

# THE RAILWAY CHILDREN

England & Wales · Charity number 1058991

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Charitable company

**Company number** [03265496](#)

**Registered** 1996-11-04

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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Crewe  
CW2 6EH

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**Website** [www.railwaychildren.org.uk](http://www.railwaychildren.org.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** THE RELIEF OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS UNDER 25 YEARS OF AGE WHO ARE IN CONDITIONS OF NEED, HARDSHIP OR DISTRESS, ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD AND IN PARTICULAR THOSE WHO ARE LIVING ON THE STREETS.

**Activities:** Railway Children aims to change the situation for street children around the world, by working through local organisations and advocating for change in government policies. Through partners we reach out to children as early as possible and act as an authoritative voice on their behalf to provoke actions and evoke the change they need.

## Classification

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- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Overseas Aid/famine Relief, Accommodation/housing, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Children/young People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies

## Geography

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- **Area of benefit:** ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD.
- India
- Scotland
- Tanzania
- Throughout England

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£4,469,854	£4,299,613	£1,941,493	129
2024-05-31	£4,490,547	£4,351,974	£1,771,253	119
2023-05-31	£3,858,538	£4,234,873	£1,632,680	104
2022-05-31	£4,092,955	£4,436,112	£2,009,015	105
2021-05-31	£4,899,891	£4,461,680	£2,352,172	100

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Malcolm Brown</b>	Chair	2014-12-05
Annalingam Kumararajan		2026-02-01
Bharti Mepani		2023-10-12
Craig Joseph Forster		2025-12-17
Dr Jacqueline Gallinetti		2023-10-12
Emily Jane Bild		2022-10-06
Fraser Ross Simpson		2022-10-06
Jamie Neil Peter Burles		2024-10-09
Joanne Bird		2023-01-25
Mohini Bulbrook		2018-11-08
Ria Diana Ntabejane		2024-07-03
Richard Graham Allan		2024-10-09
Tricia Wright		2016-07-07
Valerie Floy		2023-10-12

**THE RAILWAY CHILDREN**

England & Wales - Charity number 1058991

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# Accounts

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# REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the period ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

Railway Children is registered Charity No. 1058991 and a Registered Private Company Limited by Guarantee No. 3265496

**children** RAILWAY  
No child lost to the streets

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## Reference and Administrative Information

<b>Registered Office</b>	Unit 1, Unipart Rail, Gresty Rd, Crewe, CW2 6EH
<b>Directors and Trustees</b>	
Malcolm Brown	Chair
Richard Allan	Appointed 9 <sup>th</sup> October 2024
Emily Bild	
Joanne Bird	
Mo Bulbrook	
Jamie Burles	Appointed 9 <sup>th</sup> October 2024
Valerie Floy	
Jacqueline Galinetti	
Bharti Mepani	
Dr Donald Mlewa	Retired 26 <sup>th</sup> March 2025
Ria Ntabejane	Appointed 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2024
Fraser Simpson	
Helena Vega-Lozano	Retired 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2024
Tricia Wright	
<b>Group Chief Executive Company Secretary</b>	Robert Capener Ashurst LLP, London Fruit & Wool Exchange, 1 Duval Square, London, E1 6PW
<b>Auditors</b>	Sayer Vincent LLP, 110 Golden Lane, London, EC1Y 0TG
<b>Bank</b>	Royal Bank of Scotland, Drummond House, 1 Redheughs Ave, Edinburgh, EH12 9JN
<b>Solicitors</b>	Ashurst LLP, London Fruit & Wool Exchange, 1 Duval Square London, E1 6PW
<b>Railway Children India</b>	CIN: U85100DL2013NPL260371
Registered office address:	B-107, First Floor, Panchsheel Vihar, Khirki, New Delhi - 110017, India
Directors:	Sanjay Kumar Gupta Priya Varadarajan Megha Jain Harbhajan Singh Navin Sellaraju, RCI CEO Robert Capener (Official Observer & Group CEO)
<b>Railway Children Trading Ltd</b>	Company Number: 6533182
Registered office address:	Unit 1, Unipart Rail, Gresty Rd, Crewe, CW2 6EH
Directors:	James Sinclair Bain Rupert Brennan Brown Robert Capener Mirco Danesi Jack Miller Kathleen Backhouse - Secretary
<b>Railway Children Africa Ltd</b>	NGO Certificate No: I-NGO/R1/0941
Registered office address:	Plot 25, 1st Floor Alfa House, New Bagamoyo Road P.O. Box 105763, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Directors:	Lulu Ng'wanakilala (Chair) John Kalage Charles Mgoya Robert Capener Michael Holden Judy Lister Jeanne Ndyetabula (Co-opted) Sunday Kapesi

## **Introduction by Malcolm Brown, Chair**

### **Welcome to our Annual Report for 2025**

This year has seen Railway Children rise to the challenge of a shifting and often-unforgiving global landscape. Amid widespread overseas aid cuts and growing economic pressures, we are proud to report a strong year of delivery, growth, and resilience. While many organisations in our sector have faced irreversible losses, we've been able to consolidate our operations, strengthen our reserves, and deepen the impact of our work in every region we serve. We are very grateful to all our supporters, individual and organisations, for their amazing generosity.

In Tanzania, the legacy of our colleague and Executive Director Mussa lives on. His sudden passing was a profound loss - but the team he built has stepped forward with strength and determination, taking the reins to ensure his vision remains. Thanks to two significant grants, we've scaled our programmes across the country, with initiatives now influencing national policies and set to shape child protection systems for years to come. This includes the government-led expansion of Child Support Desks at major transport hubs - an extraordinary example of our partnership model in action.

Our colleagues in India have navigated an increasingly complex regulatory environment, yet their commitment has never wavered. They've built resilient relationships with district and state authorities, securing the sustainability of our work and laying the foundation for longer-term financial autonomy. The development of a regular, sustainable income stream is a significant step on their path to financial security and continued impact.

In the UK, we have expanded our contextual safeguarding work across the transport network, opening new partnerships and providing training to thousands of rail, British Transport Police (BTP) and security staff. Our five teams of Youth Practitioners and the growing network of Safeguarding Action Groups are creating safer spaces and systems for vulnerable young people. The introduction of Community Engagement Workers is helping to expand awareness of vulnerability into local communities.

This year, we reached 5,681 children across the three countries in which we operate. This includes 1,765 at transport terminals in India before they become even more vulnerable and more than 400 families were given reunification support in Tanzania to tackle the issues that forced children to run away and towards danger. In the UK, more than 4,000 rail staff and members of BTP were trained in safeguarding on rail, creating a safer network for children across the country. Each of these projects create sustainable change in thousands of lives across the UK, India and Tanzania. In addition, our collaborative safeguarding models are now influencing system-wide change in all three countries, with national-level policy shifts beginning to reflect our recommendations and proven approach.

Financially, we've had a further year of income growth. We successfully achieved our income targets with 12-month rolling Group income of over £5.2m and with voluntary income in the UK increasing to over £3.6 million on a rolling 12-month basis, both of which at their highest levels in the charity's history. At the same time, we strengthened our unrestricted reserves to £0.82 million, with restricted funds at £1.1m. However, rising inflation, employer National Insurance Contributions increases, and the approaching end of several major grants mean we must prepare for an even tougher year ahead. Our strategy for 2025-26 will continue to focus on securing our long-term sustainability of our work in a challenging and competitive environment.

A considerable portion of this year has been dedicated to refreshing the group's strategy, having taken the decision to review and refine our plans with a view to realigning the route map that will guide us to 2030. This review has allowed us to take stock of a rapidly changing external environment and assess where our vision, values and strategic goals continue to hold strong - and where we need to adapt. The refreshed strategy reaffirms our commitment to reaching children before, during and after their time on the streets, while placing greater emphasis on financial resilience, efficient and

supportive operations, scalable impact, and stronger collaboration with governments and systems. The senior leadership team should be very proud of the work they have done on the strategy.

With this clearer, more agile roadmap in place, we are better equipped to navigate uncertainty and stay focused on our long-term goal: ensuring that no child is left behind, wherever we work. Our new vision is a world where every child can thrive away from a life on the streets.

As we deliver the roadmap to 2030, our mission remains strong: to safeguard children who are at risk of being lost to the streets, and to do so by empowering families, communities and systems to create lasting change. This year's achievements are a tribute to the relentless dedication of our teams, the strength of our partnerships, and the generosity of our supporters.

## **Aims, Public Benefit and Principal Activities**

### **Aims**

Railway Children was founded in 1996 and since then, our work has benefitted thousands of children and young people living alone and at risk on the streets.

Our mission is to safeguard children at risk of being lost to the streets by empowering families, communities and partners to create lasting change, ensuring every child can reach their full potential.

Working with transport networks and communities, we intervene early to reach children, support families and influence policy – creating real, lasting change and ensuring children are safe, heard and empowered to reach their full potential.

### **Public Benefit**

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. This report is produced for the benefit of the public and contains an explanation of the significant activities undertaken during the year, in order to carry out the charity's aims and also measure achievements against the objectives set by the Trustees.

### **Principal Activities**

Across India, Tanzania and the UK, hundreds of thousands of children are lost and alone on streets, and many of these can be found on our public transport systems. Children on the street are some of the most vulnerable on the planet, facing violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation – and facing it alone.

We're determined to change that. We believe in a world where every child can thrive, away from a life on the streets.

For every child we help, many more are still waiting to be seen, waiting to be heard and waiting for the chance to change their future. Reaching them requires addressing the underlying causes – as well as the effects – that drive children from their homes. It requires supporting children and their families BEFORE, DURING and AFTER their time on the street.

We know we can't achieve real, lasting change, at the scale it's needed, on our own. So we work with government agencies, civil society, the transport industry, public services and communities to bring about the transformation needed. And at every stage, we work with the children and families we serve – knowing that for change to be sustainable, people need to be empowered to bring it about themselves.

## Achievements 2024-25

The following outlines the wider strategy goals (2022-2027), alongside the objectives we set ourselves for this year and the progress we made. During the period, the end of our financial year was changed from 31<sup>st</sup> May to 31<sup>st</sup> March. The achievements below therefore reflect a 10-month period, but the targets stated in bold are for a full year and are as stated in our last annual report (2023-2024). Where comparisons are made to an annual target within the text, the target has been reduced proportionally.

### Goal 1 – Children will be safe, at home and in a nurturing environment.

#### Railway Children India (RCI):

**2,500 children arriving unattended at six transport terminals are reached before they become victims of abuse and exploitation and 90% of the children are reintegrated into safe and supportive families.**

During this 10-month reporting period, a total of 1,765 children were protected at six transport terminals in Delhi, Ghaziabad (UP), Patna (Bihar) and Dadar (Maharashtra). The overall achievement is slightly below the pro-rated target due to delays in commencing the Patna and Dadar projects.

Out of the 1,765 children protected, 75% were boys and 25% girls. 37% of the children were referred by stakeholders rather than being identified by RCI staff – this proportion continues to increase and is a key indicator of the sustainability of our interventions designed to mobilise the station community to protect children.

91% of the 1,765 children have been safely reunified with family and the remaining 9% are living in childcare institutions – this includes children in short-term placements pending family reunification, as well as children in long-term placements who have no traceable family.

A total of 426 children have been referred to RCI's Family Reintegration programme for more in depth support through the reintegration process. Among them, 155 are highly vulnerable and 271 are moderately vulnerable. Of these, 177 children living within reach of our project locations were directly supported by RCI case workers and 249 children whose families live further afield were supported through networking and collaboration with local government agencies.

#### Railway Children Africa – Tanzania (RCA):

**We will successfully reintegrate 364 street connected children into safe and protective families.**

During this 10-month reporting period, a total of **369 street-connected children** (135 boys and 234 girls) were **successfully reintegrated into safe and supportive families** – 63% of whom were girls.

In addition to the reintegrated children, we also supported **798 siblings**, extending the impact of family reunification efforts. **School support** was provided to **450 children**, including payment of school levies and provision of essential learning materials.

To **strengthen reintegrated families**, project staff conducted therapeutic support sessions to help address the reasons that led to separation. Based on their assessments, **practical assistance** was also offered to meet specific family needs, ranging from **food baskets** to **business training** and **small start-up grants**.

These combined efforts help to ensure a stable, nurturing environment that enhances the child's well-being and promotes long-term family resilience.

## **Railway Children UK:**

**We will provide interventions for 240 young people through programmes of support prioritising needs such as healthy relationships, mental health, education, and safety planning.**

We have directly supported a total of 167 young people and their families through a combination of one-off welfare visits, brief interventions, group work and longer-term direct support this year – 84% of a pro-rated annual target of 200. Performance here was hindered by an unusually high number of vacancies across our Youth Practice team during the year, equivalent to 13% of our capacity to work with young people.

Of the young people we have supported on a longer-term basis, the most common indicators of risk we have seen this year are:

- 68% were experiencing poor mental health when they started to work with us;
- 58% were either not in education, had poor attendance or had been repeatedly excluded;
- 58% were at risk of experiencing a breakdown in the relationship with their parent or carer;
- 55% were frequently missing when they were referred to us;
- 44% had a learning disability or difficulty, either formally assessed or queried.

These risk factors are used to inform individual support plans, that are developed jointly with each young person to ensure they are receiving the support that is right for them and their needs. The most common priority areas of intervention to support young people with were:

- Mental health and/or emotional wellbeing
- Safety; including online safety, personal safety, and safety on and around the railway
- Healthy relationships, whether that be within the family or amongst peers

## **Goal 2 – Communities are able to identify and protect vulnerable children.**

### **Railway Children India:**

**1,800 children protected from becoming victims of abuse and exploitation within eight slum communities.**

Across the ten-month period we worked with 2,720 children across nine communities. Three children's and adolescent groups were functional in each community, with a membership ranging from 10-12 children per group. Parents' groups in each community have increased parents' understanding of child protection and associated risks including harsh disciplining, alcoholism and intimate partner violence. Additionally, the groups have linked 323 parents with government services, schemes and entitlements and 223 children have been enrolled in government social welfare schemes. 214 children have been helped to enrol or re-enrol in school and 69 older children have been assisted with entering vocational training courses. As a result, the vulnerability level of 328 children previously identified as having a high level of vulnerability has been reduced to moderate or low across the period.

In January 2025, three of the nine communities were demolished at short notice by the Indian Army who own the land on which they were located. Short-term support and assistance were provided to the displaced families immediately following the demolitions including access to shelter, blankets, dry provisions and hot-cooked meals. 285 of the 504 children we were working with have migrated away from the district and 219 children from 91 families have relocated to other areas within the district. Individual care plans are being developed for each of those children, all of whom have been assessed as having either a high or moderate level of vulnerability, and a range of support will be

provided for 12 months. Detailed reports for each of the 285 migrated children will be sent to the respective District Child Protection Units requesting them to follow up and support children who are in need.

### **Railay Children Africa – Tanzania:**

#### **Establish five new Child Support Desks (CSD) in Dar, Mbeya, Dodoma and Arusha.**

RCA in collaboration with the Government continued to run and provide support services through the three existing child support desks, one in Dar es salaam and two in Mwanza. At the three child support desks 591 children (M: 282 F: 309) were contacted, of whom 288 (M: 106 F: 182) were enrolled under RCA projects, while others were referred to other service providers for support.

Under the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) Corridors for Growth project, RCA together with a Ministerial Taskforce reviewed and enhanced RCA's internal Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for Child Support Desks, creating National SOPs for their operation across Tanzania. Following this process, the National SOP was presented to the Ministerial Management Team, where it was approved for implementation, pending an official launch.

Following the approval of the National SOP, the project has successfully partnered with the Social Welfare Service departments within key councils, including Njombe, Songea, Mbeya, Morogoro, Dodoma, Shinyanga, and Tabora. This effort represents a significant milestone in the joint implementation of the project between RCA and the Government. Under this collaboration, the Government is providing the physical spaces and human resources, while RCA is supporting the setup and awareness-raising initiatives around key transport hubs.

The establishment of these Child Support Desks and related awareness campaigns will play a critical role in safeguarding vulnerable children and adults, enabling early intervention for at-risk children, and supporting family reintegration efforts.

### **UK:**

#### **6,000 transport staff will be provided with a greater awareness and understanding of vulnerable children through our training programmes, with contextual safeguarding approaches being implemented on the rail network.**

We have provided safeguarding training to 4,349 staff from the British Transport Police (BTP) and train operating companies (TOCs), 87% of the 10-month target of 5,000. This work serves to highlight the vulnerabilities that young people may face and gives transport staff the tools with which to engage with them. The annual milestone was missed by 13%, in part due to the launch of our new e-Learning package in the summer months; the switch-over took time which impacted the number of TOC staff who were able to access the content across this period. Additionally, due to a force-wide recruitment freeze in BTP, we have seen reduced numbers of new BTP officers; subsequently, there have been less newly recruited officers taking part in our BTP new intake training sessions.

Additionally, in September 2024 we welcomed our Community Engagement Worker covering London and the Southeast, followed by a Community Engagement Worker covering the Yorkshire and Humber region in January 2025. Since September, we have held 18 station engagement events where we have engaged 525 passengers to raise awareness of how to identify vulnerability.

### **Goal 3 - Public sector policies and budgets safeguard vulnerable and at-risk children.**

#### **Railway Children India:**

#### **16 transport terminals, across Delhi Howrah railway network, have implemented relevant SOPs for child protection.**

Training sessions have been delivered to 3,935 transport terminal personnel representing 87% of our annual target. The first draft of the digital training module for the Indian Railway Protection Force (RPF) is under review with the Director General RPF office. The Child Help Group (CHG) meetings across 13 railway stations have been streamlined, with Child Welfare Committee (CWC), District Child Protection Unit (DCPU) and Child Helpline (CHL) representation. This has contributed to the foundation of a coordination protocol between key authorities that we have established in Patna and Mumbai through a formal collaboration with the various DCPUs.

We facilitated a three-day training program for CHL staff in the state of Uttar Pradesh, at the request of the Department of Child Welfare a total of 210 CHL functionaries were trained. These functionaries have been designated as Master Trainers and will be responsible for conducting training sessions for their respective district officials on the implementation of SOPs within the functioning of the CHL and key provisions of major child protection laws. The continued engagement with railway officials has enabled trained officers to safeguard 2,287 children, including 135 children on trains themselves as opposed to stations, of whom 58 were girls.

## **Railway Children Africa - Tanzania:**

### **Increase in the child protection budget in two target Districts.**

The FCDO funded Corridors for Growth project provided an opportunity to engage key stakeholders within seven local government authorities. A series of introductory meetings saw participation from a wide range of stakeholders, with a total of 161 individuals in attendance across all locations, including Regional Commissioner Office staff, Social Welfare Officers (SWOs), Police Officers, Local Government Officials, Education Officers, Community Development Officers, Transportation Representatives, NGO Representatives, and Migration Department representatives.

These meetings resulted in the formal endorsement of the project by local and regional authorities and a shared commitment to support the establishment of Child Support Desks in the identified transport hubs.

Regional leaders committed to expanding the scope of the CSDs, allocating space, appointing Social Welfare Officers and ensuring new bus terminal constructions include dedicated areas for social welfare services.

District officials highlighted the need to enhance alternative family-based care and commit to regular coordination meetings to monitor progress, share successes, address challenges, and collaboratively find solutions. Resolutions from these meetings include:

- Allocation of a budget for social welfare services in transport hubs by District Executive Officers.
- Appointment of SWOs as focal persons for CSDs in transport hubs.

These resolutions reflect the strong commitment of local authorities to sustain and expand the CSDs, including a commitment to make the necessary increases to child protection budgets.

## **UK:**

**We will work in partnership with the British Transport Police (BTP) and industry bodies to ensure that safeguarding continues to be included in the strategic vision for the rail industry.**

Achievements in the last year have included:

- Sharing a Briefing Paper on the Safeguarding on Rail scheme and a short report on its impact with key stakeholders in the Department of Transport, helping to raise awareness and understanding of this important mechanism ahead of the renationalisation of rail
- Providing a formal response to the public consultation on the Rail Reform Bill and meeting with DfT in relation to the Bus Services (no.2) Bill.

We have commenced a UK-wide youth evaluation to understand the experiences of young people on rail and to develop a set of recommendations to improve safeguarding.

We have also begun an internal evaluation of our Safeguarding Action Groups (SAGs) with support from Durham University and Arup University. The aim of the evaluation is to assess the effectiveness of the groups, and to use this learning to develop a best-practice model and toolkit that can influence the prioritisation of safeguarding across the network.

## **Fundraising**

- **We will secure over £5m in income across the Railway Children group, raising voluntary income to £3.7m and support the growth of in-country fundraising in India and Tanzania, securing over £1.3m in-country between the two affiliates.**

Group income for the ten-month period to the end of March 2025 reached £4.47m with a 12-month rolling income of over £5.2m. Voluntary income in the UK achieved £3.2m for the 10-month period with a rolling 12-month income of over £3.6m. Affiliate income for the 10-month period reached over £1.3m and the rolling 12-month income achieved £1.48m.

- **We will secure and deliver two new institutional funding programmes, ensuring the sustainability of our core work while increase the amount of restricted income secured across the Railway Children group to over £1.5m.**

We secured funds from the UK and US government for programmes in Tanzania that will increase our sustainability in country and allow our unrestricted income to be directed towards growth and innovation. Our restricted income was £1.9m for the 10-month period to March 25.

- **We will enhance our supporter care programme, developing more data analysis on what our supporters want and need, ensuring we increase our supporter base by 5% and increasing our supporter satisfaction score.**

We increased our supporter base by 7% to 5,896 individuals and organisations who gave a gift in 24/25 to March 31<sup>st</sup>. In addition, our supporter satisfaction score rose from 4.19 to 4.43 out of 5.

- **We will increase the opportunities for supporters to engage with the charity and raise over £1m from individual giving and expand our events programme with two new events.**

We launched the Scotland and Wales Triple events, adding innovation and income to our events programme. This resulted in over £100,000 of income and 50 new supporters to the charity. Individual giving surpassed £900k for the 10-month period, boosted by over £300k from legacy income.

## **Brand**

- **We will implement and deliver a new approach to ethical communications that ensures we are committed to taking an ethical approach to all elements of our communications, empowering those we work with and promoting their strengths**

An ethical communications policy was developed and introduced across the group, which kick started a new approach to all our imagery and communications, focussing on positivity and impact.

- **We will provide robust digital reporting and analysis, providing insight and recommendations to the Fundraising Team to ensure we have a consistent and effective approach to raising income, participation and engagement through digital marketing.**

We have grown our analysis of our digital activity, showing impact, ROI and outputs that allow us to direct our resources more effectively and increase the impact that our communications have.

- **We will develop a new section of our website specifically for young people, by young people: providing engaging, informative and supportive user-generated content.**

We have launched the new Youth Platform on our website as part of the Youth Ambassadors programme. We are committed to having authentic young voices at the heart of our communications, campaigns and messages.

- **We will deliver an advocacy communications strategy, focussing on editorial and digital content that will amplify our voice and those of vulnerable street-connected children, enabling us to attract new audiences and convert them to action.**

A group advocacy strategy has been put in place, with marketing and communications playing a driving role in its creation. We are reviewing and researching how we can best resource our strategic intentions to be a voice for street connected children

## **Objectives for 2025-26**

As already outlined in 24/25 we went through a strategy review process and as a result have re-focused some of our work into our new 2025-30 strategic plan that was launched in April 2025.

Our overall approach remains the same; we will continue to work in our four strategic action areas to influence the change in child protection systems needed to ensure ALL children are raised in safe families, and that no child is left behind, but instead can thrive away from a life on the streets.

Our Four Action Areas:

1. Protecting Vulnerable Children and Supporting their Families: Demonstrate services, before, during after a child is separated from their family or vulnerable on the streets, to ensure children are safe, at home and in a nurturing environment
2. Strengthening Transport Community Responses: Enabling local people to identify and protect vulnerable children and ensuring our transport systems are safe.
3. Strengthening Child protection Systems and Policies: To ensure public sector policies and budgets safeguard vulnerable and at-risk children.
4. Strengthening the Evidence Base: To demonstrate need and proven models of achieving impact.

The overall Strategy Goal for the 2025-2030 period is that:

**By 2030, we will have refined and enhanced our direct work to protect children and be able to demonstrate effective, impactful and scalable interventions that influence systemic change.**

We need to work in all four of our action areas to achieve this goal and over the course of this year 25-26 we will be working to pivot our work to ensure we are investing the right amounts of time and resource in the right areas to have the greatest impact; with children, young people and families at the heart of what we do.

Our strategic Goals for each country programme, and targets for 2025-26 are as follows:

### **Railway Children India**

**GOAL – Action areas 1 and 2: Children who have experienced or are at risk of separation from their family are able to thrive within safe family-based care.**

- 3,000 children are protected at 6 transport terminals and reunified with their families.
- 700 of these children with the highest vulnerability are supported to thrive within safe family-based care.
- 1,547 children from disadvantaged communities expand their abilities to make strategic life choices that help them navigate challenging situations in their lives.

**GOAL – Actions areas 3 and 4: Demonstrate a credible and replicable child protection coordination protocol between Civil Society, Indian Railways and District Child Protection Systems.**

- Coordination Protocol established and functional between Railways and District Child Protection Units in Ghaziabad and Patna.

### **Railway Children Africa**

**Goal Action areas 1 and 2: Increase access to safe support services including alternative care options for children at risk and children and young people living and working on the streets to improve their overall wellbeing.**

- Children living or arriving alone and at risk on the streets in at least 11 regions will be protected and transition to a safe setting. 803 children reintegrated into protective families.
- Youth on the streets and vulnerable young women are empowered and become integrated within communities and contribute meaningfully to the society. 520 YLWS and Vulnerable young women supported
- At risk families and those of reunified children are empowered to meet the social, physical, and emotional needs of their children. 300 caregivers reached/supported through ACT parenting skills programme
- Community members are aware of child protection and can safeguard welfare, challenge harmful cultural norms. 8 community dialogues/awareness meetings held

**Goal Action areas 3 and 4: Enhance child protection systems to provide effective support to families and children in crisis and/or at risk of separation**

- Mainstreaming child safeguarding to enhance protection of children in public spaces and transport hubs. 11 safeguarding groups formed in major transport hubs
- Improved effectiveness of the social workforce and duty bearers in protecting the rights of vulnerable and at-risk children, resulting in increased reporting and appropriate. 50 of government officials trained in case management. Reporting and SOP
- Care reform initiatives are influenced to strengthen advocacy efforts that empower Persons with Lived Experience (PWLE) and civil society. 15 care leaver representatives trained in advocacy, leadership, and peer support skills.

### **Railway Children UK Programme**

**Goal action areas 1 and 2: Developing evidence-based approaches to improve outcomes for increased numbers of vulnerable young people and their parents/carers.**

- We will provide interventions for 240 young people through programmes of support prioritising needs such as healthy relationships, mental health, education, and safety planning

- 6,400 transport staff will be provided with a greater awareness and understanding of vulnerable children through our training programmes, with contextual safeguarding approaches being implemented on the rail network

**Goal action area 3 and 4: Providing a voice for young people - advocating to improve safeguarding of vulnerable young people on the transport network at a regional and national level. So that a contextual safeguarding approach creates a safe environment for vulnerable children is embedded into policy and practice across the UK transport network.**

- Government ensures rail industry commitment to safeguarding remains a priority and is clearly stated in policy and is written into legislation or subsequent guidance
- Safeguarding is a priority for the bus network and is embedded within local and national guidance and practice.
- Contextual safeguarding approach delivered within SAGs is evidenced and recognised as a model of good practice and proactively established across the network

### **Fundraising**

- We will secure £5m in income across the Railway Children group, securing voluntary income of £3.6m and support the growth of in-country fundraising in India and Tanzania, securing over £1.3m in-country between the two affiliates
- We will deliver a new philanthropy fundraising department, targeting high net worth individuals to grow unrestricted income over the course of the new strategy and securing over £100,000 in 2025/26
- We will create a new fundraising department in Railway Children Africa, securing £85,000 in the first year and creating a new pipeline of potential funders to the organisation
- We will develop our safeguarding on transport offering, securing over £250,000, develop an online presence and catalogue that deepens our relationships with corporate partners.

### **Marketing**

- Achieve an increased engagement from advocacy communications, through content on social media, News, Blog and Research pages that informs about our programme work, impact and achievements, enhanced with Search Engine Optimisation (SEO), increasing visits across the site by 10%
- Expand the At Risk Right Here Right Now campaign to deliver messaging specific to issues affecting young people and their use of the transport network; targeting specific audiences, securing new media space on TOC channels and supporting referrals, with an advertising value equivalent of £50,000
- Develop and implement an RCA Marketing Strategy, which increases our in-country brand awareness in Tanzania to local communities through PR and digital content strategies.

## Fundraising Statement

Railway Children carries out a variety of fundraising activities, approaching individuals and companies for support and sponsorship as well as Trusts and Foundations. We occasionally employ a professional fundraising agency to undertake telephone and face-to-face fundraising activity on our behalf. Our policies and approach to fundraising are as follows.

- We are registered with the Fundraising Regulator and comply with the Codes of Fundraising Practice
- We are regularly updated with changes in practice and enforce change where necessary
- We adhere to our policy set up to protect vulnerable people, ensuring that the policy is enforced throughout all fundraising activities and with all parties
- Before the appointment of a third-party fundraising supplier, we make checks with other charity clients including financial checks and ensure that their practices meet our ethical criteria. Once appointed strict stewardship of the relationship is applied through daily discussions on any issues and regularly listening to calls
- We reviewed our data protection policy and procedures in preparation for the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the fundraising code of practice and regularly monitor the implementation of this throughout the organisation
- We give our supporters clear opportunities to opt out of any further contact as part of every approach
- Our supporter promises and privacy policy is clearly displayed on our website and regularly communicated to our supporters
- We do not share or sell data with any other organisations.

Supporters and our beneficiaries are at the heart of what we do. We strive to achieve high standards in our fundraising and communication with supporters. We stand by the principles set out in our supporter promise. We received two complaints in the year both of which were resolved.

## Financial Results

The charity changed the financial year from 31<sup>st</sup> May to 31<sup>st</sup> March in 2025. The results reported below and in the annual accounts relate to the 10-month period 1<sup>st</sup> June 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> March and compares these results against the previous 12-month financial year 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024.

The charity's income for the 10-month period ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 was £4.5m (FY23-24 £4.5m). This represents a growth in income when taking into consideration the shorter accounting period. The split between unrestricted and restricted income was £2.5m of unrestricted income (FY23-24 £2.7m) and restricted income of £2.0m (FY23-24 £1.8m).

Income from donations and legacies remained at similar level despite the shorter accounting period; £2.3m (FY23-24 £2.3m).

Income from charitable activities, funds raised from grants and foundations, totalled £1.8m (FY23-24 £1.5m) an increase of 16%. These funds were raised through Railway Children UK £0.7m (FY23-24 £1.02m), Railway Children Africa £0.9m (FY23-24 £0.3m) and Railway Children India £0.2m (FY23-24 £0.3m).

Other trading activities reduced £0.4m (FY23-24 £0.6m) and these consisted of fundraising events run by Railway Children UK and the sale of Christmas cards. Events are held in spring/summer which explains the decrease in income this in 2024-25.

The cost of the UK fundraising team including support costs was £1.1m (FY23-24 £1.4m). For every £ spent on fundraising the income generated was £3.78 (FY23-24 £3.20).

Total charitable expenditure for the year was £3.1m (FY23-24 £2.95m) split between India £0.5m (FY23-24 £0.70m), Tanzania £1.1m (FY23-24 £1.26m) and the UK £1.5m (FY23-24 £0.99m).

Total unrestricted reserve for the group was £0.82m (FY23-24 £0.80m) with restricted funds at £1.1m (FY23-24 £0.97m).

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

Railway Children is a charitable company limited by guarantee 3265496, Registered Charity No. 1058991, incorporated on 18th October 1996 and registered as a charity on 5th November 1996.

The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. Under those Articles, the Trustees, who form the Board of Trustees, are elected at the Annual General Meeting to serve a period of three years, with one third of their number retiring at each AGM.

The Memorandum and Articles of Railway Children express its objects as 'the relief of children and young persons under 25 years of age who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress, anywhere in the world and in particular those who are living on the streets'.

Railway Children Trading Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary company (number 6533182) limited by shares. The company is registered for VAT and is used by Railway Children to conduct its trading activities. All profits are gift aided to the parent charity.

Railway Children Africa is registered in Tanzania as an NGO, with NGO compliance (1563) under the Non-Governmental Organisations Act. The board consists of Railway Children representatives and Tanzanian nationals. The company manages our operations in Tanzania. The results for this company are consolidated into the accounts.

Railway Children India is a Section 8 company registered in India that commenced operations in FY2015-16.

RCA and RCI operate as independent organisations governed by their own boards. These boards have been granted use of the Railway Children mark under licence in return for operating in accordance with group policies and quality standards in so far as is legally permissible in their jurisdiction. The results of RCA and RCI are consolidated into the group in view of the choice of these organisations to work to the current group strategy using group systems.

The governance of the charity has been reviewed in the context of the Charity Commission's Governance Code which has resulted in a strengthening of the quality standards the group uses to ensure integrity and inclusivity in the charity's operations.

## **Vision and Beliefs**

As an organisation, Railway Children recognises that the environment in which we operate in is one of uncertainty and constant change. The resources we rely on in order to meet our charitable aims are both competitive and subject to ever-changing trends, whilst our beneficiary environment is one that varies frequently. In response to this we construct our organisation so we can be as flexible and as innovative as possible. We nurture a culture that is both informal, inclusive and open without compromising on accountability or professionalism. This culture reflects a commitment to making a

lasting change in the lives of children at risk on the streets and is informed by our stated values which work together to underpin all that we do:

Our vision is a world where every child can thrive away from a life on the streets.

## **Values**

### **THESE FIVE VALUES GUIDE OUR WORK**

**NEVER GIVE UP** - Face challenges head on.

**HAVE COURAGE** - Push boundaries. Think Big.

**EARN TRUST** - Be Honest. Always act with Integrity.

**SHOW COMPASSION** - Be Kind and Show Respect to All.

**NURTURE TALENT** - Encourage growth. Enable others.

## **Governance - Trustee Responsibilities**

As a charity accountable to all our donors, our resources must be carefully managed, and our legal responsibilities met.

Since its incorporation, the Railway Children Trustees have been the organisation's governing body. Trustees hold ultimate legal responsibility for the charity and collectively ensure delivery of our objectives, set our strategic direction and uphold our values as an organisation.

