on legacy income to tackle many of the significant projects on site.

Our capital priorities for 2023/24 include planning the delivery and funding of:

- the replacement for the InFocus Café
- our commercial catering provision for our young people
- residential accommodation for InFocus College
- the future of the decommissioned Haldon and Dinham buildings.

Governance

Trustee recruitment has been steady in recent years, in line with our expectations (given what we know about terms of office). However, we have also seen some Trustees having to step down due to changes in personal circumstances.

During 2022/23 we aim to recruit at least two new Trustees so that the Board can continue to provide effective scrutiny.

A new Trustee Recruitment Strategy will assess our existing recruitment activity. It will make recommendations on how we can the ways we recruit and retain new Trustees to shape the future of the charity over the life of the next Strategic Plan.

Structure, Governance and Management

Board of Trustees

At the end of August 2023 InFocus Charity had eight Trustees chaired by Pamela Marsden who was appointed Chair in September 2022.

One Trustee resigned during the year. We also recruited one Trustee to join the Board during 2022/23.

The Board has three sub-committees which each met three times during the year. On each committee there are nominated Trustees and each committee is Chaired by a Trustee. The committees are:

Adult Services Advisory Committee

(Chair: Briony Dillon, Trustee)

Education Advisory Committee

(Chair: Andrew Daniel, Trustee)

Business Affairs Advisory Committee

(Chair: Derek Fargher, Trustee)

During 2022/23 the Trustees held:

- Five Board meetings
- Three sub-committee meetings for each advisory committee
- One Annual General Meeting

Trustees also actively engage in training which includes mandatory safeguarding training.

InFocus Trustees as at 31 August 2023 were:

- Pamela Marsden (Chair)
- Ian Donohue – appointed 04/05/2023
- Derek Fargher
- Andrew Daniel
- Angus McNicol
- Briony Dillon - resigned 21/09/2023
- Bradley Horn
- Alex Clark - resigned 1/10/2023

All Trustees give of their time freely and no remuneration was paid in the year.

Legal Structure

InFocus Charity is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with company number 06928379 and charity number 1058937.

Executive Team

The Board of Trustees delegates the operational management of InFocus Charity to its Chief Executive who works with an Executive team, as of the 31st August 2023 these were:

- Jane Bell, CEO
- Jane Nutt, Director of Operations, Company Secretary and Data Protection Officer
- Marc Phillips, Director of Care and Support Services
- Laurence Blyth, Director of Income Generation and Business Development
- Jason Ryder, Principal of InFocus College

Staffing

On 31st August 2023 InFocus Charity was employing 235 staff (including 21 bank staff) (172.26 FTE). As is the case elsewhere in the care sector recruiting support staff remained a challenge despite increasing resources for staff recruitment.

No bonus payments are paid to InFocus employees. We do not operate a performance related pay system. Our principles are to pay our staff a fair salary that is competitive with the charity sector, proportionate to the complexity of each role and responsibility and in line with our charitable objectives.

Equality, diversity and inclusion

InFocus is committed to working towards the vision of a world where people who are blind and partially sighted enjoy the same rights, responsibilities, opportunities, and quality of life as people who are sighted. We also recognise that people are not all the same, that people are different and have different needs and experiences.

InFocus respects and welcomes the diversity of experience and background of all the people who work for and with us. As part of this commitment InFocus continues to retain its status as a Disability Confident Leader.

The young people who attend InFocus are visually impaired and many have additional disabilities and come from a range of cultural and minority backgrounds. Our prime objective is to enable all our young people to reach their personal potential in a happy, challenging, and caring environment that acknowledges their individual strengths and challenges. Part of how we do this is living out our community values of “a sense of belonging” and “respect and kindness”. We regularly promote and educate our young people about events and customs from other cultures and faiths. Support across our services adapts to meet the needs of our young people (e.g. facilitating access to places of worship, or adapting diets to reflect different cultures).

Our new Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy was adopted in June 2023 and will be reviewed during the year.

Fundraising

Fundraising was overseen by the Head of Fundraising (appointed October 2022) and the Director of Income Generation and Business Development. The main fundraising activities were applications to charitable trusts and foundations, sponsored challenge events, and approaches to individuals. Legacies were also received within the year.

No fundraising was carried out by commercial participants.

InFocus Charity is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and subscribes to the Code of Fundraising Practice. It sets the standards that apply to fundraising carried out by all charitable institutions and third-party fundraisers in the UK. This includes practice on accepting donations from vulnerable people (including those who may not have the capacity to make an informed decision) and the creation of proper fundraising materials that do not mislead (or are likely to mislead) members of the public.

No complaints about fundraising activity were received during the year.

Trading company

InFocus Charity has a wholly owned subsidiary. During 2022/23 the company changed its name from WESC Enterprises to InFocus Enterprises. All trading that is not aligned with our core objectives is carried out by InFocus Enterprises.

As of the 31 August 2023 the InFocus Enterprises Board consisted of:

- Derek Fargher – Company Director (also Trustee, InFocus Charity)
- Angus McNicol – Company Director (also Trustee, InFocus Charity)
- Laurence Blyth - Company Director (also Director of Income Generation and Business Development, InFocus Charity)

Jane Nutt – Company Secretary (also Director of Operations and Company Secretary for InFocus Charity)

This Trustee report is therefore a consolidated Directors’ report relating to InFocus Charity and its subsidiary InFocus Enterprises. However, the greatest emphasis for this report is the activities of InFocus Charity as a charitable organisation.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name: InFocus Charity

Charity registration number: 1058937 **Company registration number:** 06938379

Registered office: Topsham Road, Countess Wear, EXETER, EX2 6HA

Trustees:

• Pamela Marsden (Chair from 13/9/22)	• Briony Dillon (Resigned 18/10/2023)
• Derek Fargher (Chair until 13/9/22)	• Bradley Horn
• Angus McNicol	• Carol Edworthy (Resigned 21/09/2022)
• Andrew Daniel	• Alex Clark (Resigned 1/10/2023)
• Ian Donohue	• Susan Holt (Appointed 18/10/2023)

Sub-committee advisory members:

- Lucy Woolcock
- Anne Bilham – resigned 05/09/2022
- Catherine Rees – resigned 20/07/2023

Ambassadors: Michael Caines MBE DL • Judi Spiers

Chief Executive Officer: Jane Bell

Executive Team:

- Jane Nutt, Director of Operations, Company Secretary and Data Protection Officer
- Marc Phillips, Director of Care and Support Services
- Laurence Blyth, Director of Income Generation and Business Development
- Jason Ryder, Principal of InFocus College

Auditors: PKF Francis Clark, Centenary House, Peninsula Park, Rydon Lane, EXETER, EX2 7XE

Legal advisors:

- Womble Bond Dickinson (UK) LLP, Ballard House, West Hoe Road, PLYMOUTH, PL1 3AE
- Tozers LLP, Broadwalk House, Southernhay West, EXETER, EX1 1UA
- Bright (South West) LLP, Studio 5-11, 5 Millbay Road, PLYMOUTH, PL1 3LF

Investment Managers: Sarasin and Partners, Juxon House, 100 St Paul’s Churchyard, LONDON, EC4M 8BU

Banking: National Westminster, 59 High Street, EXETER, EX4 3DP

Insurance: Venture, Bank House, Burlington Road, Redland, BRISTOL, BS6 6TJ

Statement of Trustees’ Responsibilities

The Charity Trustees (who are also Directors of InFocus Charity for the purposes of Company Law) are responsible for preparing a Trustees’ Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Charity Trustees to prepare Financial Statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charitable Company and the Group and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the Income and Expenditure, of the charitable group for that period. In preparing these Financial Statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- 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
- prepare the Financial Statements on the ‘going concern’ basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charitable Company will continue in operation

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper 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 Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and the Group and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Trustees are aware at the time of approving our Trustees’ Annual Report:

- there is no relevant audit information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing their report, of which the charity’s auditor is unaware; and
- the Trustees, having made enquiries of fellow Directors and the group’s auditor that they ought to have individually made, have each taken all steps that they are obliged to take as a director in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The Trustees approve the Trustees’ Annual Report, including approval in their capacity as company directors of the Strategic Report contained within it, on 13 December 2023.

Pamela Marsden

Pamela Marsden, Chair of Trustees

Independent Auditors Report

to the Members of InFocus Charity for the year ended 31 August 2023

Opinion

We have audited the Financial Statements of InFocus Charity (the “Charity”) for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise the Group Statement of Financial Activities, Group and Parent Company Balance Sheets, Statement of Consolidated Cash flows and notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group’s and charity’s affairs as at 31 August 2023 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (GAAP)
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report other than the Financial Statements and our auditor’s report thereon. Our opinion on the Financial Statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Trustees’ report, (which includes the Strategic Report and Directors’ report prepared for the purposes of company law) for the Financial Year for which the Financial Statements are prepared is consistent with the Financial Statements; and
- the Strategic Report and Directors’ Report included within the Trustees’ report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees’ report.

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

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

Responsibilities of the Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees’ Responsibilities set out on page 17, the Trustees (who are also the Directors of the Charity for the purposes of Company Law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the Charity’s ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor’s report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Mis-statements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

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

As part of our audit planning, we obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that is applicable to the Charity. We gained an understanding of the Charity and the industry in which the Charity operates as part of this assessment to identify the key laws and regulations affecting the Charity. As part of this, we reviewed the Charity’s website for indication of any regulations and certification in place and discussed these with the relevant individuals responsible for compliance. The key regulations we identified were Charity Legislation, Ofsted, compliance with the Care Quality Commission (“CQC”), safeguarding, health and safety regulations and The General Data Protection Regulation (“GDPR”). We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006.