The key responsibilities of the Trustees are:

- Development and annual review of the charity's performance from definition of concepts to approval of the strategic direction
- Setting objectives for the development and review of our strategic plan, including approval on annual budgets and plans
- Approval of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts
- Identification and management of risks
- Appointment of Sub-Committees and delegation of powers
- Appointment, terms and conditions and delegation of powers to the Group Chief Executive
- Monitoring compliance with both company and charity law
- The stewardship of assets.

Railway Children as a group operates under the guidance of a Board of Trustees. The implementation of the Trustees' plans and policies, and the responsibility for performance is vested in the Group Chief Executive.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total amount of such guarantees on 31 March 2025 was £320 (2024 - £320). The Trustees are members of the charity, but this entitles them only to voting rights. The Trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

## **Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees**

Under the requirements of the Articles of Association, all members of the charity are permitted to stand for election as Trustees at the Annual General Meeting. The Trustee body has the necessary powers to

appoint a new Trustee at any time. Any such appointed Trustee can hold office until the next Annual General Meeting, when they can stand for election.

The charity follows a fair, open and transparent recruitment process for all appointments with the Chairs of sub-committees conducting the selection process and recommendations for appointment made to the full membership of the Board.

One third of all, being the longest standing Trustees, retires in rotation and is eligible for re-appointment at the Annual General Meeting. The minimum number of Trustees is set at three and currently there are twelve. There is no set maximum number.

### **Trustee Induction and Training**

Members of the charity who are considering standing as a Trustee are invited to attend Trustee meetings, to allow them to get to know the charity and the roles and responsibilities of a charity Trustee. Additionally, new Trustees are expected to attend a induction briefings, to include:

- Background to and history of the charity and the context in which it operates
- The principal responsibilities of a charity trustee including a detailed briefing on Trustees' responsibilities for safeguarding
- A summary of the charity's governing documents
- The charity's current financial position and forecasts
- The strategic plan and current progress against objectives.

A Trustee handbook exists to assist both new and existing Trustees in the discharge of their responsibilities. The handbook, which was updated in April 2022, includes governance and operational policies, the Memorandum and Articles, role descriptions of officers and current delegations. Trustees are encouraged to keep themselves up to date through appropriate training.

### **Remuneration Policy**

Railway Children commits to recruiting and paying all our staff up to the median rate, determined by an independently benchmarked survey that is reviewed every year.

In the UK, we use the Charity data cut of the Croner Salary Search on-line survey allowing us to ensure that we benchmark our salaries with organisations from a similar sector and size.

The salaries of the Group CEO and UK Director positions must be approved by the People and Culture Committee (PCC).

### **Risks**

All risks are reviewed and updated quarterly by the Finance and Audit Committee and the Board of Trustees. As part of this process, the Trustees have developed a Risk Management Policy, which comprises:

- A quarterly review of the risks the charity may face
- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the plan
- The implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should any of those risks materialise

<b>Key risks for 2024-25</b>	<b>Mitigations</b>
Cyberattack causes disruption to business continuity and/or reputational damage from loss of confidential data.	Ongoing monitoring by our IT support company, staff training to increase awareness.
Challenging regulatory framework in the countries that we work in.	Obtain and follow external advice on compliance.
Our current financial commitments to core programme and overhead, combined with any kind of shortfall in income, place pressure on low reserves, leaving limited capacity to respond to problems or opportunities.	Quarterly review and reforecast of income and expenditure. Review pipeline of restricted funding applications to give indication of income and timings.
Safeguarding incidents within our programmes.	Programme oversight and support with case management from dedicated safeguarding staff. Continuous professional development in place for programme teams in relation to specific safeguarding risks and concerns.

## **Reserves**

The Board of Trustees reviews the charity's reserves policy annually. The basis of Railway Children's reserve policy is:

- To protect the continuity of our work, including specified liabilities and partner commitments
- To provide capacity to invest in innovative programme activities that may initially be difficult to fund

The target reserve amount is calculated as being three months unrestricted expenditure as presented in the budget approved by the Board of Trustees. To this a further amount is added to provide for income volatility and foreign exchange variation on our overseas work.

During the financial year the free reserves amount may drop below the target amount due to the nature of the annual cycle of fundraising income into the organisation. This is carefully monitored and the expected year end position forecasted to ensure that the target free reserve amount is achieved as at 31 March.

The unrestricted funds closed at £0.82m (FY23-24 £0.8m) an increase of £0.02m on the prior year and just above the reserves of £0.77m based on the 2024-25 budget and below the reserves target of £0.93m based on the 2025-26 budget.

## Statement of Responsibilities of the Trustees

The trustees (who are also directors of Railway Children for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and group and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company or 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 and statements of recommended practice 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 charity will continue in operation

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

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information

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

### Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP was re-appointed as the charitable company's auditor during the year and has expressed its willingness to continue in that capacity.

The directors' annual report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on 24 September 2025 and signed on their behalf by

Malcolm Brown  
Chairman of the Board

# Independent auditor's report to the members and Trustees of Railway Children

## Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Railway Children (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the ten month period ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the consolidated statement of financial activities, the group and parent charitable company balance sheets, the consolidated statement of cash flows and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and of the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011

## 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 group financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and parent charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

## Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

## Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the group financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the group financial statements does not cover the other information, and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our

report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the group financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the group financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

### **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' annual report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements
- The trustees' annual report has 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 group and the parent charitable company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' annual report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- Adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent charitable company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- The parent charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- Certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- The directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' annual report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

### **Responsibilities of trustees**

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

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

## **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

We have been appointed auditor under the Companies Act 2006 and section 151 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with those Acts.

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

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

### **Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities**

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We enquired of management, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the group's policies and procedures relating to:
  - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
  - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
  - The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the group operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the group from our professional and sector experience.
- We communicated applicable laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We reviewed any reports made to regulators.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

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 or non-compliance with

regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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

### **Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Jonathan Orchard FCA (Senior statutory auditor)

Date: 8 October 2025

for and on behalf of Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor

110 Golden Lane, LONDON, EC1Y 0TG

Sayer Vincent LLP is eligible to act as auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

**RAILWAY CHILDREN**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (incorporating Income & Expenditure Account)**  
**for the 10 months ended 31 March 2025**

	Notes	10 months March 2025			Year to 31 May 2024		
		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
<b>Income from:</b>							
Donations and Legacies	2	2,024,473	268,533	<b>2,293,006</b>	1,961,985	356,326	2,318,311
Charitable Activities		57,850	1,698,437	<b>1,756,287</b>	64,025	1,454,064	1,518,089
Other trading Activities		396,026	2,000	<b>398,026</b>	635,916	-	635,916
Investments		19,612	2,923	<b>22,535</b>	14,224	4,007	18,231
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>2,497,961</b>	<b>1,971,892</b>	<b>4,469,854</b>	<b>2,676,150</b>	<b>1,814,397</b>	<b>4,490,547</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>							
Fundraising		1,014,139	168,558	<b>1,182,697</b>	1,125,242	279,781	1,405,023
Charitable Activities		1,467,984	1,648,932	<b>3,116,916</b>	1,424,603	1,522,348	2,946,951
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	3	<b>2,482,123</b>	<b>1,817,490</b>	<b>4,299,613</b>	<b>2,549,845</b>	<b>1,802,129</b>	<b>4,351,974</b>
<b>Net Income / (Expenditure)</b>		<b>15,838</b>	<b>154,402</b>	<b>170,240</b>	<b>126,305</b>	<b>12,268</b>	<b>138,573</b>
<b>Transfer between funds</b>		-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>							
Total funds brought forward	21	803,090	968,163	<b>1,771,253</b>	676,785	955,895	1,632,680
Total funds carried forward		<b>818,928</b>	<b>1,122,565</b>	<b>1,941,493</b>	<b>803,090</b>	<b>968,163</b>	<b>1,771,253</b>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.

All recognised gains and losses are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Accordingly no statement of total recognised gains and losses are given.

All restricted funds received and expended relate to income funds.

**RAILWAY CHILDREN**  
**CONSOLIDATED AND PARENT BALANCE SHEET**  
**As at 31 March 2025**

	Notes	Group		Charity	
		31 March 2025 £	31 May 2024 £	31 March 2025 £	31 May 2024 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>					
Tangible Assets	8	16,001	6,610	14,420	-
Investment	9	22,931	20,777	23,031	20,876
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Debtors & Prepayments	15	211,055	211,859	269,327	175,162
Cash at Bank & in Hand		2,130,296	1,926,219	1,538,535	1,634,654
		<b>2,341,351</b>	2,138,078	<b>1,807,862</b>	1,809,816
<b>Current Liabilities</b>					
Amounts Falling Due within One Year	16	(438,790)	(394,211)	(213,925)	(203,422)
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<b>1,902,561</b>	1,743,867	<b>1,593,937</b>	1,606,394
<b>Net Assets</b>	17	<b>1,941,493</b>	1,771,254	<b>1,631,388</b>	1,627,270
<b>Funds</b>					
Unrestricted Funds		818,928	803,090	1,084,183	914,728
Restricted Funds		1,122,565	968,163	547,205	712,542
<b>Total Funds</b>	20	<b>1,941,493</b>	1,771,253	<b>1,631,388</b>	1,627,270

The financial statement of Railway Children, registered number 03265496, were approved by the Board of Trustees on 24 September 2025 and signed on its behalf by

Malcolm Brown  
Chair of the Board

**RAILWAY CHILDREN**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
for the 10 months ended 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>					
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>			157,177		140,795
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>					
Purchase of fixed assets	9	(16,984)		(1,250)	
Dividends and interest from investments		22,535		18,231	
Purchase of investments		-		-	
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities</b>			5,550		16,981
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>			162,727		157,776
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year			1,926,219		1,740,830
Change in cash and cash equivalents due to exchange rate movements			41,350		27,613
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>			<b>2,130,296</b>		<b>1,926,219</b>

**Reconciliation of net income / (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities**

	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Net income / (expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)</b>	<b>170,240</b>	<b>138,573</b>
Depreciation charges	7,593	5,663
Gains on investments	(2,154)	-
Exchange (Gains)/Losses	(41,350)	(27,613)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	804	(40,336)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	44,578	82,739
Dividends and interest from investments	(22,535)	(18,231)
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities</b>	<b>157,177</b>	<b>140,795</b>

**Analysis of cash and cash equivalents**

	At 1 June 2024 £	Cash flows £	Other £	At 31 March 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	1,926,219	162,727	41,350	2,130,296
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>1,926,219</b>	<b>162,727</b>	<b>41,350</b>	<b>2,130,296</b>

# Notes forming part of the Financial Statements

## 1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements are prepared under the historic cost convention. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

As explained in the Trustees' Report, after making enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation and no material uncertainties that Railway Children has adequate financial resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

### **Basis of Consolidation**

The Group financial statements consolidate the financial statements of Railway Children and its wholly owned subsidiary undertakings drawn up to 31<sup>st</sup> March each year. The results of the charitable company and its wholly owned subsidiaries Railway Children Trading Limited, Railway Children Africa Limited and the overseas entity over which the charity has control through membership, Railway Children India, are consolidated on a line-by-line basis. Transactions and balances between the charitable company and its subsidiary have been eliminated from the consolidated financial statements. Balances between the two companies are disclosed in the notes of the charitable company's balance sheet. A separate statement of financial activities, or income and expenditure account, for the charitable company itself is not presented because the charitable company has taken advantage of the exemptions afforded by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

### **Public benefit entity**

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

### **Incoming Resources**

All income is recognised in the statement of financial activities when the conditions for receipt have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably. Where a claim for Income Tax has or will be made, such income is grossed up for tax recoverable. Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which it has been received. The following accounting policies are applied to income:

### **Gifts in Kind and donated goods & facilities**

Assets given for use by the charity are recognised as incoming resources at their estimated market value when receivable. If they form part of the fixed assets at the year-end, they are included in the balance sheet at the value at which the gift was included in incoming resources. Donated facilities are included at their estimated value and the corresponding expenditure included under the appropriate heading. All estimates of value of gifts are estimated as the value to the charity of the service or facility received; being the price the charity estimates it would pay in the open market for a service or facility of equivalent utility to the charity.

### **Donations**

Donations and all other receipts from fundraising are reported gross and the related fundraising costs are reported in other expenditure.

### **Legacies**

For legacies that can be estimated, and receipt is reasonably assured, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably, and the charity has been notified of

the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

### Grants received

Grants are recognised when the conditions of entitlement are met.

### Charitable expenditure

Charitable expenditure includes expenditure directly related to the objects of the charity and comprises grants payable, accounted for when the trustees have approved such grant and instruction is given to the charity's bankers. In addition, costs incurred in transmitting project grants to those projects, and the cost of visits by trustees and staff to assess, monitor and develop the work of these projects is accounted for on an accrual's basis. Salary costs for co-coordinators in India, Programme Development Manager, National Policy and Strategy Officer, National Research & Strategy Manager and a proportion of the CEO salary are included as this work is concerned with the development of the management of and enhancement of capacity of the projects supported are also accounted for on an accruals basis.

Costs of raising funds relate to the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.

### Allocation of operating costs

The charity's operating costs are accounted for on an accruals basis and are allocated between costs of generating funds, charitable expenditure and governance. Wherever possible the costs are positively identified and specific to the activity, in other cases such as office provision and some staff costs a percentage allocation of total cost is made based upon an estimate of staff time attributable to each activity. The allocations for the year were:

<u>Percentages</u>	<u>UK Support staff</u>				
	CEO	Marketing & Comms	Finance & Admin	Other Costs	Depreciation
Charitable	63%	55%	46%	32%	32%
Fundraising	37%	45%	54%	45%	45%
Governance				23%	32%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

### Tangible fixed assets

The fixed assets are limited to equipment, furniture and fittings and are capitalised where the purchase cost exceeds £1,000. Depreciation is provided on these assets in equal annual instalments over the estimated lives of the assets as follows:

Vehicles	- 3 years
Office Equipment	- 4 years
Display Equipment	- 4 years
Furniture & fixtures	- 5 years

### Fund Structures

Unrestricted funds are where funds have been received without any conditions from donors. Some unrestricted funds have subsequently been set aside by Railway Children as designated funds where they have been ear-marked to fund a specific partner from unrestricted funds.

Where funds have been received from donors for particular purposes these are represented as restricted funds. Transfers are made between restricted funds to represent changes agreed with the donor of the funds.

## **Foreign Currency**

Transactions in foreign currencies are converted at rates prevailing at the date of the transaction. Balances denominated in foreign currencies are converted at the rate of exchange prevailing at the balance sheet date. Exchange rate differences are taken into account in arriving at net incoming resources for the year.

## **Investments**

In the charity balance sheet, investments in the subsidiary are shown at cost less provision for impairments.

Other investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. Any change in fair value will be recognised in the statement of financial activities.

## **Pensions**

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable under the scheme by the charitable company to the fund. The charitable company has no liability under the scheme other than for the payment of those contributions.

## **Operating leases**

Rental charges are charged on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

## **Investments in subsidiaries**

Investments in subsidiaries are at cost.

## **Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

## **Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account. Cash balances exclude any funds held on behalf of service users.

## **Creditors and provisions**

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

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

## 2 Income from donations and legacies

	10 month period 2025			Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Year 2024 Total £
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £			
Individual Donations:						
General	556,418	268,433	<b>824,851</b>	651,231	344,462	995,693
Legacies	309,761	-	<b>309,761</b>	145,819	-	145,819
Corporate Donations	1,015,818	100	<b>1,015,918</b>	1,094,326	11,864	1,106,190
Donated services	142,476	-	<b>142,476</b>	70,609	-	70,609
	<b>2,024,473</b>	<b>268,533</b>	<b>2,293,006</b>	<b>1,961,985</b>	<b>356,326</b>	<b>2,318,311</b>

## 3a Analysis of Expenditure

	Charitable activities	Cost of raising funds	Governance	Support costs	10 month period 2025 Total	Year 2024 Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Grants payable	-	-	-	-	-	31,117
UK Staff	720,359	453,292	-	611,853	1,785,504	1,912,941
Overseas Staff	767,146	18,637	-	-	785,783	821,569
Office & Supplies	106,193	6,126	-	49,194	161,513	183,876
Services	594,473	376,482	21,129	91,561	1,083,645	964,521
Travel & Accommodation	221,052	16,295	182	5,826	243,355	329,335
Other	80,496	292	-	-	80,788	32,343
Depreciation	14,774	-	-	1,775	16,549	5,663
Gifts in Kind	94,822	47,654	-	-	142,476	70,609
Sub total	2,599,315	918,778	21,311	760,209	4,299,613	4,351,974
Support costs	473,219	256,086	30,904	(760,209)	-	-
Governance costs	44,382	7,833	(52,215)	-	-	-
Total expenditure 2025	<b>3,116,916</b>	<b>1,182,697</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,299,613</b>	<b>4,351,974</b>
Total expenditure 2024	2,946,951	1,405,023	-	-	4,351,974	

## 3b Comparative Analysis of Expenditure

	Charitable activities	Cost of raising funds	Governance	Support costs	Year 2024 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Grants payable	31,117	-	-	-	31,117
UK Staff	848,570	470,259	-	594,112	1,912,941
Overseas Staff	792,633	28,936	-	-	821,569
Office & Supplies	127,318	6,882	-	49,676	183,876
Services	278,498	562,624	13,774	109,625	964,521
Travel & Accommodation	303,409	9,582	717	15,627	329,335
Other	32,343	-	-	-	32,343
Depreciation	5,663	-	-	-	5,663
Gifts in Kind	24,379	46,230	-	-	70,609
Sub total	2,443,930	1,124,513	14,491	769,040	4,351,974
Support costs	460,753	273,050	35,237	(769,040)	-
Governance costs	42,268	7,460	(49,728)	-	-
Total expenditure 2024	<b>2,946,951</b>	<b>1,405,023</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,351,974</b>

<b>4 Staff Costs</b>	<b>10 month period 2025 £</b>	<b>Year 2024 £</b>
<u>UK Based Staff</u>		
Wages and salaries	1,525,527	1,640,657
National Insurance	167,428	173,784
Pension costs	92,552	98,501
UK Based Sub Total	<u>1,785,507</u>	<u>1,912,942</u>
Overseas staff	785,783	821,569
	<u>2,571,290</u>	<u>2,734,511</u>

#### 5 Staff Numbers

The average number of employees was:

	<b>10 month period 2025</b>	<b>Year 2024</b>
Programme	21	21
Fundraising	20	15
Support and administration	2	2
<b>UK staff subtotal</b>	<u>43</u>	<u>38</u>
Africa programme staff	38	34
India programme staff	48	47
<b>Total staff</b>	<u>129</u>	<u>119</u>

<b>Staff paid over £60,000</b>	<b>10 month period 2025</b>	<b>Year 2024</b>
£100,000 - £109,999	-	1
£90,000 - £99,999	1	1
£80,000 - £89,999	1	1
£70,000 - £79,999	2	1
£60,000 - £69,999	2	2
	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>

The cost of employing key management personnel including employer's NI and pension contributions was £560,727 (2024: £690,693)

#### 6 Net incoming resources for the year

This is stated after charging:

	<b>10 month period 2025 £</b>	<b>Year 2024 £</b>
Operating lease rentals		
- Property	19,568	19,568
- Other	-	-
Depreciation	7,593	5,663
Auditors remuneration		
- Group Audit (excl irrecoverable VAT)	12,600	10,000
	<u>27,161</u>	<u>35,231</u>

Trustee expenses of £182 represents the reimbursed travel and expenses of two Trustees (2024: £471).

#### 7 Operating lease commitments

The charity had annual commitments at the year end under operating leases expiring as follows:

	<b>10 month period 2025 £</b>	<b>Year 2024 £</b>
Less than one year	6,540	19,620
2-5 years	-	3,270
	<u>6,540</u>	<u>22,891</u>

## 8 Tangible Fixed Assets (Group and Charity)

	Charity Equipment & Furniture	Group Vehicles	Group Total
Cost	£	£	£
At beginning of period	67,589	31,900	99,489
Additions in period	16,984	-	16,984
Disposals	(53,646)	-	(53,646)
At close of period	<u>30,927</u>	<u>31,900</u>	<u>62,827</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At beginning of period	67,589	25,290	92,879
Charge for period	2,564	5,029	7,593
Disposals	(53,646)	-	(53,646)
At close of period	<u>16,507</u>	<u>30,319</u>	<u>46,826</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>			
Group and charity at close of period	<u>14,420</u>	<u>1,581</u>	<u>16,001</u>
Group and charity at beginning of period	<u>-</u>	<u>6,610</u>	<u>6,610</u>

## 9 Investments

These consist of £100 of shares in Railway Children Trading Limited and an endowment fund invested for the benefit of work in India with a current value of £22,931 (2024: £20,776).

Railway Children Trading Limited	10 month period 2025	Year 2024
	£	£
Turnover	229,177	178,093
Expenditure	(35,944)	(60,060)
Use of Railway Children logo	(1,000)	(1,000)
Use of Railway Children staff	(6,000)	(6,000)
Trading profit / (loss)	<u>186,233</u>	<u>111,033</u>
Loan interest paid to Railway Children	-	-
Profit donated to Railway Children	<u>(186,233)</u>	<u>(111,033)</u>
Net profit for the period	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net assets carried forward at 31 March	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

Railway Children Trading Company Limited is a 100% subsidiary of Railway Children. During the period £130,338 (2024: £78,756) was raised from events, £19,743 (2024: £26,524) from Christmas cards and £54,300 (2024: £72,814) from UK programme activities. Net profit donated to the charity was £186,233 (2024: £111,033). All the Railway Children Trading Company Limited's profits for the period are donated to Railway Children. Payments to Railway Children are regarded as a reduction of the charity's expenditure and cancel out on the consolidated accounts.

## 10 Taxation

Railway Children Limited is a registered charity and is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

<b>11 Railway Children Africa</b>	<b>10 month</b>	<b>Year 2024</b>
	<b>period 2025</b>	
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Turnover	853,900	191,325
Income from Railway Children	428,038	664,100
Expenditure	<u>(1,129,314)</u>	<u>(871,920)</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>152,624</u>	<u>(16,495)</u>

Railway Children Africa is registered as an International non-Governmental Organisation in Tanzania and carries out Railway Children's programme of work in Tanzania. The results of Railway Children Africa are consolidated into the group as they have chosen to enter into an affiliation agreement with Railway Children under which they are committed to the current group strategy using group systems.

<b>12 Railway Children India</b>	<b>10 month</b>	<b>Year 2024</b>
	<b>period 2025</b>	
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Turnover	473,828	581,826
Income from Railway Children	185,806	63,720
Expenditure	<u>(641,660)</u>	<u>(704,120)</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>17,974</u>	<u>(58,574)</u>

Railway Children India is a section 8 (Previously section 25) company registered in India. The results of Railway Children India are consolidated into the group as they have chosen to enter into an affiliation agreement with Railway Children under which they are committed to the current group strategy using group systems.

### 13 India Liaison Office

The India Liaison office was closed down in March 2024. Income for India Liaison Office was solely funded from the charity and amounted to £nil (2024: £47,186) and expenditure £nil (2024: £50,631).

### 14 Railway Children parent charity

The parent charity's gross income for the period excluding RCTL income is £2,912,950 (2024: £2,547,647) and the net deficit for the period is £681 (2024 net deficit: £59,577) including funds to subsidiaries of £613,844 (2024: £777,983).

### 15 Debtors and Prepayments

	<b>Consolidated</b>		<b>Charity</b>	
	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Other debtors	139,304	101,057	-	(16)
Gift aid debtor	44,499	33,566	44,499	33,566
Prepayments and accrued income	27,252	77,236	27,252	18,210
Railway Children Trading Limited - owed to charity	-	-	192,070	123,402
Railway Children India - owed to charity	-	-	4,798	-
India Liaison Office - owed to charity	-	-	708	-
Total	<u>211,055</u>	<u>211,859</u>	<u>269,327</u>	<u>175,162</u>

### 16 Liabilities: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	<b>Consolidated</b>		<b>Charity</b>	
	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade creditors	129,410	97,519	21,049	24,329
Tax and social security creditor	44,058	36,340	44,058	36,340
Accrued Expenditure	265,322	260,352	136,548	115,407
Railway Children Africa	-	-	12,270	27,346
Total	<u>438,790</u>	<u>394,211</u>	<u>213,925</u>	<u>203,422</u>

### 17a Analysis of group net assets between funds

	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>Designatd Funds £</b>	<b>General Funds £</b>	<b>Total Funds 2025 £</b>
Fixed assets	22,931	-	16,001	38,932
Net current assets	1,099,634	-	802,927	1,902,561
Net assets at the end of the period	<u>1,122,565</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>818,928</u>	<u>1,941,493</u>

### 17b Comparative of group net assets between funds

	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>Designatd Funds £</b>	<b>General Funds £</b>	<b>Total Funds 2024 £</b>
Fixed assets	-	-	27,386	27,386
Net current assets	968,164	503,000	272,703	1,743,867
Net assets at the end of the period	<u>968,164</u>	<u>503,000</u>	<u>300,089</u>	<u>1,771,253</u>

### 18 Related Parties

During the year there were related party transactions with Railway Children India, Railway Children Africa and Railway Children Ball Limited. Income from Railway Children Ball Limited was £535,031 (2024: £631,700).

Railway Children was registered as a liaison office in India (until March 24) and managed the delivery of the India programme with funding provided entirely via Railway Children. Railway Children India is registered as a section 25 company in India and FCRA registered.

Two Railway Children Trustees (Malcolm Brown and Richard Allan) sit on the Committee of the Railway Children Ball Limited. All profits made by the Railway Children Ball Limited are donated to Railway Children.

Railway Children Africa Limited is registered as a company in Tanzania and manages the delivery of the Tanzania programme with some funding from Railway Children. Rob Capener CEO of Railway Children sits on the board of RCA.

### 19 Funds held on behalf of others

The charity is part of an unincorporated association known as the Partnership for Vulnerable Children, formed with three other charities: Childhope, Get Connected and ICT. The association operates a payroll giving scheme on behalf of its members. Railway Children performs the financial administration for the association.

The sole assets of the association are funds collected not yet dispersed which are held in a separate bank account. The balance on the account at March 31st 2025 was £7,820 (May 31st 2024: £5,335). This bank account does not form part of these consolidated accounts.

20a Movement in Funds		Balance at	Movement in Resources		Transfers	Balance at
		01/06/2024	Incoming	Outgoing		31/03/2025
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Restricted Funds:</b>						
<b>Region</b>	<b>Funder</b>					
Tanzania	Funds held by RCA	146,067	59,269	(145,665)	-	59,671
	Funds held by RCA: FC	-	402,922	(400,869)	-	2,053
	Funds held by RCA: Citi	-	391,708	(45,837)	-	345,871
	Funds held by RCA in d	(4,626)	-	-	-	(4,626)
	Funds held by RC UK	202,386	181,109	(209,864)	-	173,631
India	Funds held by RCI	251,021	295,467	(386,955)	-	159,533
	Funds held by RCI in de	(61,146)	178,361	(104,357)	-	12,858
	Funds held by RC UK	200,027	97,253	(74,878)	-	222,402
UK	Funds held by RC UK	252,380	329,239	(430,447)	-	151,172
	Funds held by RC UK in	(17,946)	36,564	(18,618)	-	-
						-
<b>Restricted Funds</b>		<b>968,164</b>	<b>1,971,892</b>	<b>(1,817,490)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,122,565</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>						
	<b>Designated Funds</b>					
	India	66,000	-	-	(66,000)	-
	UK	191,000	-	-	(191,000)	-
	East Africa	246,000	-	-	(246,000)	-
	Total Designated Funds	503,000	-	-	(503,000)	-
	General Funds	300,090	2,497,961	(2,482,123)	503,000	818,928
	<b>Total Unrestricted Fun</b>	<b>803,090</b>	<b>2,497,961</b>	<b>(2,482,123)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>818,928</b>
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b>1,771,254</b>	<b>4,469,853</b>	<b>(4,299,613)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,941,493</b>

#### Purposes of Restricted Funds

All restricted funds are held for the relief of children and young persons in conditions of hardship and distress who live on or are at risk of running to the streets.

FCDO: The grant is focused on working with government to embed safeguarding responsibilities and obligations into the design, construction, and the operational running of transport terminals across Tanzania. This includes developing Standard Operation Procedures for child support desks to respond to vulnerable children, and establishment of these desks in 14 major bus terminals.

Citi Foundation: The grant enables us to deliver our youth association model for over 400 vulnerable street connected youth in both Dar and Mwanza. Ensuring these young people can become self reliant, find suitable housing, and reengage meaningfully in their communities.

#### Purposes of Designated Funds

These were funds were used to cover commitments made to partners in previous years. Railway Children currently implements all its activities directly and not through partners and therefore the funds are transferred back to unrestricted funds.

## 20b Comparative Movement in Funds

		Balance at	Movement in Resources		Transfers	Balance at
		01/06/2023	Incoming	Outgoing		31/05/2024
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Restricted Funds</b>						
<b>Region</b>	<b>Funder</b>					
Tanzania	Funds held by RCA	162,031	250,352	(266,316)	-	146,067
	Funds held by RC UK	59,571	441,245	(222,151)	-	278,665
	DfID - UK Aid Direct	6,382	-	-	-	6,382
India	APPI	9,918	-	-	-	9,918
	Honda	9,495	37	-	-	9,532
	Funds held by RCI	45,353	88,667	(43,915)	-	90,105
	Funds held by RC UK	257,227	530,698	(529,093)	-	258,832
UK		384,815	477,548	(609,983)	-	252,380
<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>		<b>934,792</b>	<b>1,788,547</b>	<b>(1,671,458)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,051,881</b>
<b>Restricted Funds in De</b>		<b>21,103</b>	<b>25,849</b>	<b>(130,669)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(83,717)</b>
<b>Overall Restricted Fun</b>		<b>955,895</b>	<b>1,814,396</b>	<b>(1,802,127)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>968,164</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>						
<b>Designated Funds</b>						
	India	74,453	135,939	(144,392)	-	66,000
	UK	38,910	227,924	(75,834)	-	191,000
	East Africa	302,212	776,598	(832,810)	-	246,000
	<b>Total Designated Funds</b>	<b>415,575</b>	<b>1,140,461</b>	<b>(1,053,036)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>503,000</b>
	General Funds	261,210	1,535,689	(1,496,809)	-	300,090
	<b>Total Unrestricted Fun</b>	<b>676,785</b>	<b>2,676,150</b>	<b>(2,549,845)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>803,090</b>
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b>1,632,680</b>	<b>4,490,546</b>	<b>(4,351,972)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,771,254</b>

### Purposes of Restricted Funds

All restricted funds are held for the relief of children and young persons in conditions of hardship and distress who live on or are at risk of running to the streets.

APPI: Funds are for work to assist street children on railway stations in India

PACT: Restricted for the assistance of street children and youth in Tanzania, in deficit as this is funded in arrears.

DfID: These funds relate to the assistance of street children in Tanzania.

### 21 Legal status of the charity

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 £1.

**THE RAILWAY CHILDREN**

England & Wales - Charity number 1058991

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# Accounts

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# REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024

Railway Children is registered Charity No. 1058991 and a Registered Private Company Limited by Guarantee No. 3265496

**children** RAILWAY  
No child lost to the streets

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## Reference and Administrative Information

<b>Registered Office</b>	1 The Commons, Sandbach, Cheshire, CW11 1EG
<b>Directors and Trustees</b>	
Malcolm Brown	Chairman
Richard Allan	Appointed 9 <sup>th</sup> October 2024
Emily Bild	
Joanne Bird	
Mo Bulbrook	
Jamie Burles	Appointed 9 <sup>th</sup> October 2024
Valerie Floy	Appointed 12 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
Jacqueline Galinetti	Appointed 12 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
Bharti Mepani	Appointed 12 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
Andrea Minton-Beddoes	Retired 31 <sup>st</sup> January 2024
Dr Donald Mlewa	
Ria Ntabejane	Appointed 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2024
Fraser Simpson	
Christine Taylor	Retired 31 <sup>st</sup> January 2024
Helena Vega-Lozano	Appointed 31 <sup>st</sup> January 2024; retired 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2024
Tricia Wright	
<b>Group Chief Executive</b>	Robert Capener
<b>Company Secretary</b>	Ashurst LLP, London Fruit & Wool Exchange, 1 Duval Square, London, E1 6PW
<b>Auditors</b>	Sayer Vincent LLP, 110 Golden Lane, London, EC1Y 0TG
<b>Bank</b>	Royal Bank of Scotland, Drummond House, 1 Redheughs Ave, Edinburgh, EH12 9JN
<b>Solicitors</b>	Ashurst LLP, London Fruit & Wool Exchange, 1 Duval Square London, E1 6PW
<b>Other Office</b>	India Office, Flat No.8/A, 2nd Floor, Arihant CHS,Gopal Krishna Gokhale Road, Mulund Est, Mumbai, 400 081, India
<b>Railway Children India</b>	CIN: U85100DL2013NPL260371
Regd. Office:	B-107, First Floor, Panchsheel Vihar, Khirki, New Delhi 110017, India
Directors:	Yazmin Riaz Sanjay Kumar Gupta Priya Varadarajan Megha Jain Harbhajan Singh Navin Sellaraju, RCI CEO Rob Capener (Official Observer & Group CEO)
<b>Railway Children Trading Ltd</b>	Company Number: 6533182
Directors:	Rupert Brennan Brown James Sinclair Bain Mirco Danesi Andrea Minton-Beddoes Robert Capener Jack Miller David Brookes – Secretary
<b>Railway Children Africa Ltd</b>	NGO Compliance No: 1563
Directors:	Lulu Ng'wanakilala (Chair) John Kalage Charles Mgoya Robert Capener Michael Holden Judy Lister Jeanne Ndyetabula (Co-opted) Sunday Kapesi

## **Introduction by Malcolm Brown, Chair**

### **Welcome to our Annual Report for 2024**

It would be fair to say that this year has been a period of significant change for Railway Children, and I am delighted by how well we have navigated the challenges we have faced. Our new CEO, Rob Capener, has brought continuity and stability, whilst breathing new life and vigour into the organisation.

When Rob took over in May 2023, we were navigating a delicate financial period, but we were also just beginning to comprehend the extent to which new child protection policies in India would disrupt the delivery of our strategy, sending the management team back to the drawing board with a challenge to innovate and diversify our programme portfolio. I'm sure it wasn't quite the smooth leadership transition period the team might have hoped for, but our trustees have been impressed by the way they have led through this uncertainty and brought us to a position of relative strength.