We discussed with management and trustees how the compliance with these laws and regulations in monitored and discussed policies and procedures in place. We also identified the individuals who have responsibility for ensuring that the Charity complies with laws and regulations and deals with reporting any issues if they arise. As part of our planning procedures, we assessed the risk of any non-compliance with laws and regulations on the Charity’s ability to continue trading and the risk of material mis-statement to the accounts.

Based on this understanding we designed our audit procedures to identify non-compliance with such laws and regulations. Our procedures involved the following:

- Enquiries of management regarding their knowledge of any non-compliance with laws and regulations that could affect the financial statements. As part of these enquiries we also discussed with management whether there have been any known instances, allegations or suspicions of fraud, of which there were none.
- Reviewed filings with the Charity Commission and whether there were any serious incident reports made during the year.
- Reviewed audit documentation from the CQC to confirm compliance with standards, and ensuring continued registration with the CQC through the CQC website.
- Discussed with the Health and Safety Officer if any incidents have been reported during the year under The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013 (“RIDDOR”).
- Review of the group’s GDPR policy and enquiries to the Data Protection Officer as to the occurrence and outcome of any reportable breaches.
- Reviewed legal and professional costs to identify any possible non-compliance or legal costs in respect of non-compliance.
- Reviewed Board minutes.

AAs part of our enquiries we discussed with management whether there have been any known instances, allegations or suspicions of fraud, of which there were none. We evaluated the risk of fraud through management override. The key risks we identified were management bias in accounting judgements and estimates. We also evaluated the risk of fraud through misapplication of grant funding.

In response to the identified risk, as part of our audit work we:

- Audited the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments or appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business of which there were none.
- Reviewed estimates and judgements made in the accounts for any indication of bias and challenged assumptions used by management in making the estimates.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements. This risk increases the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements as we are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk of not detecting a material mis-statement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council’s website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities.

This description forms part of our auditor’s report.

Use of our Report

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

Stephanie Henshaw (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of

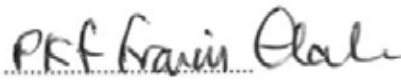
PKF FRANCIS CLARK, Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor

Centenary House,

Peninsula Park

Rydon Lane,

Exeter, EX2 7XE



Date: 15th December 2023.

Accounts and

Financial Statements

Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)

31 August 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	4	493,429	3,232	496,661	195,017
Charitable activities	5	7,997,537	39,530	8,037,067	7,616,717
Other trading activities	6	366,919	-	366,919	304,732
Investment income	7	57,993	-	57,993	30,742
Other income	8	132,814	21,835	154,649	187,741
Total income		9,048,692	64,597	9,113,289	8,334,949
Expenditure					
Expenditure on raising funds	9	252,847	-	252,847	240,645
Expenditure on charitable activities	10	8,697,997	271,215	8,969,212	7,724,158
Total expenditure		8,950,844	271,215	9,222,059	7,964,803
Net unrealised gain / (loss) on revaluation of fixed assets	12	-	-	-	92,500
Net realised and unrealised gains / (losses) on investments	12	(25,012)	-	(25,012)	(129,126)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds		72,836	(206,618)	(133,782)	333,520
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward (2022)		7,988,923	1,601,433	9,590,356	9,256,836
Total funds carried forward		8,061,759	1,394,815	9,456,574	9,590,356

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

Balance Sheet

Year ended 31 August 2023

	Note	2023 Group £	2023 Charity £	2022 Group £	2022 Charity £
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	16	6,232,382	6,232,382	6,291,302	6,291,302
Investments	17a	1,204,917	1,205,017	1,229,929	1,230,029
Investment properties	18	515,000	515,000	515,000	515,000
		<u>7,952,299</u>	<u>7,952,399</u>	<u>8,036,231</u>	<u>8,036,331</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	19	971,459	902,996	390,861	374,739
Investments	17b	9,384	9,384	1,286	1,286
Cash at bank and in hand	25	1,674,104	1,604,572	1,795,672	1,715,840
		<u>2,654,947</u>	<u>2,516,952</u>	<u>2,187,819</u>	<u>2,091,865</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	20	<u>(1,150,672)</u>	<u>(1,134,681)</u>	<u>(633,694)</u>	<u>(624,859)</u>
Net current assets		<u>1,504,275</u>	<u>1,382,091</u>	<u>1,554,125</u>	<u>1,467,006</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>9,456,574</u>	<u>9,334,490</u>	<u>9,590,356</u>	<u>9,503,337</u>
Net assets		<u>9,456,574</u>	<u>9,334,490</u>	<u>9,590,356</u>	<u>9,503,337</u>
Funds of the charity					
Restricted funds		1,394,815	1,394,815	1,601,433	1,601,433
Unrestricted funds		8,061,759	7,939,675	7,988,923	7,901,904
		<u>9,456,574</u>	<u>9,334,490</u>	<u>9,590,356</u>	<u>9,503,337</u>
Total charity funds	21	<u>9,456,574</u>	<u>9,334,490</u>	<u>9,590,356</u>	<u>9,503,337</u>

As permitted by s.408 Companies Act 2006 the company has not presented its own profit and loss account. The loss in the parent charity's accounts is £168,847 (2022: profit of £252,330).