Having introduced our first ever employee engagement survey during the year, it was rewarding to see incredible engagement figures with 100% completion across the group. 99% of our people say they feel proud to tell people they work for Railway Children and 95% believe the charity is a great place to work.

At the end of another highly challenging financial year, it is outstanding and rewarding to see our year-end results, particularly with the ongoing economic volatility. To achieve a result of £4.48m in this environment with prolonged team capacity issues really is something to celebrate.

This year, our UK voluntary income has risen by 15% to over £3.5m - another impressive year of sustained growth which represents a 57% increase in income over the last five years. With expenditure of £2.51m, our unrestricted reserve closed at £821k, which is up by £144k on the previous May and represents approximately 3 months of planned FY24-25 unrestricted spend.

Having written our strategy in 2021 and launched it in 2022, the world is now a very different place. Whilst the aftereffects of Covid have subsided, the cost of living, high interest rates and political uncertainty in all three of our territories have all had a collective impact on the world we are now operating in. Consequently, many of the strategic plans we made in 2021 have been significantly disrupted. Therefore, as we embark on the third year of our current strategy, we have taken the decision to review and refine our plans with a view to realigning the route map that will guide us to 2030.

Amid the constant changes and challenges we have faced this year, I remain inspired by the work of our programme teams around the world. Their direct work with vulnerable children and families combined with their influence to create systemic change for the future is simply remarkable.

In the UK, we opened our new project in Glasgow, building new relationships with British Transport Police (BTP) and Police Scotland. We developed our Safeguarding Action Groups across the UK, building communities of safeguarding champions and delivering training to 4,295 BTP and rail staff across the network.

In India, the Government's Mission Vatsalya scheme has transformed the child protection landscape. This, and the resulting requirement to hand over some of our work in railway stations to local authorities has required us to rethink our entire programme in India. We have successfully diversified our programme portfolio, providing deeper support and engagement to the informal communities surrounding our station projects that we began to work with during the pandemic. We are helping to address the vulnerabilities of individual children, including school enrolment and we are helping families to access existing government support schemes. The emphasis of our work in and around transport terminals has pivoted towards greater collaboration with government bodies, especially the District Child Protection Units, with an aspiration to strengthen their skills and capacity – as well as other rail and transport organisations – to protect vulnerable children separated from their families. During the year, we reached 3,308 children and 829 families across four transport terminals and 7 communities.

Within these communities, our seven child activity centres have developed into hubs of safety, skills and school enrolment with 3,442 children accessing school and education.

In addition to the 1,665 children we have supported to move away from the streets in Tanzania this year, I have been most impressed by the work our teams are developing in collaborative contextual safeguarding – training and empowering others to be guardians of safety for vulnerable young people. This is a clear feature in our approach across the group and I have observed this at its best in Mwanza, where the new Child Support Desk at the Nyegezi bus terminal has proved so impactful, bringing together a network of collaborators all coordinating safeguarding together. The impact has been so great that our contacts at local government asked us to assist in establishing another support desk at the cities second busiest bus terminal and a hot spot for street connected children. Funded and resourced entirely by the government, this is a wonderful example of the influence our work is having at a national level.

Whilst the current climate continues to challenge us constantly, I have complete confidence that our teams will continue to make a significant impact directly and indirectly on the lives of thousands of children, and their families. On behalf of the trustees and the charity, I thank our supporters for your continued loyalty and generosity which makes our work achievable.

## **Aims, Public Benefit and Principal Activities**

### **Aims**

Railway Children was founded in 1996, and its objective is:

'The relief of children and young persons under 25 years of age who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress, anywhere in the world and in particular those who are living on the streets'.

Since then, Railway Children's work has benefitted thousands of children and young people living alone and at risk on the streets.

Our work aims to create and enable sustainable change in the lives of individual children, communities and in the wider policy and practice that affects all children living alone on the streets.

### **Public Benefit**

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. This report is produced for the benefit of the public and contains an explanation of the significant activities undertaken during the year in order to carry out the charity's aims and also measure achievements against the objectives set by the Trustees.

### **Principal Activities**

In achieving our aims, we work at three levels for long term change. We recognise that to create, enable and sustain change we need to balance activities, and therefore;

1. We aim to make meaningful interventions in the lives of vulnerable children. We make early interventions whilst they are on the streets or the transport network, before they come to serious harm and we work with them and their families so that they can grow-up within a nurturing family.
2. We change the perceptions of local communities and the transport sector and equip them to safeguard vulnerable children.
3. We use research, expertise and strong relationships with key individuals and departments to influence policy makers and leverage government support.

By working at all three levels, we ensure positive sustainable change, both in the lives of children currently surviving on the streets and those currently at home but living with neglect, violence, abuse or exploitation.

## **Achievements 2023-24**

The following outlines the wider strategy goals (2022-2027), alongside the objectives we set ourselves for this year and the progress we made.

- **Goal 1 – Children will be safe, at home and in a nurturing environment**

### **India:**

**2000 unaccompanied children at risk across 6 transport terminals will be sustainably reintegrated with family-based care by May 2024**

1321 children were safeguarded in the year and 1068 (81%) of them have been reunified with family. 253 children were still in short term residential childcare institutions and we will be working with them in the coming year to reintegrate them into family-based care.

Our work in transport terminals was affected through the year by the implementation of the government's Mission Vatsalya scheme. This meant that we started the year working at 5 transport terminals but had to exit from Salem in November 2023. We could not secure permissions to expand

into new transport terminals whilst the transition to the new child protection system was in progress. We do now have permission to operate at Patna in Bihar and plan to begin work in summer 2024.

With the support of Dora foundation, we launched the family reintegration programme early in 2024 with the Standard Operating Procedure and design informed by a learning visit to Railway Children Africa. Our case workers began working with the families of 53 children identified with high and moderate vulnerabilities. Out of these our staff are working directly with 25 families, ensuring that the children receive the intensive support needed to address their complex needs and circumstances. The other 28 children and their families live more than 3 hours travel time beyond Delhi & NCR and we are building networks of other actors local to them who can ensure that they receive the right support for sustainable reintegration.

### **Tanzania:**

**We will support 2,200 Children and Youth Living and Working on the streets (CYLWS) and their siblings. 250 CLWS will be reintegrated into safe and protective families.**

In total, we supported 1,665 children and young people, a 75% achievement of the annual target. This included 610 children contacted through the outreach programme, 626 siblings of contact children and 156 children under the ACT parenting programme. We also supported 273 youth living and working on the streets with life skills and income generating activities.

Of the children enrolled through the outreach programme, 380 were provided with a safe place to stay (residential centre 227, fit persons 153) and 333 were reintegrated into protective families which is 133% achievement of the annual target.

We provided educational support to 520 children, including enrolment back to school, provision of school materials and payment of school levies. In addition, 105 caregivers were supported through business skill training and business grants as part of the family strengthening support package.

### **UK:**

**We will provide interventions for 255 young people through welfare visits and full programmes of support prioritising needs such as healthy relationships, mental health and safety planning**

We have directly supported a total of 186 young people and their families through a combination of one-off welfare visits, brief interventions, and longer-term direct support this year, 73% of the annual target. For various reasons we had vacancies within our Youth Practice team totalling 22 person months across the year, equivalent to 22% of our capacity to work with young people.

Of the young people who we have supported longer-term, the most common indicators of risk we have seen this year are:

- 73% were experiencing poor mental health when they started to work with us,
- 68% were either not in education, had poor attendance or had been repeatedly excluded,
- 58% were frequently missing when they were referred to us,
- 52% were at risk of experiencing a breakdown in the relationship with their parent or carer, and
- 50% had a learning disability or difficulty, either formally assessed or queried.

These risk factors are used to inform individual support plans, that are developed jointly with each young person to ensure they are receiving the support that is right for them and their needs. The most common priority areas of intervention to support young people with were:

- Mental health and/or emotional wellbeing
- Safety, including online safety, personal safety, and safety on and around the railway
- Healthy relationships, whether that be within the family or amongst peers

## Goal 2 – Communities are able to identify and protect vulnerable children

### India:

#### Quality of life of 1500 children within 10 high risk slum communities improves.

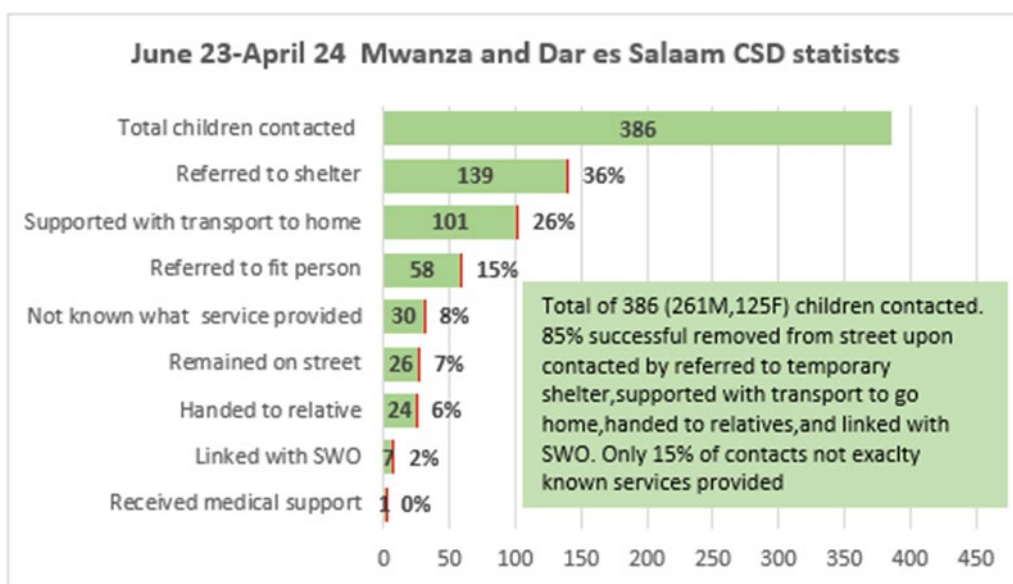
RCI's community engagement was initiated with the purpose of preventing vulnerable children still living with their family from slipping into street life and preventing unnecessary family separation. Over nine months, we have built rapport with seven communities through group formation, linking both the children and their families with various services including government schemes and entitlements and engaging with the district level child protection functionaries to make them accountable and responsible towards protecting children.

We established 21 children's groups – one for adolescent boys, one for adolescent girls and one for younger children in each community. Additionally, seven parents' groups were formed. 1712 children benefitted through linkages with various services across the seven communities and 600 parents have been linked with services, schemes, and entitlements

### Tanzania:

#### Two child support desks (CSD) at main bus stands in Mwanza and Dar es salaam will support the identification and protection of 400 children

Over the project year, 386 children have been contacted, and of these 85% of the children were successfully removed from the streets upon contact. The table below shows the various referral pathways.



A second child support desk in Mwanza as established in partnership with the local government at their request within the second busiest bus terminal in Mwanza. This CSD was set-up by Railway Children but is being funded, staffed and operated by local government Social Welfare Officers – testament to the replicability and scalability of this intervention. Alongside each CSD intervention, we have established committees made up of various stakeholders working in and around the bus terminals to promote child safeguarding.

### UK:

#### 6,000 transport staff will be provided with a greater awareness and understanding of vulnerable children through our training programmes, ensuring they know how to respond to young people in need and where to refer them

We have provided safeguarding training to 4,295 staff from the British Transport Police (BTP) and train operating companies (TOCs). This work serves to highlight the vulnerabilities that young people

may face and gives transport staff the tools with which to engage with them. The annual milestone to train 6,000 BTP officers and TOC staff was missed 28%. This was in part due to training sessions being cancelled due to industrial action and staff absences. Through the second half of the year, we have also held off on distributing e-Learning to prospective TOCs with work under way to create new training which is launching in June.

We created two new Safeguarding Action Groups (SAGs), bringing the total number of SAGs operating to 10. One of the SAGs created this year uses a new line of route approach, looking contextually at issues along an entire rail route, rather than focussing on issues at a specific train station. The SAGs are made up of various stakeholders from within the station and rail community, including station retailers, TOC staff, and station cleaners, and seek to raise awareness of vulnerability in children and young people. Additionally, the SAGs focus on practical changes which can be made to the station environment to make the spaces safer for young people.

### **Goal 3 - Public sector policies and budgets safeguard vulnerable and at risk children**

#### **India:**

#### **5000 children are protected by the trained and sensitised railway and district child protection officials across the Delhi Howrah railway network by May 2024**

3864 personnel, including officers of the Railway Protection Force (RPF), Government Railway Police (GRP) officers, Station Managers, Chief Ticket Inspectors, Train Ticket Examiners, Vendors, porters and the Child Welfare Police Officers were trained. Trained and sensitised railway officials protected 1843 children across the Delhi Howrah network that we know of, including 189 children (91 girls) protected in moving trains. There is likely to be significant under-reporting here.

As a result of our continuous engagement, Railway Stakeholders are displaying a strong enthusiasm for safeguarding. We have activated Child Help Groups (CHG) which are now meeting regularly in Patna and Ghaziabad bringing together a variety of Railway stakeholders. Station Managers of some of the railway stations have started taking lead role in organising CHG meetings in Patna.

#### **Tanzania:**

#### **We will engage with national government and three district councils in selected cities to advocate for allocation of substantial budgetary resource to ensure child protection laws and regulations are effectively enforced to realise children's rights, in particular the rights of vulnerable and at-risk children and youth**

As mentioned above, a child support desk was established in Mwanza at the request of the local government within the second busiest bus terminal in Mwanza. This CSD was set-up by Railway Children but is being funded, staffed and operated by local government Social Welfare Officers – testament to the replicability and scalability of this intervention. Alongside this, RCA have supported the local District officials to launch an awareness campaign at the Nyamhongolo bus stand.

RCA assisted in advocating for and setting up the new Government Gender and Children Desk at Mwanza Central Police. The organization this desk, located away from the central police station, is designed to provide a safe space for children to voice their concerns.

The Deputy Minister of Community Development visited the RCA Kivuko project in Mwanza. During her visit, directed the Commissioner of Social Welfare to resolve the challenges faced by street-connected youth in accessing national identification documents.

#### **UK:**

#### **We will work in partnership with the British Transport Police (BTP) and industry bodies to ensure that safeguarding continues to be included in the strategic vision for the rail industry**

The UK political situation, and industrial relations within the rail sector, have required work in this area to be deferred. However, work to articulate advocacy goals progressed across Q3 and Q4, with support from an external consultant and input from the UK Programme team, Senior Management team, Fundraising team and Marketing team.

## **Fundraising**

- **We will secure over £4.5m in income across the Railway Children group, raising voluntary income to £3.7m and support the growth of in-country fundraising in India and Tanzania, securing over £500,000 in-country between the two affiliates.**

Group income reached £4.49m, up by 16% from the previous year with UK voluntary income over £3.5m for the first time, an increase of over 15%. Affiliate income was £882k, increasing gross and net income to each country.

- **We will engage with a new supporter audience through a campaigning and advocacy approach and investing in supporter recruitment, increasing our regular giving income by 5% and our public fundraising securing over £1m in unrestricted income and support our core programme.**

Public fundraising secured £840k this year, with a further £200k secured but not received until Q1 of FY24/25. Our regular giving income reduced by net 5%, following national trends but activity and campaigns are in place for FY24/25 to use lead generation and advocacy content to engage with a new audience. Unrestricted income overall increased by 8% to £2.65m.

- **We will expand our programme delivery by being successful with one institutional partner through our work with USAID and expand our restricted income with two new multi-year six figure funders**

We have secured two institutional partnerships that will be received in FY24/25, from USAID and FCDO. Restricted income during the year increased by 33% on the back of substantial six figure funders including The National Lottery and Dora Foundation, amongst others.

## **Brand**

- **We will refresh the design and content of the entire Railway Children website to provide an improved user experience, whilst ensuring that our brand, mission and vision are clearly represented to all users and aligned to organisational strategy.**

The Railway Children group website was re-launched in November 2023; both the visual elements and the content were updated in line with the new brand identity that launched in June 2023. All programme content was replaced to ensure it accurately represented the activities across the UK, Tanzania and India as well as aligning to the messaging in our organisational strategy and mission story. The design of the website was also updated to provide an enhanced user experience and align to more modern technological expectations.

In addition to the group website, the Railway Children India website was re-launched in October 2023 and a new independent website for Railway Children Africa launched in April 2024.

- **We will deliver an advocacy strategy, focussing on editorial and digital content communications that will amplify our voice and those of vulnerable street-connected children, enabling us to attract new audiences and convert them to action.**

We have delivered immediate communications through digital methods, including posts, blogs and web content to deliver our intention with regards to advocacy. This has included communications regarding

the UK general election. National advocacy strategies are being developed with key objectives and ambitions delivered with a full RCA strategy delivered and corresponding action plan in place.

**• We will employ a digital-first approach to build a strong online profile as pioneers and thought leaders for street connected children.**

We have begun to communicate to our digital audiences using messaging that educates about our programme activities, vision and mission based on recommendations from our digital mobilisation review in 2022. This is in addition to, and complements, our fundraising communications and is informative without asking for support financially. We have shared regular social media posts that focus on telling the stories of the children, young people and families that we have supported.

To provide an enhanced user journey and supporter experience, we have developed the News and Blogs content on our website to increase the amount of informative and substantive content on our website.

**• We will work with UK Train Operating Companies and the wider rail community to raise awareness and understanding of safeguarding through our campaigning and advocacy communications.**

We have worked increased our direct engagement with Train Operating Companies and Safeguarding Action Groups to engage with the wider rail community. This has enabled us to identify opportunities to communicate directly with rail staff and develop useful communication tools.

We have developed a variety of print and digital content using our At Risk Right Here Right Now campaign that has been adopted by TOCs including Greater Anglia, EMR and SouthWestern Rail. The campaign aims to make the rail community aware of vulnerability on the rail network, how to spot vulnerable young people and how to report it.

Our relationship with First Group (Rail) has enabled us to also share our ARRHRN campaign on advertising platforms at stations across the UK, focussing on the locations where our project teams are based.

## **Objectives for 2024-25**

In 2022 we launched our new five-year strategy that aims to leave no child behind, wherever we work.

To achieve this aim, we will be strengthening:

1. Programmes and services, before, during after a child is separated from their family or vulnerable on the streets, to ensure children are safe, at home and in a nurturing environment
2. Community responses, to enable local people to identify and protect vulnerable children
3. Child protection systems and policies, to ensure public sector policies and budgets safeguard vulnerable and at-risk children
4. Evidence, to demonstrate need and proven models of achieving impact

The objectives for 2024-25 represent the milestones we intend to achieve in year three of our 5-year strategy.

### **Goal 1 – Children will be safe, at home and in a nurturing environment**

India: 2,500 children arriving unattended at 6 transport terminals are reached before they become victims of abuse and exploitation and 90% of the children are reintegrated into safe and supportive families.

Tanzania: 364 street connected children reintegrated successfully into safe and supportive families.

UK: We will provide interventions for 240 young people through programmes of support prioritising needs such as healthy relationships, mental health, education, and safety planning

## **Goal 2 – Communities are able to identify and protect vulnerable children**

India: 1800 children protected from becoming victims of abuse and exploitation within 8 slum communities.

Tanzania: Establish five new Child support desks in Dar, Mbeya, Dodoma and Arusha

UK: 6,000 transport staff will be provided with a greater awareness and understanding of vulnerable children through our training programmes, with contextual safeguarding approaches being implemented on the rail network

## **Goal 3 Public sector policies and budgets safeguard vulnerable and at-risk children**

India: 16 transport terminals, across Delhi Howrah railway network, have implemented relevant SoPs for child protection.

Tanzania: Increase in the child protection budget in two target Districts.

UK: We will work in partnership with the British Transport Police (BTP) and industry bodies to ensure that safeguarding continues to be included in the strategic vision for the rail industry

## **Fundraising**

- We will secure over £5m in income across the Railway Children group, raising voluntary income to £3.7m and support the growth of in-country fundraising in India and Tanzania, securing over £1.3m in-country between the two affiliates.
- We will secure and deliver two new institutional funding programmes, ensuring the sustainability of our core work while increase the amount of restricted income secured across the Railway Children group to over £1.5m.
- We will enhance our supporter care programme, developing more data analysis on what our supporters want and need, ensuring we increase our supporter base by 5% and increasing our supporter satisfaction score.
- We will increase the opportunities for supporters to engage with the charity and raise over £1m from individual giving and expand our events programme with two new events.

## **Brand**

- We will Implement and deliver a new approach to Ethical Communications that ensures we are committed to taking an ethical approach to all elements of our communications, empowering those we work with and promoting their strengths
- We will provide robust digital reporting and analysis, providing insight and recommendations to the Fundraising Team to ensure we have a consistent and effective approach to raising income, participation and engagement through digital marketing.
- We will develop a new section of our website specifically for young people, by young people: providing engaging, informative and supportive user-generated content.
- We will deliver an advocacy communications strategy, focussing on editorial and digital content that will amplify our voice and those of vulnerable street-connected children, enabling us to attract new audiences and convert them to action.

## Fundraising Statement

Railway Children carries out a variety of fundraising activities, approaching individuals and companies for support and sponsorship as well as Trusts and Foundations. We occasionally employ a professional fundraising agency to undertake telephone and face-to-face fundraising activity on our behalf. Our policies and approach to fundraising are as follows.

- We are registered with the Fundraising Regulator and comply with the Codes of Fundraising Practice. We are regularly updated with changes in practice and enforce change where necessary
- We adhere to our policy set up to protect vulnerable people, ensuring that the policy is enforced throughout all fundraising activities and with all parties
- Before the appointment of a third-party fundraising supplier, we make checks with other charity clients including financial checks and ensure that their practices meet our ethical criteria. Once appointed strict stewardship of the relationship is applied through daily discussions on any issues and regularly listening to calls
- We reviewed our data protection policy and procedures in preparation for the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the fundraising code of practice and regularly monitor the implementation of this throughout the organisation
- We give our supporters clear opportunities to opt out of any further contact as part of every approach
- Our supporter promises and privacy policy is clearly displayed on our website and regularly communicated to our supporters
- We do not share or sell data with any other organisations

Supporters and our beneficiaries are at the heart of what we do. We strive to achieve high standards in our fundraising and communication with supporters. We stand by the principles set out in our supporter promise. We received two complaints in the year both of which were resolved.

## Financial Results

The charity's income for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024 was £4.5m (FY22-23 £3.9m) an increase of 16% compared to the prior year. The split between unrestricted and restricted income was £2.7m of unrestricted income (FY22-23 £2.5m) and restricted income of £1.8m (FY22-23 £1.4m).

Income from donations and legacies increased by 5% to £2.3m (FY22-23 £2.2m). Donations from corporate partners and donated services increased this year by 21%. Corporate partners generously donated £1.2m (FY22-23 £0.9m) including income from the annual Railway Ball and associated Rail Aid fundraising. Legacy income was £0.1m (FY22-23 £0.2m) a fall of 29% and general donation remained at the same level as the prior year at £1.0m (FY22-23 £1.0m).

Income from charitable activities, funds raised from grants and foundations, totalled £1.52m (FY22-23 £1.01m) an increase of 51%. These funds were raised through Railway Children UK £1.02m (FY22-23 £0.68m), Railway Children Africa £0.25m (FY22-23 £0.28m) and Railway Children India £0.25m (FY22-23 £0.05m).

Other trading activities raised £0.64m (FY22-23 £0.65m) and these consisted of fundraising events run by Railway Children UK and sale of Xmas cards.

The cost of the UK fundraising team including support costs was £1.40m (FY22-23 £1.32m). For every £ spent on fundraising the income generated was £3.20 (FY22-23 £2.92).

Total charitable expenditure for the year was £2.95m (FY22-23 £2.91m) split between India £0.70m (FY22-23 £0.79m), Tanzania £1.26m (FY22-23 £1.28m) and the UK £0.99m (FY22-23 £0.85m).

Total unrestricted reserve for the group was £0.80m (FY22-23 £0.68m) with restricted funds at £0.97m (FY22-23 £0.96m).

## Structure, Governance and Management

Railway Children is a charitable company limited by guarantee 3265496, Registered Charity No. 1058991, incorporated on 18th October 1996 and registered as a charity on 5th November 1996.

The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. Under those Articles, the Trustees, who form the Board of Trustees, are elected at the Annual General Meeting to serve a period of three years, with one third of their number retiring at each AGM.

The Memorandum and Articles of Railway Children express its objects as 'the relief of children and young persons under 25 years of age who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress, anywhere in the world and in particular those who are living on the streets'.

Railway Children Trading Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary company (number 6533182) limited by shares. The company is registered for VAT and is used by Railway Children to conduct its trading activities. All profits are gift aided to the parent charity.

Railway Children Africa (RCA) is registered in Tanzania as an NGO, with NGO compliance (1563) under the Non-Governmental Organisations Act. The board consists of Railway Children representatives and Tanzanian nationals. The company manages our operations in Tanzania. The results for this company are consolidated into the accounts.

Railway Children India (RCI) is a Section 8 company registered in India that commenced operations in FY2015-16.

RCA and RCI operate as independent organisations governed by their own boards. These boards have been granted use of the Railway Children mark under licence in return for operating in accordance with group policies and quality standards in so far as is legally permissible in their jurisdiction. The results of RCA and RCI are consolidated into the group in view of the choice of these organisations to work to the current group strategy using group systems.

The governance of the charity has been reviewed in the context of the Charity Commission's Governance Code which has resulted in a strengthening of the quality standards the group uses to ensure integrity and inclusivity in the charity's operations.

### Vision and Beliefs

As an organisation, Railway Children recognises that the environment in which we operate in is one of uncertainty and constant change. The resources we rely on in order to meet our charitable aims are both competitive and subject to ever-changing trends, whilst our beneficiary environment is one that varies frequently. In response to this we construct our organisation so we can be as flexible and as innovative as possible. We nurture a culture that is both informal, inclusive and open without compromising on accountability or professionalism. This culture reflects a commitment to making a lasting change in the lives of children at risk on the streets and is informed by our stated values which work together to underpin all that we do:

'Our vision is a world where no child ever has to live on the streets'

### Values

#### THESE FIVE VALUES GUIDE OUR WORK

**NEVER GIVE UP** - Face challenges head on

**HAVE COURAGE** - Push boundaries. Think Big

**EARN TRUST** - Be Honest. Always act with Integrity

**SHOW COMPASSION** - Respect and Dignity for all

**NURTURE TALENT** - Encourage growth. Enable others

## **Governance - Trustee Responsibilities**

As a charity accountable to all our donors, our resources must be carefully managed, and our legal responsibilities met.

Since its incorporation, the Railway Children Trustees have been the organisation's governing body. Trustees hold ultimate legal responsibility for the charity and collectively ensure delivery of our objectives, set our strategic direction and uphold our values as an organisation.

The key responsibilities of the Trustees are:

- Development and annual review of the charity's performance from definition of concepts to approval of the strategic direction
- Setting objectives for the development and review of our strategic plan, including approval on annual budgets and plans
- Approval of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts
- Identification and management of risks
- Appointment of Sub-Committees and delegation of powers
- Appointment, terms and conditions and delegation of powers to the Group Chief Executive
- Monitoring compliance with both company and charity law
- The stewardship of assets

Railway Children as a group operates under the guidance of a Board of Trustees. The implementation of the Trustees' plans and policies, and the responsibility for performance is vested in the Group Chief Executive.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total amount of such guarantees on 31 May 2024 was £320 (2023 - £270). The Trustees are members of the charity, but this entitles them only to voting rights. The Trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

## **Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees**

Under the requirements of the Articles of Association, all members of the charity are permitted to stand for election as Trustees at the Annual General Meeting. The Trustee body has the necessary powers to appoint a new Trustee at any time. Any such appointed Trustee can hold office until the next Annual General Meeting, when they can stand for election.

One third of all, being the longest standing Trustees, retires in rotation and is eligible for re-appointment at the Annual General Meeting. The minimum number of Trustees is set at three and currently there are thirteen. There is no set maximum number.

## **Trustee Induction and Training**

Members of the charity who are considering standing as a Trustee are invited to attend Trustee meetings, to allow them to get to know the charity and the roles and responsibilities of a charity Trustee. Additionally, new Trustees are encouraged to attend an induction meeting, led by the Chairman and the Group Chief Executive. The meeting covers the following aspects:

- Background to and history of the charity and the context in which it operates.
- The principal responsibilities of a charity trustee.
- A summary of the charity's governing documents.
- The charity's current financial position and forecasts.
- The strategic plan and current progress against objectives.

A Trustee handbook exists to assist both new and existing Trustees in the discharge of their responsibilities. The handbook, which was updated in April 2022, includes governance and operational policies, the Memorandum and Articles, role descriptions of officers and current delegations. Trustees are encouraged to keep themselves up to date through appropriate training.

## Remuneration Policy

Railway Children commits to recruiting and paying all our staff up to the median rate, determined by an independently benchmarked scale that is reviewed every three years.

In the UK, we use the Charity data cut of the Croner Salary Search on-line survey. In the UK we benchmark our salaries which ensures salaries are fair and competitive. The data is cut in the following categories, International Development, job ranking, job role, size of charity (Annual income), size of charity (Number of employees).

The salaries of the Group CEO and UK Director positions must be approved by the People and Culture Committee (PCC).

## Risks

The Trustees and senior staff have produced a five-year strategy (2023-2027) setting out the major opportunities available to the charity and the risks to which it is exposed. All risks are reviewed and updated quarterly by the Finance and Audit Committee and the Board of Trustees. As part of this process, the Trustees have developed a Risk Management Policy, which comprises:

- A quarterly review of the risks the charity may face
- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the plan
- The implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should any of those risks materialise

Key risks for 2023-24	Mitigations
Cyberattack causes disruption to business continuity and/or reputational damage from loss of confidential data.	Ongoing monitoring by our IT support company, staff training to increase awareness.
Challenging regulatory framework in the countries that we work in.	Obtain and follow external advice on compliance.
Our current financial commitments to core programme and overhead, combined with any kind of shortfall in income, place pressure on low reserves, leaving limited capacity to respond to problems or opportunities.	Quarterly review and reforecast of income and expenditure. Review pipeline of restricted funding applications to give indication of income and timings.
Safeguarding	Safeguarding teams continue to respond to instances in line with policies and also build implementing partner capacity

## Reserves

The Board of Trustees reviews the charity's reserves policy annually. The basis of Railway Children's reserve policy is:

- To protect the continuity of our work, including specified liabilities and partner commitments
- To provide capacity to invest in innovative programme activities that may initially be difficult to fund

To achieve the above, a minimum reserve is defined as being three months of our core unrestricted expenditure. Our target reserve is based upon the level required to enable the following year's programme to be funded and close at the budget reserve level.

The unrestricted funds closed at £0.80m (FY22-23 £0.66m) an increase of £0.1m on the prior year and just above the reserves target of three months unrestricted expenditure which equates to £0.77m in the 2024-25 budget.

## Statement of Responsibilities of the Trustees

The trustees (who are also directors of Railway Children for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and group and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company or 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 and statements of recommended practice 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 charity will continue in operation

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

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information

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

### Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP was re-appointed as the charitable company's auditor during the year and has expressed its willingness to continue in that capacity.

The directors' annual report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on 9 December 2024 and signed on their behalf by

Malcolm Brown

Chairman of the Board

# Independent auditor's report to the members and Trustees of Railway Children

## Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Railway Children (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 May 2024 which comprise the consolidated statement of financial activities, the group and parent charitable company balance sheets, the consolidated statement of cash flows and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and of the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 May 2024 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011

## 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 group financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and parent charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

## Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

## Other Information

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

### **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' annual report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements
- The trustees' annual report has 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 group and the parent charitable company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' annual report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- Adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent charitable company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- The parent charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- Certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- The directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' annual report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

### **Responsibilities of trustees**

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

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

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

We have been appointed auditor under the Companies Act 2006 and section 151 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with those Acts.

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

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

### **Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities**

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We enquired of management, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the group's policies and procedures relating to:
  - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
  - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
  - The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the group operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the group from our professional and sector experience.
- We communicated applicable laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We reviewed any reports made to regulators.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

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 or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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

### **Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Jonathan Orchard FCA (Senior statutory auditor)

Date: 4 February 2025

for and on behalf of Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor

110 Golden Lane, LONDON, EC1Y 0TG

Sayer Vincent LLP is eligible to act as auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

**RAILWAY CHILDREN**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (incorporating Income & Expenditure Account)**  
**for the year ended 31 May 2024**

		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and Legacies	3	1,961,985	356,326	2,318,311	2,204,418
Charitable Activities		64,025	1,454,064	1,518,089	1,005,713
Other trading activities		635,916	-	635,916	634,055
Investments		14,224	4,007	18,231	14,352
<b>Total Income</b>		<u>2,676,150</u>	<u>1,814,397</u>	<u>4,490,547</u>	<u>3,858,538</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Fundraising		1,125,242	279,781	1,405,023	1,322,021
Charitable Activities		1,424,603	1,522,348	2,946,951	2,912,852
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	4	<u>2,549,845</u>	<u>1,802,129</u>	<u>4,351,974</u>	<u>4,234,873</u>
<b>Net Income / (Expenditure)</b>		<u>126,305</u>	<u>12,268</u>	<u>138,573</u>	<u>(376,335)</u>
<b>Transfer between funds</b>		-	-	-	-
<b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward	21	676,785	955,895	1,632,680	2,009,015
Total funds carried forward		<u>803,090</u>	<u>968,163</u>	<u>1,771,253</u>	<u>1,632,680</u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.

All recognised gains and losses are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.  
Accordingly no statement of total recognised gains and losses are given.  
All restricted funds received and expended relate to income funds.

**RAILWAY CHILDREN**  
**CONSOLIDATED AND PARENT BALANCE SHEET**  
**As at 31 May 2024**

	Notes	Group 2024 £	2023 £	Charity 2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>					
Tangible Assets	9	6,610	11,023	-	-
Investment	10	20,776	20,776	20,876	20,876
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Debtors & Prepayments	16	211,859	171,523	175,162	357,164
Cash at Bank & in Hand		1,926,219	1,740,830	1,634,654	1,270,792
		<u>2,138,078</u>	<u>1,912,353</u>	<u>1,809,816</u>	<u>1,627,956</u>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>					
Amounts Falling Due within One Year	17	(394,211)	(311,472)	(203,422)	(204,495)
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<u>1,743,867</u>	<u>1,600,881</u>	<u>1,606,394</u>	<u>1,423,461</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>	18	<u>1,771,253</u>	<u>1,632,680</u>	<u>1,627,270</u>	<u>1,444,337</u>
<b>Funds</b>					
Unrestricted Income Funds					
General Funds		300,089	261,210	411,728	410,913
Designated Funds		503,000	415,575	503,000	415,575
Restricted Income Funds		1,051,881	964,100	796,259	626,054
Restricted Income Funds in Deficit		(83,717)	(8,205)	(83,717)	(8,205)
<b>Total Funds</b>	21	<u>1,771,253</u>	<u>1,632,680</u>	<u>1,627,270</u>	<u>1,444,337</u>

The financial statement of Railway Children, registered number 03265496, were approved by the Board of Trustees on 9 December 2024 and signed on its behalf by

Malcolm Brown  
Chairman of the Board

**RAILWAY CHILDREN**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**for the year ended 31 May 2024**

	Note	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>					
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>			140,795		(416,402)
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>					
Purchase of fixed assets	10	(1,250)		(17,312)	
Dividends and interest from investments		18,231		14,352	
Purchase of investments		-		-	
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities</b>			16,981		(2,960)
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>			157,776		(419,362)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year			1,740,830		2,127,964
Change in cash and cash equivalents due to exchange rate movements			27,613		32,228
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>			<b>1,926,219</b>		<b>1,740,830</b>
<b>Reconciliation of net income / (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities</b>					
		2024		2023	
		£		£	
<b>Net income / (expenditure) for the reporting period</b>		<b>138,573</b>		<b>(376,335)</b>	
<b>(as per the statement of financial activities)</b>					
Depreciation charges		5,663		6,615	
Exchange (Gains)/Losses		(27,613)		(32,228)	
(Increase)/decrease in debtors		(40,336)		(53,521)	
Increase/(decrease) in creditors		82,739		53,419	
Dividends and interest from investments		(18,231)		(14,352)	
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities</b>		<b>140,795</b>		<b>(416,402)</b>	
<b>Analysis of cash and cash equivalents</b>					
		At 1 June 2023	Cash flows	Other	At 31 May 2024
		£	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand		1,740,830	157,776	27,613	1,926,219
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>		<b>1,740,830</b>	<b>157,776</b>	<b>27,613</b>	<b>1,926,219</b>

## **Notes forming part of the Financial Statements**

### **1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements are prepared under the historic cost convention. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (August 2014) and the Companies Act 2006.

As explained in the Trustees' Report, after making enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation and no material uncertainties that Railway Children has adequate financial resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

#### **Reconciliation with previously Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (GAAP)**

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 a restatement of comparative items was required. The transition date was 1 June 2014. No transitional adjustments were required.

#### **Basis of Consolidation**

The Group financial statements consolidate the financial statements of Railway Children and its wholly owned subsidiary undertakings drawn up to 31<sup>st</sup> May each year. The results of the charitable company and its wholly owned subsidiaries Railway Children Trading Limited, Railway Children Africa Limited and the overseas entity over which the charity has control through membership, Railway Children India, are consolidated on a line-by-line basis. Transactions and balances between the charitable company and its subsidiary have been eliminated from the consolidated financial statements. Balances between the two companies are disclosed in the notes of the charitable company's balance sheet. A separate statement of financial activities, or income and expenditure account, for the charitable company itself is not presented because the charitable company has taken advantage of the exemptions afforded by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

#### **Public benefit entity**

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

#### **Incoming Resources**

All income is recognised in the statement of financial activities when the conditions for receipt have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably. Where a claim for Income Tax has or will be made, such income is grossed up for tax recoverable. Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which it has been received. The following accounting policies are applied to income:

#### **Gifts in Kind and donated goods & facilities**

Assets given for use by the charity are recognised as incoming resources at their estimated market value when receivable. If they form part of the fixed assets at the year-end, they are included in the balance sheet at the value at which the gift was included in incoming resources. Donated facilities are included at their estimated value and the corresponding expenditure included under the appropriate heading. All estimates of value of gifts are estimated as the value to the charity of the service or facility received; being the price the charity estimates it would pay in the open market for a service or facility of equivalent utility to the charity.

#### **Donations**

Donations and all other receipts from fundraising are reported gross and the related fundraising costs are reported in other expenditure.

## Legacies

For legacies that can be estimated, and receipt is reasonably assured, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably, and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

## Grants received

Grants are recognised when the conditions of entitlement are met.

## Charitable expenditure

Charitable expenditure includes expenditure directly related to the objects of the charity and comprises grants payable, accounted for when the trustees have approved such grant and instruction is given to the charity's bankers. In addition, costs incurred in transmitting project grants to those projects, and the cost of visits by trustees and staff to assess, monitor and develop the work of these projects is accounted for on an accruals basis. Salary costs for co-coordinators in India, Programme Development Manager, National Policy and Strategy Officer, National Research & Strategy Manager and a proportion of the CEO salary are included as this work is concerned with the development of the management of and enhancement of capacity of the projects supported are also accounted for on an accruals basis.

Costs of raising funds relate to the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.

## Allocation of operating costs

The charity's operating costs are accounted for on an accruals basis and are allocated between costs of generating funds, charitable expenditure and governance. Wherever possible the costs are positively identified and specific to the activity, in other cases such as office provision and some staff costs a percentage allocation of total cost is made based upon an estimate of staff time attributable to each activity. The allocations for the year were:

Percentages	UK Support staff				
	CEO	Marketing & Comms	Finance & Admin	Other Costs	Depreciation
Charitable	58%	60%	55%	40%	44%
CORF	25%	40%	31%	58%	50%
Governance	17%		14%	2%	6%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

## Tangible fixed assets

The fixed assets are limited to equipment, furniture and fittings and are capitalised where the purchase cost exceeds £1,000. Depreciation is provided on these assets in equal annual instalments over the estimated lives of the assets as follows:

Office Equipment	- 4 years
Display Equipment	- 4 years
Furniture & fixtures	- 5 years

## Fund Structures

Unrestricted funds are where funds have been received without any conditions from donors. Some unrestricted funds have subsequently been set aside by Railway Children as designated funds where they have been ear-marked to fund a specific partner from unrestricted funds.

Where funds have been received from donors for particular purposes these are represented as restricted funds. Transfers are made between restricted funds to represent changes agreed with the donor of the funds.

### **Foreign Currency**

Transactions in foreign currencies are converted at rates prevailing at the date of the transaction. Balances denominated in foreign currencies are converted at the rate of exchange prevailing at the balance sheet date. Exchange rate differences are taken into account in arriving at net incoming resources for the year.

### **Investments**

In the charity balance sheet, investments in the subsidiary are shown at cost less provision for impairments.

### **Pensions**

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable under the scheme by the charitable company to the fund. The charitable company has no liability under the scheme other than for the payment of those contributions.

### **Operating leases**

Rental charges are charged on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

### **Investments in subsidiaries**

Investments in subsidiaries are at cost.

### **Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

### **Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account. Cash balances exclude any funds held on behalf of service users.

### **Creditors and provisions**

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

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

## 2 Detailed comparatives for the statement of financial activities

		Unrestricted	Restricted	2023 Total
	Note	£	£	£
<b>Income from:</b>				
Donations and Legacies	3	1,790,772	413,646	2,204,418
Charitable Activities		64,743	940,970	1,005,713
Other trading activities		633,957	98	634,055
Investments		5,026	9,326	14,352
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>2,494,498</b>	<b>1,364,040</b>	<b>3,858,538</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Fundraising		1,057,814	264,207	1,322,021
Charitable Activities		1,723,518	1,189,334	2,912,852
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	4	<b>2,781,332</b>	<b>1,453,541</b>	<b>4,234,873</b>
<b>Net Income / (Expenditure)</b>		<b>(286,834)</b>	<b>(89,501)</b>	<b>(376,335)</b>
<b>Transfer between funds</b>		-	-	-
<b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		963,619	1,045,396	2,009,015
Total funds carried forward	21	676,785	955,895	1,632,680

### 3a Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£
Individual Donations:				
General	651,231	344,462	995,693	1,023,880
Legacies	145,819	-	145,819	206,345
Corporate Donations	1,094,326	11,864	1,106,190	934,247
Donated services	70,609	-	70,609	39,946
	<b>1,961,985</b>	<b>356,326</b>	<b>2,318,311</b>	<b>2,204,418</b>

### 3b Comparative Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023 Total
	£	£	£
Individual Donations:			
General	682,875	341,005	1,023,880
Legacies	206,345	-	206,345
Corporate Donations	863,867	70,380	934,247
Donated services	37,685	2,261	39,946
	<b>1,790,772</b>	<b>413,646</b>	<b>2,204,418</b>

#### 4a Analysis of Expenditure

	Charitable activities	Cost of raising funds	Governance	Support costs	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Grants payable	31,117	-	-	-	31,117	184,879
UK Staff	848,570	470,259	-	594,112	1,912,941	1,871,999
Overseas Staff	792,633	28,936	-	-	821,569	808,765
Office & Supplies	127,318	6,882	-	49,676	183,876	235,046
Services	278,498	562,624	13,774	109,625	964,521	732,111
Travel & Accommodation	303,409	9,582	717	15,627	329,335	293,369
Other	32,343	-	-	-	32,343	64,402
Depreciation	5,663	-	-	-	5,663	6,614
Gifts in Kind	24,379	46,230	-	-	70,609	37,686
Sub total	2,443,930	1,124,513	14,491	769,040	4,351,974	4,234,871
Support costs	460,753	273,050	35,237	(769,040)	-	-
Governance costs	42,268	7,460	(49,728)			
Total expenditure 2024	2,946,951	1,405,023	-	-	4,351,974	4,234,871
Total expenditure 2023	2,912,850	1,322,021	-	-	4,234,871	

#### 4b Comparative Analysis of Expenditure

	Charitable activities	Cost of raising funds	Governance	Support costs	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Grants payable	184,879	-	-	-	184,879
UK Staff	792,084	261,973	1	817,941	1,871,999
Overseas Staff	770,628	38,137	-	-	808,765
Office & Supplies	183,793	5,770	-	45,483	235,046
Services	158,715	483,695	13,998	75,705	732,113
Travel & Accommodation	265,785	14,162	317	13,105	293,369
Other	64,402	-	-	-	64,402
Depreciation	6,096	-	-	518	6,614
Gifts in Kind	12,468	25,218	-	-	37,686
Sub total	2,438,850	828,955	14,316	952,752	4,234,873
Support costs	627,950	297,275	27,527	(952,752)	-
Governance costs	35,566	6,277	(41,843)		
Total expenditure 2023	3,102,366	1,132,507	-	-	4,234,873

<b>5 Staff Costs</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<u>UK Based Staff</u>		
Wages and salaries	1,640,657	1,600,832
National Insurance	173,784	176,961
Pension costs	98,501	94,205
UK Based Sub Total	<u>1,912,942</u>	<u>1,871,998</u>
Overseas staff	821,569	808,765
	<u>2,734,511</u>	<u>2,680,763</u>

## 6 Staff Numbers

The average number of employees was:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Project development	21	18
Fundraising	15	17
Support and administration	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
<b>UK staff subtotal</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>37</b>
East Africa programme staff	34	33
India programme staff	47	34
<b>Total staff</b>	<b><u>119</u></b>	<b><u>104</u></b>

## Information regarding employees and trustees

\*One employee had emoluments in the range of £100,000 - £109,999 (2023 - none), one employee had emoluments in the range of £90,000 - £99,999 (2023 - none), one in the range £80-£89,999 (2023 - three), one in the range £70,000 - £79,999 (2023 - two) and two in the range £60,000 - £69,999 (2023 - one).

\*The cost of employing key management personnel including employer's NI and pension contributions was £690,693 (2023: £535,566)

## 7 Net incoming resources for the year

This is stated after charging:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Operating lease rentals		
- Property	19,568	16,178
- Other	-	-
Depreciation	5,663	6,615
Auditors remuneration		
- Group Audit (excl irrecoverable VAT)	10,000	11,200
	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>

Trustee expenses of £471 represents the reimbursed travel and expenses of one Trustee (2023: nil).

## 8 Operating lease commitments

The charity had annual commitments at the year end under operating leases expiring as follows:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Less than one year	19,620	11,400
2-5 years	3,270	18,050
	<u>22,891</u>	<u>29,450</u>

## 9 Tangible Fixed Assets (Group and Charity)

	Charity Equipment & Furniture £	Group Vehicles £	Group Total £
<b>Cost</b>			
At beginning of year	67,589	30,650	98,239
Additions in year	-	1,250	1,250
Disposals	-	-	-
At close of year	<u>67,589</u>	<u>31,900</u>	<u>99,489</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At beginning of year	67,589	19,627	87,216
Charge for year	-	5,663	5,663
Disposals	-	-	-
At close of year	<u>67,589</u>	<u>25,290</u>	<u>92,879</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>			
Group and charity at close of year	<u>-</u>	<u>6,610</u>	<u>6,610</u>
Group and charity at beginning of year	<u>-</u>	<u>11,023</u>	<u>11,023</u>

## 10 Investments

These consist of £100 of shares in Railway Children Trading Limited and an endowment fund invested for the benefit of work in India with a current value of £20,676.

### Railway Children Trading Limited

	2024 £	2023 £
Turnover	178,093	285,700
Expenditure	(60,060)	(23,723)
Use of Railway Children logo	(1,000)	(1,000)
Use of Railway Children staff	<u>(6,000)</u>	<u>(6,000)</u>
Trading profit / (loss)	111,033	254,977
Loan interest paid to Railway Children	-	-
Profit donated to Railway Children	<u>(111,033)</u>	<u>(254,977)</u>
Net profit for the year	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net assets carried forward at May 31	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

Railway Children Trading Company Limited is a 100% subsidiary of Railway Children. During the year £78,756 from events, £26,524 from Xmas cards and £72,814 from UK programme activities. Net profit donated to the charity was £111,033 (2023: £254,977). All the Railway Children Trading Company Limited's profits for the year are donated to Railway Children. Payments to Railway Children are regarded as a reduction of the charity's expenditure and cancel out on the consolidated accounts.

## 11 Taxation

Railway Children Limited is a registered charity and is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

### 12 Railway Children Africa

	2024 £	2023 £
Turnover	191,325	257,284
Income from Railway Children	664,100	755,737
Expenditure	<u>(871,920)</u>	<u>(1,013,021)</u>
Net assets carried forward at May 31st	<u>(16,495)</u>	<u>-</u>

Railway Children Africa is registered as an International non-Governmental Organisation in Tanzania and carries out Railway Children's programme of work in Tanzania. The results of Railway Children Africa are consolidated into the group as they have chosen to enter into an affiliation agreement with Railway Children under which they are committed to the current group strategy using group systems.

### 13 Railway Children India

	2024 £	2023 £
Turnover	581,826	372,111
Income from Railway Children	63,720	67,687
Expenditure	<u>(704,120)</u>	<u>(688,770)</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>(58,574)</u>	<u>(248,972)</u>

Railway Children India Limited is a section 25 company registered in India. The results of RCI are consolidated into the group as they have chosen to enter into an affiliation agreement with RC under which they are committed to the current group strategy using group systems.

#### 14 India Liaison Office

This legal entity employs the Railway Children staff in India and is treated as a subsidiary in these accounts. Income for India LO was solely funded from the charity and amounted to £47,186 (2023: £101,362) and expenditure £50,631 (2023: £97,963).

#### 15 Railway Children parent charity

The parent charity gross income for the year excluding RCTL income is £2,547,647 (2023: £2,913,294) and the net deficit for the year is £59,577 (2023 net deficit: £563,071) including funds to subsidiaries of £774,983.

#### 16 Debtors and Prepayments

	Consolidated		Charity	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Debtors	-	-	-	-
Gift aid debtor	33,566	20,901	33,566	20,901
Other debtors	101,057	132,979	(16)	47,945
Prepayments and accrued income	18,210	17,389	18,210	17,389
Railway Children Africa - owed to charity	59,026	-	-	-
Railway Children Trading Limited - owed to charity	-	254	123,402	270,929
Total	211,859	171,523	175,162	357,164

#### 17 Liabilities: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	Consolidated		Charity	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Creditors	97,519	83,711	24,329	36,416
Tax and national insurance	36,340	44,748	36,340	44,748
Accrued Expenditure	260,352	183,013	115,407	108,333
Railway Children Africa - owed to charity	-	-	27,346	14,998
Total	394,211	311,472	203,422	204,495

#### 18a Analysis of group net assets between funds

	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	General Funds	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	-	-	27,386	27,386
Net current assets	968,164	503,000	272,703	1,743,867
Net assets at the end of the year	968,164	503,000	300,089	1,771,253

#### 18b Comparative of group net assets between funds

	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	General Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	31,799	31,799
Net current assets	955,895	415,575	229,411	1,600,881
Net assets at the end of the year	955,895	415,575	261,210	1,632,680

#### 19 Related Parties

During the year there were related party transactions with Railway Children India, Railway Children Africa Limited and Railway Children Ball Limited. Income from Railway Children Ball Limited was £631,700 (2023: £497,057).

Railway Children was registered as a liaison office in India (to March 24) and managed the delivery of the India programme with funding provided entirely via Railway Children. Railway Children India is registered as a section 25 company in India and FCRA registered.

The Railway Children Ball Limited has one Trustee in common with Railway Children and runs an annual fundraising ball.

Railway Children Africa Limited is registered as a company in Tanzania and manages the delivery of the Tanzania programme with most funding provided via Railway Children. Railway Children representatives make up a majority of the board positions.

## 20 Funds held on behalf of others

The charity is part of an unincorporated association known as the Partnership for Vulnerable Children, formed with with three other charities Childhope, Get Connected and ICT. The association operates a payroll giving scheme on behalf of its members. Railway Children performs the financial administration for the association.

The sole assets of the association are funds collected not yet dispersed which are held in a separate bank account. The balance on the account at May 31st 2024 was £5,335 (2023: £1,794). This bank account does not form part of these consolidated accounts.

<b>21a Movement in Funds</b>		<b>Balance at</b>	<b>Movement in Resources</b>		<b>Transfers</b>	<b>Balance at</b>
		<b>01/06/2023</b>	<b>Incoming</b>	<b>Outgoing</b>		<b>31/05/2024</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>						
<b>Region</b>	<b>Funder</b>					
Tanzania	Funds held by RCA	162,031	250,352	(266,316)	-	146,067
	Funds held by RC UK	59,571	441,245	(222,151)	-	278,665
	DfID - UK Aid Direct	6,382	-	-	-	6,382
India	APPI	9,918	-	-	-	9,918
	Honda	9,495	37	-	-	9,532
	Funds held by RCI	45,353	88,667	(43,915)	-	90,105
	Funds held by RC UK	257,227	530,698	(529,093)	-	258,832
UK		384,815	477,548	(609,983)	-	252,380
<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>		<b>934,792</b>	<b>1,788,547</b>	<b>(1,671,458)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,051,881</b>
<b>Restricted Funds in Deficit</b>		<b>21,103</b>	<b>25,849</b>	<b>(130,669)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(83,717)</b>
<b>Overall Restricted Funds</b>		<b>955,895</b>	<b>1,814,396</b>	<b>(1,802,127)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>968,164</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>						
<b>Designated Funds</b>						
	India	74,453	135,939	(144,392)	-	66,000
	UK	38,910	227,924	(75,834)	-	191,000
	East Africa	302,212	776,598	(832,810)	-	246,000
	<b>Total Designated Funds</b>	<b>415,575</b>	<b>1,140,461</b>	<b>(1,053,036)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>503,000</b>
	General Funds	261,210	1,535,689	(1,496,809)	-	300,090
	<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>676,785</b>	<b>2,676,150</b>	<b>(2,549,845)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>803,090</b>
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b>1,632,680</b>	<b>4,490,546</b>	<b>(4,351,972)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,771,254</b>

### Purposes of Restricted Funds

All restricted funds are held for the relief of children and young persons in conditions of hardship and distress who live on or are at risk of APPI funds are for work to assist street children on railway stations in India

PACT: Restricted for the assistance of street children and youth in Tanzania, in deficit as this is funded in arrears.

DfID: These funds relate to the assistance of street children in Tanzania.

### Purposes of Designated Funds

These are to cover commitments made to partners made for the year ended May 31st 2025, details are contained in the annual report.

## 21b Comparative Movement in Funds

		Balance at	Movement in Resources		Transfers	Balance at
		01/06/2022	Incoming	Outgoing		31/05/2023
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Restricted Funds</b>						
<b>Region</b>	<b>Funder</b>					
Tanzania	Funds held by RCA	29,104	188,439	(53,232)	-	164,311
	Funds held by RC UK	56,686	125,171	(122,286)	-	59,571
	DfID - UK Aid Direct	-	6,382	-	-	6,382
India	APPI	226,614	(77,324)	(139,372)	-	9,918
	Honda	13,946	16	(4,467)	-	9,495
	Funds held by RCI	145,273	436,168	(427,119)	-	154,322
	Funds held by RC UK	251,649	76,996	(173,183)	-	155,462
UK		322,960	576,708	(495,029)	-	404,639
<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>		<b>1,046,232</b>	<b>1,332,556</b>	<b>(1,414,688)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>964,100</b>
<b>Restricted Funds in Deficit</b>		(836)	31,484	(38,853)	-	(8,205)
<b>Overall Restricted Funds</b>		<b>1,045,396</b>	<b>1,364,040</b>	<b>(1,453,541)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>955,895</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>						
<b>Designated Funds</b>						
	India	344,000	(125,155)	(144,392)		74,453
	UK	167,000	(52,256)	(75,834)		38,910
	East Africa	286,000	849,022	(832,810)		302,212
	Total Designated Funds	797,000	671,611	(1,053,036)	-	415,575
	General Funds	166,619	1,822,887	(1,728,296)	-	261,210
	<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>963,619</b>	<b>2,494,498</b>	<b>(2,781,332)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>676,785</b>
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b>2,009,015</b>	<b>3,858,538</b>	<b>(4,234,873)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,632,680</b>

**THE RAILWAY CHILDREN**

England & Wales - Charity number 1058991

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# Accounts

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# The Railway Children Report and financial statements

For Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023



Railway Children is registered Charity No. 1058991 and a  
Registered Private Company Limited by Guarantee No. 3265496

**RAILWAY**  
**children**  
No child lost to the streets

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## Reference and Administrative Information

### Registered Office

1 The Commons  
Sandbach  
Cheshire  
CW11 1EG

### Directors and Trustees

Malcolm Brown  
Timothy Hartley

Chairman  
Retired 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Arun Muttreja  
Haydn Abbott  
Christine Taylor  
Tricia Wright  
Mo Bulbrook

Retired 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023  
Retired 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Andrea Minton-Beddoes  
Dr Donald Mlewa  
Emily Bild  
Fraser Simpson  
Joanne Bird

Appointed 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023  
Appointed 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023  
Appointed 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023

### Group Chief Executive

Robert Capener

### Company Secretary

Ashurst LLP  
London Fruit & Wool Exchange  
1 Duval Square  
London E1 6PW

### Auditors

Sayer Vincent LLP  
Invicta House  
108-114 Golden Lane  
London EC1Y 0TL

### Other Office

India Office  
Flat No.8/A, 2nd Floor  
Arihant CHS,  
Gopal Krishna Gokhale Road,  
Mulund East  
Mumbai 400 081

### Bank

Royal Bank of Scotland  
Drummond House  
1 Redheughs Ave  
Edinburgh  
EH12 9JN

### Solicitors

Ashurst LLP  
London Fruit & Wool Exchange  
1 Duval Square  
London  
E1 6PW

### Railway Children India

Regd. Office: B1, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor,  
Arjun Nagar, Harsukh Marg,

New Delhi, India  
CIN: U85100DL2013NPL260371

Directors:

Yazmin Riaz  
Sanjay Kumar Gupta  
Priya Varadarajan  
Megha Jain  
Rob Capener (Official Observer & Group CEO)  
Navin Sellaraju, RCI CEO

### Railway Children Trading Limited

Company Number: 6533182

Directors:

Rupert Brennan Brown  
James Sinclair Bain  
Mirco Danesi  
Andrea Minton-Beddoes  
Terina Keene  
David Brookes - Secretary

### Railway Children Africa Limited

NGO Compliance No: 1563

Directors:

Lulu Ng'wanakilala (Chair)  
John Kalage  
Charles Mgoya  
Terina Keene  
Michael Holden  
Judy Lister  
Jeanne Ndyetabula (Co-opted)  
Sunday Kapesi

## Introduction by Malcolm Brown, Chair

### Welcome to our Annual Report for 2023.

The last year has been perhaps the most challenging of recent times. The real aftereffects of the pandemic have become increasingly prevalent in our daily operations and the current economic climate is having a direct impact on the charity and many of our supporters. The cost-of-living crisis, ongoing conflict in Ukraine and constant pressures on public spending are impacting so many of our supporters, funders and partners, and as the situation looks set to continue, we find ourselves in a prolonged period of consolidation.

Despite these challenges, our supporters have remained fiercely loyal to our work, and for that we are extremely grateful. After two successful years of our Rail Aid campaign, we were proud to welcome back our annual Railway Ball which has become a bedrock of our fundraising and a celebration of the loyal relationships we hold across the rail industry. We remain indebted to our rail partners who work tirelessly to help raise critical funds and to keep vulnerable children safe across the UK.

During the period, our former CEO Terina Keene stepped down from her post after 21 years leading the organisation. With fifteen years of service, Rob Capener succeeded Terina, bringing continuity and stability to the charity. The transition from past to future has been very smooth and Rob has already made a positive impact.

During the financial year, we raised a total of £3.8m across the Railway Children group and for the first time in our history, our voluntary income surpassed £3m. This was strengthened further by funds of £800k raised in India and Tanzania, relieving the pressure to secure funds solely in the UK. This success has gone some way to offset the reduction in our income from the previous year when significant grants came to the end of their term. Whilst we seek to replenish those funds with new grant income, we have utilised our reserves to protect our core programme while also starting key new initiatives across our programme portfolio.

Following a strong performance during the pandemic, our fundraising from individuals continued to flourish, once again highlighting the incredible loyalty and commitment we have come to count on. Whilst income was up considerably in this area, this outstanding performance was not without difficulties. While we secured almost 1500 new donors during the year, we also saw a fall in our number of regular donors – a barometer of how the tough current economic climate is affecting charities across the country.

After a year of planning and consultation across the Railway Children group, 2022 saw the launch of our new five-year strategy – *Together to Leave No Child Behind*. Having spent many years refining our innovative and successful programmes and nurturing critical safeguarding relationships around transport hubs, we are determined to amplify the impact of our expertise by empowering others, creating maximum, sustainable change for generations of children to come. As the world commits to a decade of action towards achieving the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals, it is vital that no child is left behind.

Our project teams continue to provide myself and fellow trustees with a deep sense of pride and inspiration, as they consistently exceed all expectations in striving to reach and support some of society's most marginalised and vulnerable children. The creativity and innovation in our programme delivery, along with the grit and determination of our teams to always be there for young people, provides a reminder of our values on a daily basis. Last year across the UK, India and Tanzania, we worked with 5,681 young people and we trained over 15,000 rail and transport staff to be part of a coordinated safeguarding response across their networks.

Whilst the scale of our challenge remains huge and our resources are limited, I have complete confidence that our dedicated teams can make a significant impact directly and indirectly on the lives of the children and young people who most need our support - now and for many years to come.

On behalf of the trustees and the charity, I thank our supporters for your continued loyalty and generosity which makes our work achievable.

# Aims and Achievements

## Aims

Railway Children was founded in 1996 and its objective is:

'The relief of children and young persons under 25 years of age who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress, anywhere in the world and in particular those who are living on the streets'.

Since then, Railway Children's work has benefitted thousands of children and young people living alone and at risk on the streets.

Our work aims to create and enable sustainable change in the lives of individual children, communities and in the wider policy and practice that affects all children living alone on the streets.

## Public Benefit

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. This report is produced for the benefit of the public and contains an explanation of the significant activities undertaken during the year in order to carry out the charity's aims and also measure achievements against the objectives set by the Trustees.

## Principal Activities

In achieving our aims, we work at three levels for long term change. We recognise that to create, enable and sustain change we need to balance activities, and therefore;

1. We aim to make early interventions in the lives of vulnerable children on the streets before they come to serious harm
2. We change the perceptions of local communities. We make children on the streets visible to their communities and aid understanding of how they came to be there and the support they need.; and
3. We use research, expertise and strong relationships with key individuals and departments to influence policy makers and leverage government support.

By working at all three levels, we ensure positive sustainable change, both in the lives of children currently surviving on the streets and those currently at home but living with neglect, violence and/or abuse where living on the streets may become their only survival option.

## Achievements

The following outlines the wider strategy goals (2022-2027), alongside the objectives we set ourselves for this year and the progress we made.

- **Goal 1 – Children will be safe, at home and in a nurturing environment**

### India:

**We will protect 4500 children arriving at 8 railway stations and 1 bus station and restore 90% of the protected children through family reunification, adoption, kinship care, and as a last resort child-care institutes by May 2023**

3727 children were protected at eight railway stations and one bus terminal including 3014 children reunified with their parents. Through the course of the year, and for a variety of reasons, we exited from four railway station projects which impacted our ability to achieve the target of 4500 children. We commenced new projects at Delhi Cantonment Railway Station and Anand Vihar Bus Terminal in Delhi, however a further two station projects at new locations were unable to commence due to lack of official permissions, which were withheld pending the launch of a major Government policy change.

This year there was a strong focus on quality assurance of programme and child safeguarding practices including undertaking a quality audit and improvement plan for all the projects alongside a systematic programme of training and capacity building for the project team. Considerable effort and emphasis was also placed on building strong relationships with key statutory stakeholders including local Child Welfare Committees, District Children Protection Units, Government Railway Police and the Department of Women and Child Development, Delhi. As a result, family reintegration efforts have strengthened, collaborative actions with Government stakeholders have increased and the instances of child safeguarding cases identified and responded have increased.

### Tanzania:

**We will support 1840 Children and Youth Living and Working on the streets in three cities. 300 CLWS will be reintegrated into safe and protective families. 930 contact children and siblings will be provided with school support**

1789 children and youth were supported with various support services, of these 984 were Male and 805 were female. This is a much higher proportion of female beneficiaries than in previous years. We attribute this primarily to the child support desk established this year at a main bus stand in Mwanza to facilitate the early rescue of children dropping to the streets. A high number of girls were rescued through the child support desk, additionally we collaborated with Baylor Tanzania to identify adolescent girls at risk of HIV and enrolled them under the Youth Association intervention to provide life skills and income generating activities.

337 children were reintegrated into protective families, and 342 contact children and siblings were provided with school support. We under achieved on the school support which is offered on a case-by-case basis following an assessment of need. The need for this support was over-estimated, resulting in an unrealistic target. Additionally, 72 caregivers of reunified children were trained in business skills and provided with small business grants.

### UK:

**600 young people will be provided with advice and information, and we will support 160 young people and families directly**

This year, we provided 587 children, young people and families with advice, information, and guidance around safety on the rail network and have directly supported 165 young people and their families through a combination of welfare visits and longer-term direct support.

We have implemented a new assessment framework to help us think through the challenges children and young people may be facing and to capture their views, ensuring that they are involved in decisions that affect their lives.

Of the young people who we have supported longer-term, the most common indicators of risk we have seen this year are:

- 79% were experiencing poor mental health when they started to work with us,
- 49% were at risk of experiencing a breakdown in the relationship with their parent or carer,
- 49% had a learning disability or difficulty,
- 47% were frequently missing when they were referred to us, and
- 47% were either not in education, had poor attendance or had been repeatedly excluded.

The most common priority areas of intervention to support young people with were:

- Safety, including online safety, personal safety, and safety on and around the railway.
- Mental health and/or emotional wellbeing
- Healthy relationships, whether that be within the family or amongst peers

Of the 43 young people whose cases closed during the year after a longer term intervention:

- 95% experienced improvement in, or maintained, their level of wellbeing.
- 92% reported feeling safer or saw no reduction in their safety.
- 94% experienced improved relationships, or saw no worsening in relationships with their family, carers, or other key adults in their network.
- 86% were assessed as better equipped, or as equipped, to deal with challenges they may face.

**UK: We will develop our existing 4 projects so that 120 young people whose needs are best met by other services can be referred on promptly.**

We have conducted 118 welfare visits this year with young people and their families and signposted or referred 62 of these young people onto appropriate services including Citizens Advice, ADHD Foundation, Growing Hope Brockley, Signal Family Support, The Mix, Childline, Young Minds, a local children's centre, and an asylum seeker support group.

**UK: Our outreach work will be enhanced to ensure that 517 young people are contacted during outreach work with the British Transport Police (BTP)**

Our outreach work is varied and can involve anything from working directly with BTP on operations up and down the rail network to providing rail safety talks to children in schools and we have reached 1,625 young people in total this year.

We supported BTP's County Lines taskforce in locations across the UK where our workers engage with children and young people immediately after they have come into contact with BTP and assess whether further support is required.

Working alongside BTP and Network Rail, we engaged 657 young people during Leeds Safety Week. Our teams have also promoted safeguarding awareness at multiple events in rail stations such as Manchester, London Waterloo, Hull, London Euston and Leeds with local statutory and third-sector organisations. We delivered awareness raising sessions to 10 and 11-year-olds in 'economically deprived areas' focusing on safety on the railway and mental wellbeing for children.

## **Goal 2 – Communities are able to identify and protect vulnerable children**

**India:**

**We will improve child engagement and family reunification process within two government childcare institutes (CCIs) by May 2023.**

RCI launched an Action Research on family strengthening in March 2023 in the Villupuram district and completed the research in May 2023. Another action research on the same thematic areas has been launched at the national level.

#### **Tanzania:**

**We will reach 15,000 people in Mwanza with awareness messages on the rights of children and youth living on the streets and build capacities of children and youth across three cities to empower them as confident, informed and effective advocates of their own rights.**

We engaged with media outlets (newspapers, TV, Radio, blogs, and social media) to raise awareness on the plight of street connected children and call for community and government response in protecting children. A stakeholder committee was established of people working in and around the bus station, in part, to raise awareness around the bus stand and promote child safeguarding. This has resulted in 222 children being identified by the community and referred to our projects for support.