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 13th December 2023, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Pamela Marsden

Pamela Marsden, Chair of Trustees
Company registered number: 06938379

Statement of cash flows

Year ended 31 August 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash provided by operating activities		<u>152,344</u>	<u>1,329,455</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(331,905)	(449,749)
Investment additions		-	-
Investment income		57,993	30,742
Proceeds on disposal of investments		-	300,055
		<u>(273,912)</u>	<u>(118,952)</u>
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(273,912)</u>	<u>(118,952)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		<u>(121,568)</u>	<u>1,210,503</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>1,795,672</u>	<u>585,169</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	25	<u>1,674,104</u>	<u>1,795,672</u>
Net income / (expenditure) for the period		(133,782)	333,520
Depreciation		388,022	404,985
(Gain)/loss on investments		25,012	129,126
(Gain)/loss on disposal of fixed assets		2,803	-
(Gain)/loss on investment property		-	(92,500)
Investment income and bank interest		(57,993)	(30,742)
(Increase) / decrease on debtors		(580,598)	407,801
(Increase) / decrease on current asset investments		(8,098)	10,061
(Decrease) / increase on creditors		516,978	167,204
		<u>152,344</u>	<u>1,329,455</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities		<u>152,344</u>	<u>1,329,455</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements year ended 31 August 2023

1. General information

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales.

The address of the registered office is Topsham Road, Countess Wear, Exeter, Devon, EX2 6HA. The charitable entity is a public benefit entity.

2. Accounting policies

(a) Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011. There were no material departures from FRS 102 or the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

(b) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis except to the extent that certain assets are carried at fair value as explained below.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

(c) Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements consolidate the financial statements of the company and its subsidiary undertaking drawn up to 31 August 2023.

A subsidiary is an entity controlled by the company. Control is achieved where the company has the power to govern the financial and operating policies of an entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

No separate SOFA has been presented for the Charity alone as permitted by S.408 of the Companies Act 2006.

(d) Going concern

In making their assessment of going concern the Trustees have considered cashflow forecasts for the next 12 months and beyond. They are satisfied that there are no material uncertainties about the group's ability to continue. Further details on this assessment are in the Trustees' Report.

(e) Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The following are the significant judgements that the Trustees have made in the process of applying the Group's accounting policies and that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

Property classification

Buildings on the charity's site have been leased to a third party.

In determining the fair value for the investment properties the trustees have taken into account the existence of potentially significant contractual restrictions on the charity's entitlement to benefit from the full value of any sale proceeds. They estimate the restriction would limit the charity's entitlement to some 50% of any proceeds and so have restricted the estimated full open market value of £1,030,000 to £515,000.

(f) Fund accounting

General unrestricted funds comprise accumulated surpluses and deficits on general funds and the cumulative realised and unrealised gains on revaluations of investments. They are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of general charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are created where material donations are made specifically for a particular area or purpose. Expenditure is charged in the statement of financial activities subject to the conditions imposed by the donors.

Restricted fixed asset funds represent resources applied for specific capital purposes imposed by funders. Depreciation is charged against the fixed asset fund over the life of the asset.

(g) Income

Income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Donations

Donations are included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable.

Grants

Grants where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant. Where grants are potentially repayable at the period end, the amount received but unspent has been deferred.

Legacies

Legacies are included when the charity is advised by the personal representative of an estate that payment will be made or property transferred and the amount involved can be quantified.

Donated services

Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included.

Charitable activities

Fee income, outreach income and landlords supported living are recognised in the period to which the income relates.

Fees

Fee income comprises amounts receivable from Local Authorities for the provision of education, including boarding, and is recognised on a straight line basis over the academic year. Fees received in advance of the academic year are classified as deferred income

Trading income

Trading income comprises amounts receivable in respect of sales from the café, together with the hire of rooms and the swimming pool. Café sales are recognised when the sale is made which is also the point of cash receipt. Room hire and swimming pool income are recognised when used and income is deferred where cash is received in advance.

Property rental income is recognised straight line over the period of the lease.

Income from investments is included in the year in which it is receivable.

(h) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered and is reported as part of the expense category to which it relates.

Costs of raising funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs comprise all costs incurred in running the charity itself as an organisation, and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

(i) Operating leases

Rentals under existing operating leases are charged as the payments are incurred. For new leases rentals will be charged on a straight-line basis over the lease term, even if the payments are not made on such a basis. Benefits received and receivable as an incentive to sign an operating lease are similarly spread on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Rental income from operating leases is recognised on a straight-line basis over the term of the relevant lease, even if the payments are not made on such a basis. Benefits received and receivable as an incentive to sign an operating lease are similarly spread on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

(j) Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

(k) Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

- Buildings: 3%-10% straight line
- Land: nil
- Motor Vehicles: 25% reducing balance
- Other fixtures, fittings and equipment: 3-4 years straight line

(l) Investments

Listed investments are measured at fair value with changes in fair value being recognised in income or expenditure.