Additionally, children and youth platforms have continued to create space for children and young people, particularly in making government officials more aware of the challenges faced by street connected children and their responsibility for improving child-related services.

#### **UK:**

**4,800 transport staff will be provided with a greater awareness and understanding of vulnerable children through our training programme, ensuring they know how to respond to young people in need and where to refer them**

We have provided training to 11,614 staff from BTP and train operating companies (TOCs). This includes training 289 new BTP officers, highlighting the vulnerabilities that young people may face, how to engage with them, information on the current context in which young people are living, and how to challenge language which may create barriers to engaging with them.

We held consultations with rail staff to develop our Safeguarding Champions offer and evaluation of the training resulted in an average score of 9.4 out of 10. Following training, Safeguarding Champions are offered opportunities to share best practice across the industry and the chance to be involved in Safeguarding Action Groups (SAG) and wider station activity. We now have over 200 Safeguarding Champions active across the country.

#### **Goal 3 - Public sector policies and budgets safeguard vulnerable and at risk children**

**India: we will protect an estimated 1000 children at risk through collaboration with the Railway protection Force, Government Railway Police, commercial railway staff, and government stakeholders of 30 major railway stations across Howrah Delhi mainline Railway route.**

3892 railway officials have been trained in child protection. The training and campaigns have resulted in railway officials protecting 1419 children in running trains and at the railway station from June 2022 to May 2023.

A first-of-its-kind district-level multiple-stakeholder consultation on child protection was organised in Ghaziabad in collaboration with the District Child Protection Unit. A virtual campaign on child protection in trains was launched jointly by RCI and Indian Railway Ticket Checking Staff Organisation (IRTCSO), engaging more than 20,000 IRTCSO members across India.

**Tanzania: we will engage with national government and three district councils in selected cities to advocate for allocation of substantial budgetary resource to ensure child protection laws and regulations are effectively enforced to realise children's rights, in particular the rights of vulnerable and at-risk children and youth**

RCA facilitated a five-day training to Social Welfare Officers, Planning Officers, Health Secretaries and Council Directors on the new social welfare budgeting guidelines. The training has equipped the officials

with knowledge on how to plan for the social welfare services including services targeting children living and working on the street.

Through the special CLWS taskforce where RCA is a member, we have advocated for every council to allocate budget to support street connected children.

**UK: we will work in partnership with the British Transport Police (BTP) and industry bodies at a senior level to ensure that safeguarding continues to be included in the strategic vision for the rail industry. By working collaboratively, we will ensure that plans are in place to identify and respond to vulnerable people. This will specifically mean focussing on**

- **ensuring six train operators safeguarding policies are approved by the British Transport Police**
- **supporting two further operators to receive full Safeguarding on Rail Scheme (SRS) accreditation**
- **continuation of work with the Department for Transport via BTP's Designing Out Crime team in relation to the SRS**
- **engagement with the development of Great British Rail to ensure that safeguarding is integral to their strategy**

We supported six train operating companies (Southwestern Railway (SWR), Northern, TransPennine Express (TPE), Cross Country Trains and East Midlands Railway (EMR) to achieve their full Safeguarding on Rail (SRS) accreditation.

Additionally, we have worked closely with TOCs this year delivering workshops at our first Safeguarding Champions Conference, developing a pilot 'mystery shopper' project involving young people and chairing station based Safeguarding Action Groups (SAG).

We continue to meet regularly with the BTP Designing Out Crime team, ensuring that we align our work with the continually evolving SRS assessment processes.

## **Fundraising**

**We will secure £4.5m in income across the Railway Children group, raising voluntary income by 12% to £3.3m and support the growth of in-country fundraising in India and Tanzania**

Group income finished at £3.8m, with voluntary income for the UK finishing over £3.0m for the first time. In addition, almost £300,000 was raised in partnership with RCA and voluntary fundraising in India securing over £500,000 with exceptional growth in individual giving, in particular.

**We will help to ensure the financial stability of the organisation by raising the volume of unrestricted income by securing 1,000 new cash donors to the charity and growing our regular giving supporters by 5% to over 2,300. We will secure £2.683m of unrestricted income, supported by our corporate partners including Rail Aid and The Railway Ball**

We secured 1,497 new cash donors to the charity, growing our overall donor base. We recruited 127 new regular givers, but offset against a national cost of living crisis, we lost 172 supporters meaning for the first time that attrition did not balance recruitment. Group unrestricted income totalled £2.424m, an increase of 6% on the previous year.

**We will support the organisation achieving its Theory of Change by securing over £1m in restricted gifts via Trusts and Foundations, institutional giving and in country funders.**

We secured £1.294m in restricted gifts via these methods, assisting the growth in in-country funding as securing the core programme of the organisation.

## Brand

- **We will review our brand positioning in line with the new organisational strategy and develop a group led public affairs strategy that positions Railway Children to achieve our programme goals**

We have undertaken key projects to develop and refresh our brand in line with the organisational strategy. We have worked to deliver a messaging framework that will unite people behind our new organisational mission and can be applied to all elements of marketing and communications activity. The project included a Positioning Statement and Messaging toolkit that will ensure consistency of messaging within all of our communications, aligned to the organisational mission, vision and strategy.

We have recruited an Advocacy Content Manager who will join us in July 2023. This role will develop an advocacy content strategy to amplify our voice through advocacy and influencing communications.

We have developed the visual identity of our brand to keep the brand and our assets fresh, positioning us as a modern, forward-thinking NGO, in line with the new strategy. This has included the development of a new logo and strapline:



- **We will work with our programme teams to distil their strategic intentions into clear themes as we build a 12-month tactical communications plans that supports our advocacy activities and informs a deeper public affairs strategy**

Mission Story documents have been developed for the Railway Children Group as well as for each of the three territories. These documents have been designed to clearly communicate strategies and theories of change into external facing documents that will engage and unite the public. Subsequent messaging from these documents has begun to be implemented into organisation-wide communications.

We have launched our UK “At Risk, Right Here Right Now” safeguarding campaign across a variety of communications channels.

- **As digital technology advances and the online needs of our affiliate partners increase, we will develop a digital strategy that enables us to maximise new technological opportunities, integrate our digital channels and provide consistent brand representation and user experiences across our affiliate sites**

We have undertaken an extensive review of our digital activities, focussing on social media and email communications as well as our website. This has enabled us to identify our strengths, weaknesses and opportunities for our digital communications. We have begun to review our digital communications to engage followers through a cause and involve them in an action, as opposed to only asking them to donate to a fundraising ask.

As part of our Content Project, we have reviewed our website content and developed new pages that align with the new organisational strategy and Mission Stories, allowing users to engage with and support the cause beyond fundraising.

The majority of our social media and email communications activity now include digital assets, a major shift from static imagery. This has required time and financial investment but has successfully led to increased digital engagement.

## **Partners & Projects - Tanzania**

### **Dar project, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania (RCA Direct)**

Railway Children Africa's direct delivery project focuses on street work and family reintegration. - Youths based on the street are supported to form 'associations' and develop life skills, including vocational and business skills to ensure improved opportunities and income generation. (Total support 2022-23 £110,096,)

### **Kivuko, Mwanza, Tanzania (RCA Direct)**

Railway Children Africa's direct delivery project focuses on street work and family reintegration. - Youths based on the street are supported to form 'associations' and develop life skills, including vocational and business skills to ensure improved opportunities and income generation. (Total support 2022-23 £298,972 - Unrestricted designated funds 2023-24 £100k)

### **Kisedet, Dodoma, Tanzania**

Providing care and protection for children and youth on the streets in Dodoma, reuniting children with families and enabling youths to become productive members of the community. (Total support 2022-23 £38,327)

## **Partners & Projects - India**

### **Narayani Seva Sansthan, Bihar**

Outreach at Dharbhanga station and provision of a shelter for rehabilitation of children alongside a programme of family reunification and reintegration, including a school enrolment campaign

(Total support 2022-23 £9,443)

### **The Hope House, Tamil Nadu**

Outreach at Katpadi station and shelter for rehabilitation of children alongside a family reunification and reintegration programme

(Total support 2022-23 £3,526)

### **Terre Des Hommes, Tamil Nadu**

Outreach at Salem station and shelter for rehabilitation of children alongside a family reunification and reintegration programme

(Total support 2022-23 £40,230)

### **Delhi (RCI Direct project)**

Outreach programme at Delhi Cantonment and Sarai Rohilla stations alongside a rehabilitation and family reunification programme

(Total support 2022-23 £60,324)

### **Ghaziabad (RCI Direct project)**

Outreach programme at Ghaziabad station alongside a community, rehabilitation and family reunification programme

(Total support 2022-23 £40,278 – Unrestricted designated funds 2023-24 £34k)

### **Anand Vihar**

Outreach work at Anand Vihar bus terminal in Delhi

(Total support 2022-23 £11,339 – Unrestricted Designated reserve 2023-24 £30k)

### **Humara Bachpan Trust, Bhubaneswar**

Outreach at station and shelter for rehabilitation of children alongside a family reunification and reintegration programme

(Total support 2022-23 £19,785)

### **Salam Balak Trust, Ghaziabad**

Outreach at station and shelter for rehabilitation of children alongside a family reunification and reintegration programme

(Total support 2022-23 £39,921)

### **SEVAI, Tiruchirappalli**

Outreach at Salem station and shelter for rehabilitation of children alongside a family reunification and reintegration programme

(Total support 2022-23 £26,833)

### **Yuva Urban Initiatives, Mumbai**

Outreach at Dadar station and shelter for rehabilitation of children alongside a family reunification and reintegration programme

(Total support 2022-23 £6,848)

## **UK Projects**

Railway Children delivers direct support to children referred to us by the British Transport Police, with services running in Birmingham, Leeds, London and Manchester during the last year. Our services include Information and guidance alongside intensive one-to-one and family support where children are referred with complex needs and vulnerabilities. In addition, we provide safeguarding training and awareness across the industry to protect and safeguard vulnerable children.

This incorporates our Safeguarding on Transport awareness training and having Railway Children project workers based within the station community to assess the needs of children referred from the British Transport Police and provide ongoing one-to-one support, family work or mentoring as appropriate. (Total support 2022-23 £403,181- Designated unrestricted funds 2023-24 £33k (Manchester), £64k (London), £53k (Leeds))

## **Objectives for 2023-24**

In 2022 we launched our new five-year strategy that aims to leave no child behind, wherever we work.

Our new strategy will launch as the world commits to a decade of action towards achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. A key principle of the Goals is to leave no-one behind and we believe this gives us an opportunity to put the children we work with on the global agenda.

To achieve this aim, we will be strengthening:

1. Programmes and services, before, during after a child has survived on the streets, to ensure children are safe, at home and in a nurturing environment
2. Community responses, to enable local people to identify and protect vulnerable children
3. Child protection systems and policies, to ensure public sector policies and budgets safeguard vulnerable and at-risk children
4. Investment in evidence, to demonstrate need and proven models of achieving impact

The objectives for 2023/24 represent the milestones we intend to achieve in year two of our new 5-year strategy.

### **Goal 1 – Children will be safe, at home and in a nurturing environment**

India: 2000 unaccompanied children at risk across 6 transport terminals are sustainably reintegrated with family-based care by May 2024.

Tanzania: we will support 2,200 Children and Youth Living and Working on the streets and siblings. 250 CLWS will be reintegrated into safe and protective families.

UK: we will provide interventions for 255 young people through welfare visits and full programmes of support prioritising needs such as healthy relationships, mental health and safety planning.

### **Goal 2 – Communities are able to identify and protect vulnerable children**

India: Quality of life of 1500 children within 10 high risk slum communities improves.

Tanzania: two child support desks at main bus stands in Mwanza and Dar es salaam will support the identification and protection of 400 children.

UK: 6,000 transport staff will be provided with a greater awareness and understanding of vulnerable children through our training programmes, ensuring they know how to respond to young people in need and where to refer them.

### **Goal 3 Public sector policies and budgets safeguard vulnerable and at-risk children**

India: 5000 children are protected by the trained and sensitised railway and district child protection officials across the Delhi Howrah railway network by May 2024.

Tanzania: we will engage with national government and three district councils in selected cities to ensure child protection laws, regulations and practices are effectively enforced to realise children's rights, in particular the rights of vulnerable and at-risk children and youth.

UK: we will work in partnership with the British Transport Police (BTP) and industry bodies to ensure that safeguarding continues to be included in the strategic vision for the rail industry.

## **Fundraising**

- We will secure over £4.5m in income across the Railway Children group, raising voluntary income to £3.7m and support the growth of in-country fundraising in India and Tanzania, securing over £500,000 in-country between the two affiliates.
- We will engage with a new supporter audience through a campaigning and advocacy approach and investing in supporter recruitment, increasing our regular giving income by 5% and our public fundraising securing over £1m in unrestricted income and support our core programme.
- We will expand our programme delivery by being successful with one institutional partner through our work with USAID and expand our restricted income with two new multi-year six figure funders.

## **Brand**

- We will refresh the design and content of the entire Railway Children website to provide an improved user experience, whilst ensuring that our brand, mission and vision are clearly represented to all users and aligned to organisational strategy.
- We will deliver an advocacy strategy, focussing on editorial and digital content communications that will amplify our voice and those of vulnerable street-connected children, enabling us to attract new audiences and convert them to action.
- We will employ a digital-first approach to build a strong online profile as pioneers and thought leaders for street connected children.
- We will work with UK Train Operating Companies and the wider rail community to raise awareness and understanding of safeguarding through our campaigning and advocacy communications.

## **Fundraising Statement**

Railway Children carries out a variety of fundraising activities, approaching individuals and companies for support and sponsorship as well as Trusts and Foundations. We occasionally employ a professional fundraising agency to undertake telephone and face-to-face fundraising activity on our behalf. Our policies and approach to fundraising are as follows.

- We are registered with the Fundraising Regulator and comply with the Codes of Fundraising Practice. We are regularly updated with changes in practice and enforce change where necessary
- We adhere to our policy set up to protect vulnerable people, ensuring that the policy is enforced throughout all fundraising activities and with all parties
- Before the appointment of a third-party fundraising supplier, we make checks with other charity clients including financial checks and ensure that their practices meet our ethical criteria. Once appointed strict stewardship of the relationship is applied through daily discussions on any issues and regularly listening to calls
- We reviewed our data protection policy and procedures in preparation for the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the fundraising code of practice and regularly monitor the implementation of this throughout the organisation
- We give our supporters clear opportunities to opt out of any further contact as part of every approach
- Our supporter promises and privacy policy is clearly displayed on our website and regularly communicated to our supporters
- We do not share or sell data with any other organisations

Supporters and our beneficiaries are at the heart of what we do. We strive to achieve high standards in our fundraising and communication with supporters. We stand by the principles set out in our supporter promise.

## Financial Results

The charity's income for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023 was £3.86m (FY21-22 £4.09m) with £2.49m of unrestricted income (FY21-22 £2.28m) and restricted income of £1.36m (FY21-22 £1.81m).

Income from donations and legacies was £2.20m (FY21-22 £2.11m) with legacies in particular improving to £0.21m compared to £0.06m in the FY21-22. Income from individual giving via the UK totalled £0.70m (FY21-22 £0.75m) with £0.35m of this being from regular giving (FY21-22 £0.37m). The other 50% of this income came from appeals and major gifts and totalled £0.35m (FY21-22 £0.38m). Donations from corporate partners totalled £0.93m (FY21-22 £1.10m) including income from the annual Railway Ball and associated Rail Aid fundraising. Within the donations and legacies figure was income raised via Railway Children India's individual giving programme which raised £0.31m (FY21-22 £0.15m).

Income from charitable activities, essentially funds raised from grants and foundations, totalled £1.01m (FY21-22 £1.42m) and is apportioned across the activities being carried out. So this is shown on the Statement of Financial Activities on page X as divided between outreach, shelter, reintegration and influencing work. These funds were raised through Railway Children UK (£0.68m FY21-22 £0.86m), Railway Children Africa (£0.28m FY21-22 £0.19m) and Railway Children India (£0.05m FY21-22 £0.37m).

Other trading activities raised £0.63m (FY21-22 £0.56m) and these consisted of fundraising events run by Railway Children UK and sale of Xmas cards.

Total income raised via the UK was £3.20m with the Railway Children Africa grant fundraising of £0.28m also being largely supported from the UK. The cost of the UK fundraising team including support costs was £0.87m (FY21-22 £0.94m). For every £ spent on fundraising in the UK the income generated was £3.68 (FY21-22 £3.18). The return on investment for the embryonic Railway Children India fundraising programme was income of £0.37m and fundraising costs of £0.28m, a ratio of £1.32 raised per £ spent which should improve with retained donors increasing in the future.

Total charitable expenditure for the year was £3.10m (FY21-22 £3.46m) split between India £0.79m (FY21-22 £1.41m), Tanzania £1.46m (£1.66m) and the UK £0.85m (FY21-22 £0.39m). The project work delivered directly by Railway Children increased to £0.92m (FY21-22 £0.83m) whilst grants to partner organisations reduced to £0.18m (FY21-22 £0.57m). Total staff costs for the group (see notes 6 and 7) were £2.68m (FY21-22 £2.42m) with the key management personnel expenditure being £0.53m (FY21-22 £0.49m).

Total unrestricted reserve for the group was £0.69m (FY21-22 £0.96m) with restricted funds at £0.93m (FY21-22 £1.04m) with the majority of these being for UK and India work.

## Structure, Governance and Management

Railway Children is a charitable company limited by guarantee 3265496, Registered Charity No. 1058991, incorporated on 18th October 1996 and registered as a charity on 5th November 1996.

The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. Under those Articles, the Trustees, who form the Board of Trustees, are elected at the Annual General Meeting to serve a period of three years, with one third of their number retiring at each AGM.

The Memorandum and Articles of Railway Children express its objects as 'the relief of children and young persons under 25 years of age who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress, anywhere in the world and in particular those who are living on the streets'.

Railway Children Trading Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary company (number 6533182) limited by shares. The company is registered for VAT and is used by Railway Children to conduct its trading activities. All profits are gift aided to the parent charity.

Railway Children Africa (RCA) is registered in Tanzania as an NGO, with NGO compliance (1563) under the Non-Governmental Organisations Act. The board consists of Railway Children representatives and Tanzanian nationals. The company manages our operations in Tanzania. The results for this company are consolidated into the accounts.

Railway Children India (RCI) is a Section 8 company registered in India that commenced operations in FY2015-16.

RCA and RCI operate as independent organisations governed by their own boards. These boards have been granted use of the Railway Children mark under licence in return for operating in accordance with group policies and quality standards in so far as is legally permissible in their jurisdiction. The results of RCA and RCI are consolidated into the group in view of the choice of these organisations to work to the current group strategy using group systems.

The governance of the charity has been reviewed in the context of the Charity Commission's Governance Code which has resulted in a strengthening of the quality standards the group uses to ensure integrity and inclusivity in the charity's operations.

## Vision and Beliefs

As an organisation, Railway Children recognises that the environment in which we operate in is one of uncertainty and constant change. The resources we rely on in order to meet our charitable aims are both competitive and subject to ever-changing trends, whilst our beneficiary environment is one that varies frequently. In response to this we construct our organisation so we can be as flexible and as innovative as possible. We nurture a culture that is both informal, inclusive and open without compromising on accountability or professionalism. This culture reflects a commitment to making a lasting change in the lives of children at risk on the streets and is informed by our stated values which work together to underpin all that we do:

'Our vision is a world where no child ever has to live on the streets'

## Values

### THESE SIX VALUES GUIDE OUR WORK

**NEVER GIVE UP** - Face challenges head on

**HAVE COURAGE** - Push boundaries. Think Big

**EARN TRUST** - Be Honest. Always act with Integrity

**SHOW COMPASSION** - Respect and Dignity for all

**NURTURE TALENT** - Encourage growth. Enable others

## **Governance - Trustee Responsibilities**

As a charity accountable to all our donors, our resources must be carefully managed, and our legal responsibilities met.

Since its incorporation, the Railway Children Trustees have been the organisation's governing body. Trustees hold ultimate legal responsibility for the charity and collectively ensure delivery of our objectives, set our strategic direction and uphold our values as an organisation.

The key responsibilities of the Trustees are:

- Development and annual review of the charity's performance from definition of concepts to approval of the strategic direction
- Setting objectives for the development and review of our strategic plan, including approval on annual budgets and plans
- Approval of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts
- Identification and management of risks
- Appointment of Sub-Committees and delegation of powers
- Appointment, terms and conditions and delegation of powers to the Group Chief Executive
- Monitoring compliance with both company and charity law
- The stewardship of assets

Railway Children as a group operates under the guidance of a Board of Trustees. The implementation of the Trustees' plans and policies, and the responsibility for performance is vested in the Group Chief Executive.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total amount of such guarantees on 31 May 2023 was £XXX (2022 - £270). The Trustees are members of the charity, but this entitles them only to voting rights. The Trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

## **Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees**

Under the requirements of the Articles of Association, all members of the charity are permitted to stand for election as Trustees at the Annual General Meeting. The Trustee body has the necessary powers to appoint a new Trustee at any time. Any such appointed Trustee can hold office until the next Annual General Meeting, when they can stand for election.

One third of all, being the longest standing Trustees, retires in rotation and is eligible for re-appointment at the Annual General Meeting. The minimum number of Trustees is set at three and currently there are thirteen. There is no set maximum number.

## **Trustee Induction and Training**

Members of the charity who are considering standing as a Trustee are invited to attend Trustee meetings, to allow them to get to know the charity and the roles and responsibilities of a charity Trustee. Additionally, new Trustees are encouraged to attend an induction meeting, led by the Chairman and the Group Chief Executive. The meeting covers the following aspects:

- Background to and history of the charity and the context in which it operates.
- The principal responsibilities of a charity trustee.
- A summary of the charity's governing documents.
- The charity's current financial position and forecasts.
- The strategic plan and current progress against objectives.

A Trustee handbook exists to assist both new and existing Trustees in the discharge of their responsibilities. The handbook, which was updated in April 2022, includes governance and operational policies, the Memorandum and Articles, role descriptions of officers and current delegations. Trustees are encouraged to keep themselves up to date through appropriate training.

**Remuneration Policy**

Railway Children commits to recruiting and paying all our staff up to the median rate, determined by an independently benchmarked scale that is reviewed every three years.

In the UK, we use the Charity data cut of the Croner Salary Search on-line survey. In the UK we benchmark our salaries which ensures salaries are fair and competitive. The data is cut in the following categories, International Development, job ranking, job role, size of charity (Annual income), size of charity (Number of employees).

The salaries of the Group CEO and UK Director positions must be approved by the People and Culture Committee (PCC).

**Risks**

The Trustees and senior staff have produced a five-year strategy (2023-2027) setting out the major opportunities available to the charity and the risks to which it is exposed. All risks are reviewed and updated quarterly by the Finance and Audit Committee and the Board of Trustees. As part of this process, the Trustees have developed a Risk Management Policy, which comprises:

- A quarterly review of the risks the charity may face
- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the plan
- The implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should any of those risks materialise

Key risks for 2022-23	Mitigations
Securing ongoing funding	Continued investment in fundraising and diversifying income streams. In year budget changes if required.
Delivering services safely in areas impacted by coronavirus	Taking best practice risk management and applying to local environments.
Recruitment and retention of suitable staff	Ensuring that salaries are benchmarked, there is emphasis on good staff supervision and financial planning gives confidence to key staff as regards retention.
Safeguarding	Safeguarding teams continue to respond to instances in line with policies and also build implementing partner capacity

**Reserves**

The Board of Trustees reviews the charity’s reserves policy annually. The basis of Railway Children’s reserve policy is:

- To protect the continuity of our work, including specified liabilities and partner commitments
- To provide capacity to invest in innovative programme activities that may initially be difficult to fund

To achieve the above, a minimum reserve is defined as being three months of our core unrestricted expenditure. Our target reserve is based upon the level required to enable the following year’s programme to be funded and close at the budget reserve level.

The reserve levels for FY2022-23 were a minimum reserve level of £0.6m with a target reserve to fund the FY2023-24 planned programme of £1.7m. The unrestricted reserve closed at £0.66m which has resulted in programme plans being put on hold pending improving restricted income. The cashflow projections anticipate staying above the revised minimum reserve of £0.4m and attaining £0.8m at the close of the new financial year in May 2025.

## **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

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

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the group and the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company / 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 judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- 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 charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and group and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## **AUDITORS**

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware;
- The Trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

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

The report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies' subject to the small companies' regime.

Malcolm Brown

Chairman of the Board

Date: 12 October 2023

## Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Railway Children (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 May 2023 which comprise the consolidated statement of financial activities, the group and parent charitable company balance sheets, the consolidated statement of cash flows and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and of the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 May 2023 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011

## 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 group financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and parent charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

## Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

## Other Information

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

## 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' annual report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements
- The trustees' annual report has 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 group and the parent charitable company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' annual report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- Adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent charitable company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- The parent charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- Certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- The directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' annual report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

## Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

## Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed auditor under the Companies Act 2006 and section 151 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with those Acts.

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

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

### Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We enquired of management, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the group's policies and procedures relating to:
  - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
  - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
  - The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the group operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the group from our professional and sector experience.
- We communicated applicable laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We reviewed any reports made to regulators.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

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 or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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

## Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Jonathan Orchard FCA (Senior statutory auditor)

Date: 26 January 2024

for and on behalf of Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor

Invicta House, 108-114 Golden Lane, LONDON, EC1Y 0TL

Sayer Vincent LLP is eligible to act as auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

**RAILWAY CHILDREN**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (incorporating Income & Expenditure Account)**  
**for the year ended 31 May 2023**

			Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
<b>Income from:</b>						
Donations and Legacies	3		1,790,772	413,646	2,204,418	2,105,575
Charitable Activities						
Outreach			16,522	240,129	256,651	337,877
Shelter			15,406	223,916	239,322	332,986
Reintegration			30,181	438,645	468,826	640,894
Influencing			2,634	38,280	40,914	110,857
Other trading activities and events			633,957	98	634,055	556,694
Investments			5,026	9,326	14,352	8,072
<b>Total Income</b>			<b>2,494,498</b>	<b>1,364,040</b>	<b>3,858,538</b>	<b>4,092,955</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Fundraising			668,843	264,207	933,050	807,893
Other trading activities and events			199,457	-	199,457	168,670
Charitable Activities						
Outreach			527,814	288,552	816,366	658,515
Shelter			51,904	71,379	123,283	311,303
Reintegration			806,428	537,708	1,344,136	1,541,024
Influencing			526,886	291,695	818,581	948,707
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	4		<b>2,781,332</b>	<b>1,453,541</b>	<b>4,234,873</b>	<b>4,436,112</b>
<b>Net Income / (Expenditure)</b>			<b>(286,834)</b>	<b>(89,501)</b>	<b>(376,335)</b>	<b>(343,157)</b>
<b>Transfer between funds</b>			-	-	-	-
<b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>						
Total funds brought forward	22		963,619	1,045,396	2,009,015	2,352,172
Total funds carried forward			676,785	955,895	1,632,680	2,009,015

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.

All recognised gains and losses are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Accordingly no statement of total recognised gains and losses are given.

All restricted funds received and expended relate to income funds.

**RAILWAY CHILDREN**  
**CONSOLIDATED AND PARENT BALANCE SHEET**  
**As at 31 May 2023**

	Notes	Group 2023 £	2022 £	Charity 2023 £	2022 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>					
Tangible Assets	10	11,023	326	-	519
Investment	11	20,776	20,776	20,876	20,876
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Debtors & Prepayments	17	171,523	118,002	342,166	732,543
Cash at Bank & in Hand		1,740,830	2,127,964	1,270,792	1,141,973
		1,912,353	2,245,966	1,612,958	1,874,516
<b>Current Liabilities</b>					
Amounts Falling Due within One Year	18	(311,472)	(258,053)	(189,497)	(197,408)
<b>Net Current Assets</b>					
		1,600,881	1,987,913	1,423,461	1,677,108
<b>Net Assets</b>					
	19	1,632,680	2,009,015	1,444,337	1,698,503
<b>Funds</b>					
Unrestricted Income Funds					
General Funds		261,210	166,619	410,913	247,356
Designated Funds		415,575	797,000	415,575	797,000
Restricted Income Funds		964,100	1,056,348	626,054	665,099
Restricted Income Funds in Deficit		(8,205)	(10,952)	(8,205)	(10,952)
<b>Total Funds</b>					
	19	1,632,680	2,009,015	1,444,337	1,698,503

The financial statement of Railway Children, registered number 03265496, were approved by the Board of Trustees on 12th October 2023 and signed on its behalf by

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Malcolm Brown

Chairman of the Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Helena Vega Lozano

Honorary Treasurer

**RAILWAY CHILDREN**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**for the year ended 31 May 2023**

	Note	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>					
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>			(416,402)		146,177
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>					
Purchase of fixed assets	10	(17,312)		-	
Dividends and interest from investments		14,352		18,282	
Purchase of investments		-		-	
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities</b>			(2,960)		18,282
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>			(419,362)		164,459
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year			2,127,964		1,919,179
Change in cash and cash equivalents due to exchange rate movements			32,228		44,326
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>			<b>1,740,830</b>		<b>2,127,964</b>
<b>Reconciliation of net income / (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities</b>					
		2023		2022	
		£		£	
<b>Net income / (expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)</b>		<b>(376,335)</b>		<b>(343,157)</b>	
Depreciation charges		6,615		2,129	
Exchange (Gains)/Losses		(32,228)		(44,326)	
(Increase)/decrease in short term deposits				400,000	
(Increase)/decrease in debtors		(53,521)		110,108	
Increase/(decrease) in creditors		53,419		29,495	
Dividends and interest from investments		(14,352)		(8,072)	
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities</b>		<b>(416,402)</b>		<b>146,177</b>	
<b>Analysis of cash and cash equivalents</b>					
		At 1 June 2022	Cash flows	Other	At 31 May 2023
		£	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand		2,127,964	(419,362)	32,228	1,740,830
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>		<b>2,127,964</b>	<b>(419,362)</b>	<b>32,228</b>	<b>1,740,830</b>

## **1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements are prepared under the historic cost convention. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (August 2014) and the Companies Act 2006.

As explained in the Trustees' Report, after making enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation and no material uncertainties that Railway Children has adequate financial resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

### **Reconciliation with previously Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (GAAP)**

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 a restatement of comparative items was required. The transition date was 1 June 2014. No transitional adjustments were required.

### **Basis of Consolidation**

The Group financial statements consolidate the financial statements of Railway Children and its wholly owned subsidiary undertakings drawn up to 31<sup>st</sup> May each year. The results of the charitable company and its wholly owned subsidiaries Railway Children Trading Limited, Railway Children Africa Limited and the overseas entity over which the charity has control through membership, Railway Children India, are consolidated on a line by line basis. Transactions and balances between the charitable company and its subsidiary have been eliminated from the consolidated financial statements. Balances between the two companies are disclosed in the notes of the charitable company's balance sheet. A separate statement of financial activities, or income and expenditure account, for the charitable company itself is not presented because the charitable company has taken advantage of the exemptions afforded by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

### **Public benefit entity**

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

### **Incoming Resources**

All income is recognised in the statement of financial activities when the conditions for receipt have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably. Where a claim for Income Tax has or will be made, such income is grossed up for tax recoverable. Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which it has been received. The following accounting policies are applied to income:

#### **Gifts in Kind and donated goods & facilities**

Assets given for use by the charity are recognised as incoming resources at their estimated market value when receivable. If they form part of the fixed assets at the year-end, they are included in the balance sheet at the value at which the gift was included in incoming resources. Donated facilities are included at their estimated value and the corresponding expenditure included under the appropriate heading. All estimates of value of gifts are estimated as the value to the charity of the service or facility received; being the price the charity estimates it would pay in the open market for a service or facility of equivalent utility to the charity.

#### **Donations**

Donations and all other receipts from fundraising are reported gross and the related fundraising costs are reported in other expenditure.

## Legacies

For legacies that can be estimated, and receipt is reasonably assured, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably, and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

## Grants received

Grants are recognised when the conditions of entitlement are met.

## Charitable expenditure

Charitable expenditure includes expenditure directly related to the objects of the charity and comprises grants payable, accounted for when the trustees have approved such grant and instruction is given to the charity's bankers. In addition, costs incurred in transmitting project grants to those projects, and the cost of visits by trustees and staff to assess, monitor and develop the work of these projects is accounted for on an accruals basis. Salary costs for co-coordinators in India, Programme Development Manager, National Policy and Strategy Officer, National Research & Strategy Manager and a proportion of the CEO salary are included as this work is concerned with the development of the management of and enhancement of capacity of the projects supported are also accounted for on an accruals basis.

Costs of raising funds relate to the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.

## Allocation of operating costs

The charity's operating costs are accounted for on an accruals basis and are allocated between costs of generating funds, charitable expenditure and governance. Wherever possible the costs are positively identified and specific to the activity, in other cases such as office provision and some staff costs a percentage allocation of total cost is made based upon an estimate of staff time attributable to each activity. The allocations for the year were:

Percentages	UK Support staff				
	CEO	Marketing & Comms	Finance & Admin	Other costs	Depreciation
Charitable	58%	60%	55%	40%	44%
CORF	25%	40%	31%	58%	50%
Governance	17%		14%	2%	6%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

## Tangible fixed assets

The fixed assets are limited to equipment, furniture and fittings and are capitalised where the purchase cost exceeds £1,000. Depreciation is provided on these assets in equal annual instalments over the estimated lives of the assets as follows:

Office Equipment	- 4 years
Display Equipment	- 4 years
Furniture & fixtures	- 5 years

## **Fund Structures**

Unrestricted funds are where funds have been received without any conditions from donors. Some unrestricted funds have subsequently been set aside by Railway Children as designated funds where they have been earmarked to fund a specific partner from unrestricted funds.

Where funds have been received from donors for particular purposes these are represented as restricted funds. Transfers are made between restricted funds to represent changes agreed with the donor of the funds.

## **Foreign Currency**

Transactions in foreign currencies are converted at rates prevailing at the date of the transaction. Balances denominated in foreign currencies are converted at the rate of exchange prevailing at the balance sheet date. Exchange rate differences are taken into account in arriving at net incoming resources for the year.

## **Investments**

In the charity balance sheet, investments in the subsidiary are shown at cost less provision for impairments.

## **Pensions**

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable under the scheme by the charitable company to the fund. The charitable company has no liability under the scheme other than for the payment of those contributions.

## **Operating leases**

Rental charges are charged on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

## **Investments in subsidiaries**

Investments in subsidiaries are at cost.

## **Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

## **Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account. Cash balances exclude any funds held on behalf of service users.

## **Creditors and provisions**

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

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

## 2 Detailed comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £
<b>Income from:</b>				
Donations and Legacies	3	1,698,272	407,303	2,105,575
Charitable Activities		25,142	1,397,472	1,422,614
Other trading activities		555,495	1,199	556,694
Investments		301	7,771	8,072
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>2,279,210</b>	<b>1,813,745</b>	<b>4,092,955</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Fundraising		938,161	38,402	976,563
Charitable Activities		1,783,304	1,676,245	3,459,549
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	4	<b>2,721,465</b>	<b>1,714,647</b>	<b>4,436,112</b>
<b>Net Income / (Expenditure)</b>		<b>(442,255)</b>	<b>99,098</b>	<b>(343,157)</b>
<b>Transfer between funds</b>		(23,193)	23,193	
<b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward	19	1,429,067	923,105	2,352,172
Total funds carried forward		963,619	1,045,396	2,009,015

### 3a Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Individual Donations:				
General	682,875	341,005	1,023,880	891,056
Legacies	206,345	-	206,345	64,641
Corporate Donations	863,867	70,380	934,247	1,100,231
Donated services	37,685	2,261	39,946	49,647
	<b>1,790,772</b>	<b>413,646</b>	<b>2,204,418</b>	<b>2,105,575</b>

### 3b Comparative Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £
Individual Donations:			
General	667,272	223,784	891,056
Legacies	64,641	-	64,641
Corporate Donations	919,712	180,519	1,100,231
Donated services	46,647	3,000	49,647
	<b>1,698,272</b>	<b>407,303</b>	<b>2,105,575</b>

#### 4a Analysis of Expenditure

	Charitable activities	Cost of raising funds <sup>(1)</sup>	Governance	Support costs <sup>▼</sup>	2023 <sup>▼</sup> Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Grants payable (see note 5a)	184,879	-	-	-	184,879	567,806
UK Staff	792,084	261,973	1	817,941	1,871,999	1,709,173
Overseas Staff	770,628	38,137	-	-	808,765	707,964
Office & Supplies	183,793	5,770	-	45,483	235,046	251,699
Services	158,715	483,695	13,996 <sup>▼</sup>	75,705	732,111	861,268
Travel & Accommodation	265,785	14,162	317	13,105	293,369	319,703
Other	64,402	-	-	-	64,402	(30,278)
Depreciation	6,096	-	- <sup>▼</sup>	518	6,614	2,129
Gifts in Kind	12,468	25,218	-	-	37,686	46,648
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>2,438,850</b>	<b>828,955</b>	<b>14,314</b>	<b>952,752</b>	<b>4,234,871</b>	<b>4,436,112</b>
Support costs	627,950	297,275	27,529	(952,754)	-	-
Governance costs	35,566	6,277	(41,843)			
<b>Total expenditure 2023</b>	<b>3,102,366</b>	<b>1,132,507</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(2)</b>	<b>4,234,871</b>	<b>4,436,112</b>
Total expenditure 2022	3,273,199	1,162,913	-	-	4,436,112	

(1) Includes fundraising together with trading and events costs.

#### 4b Comparative Analysis of Expenditure

	Charitable activities	Cost of raising funds	Governance	Support costs <sup>▼</sup>	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Grants payable (see note 6)	567,806	-	-	-	567,806
UK Staff	602,123	196,406	28,431	882,213	1,709,173
Overseas Staff	682,134	25,830	-	-	707,964
Office & Supplies	186,388	8,266	-	57,045	251,699
Services	392,235	371,747	12,593	84,693	861,268
Travel & Accommodation	294,507	19,914	247	5,035	319,703
Other	(30,278)	-	-	-	(30,278)
Depreciation	1,355	-	-	774	2,129
Gifts in Kind	7,074	39,574	-	-	46,648
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>2,703,344</b>	<b>661,737</b>	<b>41,271</b>	<b>1,029,760</b>	<b>4,436,112</b>
Support costs	699,863	300,734	29,163	(1,029,760)	-
Governance costs	56,342	14,092	(70,434)		
<b>Total expenditure 2022</b>	<b>3,459,549</b>	<b>976,563</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,436,112</b>

## 5a Analysis of Charitable Expenditure by Activity

Grants	Outreach 2023 £	Shelter 2023 £	Reintegration 2023 £	Influencing 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
India	37,410	34,875	68,329	5,972	146,586	398,480
Tanzania	17,023	4,258	12,764	4,248	38,293	169,326
<b>Grants sub total</b>	<b>54,433</b>	<b>39,133</b>	<b>81,093</b>	<b>10,220</b>	<b>184,879</b>	<b>567,806</b>
UK Staff	119,784	10,444	394,665	267,191	792,084	602,123
Overseas Staff	272,469	29,401	317,131	151,627	770,628	682,134
Office & Supplies	55,142	9,525	62,446	56,680	183,793	186,388
Services	40,543	2,388	55,489	60,295	158,715	392,235
Travel & Accommodation	75,269	4,329	112,763	73,424	265,785	294,507
Other	18,551	(1,001)	25,200	21,652	64,402	(30,278)
Depreciation	1,904	58	2,404	1,730	6,096	1,355
Gifts in Kind	3,671	2,639	5,469	689	12,468	7,074
	<b>587,333</b>	<b>57,783</b>	<b>975,567</b>	<b>633,288</b>	<b>2,253,971</b>	<b>2,135,538</b>
Sub total	<b>641,766</b>	<b>96,916</b>	<b>1,056,660</b>	<b>643,508</b>	<b>2,438,850</b>	<b>2,703,344</b>
Support costs	165,241	24,954	272,067	165,688	627,950	699,863
Governance costs	9,359	1,413	15,409	9,385	35,566	56,342
<b>Total</b>	<b>816,366</b>	<b>123,283</b>	<b>1,344,136</b>	<b>818,581</b>	<b>3,102,366</b>	<b>3,459,549</b>

Outreach work includes streetwork, local helplines, association models and child friendly stations.

Shelter includes drop in centres, night shelters, government home work and refuge.

Reintegration work includes return home interviews, intensive family work, working with government homes and bio diverse farming.

## 5b Comparative Analysis of Charitable Expenditure by Activity

Grants	Outreach	Shelter	Reintegration	Influencing	Total
	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£	£	£
India	97,692	101,210	189,915	9,663	398,480
Kenya	-	-	-	-	-
Tanzania	47,791	28,447	64,511	28,577	169,326
<b>Grants sub total</b>	<b>145,483</b>	<b>129,657</b>	<b>254,426</b>	<b>38,240</b>	<b>567,806</b>
UK Staff	50,972	9,127	325,494	216,530	602,123
Overseas Staff	158,325	58,340	289,473	175,996	682,134
Office & Supplies	37,196	12,090	66,222	70,880	186,388
Services	71,682	29,256	152,759	138,538	392,235
Travel & Accommodation	56,739	9,714	126,211	101,843	294,507
Other	(7,943)	(6,616)	(14,112)	(1,607)	(30,278)
Depreciation	307	74	534	440	1,355
Gifts in Kind	1,813	1,615	3,170	476	7,074
	<b>369,091</b>	<b>113,600</b>	<b>949,751</b>	<b>703,096</b>	<b>2,135,538</b>
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>514,574</b>	<b>243,257</b>	<b>1,204,177</b>	<b>741,336</b>	<b>2,703,344</b>
Support costs	166,145	62,976	311,747	158,995	699,863
Governance costs	10,725	5,070	25,097	15,450	56,342
<b>Total</b>	<b>691,444</b>	<b>311,303</b>	<b>1,541,021</b>	<b>915,781</b>	<b>3,459,549</b>

## 6 Staff Costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
<u>UK Based Staff</u>		
Wages and salaries	1,600,832	1,468,507
National Insurance	176,961	154,350
Pension costs	94,205	86,316
<b>UK Based Sub Total</b>	<b>1,871,998</b>	<b>1,709,173</b>
Overseas staff	808,765	708,220
	<b>2,680,763</b>	<b>2,417,393</b>

## 7 Staff Numbers

The average number of employees was:

	2023	2022
Project development	18	18
Fundraising	17	17
Support and administration	2	2
<b>UK staff subtotal</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>37</b>
East Africa programme staff	33	35
India programme staff	34	33
<b>Total staff</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>105</b>

## Information regarding employees and trustees

\*No employees had emoluments in the range of £90,000 - £99,999 (2022 - one), three in the range £80-£89,999 (2022 - one) two in the range £70,000 - £79,999 (2022 - one) and one in the range £60,000 - £69,999 (2022 - two).

\*The cost of employing key management personnel including employer's NI and pension contributions was £535,566 (2022: £493,989)

## 8 Net incoming resources for the year

This is stated after charging:

	2023 £	2022 £
Operating lease rentals		
- Property	16,178	16,178
- Other	-	500
Depreciation	18,713	2,129
Auditors remuneration		
- Group Audit (excl irrecoverable VAT)	11,200	9,300
	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>

Trustee expenses represents the reimbursed travel and expenses of no Trustees (2022: nil).

## 9 Operating lease commitments

The charity had annual commitments at the year end under operating leases expiring as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Less than one year	11,400	11,553
2-5 years	18,050	33,250
	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
	<u>29,451</u>	<u>44,803</u>

## 10 Tangible Fixed Assets (Group and Charity)

	Charity Equipment & Furniture	Group Vehicles	Group Total
Cost	£	£	£
At beginning of year	67,589	13,338	80,927
Additions in year	-	17,312	17,312
Disposals	-		-
At close of year	<u>67,589</u>	<u>30,650</u>	<u>98,239</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At beginning of year	67,070	13,531	80,601
Charge for year	519	18,194	18,713
Disposals	-	(12,098)	(12,098)
At close of year	<u>67,589</u>	<u>19,627</u>	<u>87,216</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>			
Group and charity at close of year	<u>                    </u>	<u>11,023</u>	<u>11,023</u>
Group and charity at beginning of year	<u>519</u>	<u>(193)</u>	<u>326</u>

## 11 Investments

These consist of £100 of shares in Railway Children Trading Limited and an endowment fund invested for the benefit of work in India with a current value of £20,676.

<b>Railway Children Trading Limited</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Turnover	285,700	727,906
Expenditure	(23,723)	(176,532)
Use of Railway Children logo	(1,000)	(1,000)
Use of Railway Children staff	<u>(6,000)</u>	<u>(6,000)</u>
Trading profit / (loss)	254,977	544,374
Loan interest paid to Railway Children	-	-
Profit donated to Railway Children	<u>(254,977)</u>	<u>(544,374)</u>
Net profit for the year	-	-
Net assets carried forward at May 31	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

Railway Children Trading Company Limited is a 100% subsidiary of Railway Children. During the year £119,737 from Rail Aid, £25,333 from Xmas cards and £140,630 from UK programme activities. Net profit donated to the charity was £254,977 (2021: £544,374)

All the Railway Children Trading Company Limited's profits for the year are donated to Railway Children. Payments to Railway Children are regarded as a reduction of the charity's expenditure and cancel out on the consolidated accounts.

## 12 Taxation

Railway Children Limited is a registered charity and is thus exempt from taxation of its income and gains falling within Section 505 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that they are applied to its charitable objectives. No tax charge has arisen in the year.

<b>13 Railway Children Africa</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Turnover	257,284	202,152
Income from Railway Children	755,737	824,892
Expenditure	<u>(1,013,021)</u>	<u>(1,027,044)</u>
Net assets carried forward at May 31st	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Railway Children Africa Limited is a 100% subsidiary of Railway Children and income is derived from the restricted income from the parent charity with some locally raised restricted income. Railway Children Africa Limited carries out Railway Children's programme of work in Tanzania. The results of RCA are consolidated into the group as they have chosen to enter into an affiliation agreement with RC under which they are committed to the current group strategy using group systems

<b>14 Railway Children India</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Turnover	372,111	516,873
Income from Railway Children	67,687	75,156
Expenditure	<u>(688,770)</u>	<u>(610,134)</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>(248,972)</u>	<u>(18,105)</u>

Railway Children India Limited is a section 25 company registered in India. The results of RCI are consolidated into the group as they have chosen to enter into an affiliation agreement with RC under which they are committed to the current group strategy using group systems

## 15 India Liaison Office

This legal entity employs the Railway Children staff in India and is treated as a subsidiary in these accounts. Income for India LO was solely funded from the charity and amounted to £101,362 (2022: £101,765) and expenditure £97,963 (2022: £97,963).

## 16 Railway Children parent charity

The parent charity gross income for the year excluding RCTL income is £2,913,294 (2022: £2,634,732) and the net deficit for the year is £563,071 (2022 net deficit: £867,990).

**17 Debtors and Prepayments**

	Consolidated		Charity	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Debtors	-	-	-	-
Gift aid debtor	20,901	25,279	20,901	25,279
Other debtors	132,979	35,627	47,945	2,410
Prepayments and accrued income	17,389	57,096	17,389	57,096
Railway Children Africa - owed to charity	-	-	(14,998)	42,534
Railway Children Trading Limited - owed to charity	254	-	270,929	605,224
Total	171,523	118,002	342,166	732,543

**18 Liabilities: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year**

	Consolidated		Charity	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Creditors	83,711	63,782	36,416	35,517
Tax and national insurance	44,748	37,826	44,748	37,826
Accrued Expenditure	183,513	156,445	108,833	124,065
Total	311,972	258,053	189,997	197,408

**19a Analysis of group net assets between funds**

	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	General Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	-	-	31,799	31,799
Net current assets	955,895	415,575	229,411	1,600,881
Net assets at the end of the year	955,895	415,575	261,210	1,632,680

**19b Comparative of group net assets between funds**

	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	General Funds	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	21,102	21,102
Net current assets	1,045,396	797,000	145,517	1,987,913
Net assets at the end of the year	1,045,396	797,000	166,619	2,009,015

**20 Related Parties**

During the year there were related party transactions with Railway Children India, Railway Children Africa Limited and Railway Children Ball Limited. Income from Railway Children Ball Limited was £497,057 (2022: £144,755).

Railway Children is registered as a liaison office in India and manages the delivery of the India programme with funding provided entirely via Railway Children. Railway Children India is registered as a section 25 company in India and FCRA registered.

The Railway Children Ball Limited has one Trustee in common with Railway Children and runs an annual fundraising ball.

Railway Children Africa Limited is registered as a company in Tanzania and manages the delivery of the Tanzania programme with most funding provided via Railway Children. Railway Children representatives make up a majority of the board positions.

**21 Funds held on behalf of others**

The charity is part of an unincorporated association known as the Partnership for Vulnerable Children, formed with with three other charities: Childhope, Get Connected and ICT. The association operates a payroll giving scheme on behalf of its members. Railway Children performs the financial administration for the association.

The sole assets of the association are funds collected not yet dispersed which are held in a separate bank account. The balance on the account at May 31st 2023 was £1,794 (2022: £3,174). This bank account does not form part of these consolidated accounts.

22a Movement in Funds		Balance at	Movement in Resources		Transfers	Balance at
		01/06/2022	Incoming	Outgoing		31/05/2023
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Restricted Funds</b>						
<b>Region</b>	<b>Funder</b>					
Tanzania	Funds held by RCA	29,104	188,439	(53,232)	-	164,311
	Funds held by RC UK	56,686	125,171	(122,286)	-	59,571
	DfID - UK Aid Direct	-	6,382	-	-	6,382
India	APPI	226,614	(77,324)	(139,372)	-	9,918
	Honda	13,946	16	(4,467)	-	9,495
	Funds held by RCI	145,273	436,168	(427,119)	-	154,322
	Funds held by RC UK	251,649	76,996	(173,183)	-	155,462
UK		322,960	576,708	(495,029)	-	404,639
<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>		<b>1,046,232</b>	<b>1,332,556</b>	<b>(1,414,688)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>964,100</b>
<b>Restricted Funds in Deficit</b>		<b>(836)</b>	<b>31,484</b>	<b>(38,853)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(8,205)</b>
<b>Overall Restricted Funds</b>		<b>1,045,396</b>	<b>1,364,040</b>	<b>(1,453,541)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>955,895</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>						
<b>Designated Funds</b>						
	India	344,000	(125,155)	(144,392)	-	74,453
	UK	167,000	(52,256)	(75,834)	-	38,910
	East Africa	286,000	849,022	(832,810)	-	302,212
	<b>Total Designated Funds</b>	<b>797,000</b>	<b>671,611</b>	<b>(1,053,036)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>415,575</b>
	General Funds	166,619	1,822,887	(1,728,296)	-	261,210
	<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>963,619</b>	<b>2,494,498</b>	<b>(2,781,332)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>676,785</b>
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b>2,009,015</b>	<b>3,858,538</b>	<b>(4,234,873)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,632,680</b>

#### Purposes of Restricted Funds

All restricted funds are held for the relief of children and young persons in conditions of hardship and distress who live on or are at risk of running to the streets.

APPI funds are for work to assist street children on railway stations in India

PACT: Restricted for the assistance of street children and youth in Tanzania, in deficit as this is funded in arrears.

DfID: These funds relate to the assistance of street children in Tanzania.

#### Purposes of Designated Funds

These are to cover commitments made to partners made for the year ended May 31st 2024, details are contained in the annual report.

#### 22b Comparative Movement in Funds

		Balance at	Movement in Resources		Transfers	Balance at
		01/06/2022	Incoming	Outgoing		31/05/2023
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Restricted Funds</b>						
<b>Region</b>	<b>Funds</b>					
East Africa	Other funders	61,865	468,594	(457,216)	12,221	85,464
	DfID - UK Aid Match	(89,353)	-	-	89,353	-
	DfID - UK Aid Direct	172,700	80,072	(163,419)	(89,353)	-
India	APPI	350,118	295,740	(419,244)	-	226,614
	Other funders	345,309	335,209	(292,286)	10,972	399,204
	Honda	13,935	11	-	-	13,946
UK	Other UK	70,824	591,404	(331,108)	-	331,120
<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>		<b>925,398</b>	<b>1,771,030</b>	<b>(1,663,273)</b>	<b>23,193</b>	<b>1,056,348</b>
<b>Restricted Funds in Deficit</b>		<b>(2,293)</b>	<b>42,712</b>	<b>(51,371)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(10,952)</b>
<b>Overall Restricted Funds</b>		<b>923,105</b>	<b>1,813,742</b>	<b>(1,714,644)</b>	<b>23,193</b>	<b>1,045,396</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>						
<b>Designated Funds</b>						
	India	152,000	294,101	(102,101)	-	344,000
	UK	225,000	29,216	(87,216)	-	167,000
	East Africa	299,000	69,079	(82,079)	-	286,000
	<b>Total Designated Funds</b>	<b>676,000</b>	<b>392,396</b>	<b>(271,396)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>797,000</b>
	General Funds	753,067	1,886,814	(2,450,069)	(23,193)	166,619
	<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>1,429,067</b>	<b>2,279,210</b>	<b>(2,721,465)</b>	<b>(23,193)</b>	<b>963,619</b>
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b>2,352,172</b>	<b>4,092,952</b>	<b>(4,436,109)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,009,015</b>

**THE RAILWAY CHILDREN**

England & Wales - Charity number 1058991

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# Accounts

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# Railway Children

## Report and financial statements

For Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> May 2022



Railway Children is registered Charity No. 1058991 and a Registered Private Company Limited by Guarantee No. 3265496

**RAILWAY**  
**children**  
Fighting for street children

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## Reference and Administrative Information

### Registered Office

1 The Commons  
Sandbach  
Cheshire  
CW11 1EG

### Directors and Trustees

Haydn Abbott  
Timothy Hartley  
Judith Lister  
Trevor Winter  
Arun Muttreja  
Malcolm Brown  
Christine Taylor  
Tricia Wright  
Mo Bulbrook  
Andrea Minton-Beddoes  
Dr Delia Pop  
Dr Donald Mlewa

Chairman  
  
Retired 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2022  
Retired 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2022  
  
  
  
  
  
  
Retired 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2022  
Appointed 7<sup>th</sup> October 2021

### Group Chief Executive

Terina Keene

### Company Secretary

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### Solicitors

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CIN: U85100DL2013NPL260371

### Directors:

Harbhajan Singh  
Sanjay Gupta  
Yazmin Riaz  
Megha Jain (appointed Feb 2022)  
Terina Keene (Official Observer & Group CEO)

### Railway Children Trading Limited

Company Number: 6533182

### Directors:

Rupert Brennan Brown  
James Sinclair Bain  
Mirco Danesi  
Andrea Minton-Beddoes  
Terina Keene  
David Brookes - Secretary

### Railway Children Africa Limited

NGO Compliance No: 1563

### Directors:

Lulu Ng'wanakilala (Chair)  
John Kalage  
Terina Keene (RC Group CEO)  
Michael Holden  
Judy Lister  
Jeanne Ndyetabula (Co-opted)  
Sunday Kapesi

## Introduction by Haydn Abbott, Chairman

### Welcome to our Annual Report for 2022.

The last year has seen a continuation of the many challenges we faced in 2020 and 2021. As we all begin the lengthy process of recovery from the global pandemic, we are starting to understand the social, economic, and cultural effects of the last two years and their likely long-term impact with the most vulnerable and socially disadvantaged children and families.

Despite the challenges, our supporters have remained fiercely loyal to our cause, and for that we are eternally thankful. Once again, we remain indebted to our supporters in the rail industry who helped us to replace the significant loss of income from our cancelled events programme and the annual Railway Ball on which we rely so heavily. In the two years during the pandemic our new Rail Aid event raised a colossal £1.2m and provided stability to our operations at a time of great uncertainty. Similarly, our income from individual supporters grew yet again, demonstrating the incredible loyalty and commitment we are privileged to see across our supporter base. It is this bedrock of our fundraising that brings solidity during extremely unpredictable times.

In the last year, a number of our major grants with a cumulative value of £1.1m came to the end of their term, resulting in a 55% reduction in our grants income. Knowing in advance that it would be challenging to replace this income in the current environment, we were able to manage our reserves to sustain our programme delivery over the year. This financial planning alongside a 4% growth in our voluntary income has meant we have only seen an 8% reduction in our charitable spend and I thank our management team and my board for this safe steering of the ship through tricky waters.

The efforts of our project teams this year has been an inspiration and a huge source of pride. The closure of stations, cancellation of trains, countless government lockdowns and complete loss of livelihoods all had a significant impact on the way we reach out to children and their families. In some cases, our teams were forced to completely rethink their approach to ensure they could still reach children when they were more vulnerable than ever. In the last year we worked with 14,422 children and alongside that, we ran our first, successful online international child safeguarding conference.

Looking ahead, our new 5-year strategy will launch later this year. Given the context we are now working in we aim to leave no child behind. It is about working with children and families before, during and after they turn to the streets to survive. For the world, it is about recognising the unique vulnerabilities of children struggling to survive on the streets and the consequences of not acting, alongside the potential if those at the highest risk of harm can be protected in the global development goals.

While the scale of our challenge maybe huge and our resources maybe limited, we have the knowledge and determination to make a substantial impact directly and indirectly on the lives of thousands of children, both now and for generations to come.

On behalf of the trustees and the charity, I thank our supporters for your continued loyalty and generosity which makes our work achievable.

Haydn Abbott

# Aims and Achievements

## Aims

Railway Children was founded in 1996 and its objective is:

'The relief of children and young persons under 25 years of age who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress, anywhere in the world and in particular those who are living on the streets'.

Since then, Railway Children's work has benefitted thousands of children and young people living alone and at risk on the streets.

Our work aims to create and enable sustainable change in the lives of individual children, communities and in the wider policy and practice that affects all children living alone on the streets.

## Public Benefit

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. This report is produced for the benefit of the public and contains an explanation of the significant activities undertaken during the year in order to carry out the charity's aims and also measure achievements against the objectives set by the Trustees.

## Principal Activities

In achieving our aims, we work at three levels for long term change. We recognise that to create, enable and sustain change we need to balance activities, and therefore;

1. We aim to make early interventions in the lives of vulnerable children on the streets before they come to serious harm
2. We change the perceptions of local communities. We make children on the streets visible to their communities and aid understanding of how they came to be there and the support they need.; and
3. We use research, expertise and strong relationships with key individuals and departments to influence policy makers and leverage government support.

By working at all three levels, we ensure positive sustainable change, both in the lives of children currently surviving on the streets and those currently at home but living with neglect, violence and/or abuse where living on the streets may become their only survival option.

## Achievements

The following outlines the wider strategy goals (2017-2022), alongside the objectives we set ourselves for this year and the progress we made.

### Strategy Goal 1

**We will make a step change in the number of children we can reach, delivering services that significantly improve their life outcomes**

- **Tanzania - We will provide support services to 1470 children and youth living & working on the streets, 80 child domestic workers, and 90 children in residential care in three cities in Tanzania, namely Dar es Salaam, Mwanza and Dodoma**

We have provided support services to 2,270 children and youth living and working on the streets, 91 child domestic workers, and 32 children in residential care in three cities in Tanzania, namely Dar es Salaam, Mwanza and Dodoma. Activity within a key project to reunify children living in residential care with their families was paused for an extended period, but is now on track to meet its targets after the end of this financial year.

Additionally, 820 children and their siblings were supported to return to school; 71 youth were provided with life skills education and 32 youth were given business training and seed funding to start-up their own businesses, helping them to follow a sustainable route away from living on the street and establish a financially secure future.

- **India - 7100 children living at and around 10 railway stations in India will be reached and protected. Of these, 2000 children protected at railway stations will be restored back to families or long-term care. A further 900 vulnerable families will be strengthened to ensure the wellbeing of their children and prevent their repeat separation.**

All our station-based work was severely impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. Through the year, various lockdowns, suspensions of rail services and restrictions on unallocated seating all significantly reduced the numbers of children arriving alone and at risk at stations.

Nonetheless, by shifting a greater proportion of our work towards supporting families living in 24 slum communities adjacent to our project stations and offering extended material support to 2,400 families of previously reunified children, we were able to protect more than 10,000 children living at and around 10 railway stations in India.

This included 3,053 children protected after arriving alone at 10 railway stations, with 2,402 children reunified with family and 30 children referred to long term care. Our support to families centred around the provision of groceries, helping to alleviate the desperate condition of families whose income had dried up as a result of the pandemic – many of whom are ordinarily reliant on working as daily-wage labourers. Additionally, we helped 870 families to gain access to public social protection schemes; enrolled 192 children into school; enrolled 48 reunified youth into vocational skill courses and linked 329 children under the age of 6 with the government's Integrated Child Development Scheme.

- **UK - We will develop our existing projects with some new initiatives which include a new way of managing referrals so that 120 young people whose needs are best met by other services can be referred on promptly. Our outreach work will be enhanced to ensure that 517 young people are contacted at hot spot areas or whilst in custody. 600 young people will be provided with advice and information and we will support 160 young people and families directly**

The establishment of a dedicated referrals coordinator role has enabled us to manage and process referrals in a more timely and consistent way across all four projects. New systems ensure that every young person referred to us by the British Transport Police is contacted and offered support and advice.

Our onward referrals and outreach work were significantly constrained by the COVID pandemic. We frequently found that many services were not accepting new referrals; had long waiting lists; were offering reduced services or had simply ceased to exist. We therefore prioritised networking and establishing new referral paths. 30 young people whose needs are best met by other services were referred on and we engaged with 309 young people through our outreach work in hotspot locations, including joining operations and patrols with the British Transport Police. We also engaged with 1500 young people in educational settings who have been identified as needing further information and advice based on ongoing needs and concerns for safety.

We provided 943 young people with information and guidance about keeping safe on the network and have directly supported 163 young people and their families with intensive casework.

## **Strategy Goal 2**

**We will change people's perceptions of children on the streets to reduce the level of harm they face**

**In Tanzania, we will reach 31,200 people in Mwanza with awareness messages promoting the rights of children and youth living & working on the streets and domestic workers and continue to support the children & youth platforms to ensure children & young people have a voice and engage with the government.**

Approximately 152,670 people were reached with awareness messages. 36,020 people were reached through community dialogues which engaged the local community in a collaborative, participatory, and interactive way, delivered in local languages to ensure equality and diversity. These meetings were led by youth trained by us as youth champions. In addition to promoting the rights of children and youth living & working on the streets and child domestic workers, they support community members to identify drivers of radicalisation and violent extremism and present community concerns to the police and authorities. A total of 97 youth have been identified and trained as youth champions and they continue to work with Local Government Authority and religious leaders to support their communities.

**In India, 3500 railway officials and 20,000 passengers will be trained and sensitised on child protection and Covid-19 prevention in India. A network of 20,000 ticket checking staff will protect children alone on the rail network. Staff at 25 railway stations and districts recognised as hotspots for child trafficking will be alerted to child protection issues**

A total of 5049 Railway officials have been trained on child protection, 44% more than the annual target. Alongside sessions at 10 Railway Training Institutes, training was also delivered at 44 stations. Railway Children India also conducted training on 'Human Trafficking' at the Railway Protection Force Academy. We provided technical assistance on child protection issues to the 'Indian Railway Ticket Checking Staff Organisation' which has more than 20,000 ticket checking staff of Indian Railways. This resulted in their members protecting 137 children in moving trains where our staff have no presence.

**In the UK, 6,000 transport staff will be provided with a greater awareness and understanding of vulnerable children through our training programme, ensuring they know how to respond to young people in need and where to refer them**

Our training programme for the staff of train operating companies was disrupted by a range of external factors including the global pandemic and industrial action. We trained 2742 transport staff and expect more than 13,000 additional staff to complete our training in 2022.

**We will develop Safeguarding Action Groups in three key locations. These groups will raise awareness, share local intelligence, and generate local solutions designed to safeguard young people**

Safeguarding Action Groups have been established and are now running at five locations across the UK (Manchester, Birmingham New Street, Glasgow Central, Hull and London Waterloo). These groups convene a varied collection of members including representatives from train operating companies, British Transport Police, facilities managers, commercial operators, voluntary organisations and local authorities. Each group is unique and sharing good practice, ideas, and issues for their own individual location.

**Our staff will engage with the British Transport Police (BTP) through at least four joint initiatives. We will continue to brief and engage in events with 750 officers, increasing their awareness and engagement with the Safeguarding on Transport programme**

Our safeguarding on transport training is now part of the induction programme for all new BTP officers. Additionally, we have delivered training to Inspectors as part of their career development and to Special PCs as part of their refresher weekend. The Birmingham team have also formed a link with the BTP cadets.

Our staff supported the British Transport Police (BTP) and the BTP County Lines team with joint operations in Norwich, Cardiff, Hull, York, Stratford, Manchester Piccadilly, and Liverpool Lime Street. A week long programme conducted in partnership with the BTP at London Waterloo included a contextual safeguarding risk assessment, passenger awareness raising, briefings with officers and catalysed the foundation of a Safeguarding Action Group. Monthly passenger engagement at Leeds station is undertaken with cooperation from partner agencies, West Yorkshire Police and BTP.

In total we engaged with 602 BTP officers and staff over the course of the year.

### **Strategy Goal 3**

**We will build political will around the issues of children living on the streets**

**Tanzania - We will continue to lobby for investment in services to ensure support is made available to children & youth using governments own resources, ensuring investment from at least five district councils. At national level we will ensure commitment from central government to develop a National Guideline for Working with children and youth living on the streets in Tanzania**

We conducted a review of the budgets of the district councils where we work with the analysis findings being used as an advocacy tool to lobby for investment.

We received verbal confirmation from the Department of Social Work that the government will be developing a national strategy for working with children living and working on the street, and we are meeting with a technical team from the Ministry in June 2022 to agree a roadmap for developing the national strategy.

Railway Children Africa has developed an agreement with Central Government on how the two parties will collaborate to advance the rights of street connected children. A group of Members of Parliament representing the social services and community development parliamentary committee visited our Kivuko project in Mwanza. The visit allowed the MPs to understand the issues and challenges faced by children and how Railway Children works to respond to those challenges. Key requests were made to the parliamentary group including using their power and influence to demand that resources for street connected children are specifically allocated within the next budget and also to ensure the enforcement of policies for children who have dropped out of school being accepted back into education.

## **India -Civil society, Railway authorities and government child protection authorities are alert to child trafficking instances and are prepared to protect children at 25 hotspot railway stations**

A status report on child protection at railway stations on the Howrah-Delhi mainline was prepared drawing on secondary data and interactions with Government and non-government stakeholders. 25 railway stations on the Howrah-Delhi mainline were identified as hotspots and training was delivered between December 2021 – March 2022 to local stakeholders including civil society, railway authorities and government child protection staff. 1224, children were protected from abuse and exploitation at these locations.

**UK - We will continue to work in partnership with the British Transport Police and industry bodies at a senior level to ensure that safeguarding continues to be included in the strategic vision for the rail industry. By working collaboratively, we will ensure that plans are in place to identify and respond to vulnerable people. This will specifically mean focussing on**

- **Six train operators safeguarding policies will be approved by British Transport Police**
- **Two further operators will receive full Safeguarding on Rail Scheme accreditation**
- **We will continue to work with the Department for Transport to ensure that safeguarding remains central in new targets in the development of Great British Rail**

Six Train Operating Companies (TOCs) that we have been working with have had their safeguarding policies approved by the British Transport Police; one achieved their full accreditation in September 2021 and a second is on track to gain their full accreditation in August 2022. We continue to monitor the development of Great British Rail to ensure we have the opportunity to influence the weighting that is placed on safeguarding within new franchise agreements.

## **Fundraising**

### **Strategic Operational Goal 3**

**Income goal being reassessed – goal was to grow income from £3.4m to £8m by 2022**

- **As we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic, we will continue our growth in voluntary income, raising £2.8m in the UK and supporting our colleagues in India and Tanzania to grow their fundraising activities, particularly in corporate fundraising.**

Voluntary income grew to £2.98m in this financial year, a growth of 4% on budget and last year's income. In addition, we have supported our colleagues in India to recruit and restart the corporate fundraising department while also supporting the increase of individual fundraising from £75,000 to £135,000. We have worked directly with the team in Tanzania to provide new and refreshed corporate and trusts and foundations activity, aiming to create a fundraising function in-country.

- **We recognise that as our significant FCDO grant ends, we face a challenge in securing restricted income. We will develop a strategy to fill the £1m reduction in restricted income and reduce the risk of over reliance on single multi-year donors. We will undertake a thorough internal and external audit of the restricted fundraising marketplace and create a strategic plan, tied to programme delivery, to reduce future financial cliff faces**

We have undertaken a strategic grants review in order to assess the marketplace while resourcing the team in order to attract mid-level trusts and foundations as well as larger scale institutional grants. The structure is now in place to build substantial growth in 2022-23 onwards. In addition, we secured £468,000 from trusts and foundations in order to minimise any disruption to project delivery.