In the company balance sheet investments in subsidiaries are recorded at cost less impairment.

(m) Investment property

Investment property is initially recorded at cost, which includes purchase price and any directly attributable expenditure.

Investment property is revalued to fair value at each reporting date and any changes in fair value are recognised in statement of financial activities as a gain or loss on revaluation.

(n) Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the group becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument. Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted. Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

(o) Retirement benefits

The Charity's employees belong to three principal pension schemes: the Teachers' Pension Scheme England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; the InFocus Charity pension scheme with Aviva (previously Friends Life) which is closed to new entrants and a NEST Pension Scheme.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the Charity in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quinquennial valuations using a prospective benefit method. As stated in the notes to the financial statements, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and the Charity is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme and the contributions recognised as they are paid each year.

The Aviva and NEST pension schemes are defined contribution schemes and the contributions are recognised as they are paid each year.

3. Limited by guarantee

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £10.

4. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Covid-related grants	500	-	500	50,887
Fundraising and donations	138,862	3,232	142,094	93,630
Legacies	354,067	-	354,067	50,500
	<u>493,429</u>	<u>3,232</u>	<u>496,661</u>	<u>195,017</u>

Included in the 2023 total of £496,661 (2022: £195,017) is unrestricted income of £493,429 (2022: £158,380) and restricted income of £3,232 (2022: £36,637).

5. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Educational grants	426,721	39,530	466,251	457,102
Fee income	6,229,195	-	6,229,195	6,065,912
Outreach income	-	-	-	-
Shop income	600,857	-	600,857	474,673
Landlords Supported Living	740,764	-	740,764	619,030
	<u>7,997,537</u>	<u>39,530</u>	<u>8,037,067</u>	<u>7,616,717</u>

Included in the total for 2023 of £8,037,067 (2022: £7,616,717) is unrestricted income of £7,997,537 (2022: £7,581,319) and restricted income of £39,530 (2022: £35,398).

6. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Trading subsidiary income	366,919	-	366,919	304,732
	<u>366,919</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>366,919</u>	<u>304,732</u>

Included in the total for 2023 of £366,919 (2022: £304,732) is unrestricted income of £366,919 (2022: £304,732) and restricted income of £nil (2022: £nil).

7. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Income from listed investments	44,235	-	44,235	30,038
Bank interest receivable	13,758	-	13,758	704
	<u>57,993</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>57,993</u>	<u>30,742</u>

Included in the total for 2023 of £57,993 (2022: £30,742) is unrestricted income of £57,993 (2022: £30,742) and restricted income of £nil (2022: £nil).

8. Other income

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Other income	54,103	21,835	75,938	109,030
Premises income	78,711	-	78,711	78,711
	<u>132,814</u>	<u>21,835</u>	<u>154,649</u>	<u>187,741</u>

Included in the total for 2023 of £154,649 (2022: £187,741) is unrestricted income of £132,814 (2022: £156,547) and restricted income of £21,835 (2022: £31,194).

9. Raising Funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising costs	45,014	-	45,014	33,502
Marketing costs	79,920	-	79,920	97,026
Commercial trading operations	127,913	-	127,913	110,117
	<u>252,847</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>252,847</u>	<u>240,645</u>

Included in the total for 2023 of £252,847 (2022: £240,645) is unrestricted expenditure of £252,847 (2022: £240,645) and restricted expenditure of £nil (2022: £nil).

10. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly	Support costs	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Teaching and education	1,036,293	-	1,036,293	994,326
Learner support services	4,561,159	-	4,561,159	3,711,440
Charity support services	2,779,978	-	2,779,978	2,507,532
InFocus charity shops	561,085	-	561,085	480,872
Governance costs	-	30,697	30,697	29,988
	<u>8,938,515</u>	<u>30,697</u>	<u>8,969,212</u>	<u>7,724,158</u>

Included in the total of £8,969,212 (2022: £7,724,158) is unrestricted expenditure of £8,697,997 (2022: £7,546,023) and restricted expenditure of £271,215 (2022: £178,135).

11. Taxation

The charity's activities fall within the exemptions afforded by the provisions of sections 466 to 493 of the Corporation Taxes Act 2010. Accordingly, there is no taxation charge in these accounts.

12. Net gains and losses on investments and investment property

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Realised gains/(losses) on investments	-	-	-	24,983
Unrealised gains/(losses) on investments	(25,012)	-	(25,012)	(154,109)
Unrealised gain/(losses) on investment properties	-	-	-	92,500
	<u>(25,012)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(25,012)</u>	<u>(36,626)</u>

The total loss for 2023 of £25,012 (2022: £36,626) is unrestricted.

13. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023 Group	2022 Group
	£	£
Depreciation	388,022	404,985
Operating lease rentals	99,773	88,839
Auditors' remuneration	23,698	20,000

14. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2023 Group	2022 Group
	£	£
Wages and salaries	4,943,807	4,610,570
Social security costs	418,390	377,411
Employer contributions to pension plans	278,757	228,093
Agency staff	1,304,999	678,821
	<u>6,945,953</u>	<u>5,894,895</u>

Included in staff costs are redundancy payments totalling £nil (2022: £nil).

The average head count of employees during the year was 227 (2022: 234). The number of employees whose remuneration for the year fell within the following bands were:

	2023 Group	2022 Group
	No.	No.
£60,000 to £69,999	1	2
£70,000 to £79,999	2	1
£80,000 to £89,999	-	-
£90,000 to £99,999	1	1
	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>

Key management personnel were made up of all Executive members (6) and remuneration totalled £422,751 (2022: £393,645).

15. Related party transactions

The charity trustees were not paid and did not receive any other benefits from employment with the charity (2022: £nil). There were reimbursements of expenses to trustees of £661 (2022: reimbursements of expenses to trustees of £631). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2022: £nil).

16. Tangible fixed assets (charity and group)

	Land and buildings £	Motor vehicles £	Equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 September 2022	11,589,537	215,985	705,735	12,511,257
Additions	242,570	26,710	62,625	331,905
Transfers	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	(28,000)	-	(28,000)
At 31 August 2023	11,832,107	214,695	768,360	12,815,162
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2022	5,515,189	172,804	531,962	6,219,955
Transfers	-	-	-	-
Charge for the year	289,610	10,490	87,922	388,022
Eliminated on disposal	-	(25,197)	-	(25,197)
At 31 August 2023	5,804,799	158,097	619,884	6,582,780
Carrying amount At 31 August 2023	6,027,308	56,598	148,476	6,232,382
At 31 August 2022	6,074,348	43,181	173,773	6,291,302

17. (a) Fixed asset investments

	2023 Group £	2023 Charity £	2022 Group £	2022 Charity £
Investments in subsidiaries	-	100	-	100
Other investments	1,204,917	1,204,917	1,229,929	1,229,929
	1,204,917	1,205,017	1,229,929	1,230,029

Investments in subsidiaries (charity)

The company owns the entire issued share capital of InFocus Enterprises Limited (formerly WESC Enterprises Limited). InFocus Enterprises Limited, which is incorporated in England and Wales, gift aids its taxable profit to the charity. The registration number of InFocus Enterprises Limited is 10535508. The registered office is the same as that of InFocus Charity, as disclosed in the administrative section of the trustee's annual report. The principal activity of the company is running catering services and provision of premises hire.

	2023 £	2022 £
Summary profit and loss account		
Turnover	366,919	304,732
Cost of sales	(125,262)	(109,188)
	241,657	195,544
Administration expenses	(119,473)	(108,425)
	122,184	87,119
Operating profit	122,184	87,119
Taxation	-	-
	122,184	87,119
Profit for the year	122,184	87,119

The assets and liabilities of the subsidiary were:

Current assets	140,242	114,768
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(18,058)	(27,649)
	122,184	87,119
Total assets less current liabilities	122,184	87,119
Aggregate share capital and reserves	122,184	87,119

InFocus Enterprises Limited will Gift Aid all taxable profits to its parent charity within 9 months of the year end, therefore there is no requirement to make a provision for taxation in the financial statements.

17. (a) Fixed asset investments (continued)**Other Investments (Charity and Group)**

	2023 Listed investments £	2022 Listed investments £
Cost or valuation		
At 1 September 2022	1,229,929	1,659,110
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	(300,055)
Realised gain on disposal	-	24,983
Fair value movements	(25,012)	(154,109)
	1,204,917	1,229,929
At 31 August 2023		

Financial assets held at fair value

All investments are valued at their open market rate at the balance sheet date using readily available market data..

17. (b) Investments: Current

	2023 Group £	2023 Charity £	2022 Group £	2022 Charity £
Cash held on deposit	9,384	9,384	1,286	1,286

18. Investment Properties

	2023 Group £	2023 Charity £	2022 Group £	2022 Charity £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 September	515,000	515,000	422,500	422,500
Fair value movement	-	-	92,500	92,500
	515,000	515,000	515,000	515,000
Carrying value at 31 August 2022				

The properties were externally valued at 31 August 2022 after taking appropriate professional advice. During the current year, the Trustees have reviewed this valuation in the context of market data and concluded that there has been no material change which would require the properties to be revalued. The properties are accessed via a private road. The limitations due to the ownership of the access roads and services to both properties mean that the charity could only expect to realise an estimated 50% of any disposal proceeds. The fair value therefore reflects this restriction.