**As a charity, we are committed to providing the highest quality of supporter care and will deliver a new strategy that ensures it is a key component of the entire group. This will**

**include supporter panels and introduce a clear pathway to regular giving from our events participants. We will secure over 6,000 donors across the charity and grow our regular giving base to 2,400**

6,699 people donated to Railway Children during 2021-22, increasing from 6,265 the previous year. Our regular giving donor base stands at 2,195 and while the recruitment of new supporters was more difficult against the backdrop of the pandemic, their loyalty grew with the average gift of regular givers rising from £144 per year to £150 per year and cash donor value rising from £108 on average to £114.

#### **Strategic - Operational Goal 4**

**We will be the voice for street children, raising awareness and building a better understanding of the issue**

- **We will continue to strengthen our position as the ‘go-to’ agency for children on the streets, strengthening our credibility and reputation internationally as we develop our new 5-year strategy. We will continue the development of the new brand strategy, ensuring it is relevant in all our territories in the post-Covid environment**

A comprehensive consultation with staff and trustees from all of our affiliates informed and enabled us to develop our new five-year strategy which seeks to position Railway Children as experts for street connected children. A fresh review of our brand and our communications has begun in line with the development of the new strategy as we seek to amplify our voice and ensure street children are part of the conversation in the development of the post 2030 sustainable goals, leaving no child behind

- **We will increase support for children on the streets through the development of new innovative communication collateral to maximise income and develop sustainable, long-term partnerships with supporters across all territories**

Our digital fundraising continued to flourish, with enhanced monitoring and use of data informing all our online activities. Our annual supporter survey showed that our relationships and engagement with supporters continues to thrive, and this is further endorsed by digital data across our social media and digital channels which are tested and monitored consistently. As a consequence of more sophisticated digital approaches, our Rail Aid campaign in the wake of the pandemic raised a cumulative £1.2m over two years and our individual giving programme prospered with further year-on-year income growth.

- **As we seek to increase the profile of our programmes in India, Tanzania and the UK, we will create a comprehensive communications calendar for each of our programme territories and specifically we will:**

- **Support our communications team in India to establish campaign intelligence metrics to strengthen our marketing performance and ensure quality of engagement**

Working intensively with our marketing & fundraising team in India, we have established a full dashboard of digital data from our online marketing activities, enabling us to establish benchmarks and develop a programme of testing and improvement. Our teams are working together to coordinate digital fundraising activities and share learning and expertise to drive performance. In 2022/23 we will launch a new website for Railway Children India, informed by Search Engine Optimisation analysis and our data from the last year.

- **Support our team in Tanzania to launch and host of an online international safeguarding conference**

The online international safeguarding conference was a huge success, attracting delegates from many nationalities. The branding and quality of collateral, along with a highly professional production and streaming service, ensured a strong participation across all seminars and outstanding post conference feedback. After such a successful delivery of the first event, and the excellent profile for Railway Children Africa and our beneficiaries in the region, we will look to repeat the event in future years.

- **Work with our UK programme team to launch a public facing awareness campaign as part of our work with the UK rail network and British Transport Police**

Whilst the launch of the event was delayed by further Covid restrictions, we were able to conduct soft launches and testing of the materials with rail partners in Glasgow and London. Our partners at GWR have wrapped one of their trains in the campaign collateral and JC Decaux provided free digital advertising sites for us to test media at Glasgow Central. Now that public footfall in stations is increasing, plans are now in place to launch the full campaign at Manchester Piccadilly Station in partnership with our Safeguarding Action Group.

## **Partners & Projects - East Africa**

### **Cheka Sana, Mwanza, Tanzania**

The programme provides the resources needed to explore possibilities of children returning home to their families and communities. Work in the community with families and self-help groups ensures children can remain safe in a family environment and are therefore prevented from migrating to the streets.

(Total support 2021-22 £56,347)

### **Dar project, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania (RCA Direct)**

Railway Children Africa's direct delivery project focuses on street work and family reintegration. - Youths based on the street are supported to form 'associations' and develop life skills, including vocational and business skills to ensure improved opportunities and income generation.

(Total support 2021-22 £45,408, Unrestricted designated funds 2022-23 £79k)

### **Kivuko, Mwanza, Tanzania (RCA Direct)**

Railway Children Africa's direct delivery project focuses on street work and family reintegration. - Youths based on the street are supported to form 'associations' and develop life skills, including vocational and business skills to ensure improved opportunities and income generation.

(Total support 2021-22 £307,017- Unrestricted designated funds 2022-23 £171k)

### **Amani, Moshi, Tanzania**

Providing care and protection for children and youth on the streets in Arusha and Moshi, reuniting children with families and enabling youths to become productive members of the community.

(Total support 2021-22 £505)

### **Baba Watoto, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania**

Ensuring children and youth are protected and their talents in arts and sports are developed. Empowering youth to become self-motivated and gain employment.

(Total support 2021-22 £10,571)

### **Caritas, Mbeya, Tanzania**

Providing care and protection for children and youth on the streets in Mbeya, reuniting children with families and enabling youths to become productive members of the community.

(Total support 2021-22 £861)

### **IDYDC, Iringa, Tanzania**

Providing care and protection for children and youth on the streets in Iringa, reuniting children with families and enabling youths to become productive members of the community.

(Total support 2021-22 £2,071)

### **Kisedet, Dodoma, Tanzania**

Providing care and protection for children and youth on the streets in Dodoma, reuniting children with families and enabling youths to become productive members of the community.

(Total support 2021-22 £41,681- Unrestricted Designated funds 2022-23 £36k)

### **Kigamboni Community Centre, Mwanza**

Support the reintegration of children from KCC long term shelter to family-based care, empower youths that are above 18 years or nearly 18 on how to become self-reliant and cope with outside world when they are supposed to leave the centres and conduct adoption campaign in collaboration with government social welfare officers.

(Total support 2021-22 £4,057)

### **Consortium for Street Children**

Providing advocacy support for the DFID project in Tanzania to ensure the General Comment No. 21 on Children in Street Situations is adopted.

(Total support 2021-22 £16,251)

### **Tanzania Child Rights Forum (TCRF)**

Works to bring together Civil Society Organisations working with and for children to promote the rights of children and young people. TCRF are working with Railway Children to ensure Tanzania applies much of what has been included in the UN General Comment 21 on Children in Street Situations.

(Total support 2020-21 £9,242)

### **Village of Hope, Mwanza**

Support the reintegration of children from KCC long term shelter to family-based care, empower youths that are above 18 years or nearly 18 on how to become self-reliant and cope with outside world when they are supposed to leave the centres and conduct adoption campaign in collaboration with government social welfare officers

(Total support 2021-22 £4,794)

### **Wote Sawa, Mwanza**

WoteSawa strives to empower current and former Child Domestic Workers to understand, safeguard, promote and reinforce their rights in Tanzania through legal and economic empowerment, child abuse monitoring, psychosocial support and policy reforms in conformity to the national and international child welfare standards.

(Total Support 2021-22 £32,180)

## **Partners & Projects - India**

### **Narayani Seva Sansthan, Bihar**

Outreach at Dharbhanga station and provision of a shelter for rehabilitation of children alongside a programme of family reunification and reintegration, including a school enrolment campaign

(Total support 2021-22 £22,147)

### **The Hope House, Tamil Nadu**

Outreach at Katpadi station and shelter for rehabilitation of children alongside a family reunification and reintegration programme

(Total support 2021-22 £56,695 – Unrestricted designated funds 2022-23 £57k)

### **Scope, Tamil Nadu**

Outreach at Villupuram station and shelter for rehabilitation of children alongside a family reunification and reintegration programme

(Total support 2021-22 £52,173)

### **Terre Des Hommes, Tamil Nadu**

Outreach at Salem station and shelter for rehabilitation of children alongside a family reunification and reintegration programme

(Total support 2021-22 £66,438)

### **Delhi (RCI Direct project)**

Outreach programme at Delhi Cantonment and Sarai Rohilla stations alongside a rehabilitation and family reunification programme

(Total support 2021-22 £70,204, Unrestricted designated funds 2022-23 £62k)

### **Ghaziabad (RCI Direct project)**

Outreach programme at Ghaziabad station alongside a rehabilitation and family reunification programme

(Total support 2021-22 £15,080, Unrestricted designated funds 2022-23 £30k)

### **Humara Bachpan Trust, Bhubaneswar**

Outreach at station and shelter for rehabilitation of children alongside a family reunification and reintegration programme

(Total support 2022-23 £37,128)

**Salam Balak Trust, Ghaziabad**

Outreach at station and shelter for rehabilitation of children alongside a family reunification and reintegration programme

(Total support 2021-22 £78,565, Unrestricted designated funds 2022-23 £30k)

**SEVAI, Tiruchirappalli**

Outreach at Salem station and shelter for rehabilitation of children alongside a family reunification and reintegration programme

(Total support 2021-22 £45,878– Unrestricted Designated funds 2022-23 £55k)

**Sankalp Sanskritik Samiti, Raipur**

Outreach at Raipur station and shelter for rehabilitation of children alongside a family reunification and reintegration programme

(Total support 2021-22 £25,701)

**Yuva Urban Initiatives, Mumbai**

Outreach at Dadar station and shelter for rehabilitation of children alongside a family reunification and reintegration programme

(Total support 2021-22 £13,756)

**UK Projects**

Railway Children delivers direct support to children referred to us by the British Transport Police, with services running in Birmingham, Leeds, London and Manchester during the last year. Our services include Information and guidance alongside intensive one-to-one and family support where children are referred with complex needs and vulnerabilities. In addition, we provide safeguarding training and awareness across the industry to protect and safeguard vulnerable children.

This incorporates our Safeguarding on Transport awareness training and having Railway Children project workers based within the station community to assess the needs of children referred from the British Transport Police and provide ongoing one-to-one support, family work or mentoring as appropriate.

(Total support 2021-22 £433,827- Designated unrestricted funds 2022-23 £36k (Manchester), £67k (London), £23k (Leeds) and £41k (Birmingham))

## **Objectives for 2022-23**

In 2022 we will launch our new five year strategy that aims to leave no child behind, wherever we work.

Our new strategy will launch as the world commits to a decade of action towards achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. A key principle of the Goals is to leave no-one behind and we believe this gives us an opportunity to put the children we work with on the global agenda.

To achieve this aim we will be strengthening:

1. Programmes and services, before, during after a child has survived on the streets, to ensure children are safe, at home and in a nurturing environment
2. Community responses, to enable local people to identify and protect vulnerable children
3. Child protection systems and policies, to ensure public sector policies and budgets safeguard vulnerable and at risk children
4. Investment in evidence, to demonstrate need and proven models of achieving impact

The objectives for 2022/23 represent the milestones we intend to achieve in year one of our new 5-year strategy.

## **Goal 1 – Children will be safe, at home and in a nurturing environment**

### **Tanzania**

- We will support 1840 Children and Youth Living and Working on the streets in three cities. 300 CLWS will be reintegrated into safe and protective families. 930 contact children and siblings will be provided with school support

### **India**

- We will protect 4500 children arriving at 8 railway stations and 1 bus station and restore 90% of the protected children through family reunification, adoption, kinship care, and as a last resort child-care institutes by May 2023

### **UK**

- We will develop our existing 4 projects so that 120 young people whose needs are best met by other services can be referred on promptly.
- Our outreach work will be enhanced to ensure that 517 young people are contacted at during outreach work with the British Transport Police
- 600 young people will be provided with advice and information, and we will support 160 young people and families directly

## **Goal 2 – Communities are able to identify and protect vulnerable children**

### **In Tanzania**

We will reach 15,000 people in Mwanza with awareness messages on the rights of children and youth living on the streets and build capacities of children and youth across three cities to empower them as confident, informed and effective advocates of their own rights.

### **In India**

We will improve child engagement and family reunification process within two government childcare institutes (CCIs) by May 2023.

### **In the UK**

4,800 transport staff will be provided with a greater awareness and understanding of vulnerable children through our training programme, ensuring they know how to respond to young people in need and where to refer them

### **Goal 3 Public sector policies and budgets safeguard vulnerable and at risk children**

**In Tanzania**, we will engage with national government and three district councils in selected cities to advocate for allocation of substantial budgetary resource to ensure child protection laws and regulations are effectively enforced to realise children's rights, in particular the rights of vulnerable and at-risk children and youth.

**In India**, we will protect an estimated 1000 children at risk through collaboration with the Railway protection Force, Government Railway Police, commercial railway staff, and government stakeholders of 30 major railway stations across Howrah Delhi mainline Railway route.

**In the UK**, we will work in partnership with the British Transport Police (BTP) and industry bodies at a senior level to ensure that safeguarding continues to be included in the strategic vision for the rail industry. By working collaboratively, we will ensure that plans are in place to identify and respond to vulnerable people. This will specifically mean focussing on

- ensuring six train operators safeguarding policies are approved by the British Transport Police
- supporting two further operators to receive full Safeguarding on Rail Scheme (SRS) accreditation
- continuation of work with the Department for Transport via BTP's Designing Out Crime team in relation to the SRS
- engagement with the development of Great British Rail to ensure that safeguarding is integral to their strategy

### **Fundraising**

- We will secure £4.5m in income across the Railway Children group, raising voluntary income by 12% to £3.3m and support the growth of in-country fundraising in India and Tanzania.
- We will help to ensure the financial stability of the organisation by raising the volume of unrestricted income by securing 1,000 new cash donors to the charity and growing our regular giving supporters by 5% to over 2,300. We will secure £2.683m of unrestricted income, supported by our corporate partners including Rail Aid and The Railway Ball
- We will support the organisation achieving its Theory of Change by securing over £1m in restricted gifts via Trusts and Foundations, institutional giving and in country funders.

### **Brand**

- We will review our brand positioning in line with the new organisational strategy and develop a group led public affairs strategy that positions Railway Children to achieve our programme goals.
- We will work with our programme teams to distil their strategic intentions into clear themes as we build a 12-month tactical communications plans that supports our advocacy activities and informs a deeper public affairs strategy.
- As digital technology advances and the online needs of our affiliate partners increase, we will develop a digital strategy that enables us to maximise new technological opportunities, integrate our digital channels and provide consistent brand representation and user experiences across our affiliate sites.

## **Fundraising Statement**

Railway Children carries out a variety of fundraising activities, approaching individuals and companies for support and sponsorship as well as Trusts and Foundations. We occasionally employ a professional fundraising agency to undertake telephone and face-to-face fundraising activity on our behalf. Our policies and approach to fundraising are as follows.

- We are registered with the Fundraising Regulator and comply with the Codes of Fundraising Practice. We are regularly updated with changes in practice and enforce change where necessary
- We adhere to our policy set up to protect vulnerable people, ensuring that the policy is enforced throughout all fundraising activities and with all parties
- Before the appointment of a third-party fundraising supplier, we make checks with other charity clients including financial checks and ensure that their practices meet our ethical criteria. Once appointed strict stewardship of the relationship is applied through daily discussions on any issues and regularly listening to calls
- We reviewed our data protection policy and procedures in preparation for the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the fundraising code of practice and regularly monitor the implementation of this throughout the organisation
- We give our supporters clear opportunities to opt out of any further contact as part of every approach
- Our supporter promises and privacy policy is clearly displayed on our website and regularly communicated to our supporters
- We do not share or sell data with any other organisations
- During 2020/21 Railway Children received one complaint. This was dealt with and resolved.

Supporters and our beneficiaries are at the heart of what we do. We strive to achieve high standards in our fundraising and communication with supporters. We stand by the principles set out in our supporter promise.

## **Financial Results**

### **Income**

The total income for the year was £4.09m with £2.28m of unrestricted and £1.81m of restricted income. Within these amounts grant income contributed £1.42m. Corporate contributions included £0.72m from our Rail Aid event and £0.91m from other corporate fundraising including our events programme. Our individual giving programme, including fundraising in India raised £0.98m. The balance of the income was from donated services and interest. Income received through the UK decreased from £3.95m to £3.38m.

### **Charitable Activities**

The total charitable expenditure delivered in the year was £3.27m - a decrease of £0.29m (9.2 per cent) this was largely a result of coronavirus slowing down programme delivery and contraction of the Tanzania programme as grant funding came to an end. This expenditure made up 73.8 per cent (previous year 79.3 per cent) of total expenditure. Our geographically focused charitable activity divided between our Indian programme at 43 per cent (previously 28 per cent); our UK programme at 12 per cent (previously 12 per cent) and our Tanzania programme at 45 per cent (previously 60 per cent).

### **Expenditure on Fundraising**

Expenditure on fundraising accounted for 26.3 per cent of our total income (previous year 18.9%). These costs were a mixture of staff, support costs and mailing activity. The expenditure on fundraising increased due to the restarting of our events programme.

## Structure, Governance and Management

Railway Children is a charitable company limited by guarantee 3265496, Registered Charity No. 1058991, incorporated on 18th October 1996 and registered as a charity on 5th November 1996.

The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. Under those Articles, the Trustees, who form the Board of Trustees, are elected at the Annual General Meeting to serve a period of three years, with one third of their number retiring at each AGM.

The Memorandum and Articles of Railway Children express its objects as 'the relief of children and young persons under 25 years of age who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress, anywhere in the world and in particular those who are living on the streets'.

Railway Children Trading Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary company (number 6533182) limited by shares. The company is registered for VAT and is used by Railway Children to conduct its trading activities. All profits are gift aided to the parent charity.

Railway Children Africa (RCA) is registered in Tanzania as an NGO, with NGO compliance (1563) under the Non-Governmental Organisations Act. The board consists of Railway Children representatives and Tanzanian nationals. The company manages our operations in Tanzania. The results for this company are consolidated into the accounts.

Railway Children India (RCI) is a Section 8 company registered in India that commenced operations in FY2015-16.

RCA and RCI operate as independent organisations governed by their own boards. These boards have been granted use of the Railway Children mark under licence in return for operating in accordance with group policies and quality standards in so far as is legally permissible in their jurisdiction. The results of RCA and RCI are consolidated into the group in view of the choice of these organisations to work to the current group strategy using group systems.

The governance of the charity has been reviewed in the context of the Charity Commission's Governance Code which has resulted in a strengthening of the quality standards the group uses to ensure integrity and inclusivity in the charity's operations.

## Vision and Beliefs

As an organisation, Railway Children recognises that the environment in which we operate in is one of uncertainty and constant change. The resources we rely on in order to meet our charitable aims are both competitive and subject to ever-changing trends, whilst our beneficiary environment is one that varies frequently. In response to this we construct our organisation so we can be as flexible and as innovative as possible. We nurture a culture that is both informal, inclusive and open without compromising on accountability or professionalism. This culture reflects a commitment to making a lasting change in the lives of children at risk on the streets and is informed by our stated values which work together to underpin all that we do:

'Our vision is a world where no child ever has to live on the streets'

## Values

### THESE SIX VALUES GUIDE OUR WORK

**NEVER GIVE UP** - Face challenges head on

**HAVE COURAGE** - Push boundaries. Think Big

**EARN TRUST** - Be Honest. Always act with Integrity

**SHOW COMPASSION** - Respect and Dignity for all

**NURTURE TALENT** - Encourage growth. Enable others

## **Governance - Trustee Responsibilities**

As a charity accountable to all our donors, our resources must be carefully managed, and our legal responsibilities met.

Since its incorporation, the Railway Children Trustees have been the organisation's governing body. Trustees hold ultimate legal responsibility for the charity and collectively ensure delivery of our objectives, set our strategic direction and uphold our values as an organisation.

The key responsibilities of the Trustees are:

- Development and annual review of the charity's performance from definition of concepts to approval of the strategic direction
- Setting objectives for the development and review of our strategic plan, including approval on annual budgets and plans
- Approval of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts
- Identification and management of risks
- Appointment of Sub-Committees and delegation of powers
- Appointment, terms and conditions and delegation of powers to the Group Chief Executive
- Monitoring compliance with both company and charity law
- The stewardship of assets

Railway Children as a group operates under the guidance of a Board of Trustees. The implementation of the Trustees' plans and policies, and the responsibility for performance is vested in the Group Chief Executive.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total amount of such guarantees on 31 May 2022 was £270 (2021 - £280). The Trustees are members of the charity, but this entitles them only to voting rights. The Trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

## **Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees**

Under the requirements of the Articles of Association, all members of the charity are permitted to stand for election as Trustees at the Annual General Meeting. The Trustee body has the necessary powers to appoint a new Trustee at any time. Any such appointed Trustee can hold office until the next Annual General Meeting, when they can stand for election.

One third of all, being the longest standing Trustees, retires in rotation and is eligible for re-appointment at the Annual General Meeting. The minimum number of Trustees is set at three and currently there are thirteen. There is no set maximum number.

## **Trustee Induction and Training**

Members of the charity who are considering standing as a Trustee are invited to attend Trustee meetings, to allow them to get to know the charity and the roles and responsibilities of a charity Trustee. Additionally, new Trustees are encouraged to attend an induction meeting, led by the Chairman and the Group Chief Executive. The meeting covers the following aspects:

- Background to and history of the charity and the context in which it operates.
- The principal responsibilities of a charity trustee.
- A summary of the charity's governing documents.
- The charity's current financial position and forecasts.
- The strategic plan and current progress against objectives.

A Trustee **HANDBOOK** exists to assist both new and existing Trustees in the discharge of their responsibilities. The handbook, which has been updated in April 2022, includes governance and operational policies, the Memorandum and Articles, role descriptions of officers and current delegations. Trustees are encouraged to keep themselves up to date through appropriate training.

**Remuneration Policy**

Railway Children commits to recruiting and paying all our staff up to the median rate, determined by an independently benchmarked scale that is reviewed every three years.

In the UK, we use the Charity data cut of the Croner Salary Search on-line survey. In the UK we benchmark our salaries which ensures salaries are fair and competitive. The data is cut in the following categories, International Development, job ranking, job role, size of charity (Annual income), size of charity (Number of employees).

The salaries of the Group CEO and UK Director positions must be approved by the People and Culture Committee (PCC).

**Risks**

The Trustees and senior staff have produced a five-year strategy (2023-2027) setting out the major opportunities available to the charity and the risks to which it is exposed. All risks are reviewed and updated quarterly by the Finance and Audit Committee and the Board of Trustees. As part of this process, the Trustees have developed a Risk Management Policy, which comprises:

- A quarterly review of the risks the charity may face
- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the plan
- The implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should any of those risks materialise

Key risks for 2022-23	Mitigations
Securing ongoing funding	Continued investment in fundraising and diversifying income streams. In year budget changes if required.
Delivering services safely in areas impacted by coronavirus	Taking best practice risk management and applying to local environments.
Recruitment and retention of suitable staff	Ensuring that salaries are benchmarked, there is emphasis on good staff supervision and financial planning gives confidence to key staff as regards retention.
Safeguarding	Safeguarding teams continue to respond to instances in line with policies and also build implementing partner capacity

**Reserves**

The Board of Trustees reviews the charity’s reserves policy annually.

The basis of Railway Children’s reserve policy is:

- To protect the continuity of our work, including specified liabilities and partner commitments
- To provide capacity to invest in innovative programme activities that may initially be difficult to fund

To achieve the above, a minimum reserve is defined as being three months of our core unrestricted expenditure. Our target reserve is based upon the level required to enable the following year’s programme to be funded and close at the guideline reserve level and is expressed as the opening reserve position for the following year’s budget.

The reserve levels for FY2021-22 were a minimum reserve level of £1.0m with a target reserve to fund the FY2022-23 programme of £1.6m.

The closing unrestricted reserve for the year was £1.0m which was £0.6m below the target level. Of the unrestricted reserve £0.8m is designated for programme work over the next twelve months. This work is outlined in each programme section of this report and a regional breakdown of the designation given in note 19 of the accounts. For the FY2022-23 the minimum reserve is £0.7m, the budget reserve at the end of the financial year is £1.0m with a target reserve of £1.8m.

## **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

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

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the group and the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company / 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 judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- 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 charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and group and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## **AUDITORS**

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware;
- The Trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

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

A resolution to re-appoint Sayer Vincent LLP as the company's auditor will be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

The report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies' subject to the small companies' regime.

Haydn Abbott

Chairman of the Board

Date:

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS AND TRUSTEES OF RAILWAY CHILDREN**

### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Railway Children (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 May 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 May 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006

### **Basis for opinion**

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

### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

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

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

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

## Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

## 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' annual report, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- The trustees' annual report has 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 charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' annual 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 received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- The directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' annual report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

## Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities set out in the trustees' annual report, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied

that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

## Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

### Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We enquired of management, the finance and audit committee, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charity's policies and procedures relating to:
  - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
  - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
  - The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the charity from our professional and sector experience.

- We communicated applicable laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We reviewed any reports made to regulators.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

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 or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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

## Use of our report

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

Jonathan Orchard (Senior statutory auditor)

24 October 2022

for and on behalf of Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor

Invicta House, 108-114 Golden Lane, LONDON, EC1Y 0TL

**RAILWAY CHILDREN**
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (incorporating Income & Expenditure Account)  
for the year ended 31 May 2022**

			Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
<b>Income from:</b>						
Donations and Legacies	3		1,698,272	407,303	2,105,575	2,166,670
Charitable Activities						
Outreach			5,971	331,906	337,877	766,089
Shelter			5,885	327,101	332,986	444,258
Reintegration			11,327	629,567	640,894	1,147,840
Influencing			1,959	108,898	110,857	216,185
Other trading activities			555,495	1,199	556,694	151,257
Investments			301	7,771	8,072	7,592
<b>Total Income</b>			<b>2,279,210</b>	<b>1,813,745</b>	<b>4,092,955</b>	<b>4,899,891</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Fundraising			1,124,511	38,402	1,162,913	906,443
Charitable Activities						
Outreach			296,430	326,614	623,044	960,414
Shelter			127,243	167,292	294,535	500,021
Reintegration			689,233	768,783	1,458,016	1,592,376
Influencing			484,048	413,556	897,604	502,426
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	4		<b>2,721,465</b>	<b>1,714,647</b>	<b>4,436,112</b>	<b>4,461,680</b>
<b>Net Income / (Expenditure)</b>			<b>(442,255)</b>	<b>99,098</b>	<b>(343,157)</b>	<b>438,211</b>
<b>Transfer between funds</b>			(23,193)	23,193	-	-
<b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>						
Total funds brought forward	22		1,429,067	923,105	2,352,172	1,913,961
Total funds carried forward			963,619	1,045,396	2,009,015	2,352,172

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.

All recognised gains and losses are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Accordingly no statement of total recognised gains and losses are given.

All restricted funds received and expended relate to income funds.

**RAILWAY CHILDREN  
CONSOLIDATED AND PARENT BALANCE SHEET  
As at 31 May 2022**

**Company Limited by Guarantee No. 3265496**

	Notes	Group 2022 £	2021 £	Charity 2022 £	2021 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>					
Tangible Assets	10	326	15,817	519	1,293
Investment	11	20,776	17,624	20,876	17,724
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Debtors & Prepayments	17	118,002	228,110	732,543	706,971
Short Term Deposits		-	400,000	-	400,000
Cash at Bank & in Hand		2,127,964	1,919,179	1,141,973	1,067,278
		2,245,966	2,547,289	1,874,516	2,174,249
<b>Current Liabilities</b>					
Amounts Falling Due within One Year	18	(258,053)	(228,558)	(197,408)	(161,580)
<b>Net Current Assets</b>					
		1,987,913	2,318,731	1,677,108	2,012,669
<b>Net Assets</b>					
	19	2,009,015	2,352,172	1,698,503	2,031,686
<b>Funds</b>					
Unrestricted Income Funds					
General Funds		166,619	753,107	247,356	883,150
Designated Funds		797,000	676,000	797,000	676,000
Restricted Income Funds					
Restricted Income Funds		1,056,348	968,504	665,099	517,975
Restricted Income Funds in Deficit		(10,952)	(45,439)	(10,952)	(45,439)
<b>Total Funds</b>					
	19	2,009,015	2,352,172	1,698,503	2,031,686

The financial statement of Railway Children, registered number 03265496, were approved by the Board of Trustees on 14th Sept 2022 and signed on its behalf by

Chairman of the Board

Haydn Abbott

Honorary Treasurer

Malcolm Brown

**RAILWAY CHILDREN**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**for the year ended 31 May 2022**

	Note	2022 £	£	2021 £	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>					
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>			146,177		38,080
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>					
Purchase of fixed assets	10	-		-	
Dividends and interest from investments		18,282		14,592	
Purchase of investments		-		-	
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities</b>			<u>18,282</u>		<u>14,592</u>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>			164,459		52,672
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year			1,919,179		1,924,340
Change in cash and cash equivalents due to exchange rate movements			44,326		(57,833)
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>			<u><b>2,127,964</b></u>		<u><b>1,919,179</b></u>
<b>Reconciliation of net income / (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities</b>					
		2022 £		2021 £	
<b>Net income / (expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)</b>		<b>(343,157)</b>		<b>438,211</b>	
Depreciation charges		2,129		10,521	
Exchange (Gains)/Losses		(44,326)		57,833	
(Increase)/decrease in short term deposits		400,000		(400,000)	
(Increase)/decrease in debtors		110,108		(119,074)	
Increase/(decrease) in creditors		29,495		58,181	
Dividends and interest from investments		(8,072)		(7,592)	
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities</b>			<u><b>146,177</b></u>		<u><b>38,080</b></u>
<b>Analysis of cash and cash equivalents</b>					
		At 1 June 2021 £	Cash flows £	Other £	At 31 May 2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand		1,919,179	164,459	44,326	2,127,964
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>		<u><b>1,919,179</b></u>	<u><b>164,459</b></u>	<u><b>44,326</b></u>	<u><b>2,127,964</b></u>

## **1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements are prepared under the historic cost convention. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (August 2014) and the Companies Act 2006.

As explained in the Trustees' Report, after making enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation and no material uncertainties that Railway Children has adequate financial resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

### **Reconciliation with previously Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (GAAP)**

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 a restatement of comparative items was required. The transition date was 1 June 2014. No transitional adjustments were required.

### **Basis of Consolidation**

The Group financial statements consolidate the financial statements of Railway Children and its wholly owned subsidiary undertakings drawn up to 31<sup>st</sup> May each year. The results of the charitable company and its wholly owned subsidiaries Railway Children Trading Limited, Railway Children Africa Limited and the overseas entity over which the charity has control through membership, Railway Children India, are consolidated on a line by line basis. Transactions and balances between the charitable company and its subsidiary have been eliminated from the consolidated financial statements. Balances between the two companies are disclosed in the notes of the charitable company's balance sheet. A separate statement of financial activities, or income and expenditure account, for the charitable company itself is not presented because the charitable company has taken advantage of the exemptions afforded by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

### **Public benefit entity**

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

### **Incoming Resources**

All income is recognised in the statement of financial activities when the conditions for receipt have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably. Where a claim for Income Tax has or will be made, such income is grossed up for tax recoverable. Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which it has been received. The following accounting policies are applied to income:

#### **Gifts in Kind and donated goods & facilities**

Assets given for use by the charity are recognised as incoming resources at their estimated market value when receivable. If they form part of the fixed assets at the year-end, they are included in the balance sheet at the value at which the gift was included in incoming resources. Donated facilities are included at their estimated value and the corresponding expenditure included under the appropriate heading. All estimates of value of gifts are estimated as the value to the charity of the service or facility received; being the price the charity estimates it would pay in the open market for a service or facility of equivalent utility to the charity.

#### **Donations**

Donations and all other receipts from fundraising are reported gross and the related fundraising costs are reported in other expenditure.

## Legacies

For legacies that can be estimated, and receipt is reasonably assured, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably, and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

## Grants received

Grants are recognised when the conditions of entitlement are met.

## Charitable expenditure

Charitable expenditure includes expenditure directly related to the objects of the charity and comprises grants payable, accounted for when the trustees have approved such grant and instruction is given to the charity's bankers. In addition, costs incurred in transmitting project grants to those projects, and the cost of visits by trustees and staff to assess, monitor and develop the work of these projects is accounted for on an accruals basis. Salary costs for co-coordinators in India, Programme Development Manager, National Policy and Strategy Officer, National Research & Strategy Manager and a proportion of the CEO salary are included as this work is concerned with the development of the management of and enhancement of capacity of the projects supported are also accounted for on an accruals basis.

Costs of raising funds relate to the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.

## Allocation of operating costs

The charity's operating costs are accounted for on an accruals basis and are allocated between costs of generating funds, charitable expenditure and governance. Wherever possible the costs are positively identified and specific to the activity, in other cases such as office provision and some staff costs a percentage allocation of total cost is made based upon an estimate of staff time attributable to each activity. The allocations for the year were:

Percentages	UK Support staff				
	CEO	Marketing & Comms	Finance & Admin	Other costs	Depreciation
Charitable	58%	60%	55%	40%	44%
CORF	25%	40%	31%	58%	50%
Governance	17%		14%	2%	6%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

## Tangible fixed assets

The fixed assets are limited to equipment, furniture and fittings and are capitalised where the purchase cost exceeds £1,000. Depreciation is provided on these assets in equal annual instalments over the estimated lives of the assets as follows:

Office Equipment	- 4 years
Display Equipment	- 4 years
Furniture & fixtures	- 5 years

## **Fund Structures**

Unrestricted funds are where funds have been received without any conditions from donors. Some unrestricted funds have subsequently been set aside by Railway Children as designated funds where they have been earmarked to fund a specific partner from unrestricted funds.

Where funds have been received from donors for particular purposes these are represented as restricted funds. Transfers are made between restricted funds to represent changes agreed with the donor of the funds.

## **Foreign Currency**

Transactions in foreign currencies are converted at rates prevailing at the date of the transaction. Balances denominated in foreign currencies are converted at the rate of exchange prevailing at the balance sheet date. Exchange rate differences are taken into account in arriving at net incoming resources for the year.

## **Investments**

In the charity balance sheet, investments in the subsidiary are shown at cost less provision for impairments.

## **Pensions**

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable under the scheme by the charitable company to the fund. The charitable company has no liability under the scheme other than for the payment of those contributions.

## **Operating leases**

Rental charges are charged on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

## **Investments in subsidiaries**

Investments in subsidiaries are at cost.