19. Debtors

	2023 Group £	2023 Charity £	2022 Group £	2022 Charity £
Trade debtors	811,691	743,285	192,091	157,055
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	2,347	-	18,914
Other debtors	6,392	3,988	1,223	1,223
VAT recoverable	1,450	1,450	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	151,926	151,926	197,547	197,547
	971,459	902,996	390,861	374,739

20. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 Group £	2023 Charity £	2022 Group £	2022 Charity £
Trade creditors	330,146	326,446	277,300	274,155
Social security and other taxes	151,254	139,143	128,081	122,706
Other creditors	34,516	34,516	43,115	42,800
Accruals and deferred income	634,756	634,756	185,198	185,198
	1,150,672	1,134,861	633,694	624,859

Deferred income comprises grant and fee income that relates to future periods which has been received in advance.

Deferred income comprises the following:

	Charitable activities £	Total £
At 1 September 2022	61,769	61,769
Deferred in current period	530,201	530,201
Released to Statement of Financial Activities	(61,769)	(61,769)
	530,201	530,201
At 31 August 2023		

21. Analysis of charitable funds (group)

	At 1 September 2022	Income	Expenditure	InFocus Charity Annual Report 2022/23 Transfers	At 31 August 2023
	£	£	£		£
Restricted fixed asset funds					
St David's House Appeal	815,596	-	(71,115)	-	744,481
Water Therapy Pool	292,188	-	(24,801)	-	267,387
Topsham Road	215,313	-	(10,856)	-	204,457
Other	10,811	-	(973)	-	9,838
Total	1,333,908	-	(107,745)	-	1,226,163
Restricted general funds					
Day services	3,680	-	-	-	3,680
Site development	1,027	67	(839)	6,117	6,372
Activities for young people	68,977	6,532	(40,925)	-	34,584
Supporting independence	33,061	-	(8,826)	30,423	54,658
Vehicle & transport	28	-	-	(28)	-
Family fund	520	-	-	-	520
Research	8,787	-	(30)	-	8,757
Miscellaneous	37,570	-	-	(37,570)	-
Grants					
Pupil premium	4,618	1,237	(5,855)	-	-
Bursaries and grants	30,971	9,397	(21,566)	1,058	19,860
Access to work	9,082	1,405	(5,772)	-	4,715
Student purchases	18,428	17,063	(28,973)	-	6,518
Talking tills	76	-	-	-	76
ESFA/DFC/SCA	50,700	28,896	(50,684)	-	28,912
Total	267,525	64,597	(163,470)	-	168,652
Total restricted funds	1,601,433	64,597	(271,215)	-	1,394,815
Designated funds – site improvement	500,000	-	-	-	500,000
Designated funds – death or loss of contract for service users	200,000	-	-	-	200,000
Designated funds – delay in fee payment	-	-	-	200,000	200,000
General unrestricted funds	7,288,923	9,048,692	(8,975,856)	(200,000)	7,161,759
Total unrestricted funds	7,988,923	9,048,692	(8,975,856)	-	8,061,759
Total funds	9,590,356	9,113,289	(9,247,071)	-	9,456,574

21. Analysis of charitable funds (group) (continued)

The St David's House appeal was towards the building of a home for young people with more complex needs.

The Water Therapy Pool fund was established to create a new pool for therapeutic, sporting and recreation purposes.

Topsham Road fund was used to help purchase a property which is used as a supported living house.

Other fixed asset funds comprise donations received to purchase specific equipment which has been capitalised.

Pupil Premium: Additional funding received from local authorities target those students from low income families who need the most in order to raise attainment.

Bursary & grants: Funds received from the ESFA to support young people in College in need of financial support meet additional costs to help them remain in full time education.

Day Services: Funds used for the benefit of young adults attending Adult Day Services now called Jigsaw at InFocus Charity.

Activities for young people: To fund interactive activities for students and young adults at InFocus Charity.

Supporting Independence: Funds used to provide equipment and opportunities in all areas of InFocus Charity to help enable the engagement and independence of students and young adults in daily activities.

Site Development: Funds used for the improvement and renovations of the InFocus Charity site for the benefit of the students and young adults.

Vehicle & Transport: To fund the requirement for vehicles at InFocus Charity used for the mobility of students and young adults so they can access activities off-site.

Family Fund: Used to support families with one-off incidental expenditure outside the scope of Local Authority and bursary funding.

Research: Restricted funds used for specific research projects at InFocus Charity specifically around visual impairment and multi-sensory disability. Examples have been the Comic Relief funding of the development of the Eyelander Game.

Talking Tills (EPOS/Till System): Funds used to create a specialised talking till system for people with vision impairment.

ESFA/DFC/SCA: Annual grants and/or bursaries received from the Department for Education, ESFA or SCA to help maintain and improve the condition of education buildings and grounds.

Access to work: Monies received to support individuals in the workplace and those requiring reasonable adjustments.

Student Equipment: Money received from LAs as part of a services user's package designated for specific specialist equipment.

22. Analysis of net assets between funds (group)

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2023
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	5,006,219	1,226,163	6,232,382
Investments	1,204,917	-	1,204,917
Investment properties	515,000	-	515,000
Current assets	2,486,295	168,652	2,654,947
Creditors less than 1 year	(1,150,672)	-	(1,150,672)
Net assets	8,061,759	1,394,815	9,456,574

Free reserves are calculated as follows;

	Free reserves 2023
	£
Total unrestricted funds	8,061,759
Less unrestricted tangible fixed assets	(5,006,219)
Free Reserves	3,055,540

23. Prior year restricted funds note and analysis of net assets between funds

	At 1 September 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 August 2022
	£	£	£		£
Restricted fixed asset funds					
St David's House Appeal	410,375	-	(71,115)	476,336	815,596
Water Therapy Pool	316,983	-	(24,801)	6	292,188
Topsham Road	9,910	-	(10,856)	216,259	215,313
Other	143,788	-	(973)	(132,004)	10,811
Total	881,056	-	(107,745)	560,597	1,333,908
Restricted general funds					
Day services	3,560	120	-	-	3,680
Site development	29,107	9,679	(26,299)	(11,460)	1,027
Activities for young people	74,669	3,335	(4,025)	(5,002)	68,977
Supporting independence	36,698	6,500	(2,636)	(7,501)	33,061
Vehicle & transport	28	-	-	-	28
Family fund	520	-	-	-	520
Research	8,787	-	-	-	8,787
Miscellaneous	7,955	19,800	(18,245)	28,060	37,570
Grants					
Pupil premium	8,915	1,665	(6,517)	555	4,618
Bursaries and grants	8,958	1,179	(1,850)	22,684	30,971
ESFA/DFC	45,482	32,553	-	(27,335)	50,700
Access to work	6,624	419	(720)	2,759	9,082
Student purchases	3,307	27,979	(10,098)	(2,760)	18,428
Talking tills	76	-	-	-	76
Total	234,686	103,229	(70,390)	-	267,525
Total restricted funds	1,115,742	103,229	(178,135)	560,597	1,601,433
Designated funds – contingency	200,000	-	-	-	200,000
Designated funds – site improvement	500,000	-	-	-	500,000
General unrestricted funds	7,441,094	8,231,720	(7,823,294)	(560,597)	7,288,923
Total unrestricted funds	8,141,094	8,231,720	(7,823,294)	(560,597)	7,988,923
Total funds	9,256,836	8,334,949	(8,001,429)	-	9,590,356

24. Prior year restricted funds note and analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Notes: Income for general and restricted funds includes the net unrealised gain on investments. Transfers include Capital Items and Adjustments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	2022		2022
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	4,957,394	1,333,908	6,291,302
Investments	1,229,929	-	1,229,929
Investment properties	515,000	-	515,000
Current assets	1,915,210	272,609	2,187,819
Creditors less than 1 year	(628,610)	(5,084)	(633,694)
Net assets	7,988,923	1,601,433	9,590,356

24. Operating lease commitments (Group)

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Not later than 1 year	78,825	75,868
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	213,211	110,562
Later than 5 years	19,685	13,118
	311,721	199,548

Operating leases - lessor (Group)

The total future minimum lease receipts under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Not later than 1 year	90,860	82,178
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	78,224	317,337
Later than 5 years	-	59,629
	169,084	459,144

25. Analysis of changes in net debt (Group)

	At 1 Sept 2022	Cash flow	At 31 Aug 2023
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and on hand	1,795,672	(121,568)	1,674,104
	<u>1,795,672</u>	<u>(121,568)</u>	<u>1,674,104</u>

26. Financial instruments

Categorisation of financial instruments

	2023	2022
	£	£
Financial assets:		
Measured at fair value	1,204,917	1,229,929

27. Pensions and other post-retirement benefits

The Charity's employees belong to three principal pension schemes: the Teachers' Pension Scheme England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; the InFocus Charity pension scheme with Aviva (previously Friends Life) which is closed to new entrants and a NEST Pension Scheme.

Contributions amounting to £39,922 (2022 - £31,384) were payable to the schemes at 31 August and are included within creditors. The amounts recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £278,757 (2022: £228,093).

Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations (2010) and, from 1 April 2014, by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for full-time teachers and, from 1 January 2007, automatic for teachers in part-time employment following appointment or a change of contract, although they are able to opt out.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and members contribute on a 'pay as you go' basis - these contributions along with those made by employers are credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

Not less than every four years the Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors.

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2020 and in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 26 October 2023.

27. Pensions and other post-retirement benefits (continued)

The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- Employer contribution rates set at 28.6% of pensionable pay from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2027 (previously 23.68% of pensionable pay which included an additional 0.8% following agreement between the Department for Education and HM Treasury to delay the increase in employer contribution rates until 1 September 2019, and also an additional 0.08% employer administration charge).
- Total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £262,000 million, and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £222,200 million giving a notional past service deficit of £39,800 million.
- The key financial assumptions are~ Discount rate, net of assumed pension in-creases 1.7% - 2.4%

Rates of pension increases	0.0% - 4.1%
Rates of CARE revaluation	1.6% - 5.7%
Rates of salary increases	1.6% - 3.8%

Under the definitions set out in Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102), the TPS is a multi-employer pension scheme. The School has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The School has set out above the information available on the scheme.