## **Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

## **Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account. Cash balances exclude any funds held on behalf of service users.

## **Creditors and provisions**

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

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

## 2 Detailed comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £
<b>Income from:</b>				
Donations and Legacies	3	1,926,473	240,197	2,166,670
Charitable Activities		103,988	2,470,384	2,574,372
Other trading activities		150,402	855	151,257
Investments		363	7,229	7,592
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>2,181,226</b>	<b>2,718,665</b>	<b>4,899,891</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Fundraising		855,682	50,761	906,443
Charitable Activities		1,009,572	2,545,665	3,555,237
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	4	<b>1,865,254</b>	<b>2,596,426</b>	<b>4,461,680</b>
<b>Net Income / (Expenditure)</b>		<b>315,972</b>	<b>122,239</b>	<b>438,211</b>
<b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward	19	1,113,095	800,866	1,913,961
Total funds carried forward		<b>1,429,067</b>	<b>923,105</b>	<b>2,352,172</b>

### 3a Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Individual Donations:				
General	667,272	223,784	891,056	803,571
Legacies	64,641	-	64,641	83,686
Corporate Donations	919,712	180,519	1,100,231	1,231,713
Donated services	46,647	3,000	49,647	47,700
	<b>1,698,272</b>	<b>407,303</b>	<b>2,105,575</b>	<b>2,166,670</b>

### 3b Comparative Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £
Individual Donations:			
General	671,002	132,569	803,571
Legacies	79,686	4,000	83,686
Corporate Donations	1,128,085	103,628	1,231,713
Donated services	47,700	-	47,700
	<b>1,926,473</b>	<b>240,197</b>	<b>2,166,670</b>

#### 4a Analysis of Expenditure

	Charitable activities	Cost of raising funds	Governance	Support costs	2022 Total	2021 Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Grants payable (see note 5a)	567,806	-	-	-	567,806	968,438
UK Staff	602,123	382,756	28,431	695,863	1,709,173	1,451,058
Overseas Staff	682,390	25,830	-	-	708,220	712,837
Office & Supplies	186,151	8,266	-	57,045	251,462	212,294
Services	391,978	371,747	12,593	84,693	861,011	656,459
Travel & Accommodation	294,745	19,914	247	5,035	319,941	287,674
Other	(30,278)	-	-	-	(30,278)	114,009
Depreciation	1,355	-	-	774	2,129	11,211
Gifts in Kind	7,074	39,574	-	-	46,648	47,700
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>2,703,344</b>	<b>848,087</b>	<b>41,271</b>	<b>843,410</b>	<b>4,436,112</b>	<b>4,461,680</b>
Support costs	513,513	300,734	29,163	(843,410)	-	-
Governance costs	56,342	14,092	(70,434)			
<b>Total expenditure 2022</b>	<b>3,273,199</b>	<b>1,162,913</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,436,112</b>	<b>4,461,680</b>
Total expenditure 2021	3,555,237	906,443	-	-	4,461,680	

#### 4b Comparative Analysis of Expenditure

	Charitable activities	Cost of raising funds	Governance	Support costs	2021 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Grants payable (see note 6)	968,438	-	-	-	968,438
UK Staff	360,947	333,623	45,011	711,477	1,451,058
Overseas Staff	674,863	37,974	-	-	712,837
Office & Supplies	170,119	9,551	-	32,624	212,294
Services	365,396	208,996	11,610	70,457	656,459
Travel & Accommodation	279,460	8,090	-	124	287,674
Other	114,009	-	-	-	114,009
Depreciation	7,757	-	-	3,454	11,211
Gifts in Kind	15,450	32,250	-	-	47,700
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>2,956,439</b>	<b>630,484</b>	<b>56,621</b>	<b>818,136</b>	<b>4,461,680</b>
Support costs	531,682	264,114	22,340	(818,136)	-
Governance costs	67,116	11,845	(78,961)		
<b>Total expenditure 2020</b>	<b>3,555,237</b>	<b>906,443</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,461,680</b>

## 5a Analysis of Charitable Expenditure by Activity

Grants	Outreach 2022 £	Shelter 2022 £	Reintegration 2022 £	Influencing 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
India	97,692	101,210	189,915	9,663	398,480	439,750
Kenya	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tanzania	47,791	28,447	64,511	28,577	169,326	528,688
<b>Grants sub total</b>	<b>145,483</b>	<b>129,657</b>	<b>254,426</b>	<b>38,240</b>	<b>567,806</b>	<b>968,438</b>
UK Staff	50,972	9,127	325,495	216,529	602,123	360,947
Overseas Staff	158,399	58,340	289,591	176,060	682,390	674,863
Office & Supplies	37,127	12,090	66,113	70,821	186,151	170,119
Services	71,661	29,256	152,618	138,443	391,978	365,396
Travel & Accommodation	56,754	9,714	126,344	101,933	294,745	279,460
Other	(7,943)	(6,616)	(14,112)	(1,607)	(30,278)	114,009
Depreciation	307	74	534	440	1,355	7,757
Gifts in Kind	1,813	1,615	3,170	476	7,074	15,450
	<b>369,090</b>	<b>113,600</b>	<b>949,753</b>	<b>703,095</b>	<b>2,135,538</b>	<b>1,988,001</b>
Sub total	<b>514,573</b>	<b>243,257</b>	<b>1,204,179</b>	<b>741,335</b>	<b>2,703,344</b>	<b>2,956,439</b>
Support costs	97,746	46,208	228,740	140,819	513,513	531,682
Governance costs	10,725	5,070	25,097	15,450	56,342	67,116
<b>Total</b>	<b>623,044</b>	<b>294,535</b>	<b>1,458,016</b>	<b>897,604</b>	<b>3,273,199</b>	<b>3,555,237</b>

Outreach work includes streetwork, local helplines, association models and child friendly stations.

Shelter includes drop in centres, night shelters, government home work and refuge.

Reintegration work includes return home interviews, intensive family work, working with government homes and bio diverse farming.

## 5b Comparative Analysis of Charitable Expenditure by Activity

Grants	Outreach	Shelter	Reintegration	Influencing	Total
	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021
	£	£	£	£	£
India	109,834	89,050	232,173	8,693	439,750
Kenya	-	-	-	-	-
Tanzania	182,831	77,110	197,198	71,549	528,688
<b>Grants sub total</b>	<b>292,665</b>	<b>166,160</b>	<b>429,371</b>	<b>80,242</b>	<b>968,438</b>
UK Staff	15,140	6,386	238,347	101,074	360,947
Overseas Staff	214,219	109,730	282,636	68,278	674,863
Office & Supplies	50,676	24,445	66,435	28,563	170,119
Services	91,910	46,464	138,715	88,307	365,396
Travel & Accommodation	91,446	40,216	109,975	37,823	279,460
Other	35,586	18,421	48,409	11,593	114,009
Depreciation	2,343	1,331	3,439	644	7,757
Gifts in Kind	4,669	2,651	6,850	1,280	15,450
	<b>505,989</b>	<b>249,644</b>	<b>894,806</b>	<b>337,562</b>	<b>1,988,001</b>
Sub total	798,654	415,804	1,324,177	417,804	2,956,439
Support costs	143,629	74,778	238,138	75,137	531,682
Governance costs	18,131	9,439	30,061	9,485	67,116
<b>Total</b>	<b>960,414</b>	<b>500,021</b>	<b>1,592,376</b>	<b>502,426</b>	<b>3,555,237</b>

## 6 Staff Costs

	2022	2021
	£	£
<u>UK Based Staff</u>		
Wages and salaries	1,468,507	1,259,621
National Insurance	154,350	124,526
Pension costs	86,316	66,910
<b>UK Based Sub Total</b>	<b>1,709,173</b>	<b>1,451,057</b>
Overseas staff	708,220	712,837
	<b>2,417,393</b>	<b>2,163,894</b>

## 7 Staff Numbers

The average number of employees was:

	2022	2021
Project development	18	17
Fundraising	17	16
Support and administration	2	2
<b>UK staff subtotal</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>35</b>
East Africa programme staff	35	36
India programme staff	33	29
<b>Total staff</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>100</b>

## Information regarding employees and trustees

\*One employee had emoluments in the range of £90,000 - £99,999 (2021 - one), one in the range £80-£89,999 (2021 - one) one in the range £70,000 - £79,999 (2021 - one) and two in the range £60,000 - £69,999 (2021 - three).

\*The cost of employing key management personnel including employer's NI and pension contributions was £493,989 (2021: £521,774)

## 8 Net incoming resources for the year

This is stated after charging:

	2022 £	2021 £
Operating lease rentals		
- Property	16,178	12,701
- Other	500	500
Depreciation	2,129	10,521
Auditors remuneration		
- Audit (excl irrecoverable VAT)	9,300	9,300
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

Trustee expenses represents the reimbursed travel and expenses of no Trustees (2021: nil).

## 9 Operating lease commitments

The charity had annual commitments at the year end under operating leases expiring as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Less than one year	11,553	21,780
2-5 years	33,250	48,603
	<u>44,803</u>	<u>70,383</u>

## 10 Tangible Fixed Assets (Group and Charity)

	Charity Equipment & Furniture	Group Vehicles	Group Total
Cost	£	£	£
At beginning of year	67,589	38,798	106,387
Additions in year	-	-	-
Disposals	-	(25,460)	(25,460)
At close of year	<u>67,589</u>	<u>13,338</u>	<u>80,927</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At beginning of year	66,296	24,274	90,570
Charge for year	774	1,355	2,129
Disposals	-	(12,098)	(12,098)
At close of year	<u>67,070</u>	<u>13,531</u>	<u>80,601</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>			
Group and charity at close of year	<u>519</u>	<u>(193)</u>	<u>326</u>
Group and charity at beginning of year	<u>1,293</u>	<u>14,524</u>	<u>15,817</u>

## 11 Investments

These consist of £100 of shares in Railway Children Trading Limited and an endowment fund invested for the benefit of work in India with a current value of £20,676.

<b>Railway Children Trading Limited</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Turnover	727,906	483,594
Expenditure	(176,532)	(86,817)
Use of Railway Children logo	(1,000)	(1,000)
Use of Railway Children staff	<u>(6,000)</u>	<u>(5,000)</u>
Trading profit / (loss)	544,374	390,777
Loan interest paid to Railway Children	-	-
Profit donated to Railway Children	<u>(544,374)</u>	<u>(390,777)</u>
Net profit for the year	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net assets carried forward at May 31	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

Railway Children Trading Company Limited is a 100% subsidiary of Railway Children. During the year £428,560 from Rail Aid, £28,904 from Xmas cards and £26,130 from UK programme activities. Net profit donated to the charity was £380,527 (2021: £380,527)

All the Railway Children Trading Company Limited's profits for the year are donated to Railway Children. Payments to Railway Children are regarded as a reduction of the charity's expenditure and cancel out on the consolidated accounts.

## 12 Taxation

Railway Children Limited is a registered charity and is thus exempt from taxation of its income and gains falling within Section 505 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that they are applied to its charitable objectives. No tax charge has arisen in the year.

<b>13 Railway Children Africa</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Turnover	202,152	396,355
Income from Railway Children	824,892	1,174,138
Expenditure	<u>(1,027,044)</u>	<u>(1,570,493)</u>
Net assets carried forward at May 31st	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Railway Children Africa Limited is a 100% subsidiary of Railway Children and income is derived from restricted income from the parent charity with some locally raised restricted income. Railway Children Africa Limited carries out Railway Children's programme of work in Tanzania.

<b>14 Railway Children India</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Turnover	516,873	573,980
Income from Railway Children	75,156	27,223
Expenditure	<u>(610,134)</u>	<u>(580,957)</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>(93,261)</u>	<u>(170,986)</u>

Railway Children India Limited is a section 25 company registered in India. The company operates under the Railway Children trademark.

## 15 India Liaison Office

This legal entity employs the Railway Children staff in India and is treated as a subsidiary in these accounts. Income for India LO was solely from the charity and amounted to £101,765 (2021: £78,056) and expenditure £97,963 (2021: £60,226).

## 16 Railway Children parent charity

The parent charity gross income for the year excluding RCTL income is £2,634,732 (2021: £3,467,082) and the net deficit for the year is £867,990 (2021 net deficit: £427,993).

## 17 Debtors and Prepayments

	Consolidated		Charity	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Debtors	-	-	-	-
Gift aid debtor	25,279	27,814	25,279	27,814
Other debtors	35,627	186,536	2,410	185,135
Prepayments and accrued income	57,096	13,760	57,096	13,760
Railway Children Africa - owed to charity	-	-	42,534	45,108
Railway Children Trading Limited - owed to charity	-	-	605,224	435,154
Total	118,002	228,110	732,543	706,971

## 18 Liabilities: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	Consolidated		Charity	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Creditors	63,782	48,736	35,517	31,415
Tax and national insurance	37,826	26,465	37,826	26,465
Accrued Expenditure	156,445	153,357	124,065	103,700
Total	258,053	228,558	197,408	161,580

## 19a Analysis of group net assets between funds

	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	General Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	-	-	21,102	21,102
Net current assets	1,045,396	797,000	145,517	1,987,913
Net assets at the end of the year	1,045,396	797,000	166,619	2,009,015

## 19b Comparative of group net assets between funds

	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	General Funds	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	33,441	33,441
Net current assets	923,065	676,000	719,666	2,318,731
Net assets at the end of the year	923,065	676,000	753,107	2,352,172

## 20 Related Parties

During the year there were related party transactions with Railway Children India, Railway Children Africa Limited and Railway Children Ball Limited. Income from Railway Children Ball Limited was £144,755 (2021: £105,595).

Railway Children is registered as a liaison office in India and manages the delivery of the India programme with funding provided entirely via Railway Children. Railway Children India is registered as a section 25 company in India and FCRA registered.

The Railway Children Ball Limited has one Trustee in common with Railway Children and runs an annual fundraising ball.

Railway Children Africa Limited is registered as a company in Tanzania and manages the delivery of the Tanzania programme with most funding provided via Railway Children. Railway Children representatives make up a majority of the board positions.

## 21 Funds held on behalf of others

The charity is part of an unincorporated association known as the Partnership for Vulnerable Children, formed with with three other charities Childhope, Get Connected and ICT. The association operates a payroll giving scheme on behalf of its members. Railway Children the financial administration for the association.

The sole assets of the association are funds collected not yet dispersed which are held in a separate bank account. The balance on the account at May 31st 2022 was £3,174 (2021: £5,958). This bank account does not form part of these consolidated accounts.

22a Movement in Funds		Balance at	Movement in Resources		Transfers	Balance at
		01/06/2021	Incoming	Outgoing		31/05/2022
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Restricted Funds</b>						
<b>Region</b>	<b>Funder</b>					
East Africa	Other funders	61,865	468,594	(457,216)	12,221	85,464
	DfID - UK Aid Match	(89,353)	-	-	89,353	-
	DfID - UK Aid Direct	172,700	80,072	(163,419)	(89,353)	-
India	APPI	350,118	295,740	(419,244)	-	226,614
	Other funders	345,309	335,209	(292,286)	10,972	399,204
	Honda	13,935	11	-	-	13,946
UK	Other UK	70,824	591,404	(331,108)	-	331,120
	<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>	<b>925,398</b>	<b>1,771,030</b>	<b>(1,663,273)</b>	<b>23,193</b>	<b>1,056,348</b>
	<b>Restricted Funds in Deficit</b>	<b>(2,293)</b>	<b>42,712</b>	<b>(51,371)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(10,952)</b>
	<b>Overall Restricted Funds</b>	<b>923,105</b>	<b>1,813,742</b>	<b>(1,714,644)</b>	<b>23,193</b>	<b>1,045,396</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>						
	<b>Designated Funds</b>					
	India	152,000	294,101	(102,101)	-	344,000
	UK	225,000	29,216	(87,216)	-	167,000
	East Africa	299,000	69,079	(82,079)	-	286,000
	<b>Total Designated Funds</b>	<b>676,000</b>	<b>392,396</b>	<b>(271,396)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>797,000</b>
	General Funds	753,067	1,886,814	(2,450,069)	(23,193)	166,619
	<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>1,429,067</b>	<b>2,279,210</b>	<b>(2,721,465)</b>	<b>(23,193)</b>	<b>963,619</b>
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b>2,352,172</b>	<b>4,092,952</b>	<b>(4,436,109)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,009,015</b>

#### Purposes of Restricted Funds

All restricted funds are held for the relief of children and young persons in conditions of hardship and distress who live on or are at risk of running to the streets.

APPI funds are for work to assist street children on railway stations in India

PACT: Restricted for the assistance of street children and youth in Tanzania, in deficit as this is funded in arrears.

DfID: These funds relate to the assistance of street children in Tanzania.

#### Purposes of Designated Funds

These are to cover commitments made to partners made for the year ended May 31st 2022, details are contained in the annual report.

#### 22b Comparative Movement in Funds

22b Comparative Movement in Funds		Balance at	Movement in Resources		Transfers	Balance at
		01/06/2020	Incoming	Outgoing		31/05/2021
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Restricted Funds</b>						
<b>Region</b>	<b>Funder</b>					
East Africa	Other funders	22,459	98,620	(26,062)	-	95,017
	DfID - UK Aid Match	-	76,699	(166,052)	-	(89,353)
	DfID - UK Aid Direct	65,258	881,819	(774,377)	-	172,700
India	APPI	312,140	421,870	(383,892)	-	350,118
	Comic Relief	-	-	-	-	-
	Other funders	268,972	468,801	(384,952)	-	352,821
	Honda	10,800	3,135	-	-	13,935
UK	Other UK	51,056	273,943	(251,693)	-	73,306
	<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>	<b>730,685</b>	<b>2,224,887</b>	<b>(1,987,028)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>968,544</b>
	<b>Restricted Funds in Deficit</b>	<b>70,181</b>	<b>493,774</b>	<b>(609,394)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(45,439)</b>
	<b>Overall Restricted Funds</b>	<b>800,866</b>	<b>2,718,661</b>	<b>(2,596,422)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>923,105</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>						
	<b>Designated Funds</b>					
	India	158,011	(5,976)	(35)	-	152,000
	UK	204,000	140,977	(119,977)	-	225,000
	East Africa	147,016	201,325	(49,341)	-	299,000
	<b>Total Designated Funds</b>	<b>509,027</b>	<b>336,326</b>	<b>(169,353)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>676,000</b>
	General Funds	604,068	1,844,900	(1,695,901)	-	753,067
	<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>1,113,095</b>	<b>2,181,226</b>	<b>(1,865,254)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,429,067</b>
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b>1,913,961</b>	<b>4,899,887</b>	<b>(4,461,676)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,352,172</b>

**THE RAILWAY CHILDREN**

England & Wales - Charity number 1058991

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# Accounts

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# The Railway Children Report and financial statements

For Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021



Railway Children is registered Charity No. 1058991 and a  
Registered Private Company Limited by Guarantee No. 3265496

**RAILWAY**  
**children**  
Fighting for street children

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## Reference and Administrative Information

### Registered Office

1 The Commons  
Sandbach  
Cheshire  
CW11 1EG

### Directors and Trustees

Haydn Abbott  
Timothy Hartley  
Judith Lister  
Trevor Winter  
Arun Muttreja  
Malcolm Brown  
Christine Taylor  
Tricia Wright  
Mo Bulbrook  
Andrea Minton-Beddoes  
Dr Delia Pop

Chairman

### Group Chief Executive

Terina Keene

### Company Secretary

Ashurst LLP  
London Fruit & Wool Exchange  
1 Duval Square  
London E1 6PW

### Auditors

Sayer Vincent LLP  
Invicta House  
108-114 Golden Lane  
London EC1Y 0TL

### Other Office

India Office  
Flat No.8/A, 2nd Floor  
Arihant CHS,  
Gopal Krishna Gokhale Road,  
Mulund East  
Mumbai 400 081

### Bank

Royal Bank of Scotland  
Drummond House  
1 Redheughs Ave  
Edinburgh  
EH12 9JN

### Solicitors

Ashurst LLP  
London Fruit & Wool Exchange  
5 Appold Street  
London  
EC1M 4BS

### Railway Children India

Regd. Office: B1, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor,  
Arjun Nagar, Harsukh Marg,  
New Delhi, India  
CIN: U85100DL2013NPL260371

Directors:

Harbhajan Singh  
Sanjay Gupta  
Yazmin Riaz  
Terina Keene (Official Observer & Group CEO)

### Railway Children Trading Limited

Company Number: 6533182

Directors:

Rupert Brennan Brown  
Chris Cornthwaite  
Terina Keene  
David Brookes

### Railway Children Africa Limited

NGO Compliance No: 1563

Directors:

Lulu Ng'wanakilala (Chair)  
John Kalage  
Terina Keene (RC Group CEO)  
Michael Holden  
Judy Lister  
Jeanne Ndyetabula (Co-opted)  
Sunday Kapesi



## Introduction by Haydn Abbott, Chairman

Welcome to our Annual Report for 2021.

This year has been an extremely challenging one for all of us. We have all faced significant change in our daily lives and sought to balance the threats posed by the pandemic with the hope of a safer and more certain future in the months ahead. As we have faced our own difficulties, many of us have been inspired by the acts of kindness we have witnessed over the last year, often from people enduring their own challenges and this has given us the strength to keep going and think about what more we could do to support others.

This personal reflection mirrors the reality for Railway Children over the last year. Our people have worked tirelessly to ensure our pre-pandemic services can continue, alongside delivering new humanitarian responses to thousands of children and their families living on the streets.

We have directly supported over 21,000\* children this year, a 35% increase in demand. We have achieved this in a year when we were unable to run any of our fundraising challenge events, or our annual Railway Ball, both critical sources of funding and which collectively raise c£1m every year. The loss of such a significant sum of critical funds at a time when demand for our work has never been higher has been one of our biggest challenges. We have therefore been truly humbled by our supporters in the rail industry. They recognised the desperate need we had to replace funding and pulled together to deliver an outstanding online event 'RailAid'. This new fundraiser delivered £534,000, an extraordinary result and a life saver in terms of enabling us to meet the demand for our work. If you were part of making this event so successful, I would like to express my personal thanks to you, on behalf of the charity and the children we help.

This past year has demonstrated to us as a charity the strong trust and belief our supporters have in us. RailAid was just one example of the immense support we have received across the year, Your generosity has inspired everyone in the charity and given us all the strength to reach the thousands of children in desperate need. Collectively we have not only reached a record number of children but we have raised a total of £4.9m, our most successful year in our twenty-five-year history.

The year ahead is one when we need to consider our new strategy. We know how devastating the impact of the pandemic has been on vulnerable families and we must therefore think carefully about how we can deliver high quality and impactful work for children. I look forward to sharing these plans with you and hearing your thoughts on what more we can achieve together.

This year, perhaps more than ever I am ever mindful and grateful that all we achieve as a charity is made possible by the generosity of our supporters. On behalf of the trustees and the charity, Thank you.

Haydn Abbott, Chairman

# Aims and Achievements

## Aims

Railway Children was founded in 1996 and its objective is:

'The relief of children and young persons under 25 years of age who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress, anywhere in the world and in particular those who are living on the streets'.

Since then, Railway Children's work has benefitted thousands of children and young people living alone and at risk on the streets.

Our work aims to create and enable sustainable change in the lives of individual children, communities and in the wider policy and practice that affects all children living alone on the streets.

## Public Benefit

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. This report is produced for the benefit of the public and contains an explanation of the significant activities undertaken during the year in order to carry out the charity's aims and also measure achievements against the objectives set by the Trustees.

## Principal Activities

In achieving our aims, we work at three levels for long term change. We recognise that to create, enable and sustain change we need to balance activities, and therefore;

1. We aim to make early interventions in the lives of vulnerable children on the streets before they come to serious harm
2. We change the perceptions of local communities. We make children on the streets visible to their communities and aid understanding of how they came to be there and the support they need.; and
3. We use research, expertise and strong relationships with key individuals and departments to influence policy makers and leverage government support.

By working at all three levels we ensure lasting change, both in the lives of children currently surviving on the streets and those currently at home but living with neglect, violence and/or abuse where living on the streets may become their only survival option.

## Achievements

The following outlines the wider strategy goals (2017-2021), alongside the objectives we set ourselves for this year and the progress we made.

### Strategy Goal 1

**We will make a step change in the number of children we can reach, delivering services that significantly improve their life outcomes**

**Tanzania - We will ensure improved and expanded services for 3,775 children and youth living in the six cities where we work in Tanzania, including children and youth currently living on the streets, siblings of reunified children, and children in long term institutional care**

We managed to support and provide support services to 3778 children and youth against a target of 3,775. Across the six cities, provision of essential support services to project beneficiaries was maintained whilst taking precautions to keep project staff and project beneficiaries safe from Covid-19. Some of the project activities that involved bringing groups together were suspended, including training to ensure that staff and beneficiaries were safe.

Of these 825 children were rescued and supported with a safe place to stay across six cities due to additional funding FCDO-Covid Rapid Response and UNICEF.

Of the 3778 supported, 669 youth living and working on the streets were supported against a target of 424 and provided with life skills and self-reliance support including vocational training, business skills training, apprenticeship placements and start-up kits to support them in becoming self-employed and be able to transition from living on the streets to affording a safe place to stay. There is an increased number of young persons above age of 15 on the streets and therefore a need to invest more in youth related support services.

**India - 5000 children living at and around 10 railway stations in India will be reached and protected. Of these, 4000 children will be restored back to families or long-term care. A further 2000 vulnerable families will be strengthened to ensure the wellbeing of their children and prevent their repeat separation**

During the pandemic while the trains were disrupted, we adapted our work to work in 30 slum communities and supported vulnerable children and their families with groceries, school enrolment, vocational skill training and linking families to government schemes. This resulted in the protection of 6508 children. Across 10 railway stations we have protected 945 children. Of these, 788 children were reunified with their parents and 35 children were referred to long care homes for protection.

To strengthen the families of reunified children, we reached out to 3475 families and supported them with dry rations, school enrolment, linking them with social protection schemes. Through this initiative 7824 children including the siblings of the reunified children were protected and prevented from repeat separation due to pandemic induced poverty.

Throughout the second wave of the pandemic, we responded by building the resilience of communities to cope through activities such as,

- Promoting vaccination among the adult community, where 559 people were supported to register online for the vaccination and 233 received their 1st dose
- Distribution of 3164 safety kits to families to protect them from getting the infection
- Distribution of dry groceries to 921 families to ensure 3156 children had adequate food during the crisis. A further 372 families were also supported with dry groceries through our partners.

- We provided 101 child-care institutes with 50 Oximeters, 60 steam inhalers, 1200 surgical masks, 300 N95 masks, 50 Sanitiser bottles (500ML), 60 sanitiser cans (5Lit), supporting 3019 children.

**In the UK - We will continue to develop our existing three projects in Leeds, London and the North West and if funding allows we will establish a new project in the UK, providing information and guidance to children and young people and their families, referred to us by the British Transport Police**

Funding for our fourth project was secured in the last months of the financial year and following planning and recruitment the Birmingham project began work in June 2021. Despite the pandemic all three existing projects adapted to the restrictions that lockdowns brought. Project workers developed innovative ways of working to ensure we still supported those young people who were referred to us by the British Transport Police.

**Our Safeguarding on Transport projects will provide support to at least 648 vulnerable and at-risk children and young people through one-to-one work and family support**

Over the year to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021 our three projects provided advice or support to 868 young people with one-to-one and family support for 84 young people.

## Strategy Goal 2

**We will change people's perceptions of children on the streets to reduce the level of harm they face**

- **Tanzania - We will reduce violence and abuse experienced by children and young people living on the streets in six cities in Tanzania through identifying and training community champions, building a safety net and creating targeted awareness campaigns to challenge negative community perception**

Across the six cities, we identified and trained 132 community champions to support the identification, protection and rapid response to Children and Youth Living and Working on the streets (CYLWS), through referring them to support services. As a result, 689 children were referred for support services against a target of 523.

A media campaign was conducted to challenge negative perceptions and highlight the impact of violence towards street connected children, engaging 20 journalists who visited our projects in Mwanza, and Dar es Salaam. Communication materials calling for community action to end violence, abuse and discrimination against street connected children were disseminated to project partners, beneficiaries, community champions and other selected stakeholders. Community radio stations in four regions and national radio based in Dar es Salaam aired a pre-recorded documentary featuring work with street connected children and the issues they face on a day-to-day basis.

With additional funding we implemented a project in Mwanza aiming to provide legal education and promote the rights of street connected children and domestic workers. We trained 31 paralegal officers, who are now supporting the education of community members in churches and mosques on the issues faced by street connected children and domestic workers and their role in addressing the situation, which is expected to contribute to the reduction of violence towards these groups in Mwanza.

- **India - 2000 railway officials will be trained and sensitised on child protection and Covid-19 prevention in India**

We adapted our training programme through online learning as well as traditional face to face and trained 2117 railway officials at eight training institutes across Indian Railways. In

collaboration with UNICEF, we delivered online training on child protection issues in a pandemic situation at five Railway divisions of East Central Railways.

- **UK - 5,000 transport staff will have a greater awareness and understanding of vulnerable children and young people and are able to respond and refer where appropriate through receiving our on-line or face to face safeguarding training**

In this year 5147 rail staff have accessed our e-learning programmes bring the total of staff trained over the last 4 years to 7575. Evaluations were overwhelmingly positive with 90% agreeing the information provided was relevant and 93% stating that they now know how to report concerns about vulnerability. We have had feedback since that staff have gone on to correctly identify missing and vulnerable children and ensured they are protected as a result.

- **UK - 750 British Transport Police officers are aware and engaged with the Safeguarding on Transport programme and respond appropriately to children as a result**

Covid restrictions meant that some of the formal training couldn't take place but we continued to liaise remotely and take part in joint initiatives such as British Transport Police Roadshows, County Lines Week of Action and subsequent events following the easing of lockdown.

730 officers completed one of our e-learning modules and we had direct contact with 156 new BTP officers. This included training new recruits in Glasgow and London. We also held briefings in Grimsby, Doncaster, Crewe, London Euston, Manchester Piccadilly and Leeds and supported BTP to train inspectors on a modern-day slavery awareness course. The team also worked alongside officers on a County Lines intensification week, held in Crewe, Liverpool, Leeds and Sheffield. Links were made with the mental health vulnerability teams in Birmingham and Preston.

Existing relationships have been maintained and strengthened with key contacts in the force and the vulnerability unit in general. The Leeds team also recorded 108 contacts with BTP to discuss children and young people directly. The restrictions also gave us the opportunity to forge links with different home office police forces. We presented to officers from Cambridgeshire and West Yorkshire Police and now sit on the Greater Manchester Police led exploitation and vulnerability steering group. A recorded session was provided to South Yorkshire Police that will form part of their training package for over 3000 new recruits over the next 5 years.

### **Strategy Goal 3**

**We will build political will around the issues of children living on the streets**

- **In Tanzania, we will work to ensure the commitment of government and other influential political leaders to promote the rights of street connected children through dissemination of the Report on the Status of Street Children's Rights in Tanzania**

We made great progress towards advocating for the rights of children & youth in Tanzania, despite being unable to disseminate the report on the status of Street Children's Rights as we had planned. We did however hold a national platform for children and youth living and working on the streets, where child & youth representatives met with the Commissioner-Social Welfare Department, Regional Authorities and District heads in Mwanza.

We also organised a meeting with Members of Parliament from Social Services and Community Development Committee, Administration and Local Governments Affairs Committee, Budget Committee, and as a result MPs are demanding that the government share their plan to help this group of vulnerable children.

- **In India, we will ensure Child Welfare Committees and District Child Protection Units connected to our project locations fully co-operate in our family strengthening work**

Our Strategic Alliance team engaged the Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR), Department of Social Welfare, Government of Delhi, District Administration, Central district, Child Welfare Committee Kingsway Camp, NGO's, Self Help Groups and Civil Defence Volunteers. At all project locations we have received full cooperation from the Child Welfare Committees and the District Child Protection Unit in the process of dry ration distribution for vulnerable children and families.

In addition - A status report was submitted with recommendations for emergency response entitled 'System for Child Protection at 51 Railway Stations and its districts' to the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) and follow-up meetings with the Chairperson, NCPCR and his team officials were held.

We submitted a recommendation on child protection initiatives post-Covid-19 to the Covid Response CP Alliance (NGO network) which is to be shared with parliamentarians by the network.

NGO networks in West Bengal, Jharkhand, Odisha, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Haryana and Punjab were engaged to support children & families reunified in the past and who were vulnerable due to lockdown. During the initial waves of Covid-19 we provided essential water and food relief support to migrant families traveling by Shramik Special Trains.

- **In the UK, we will work with the British Transport Police and industry bodies at a senior level to ensure that safeguarding continues to be included in the strategic vision for the rail industry and that plans are in place to identify and respond to vulnerable people, specifically;**
- **Six organisations commit to staff completing safeguarding training**
- **We will support at least one Train Operating Company to meet the safeguarding response standards outlined in the Safeguarding on Rail Scheme**

Twelve organisations are actively engaging in the Safeguarding on Transport programme and negotiations are underway to complete the training. Staff in Great Western Railway (GWR), Southwestern & Cross Country have already completed some training and Avanti are about to do so. We have worked with GWR to be awarded an interim safeguarding accreditation and we are working with seven other operators to support their Safeguarding on Rail Scheme requirements.

## **Fundraising**

### **Strategic Operational Goal 3**

**Income goal being reassessed – goal was to grow income from £3.4m to £8m by 2022**

- **We will mitigate losses to income caused by the Coronavirus pandemic and raise £4.3m across all income streams and throughout the Railway Children Group. To achieve this figure, we will support our fundraisers in India to raise £220,000 of new income and establish new income streams in Tanzania**

Group income grew by 10% from £4.56m to £4.9m against the backdrop of a global pandemic. This included an 11.5% increase in fundraised income in the UK, totalling over £2.8m and growth in income from India rising from £4073k to £574 – a drop in planned income due to the reduction in face-to-face fundraising opportunities caused by COVID-19 restrictions. In Tanzania, income rose from £317k to £396k.

- **To protect our relationship with supporters and income from our donors, we will continue to invest in the supporter care journey which has been critical to our survival during the pandemic. We will provide the highest quality of supporter care, to ensure we maintain our supporter base at 2100 regular donors and 4000 cash donors per year**

Our focus on supporter care has been critical to our financial stability during the pandemic. We grew our regular donor base to 2,260 with 260 new supporters and the number of cash donors rose by 44% to 5,712. In addition, the average annual gift of our regular donors rose by £12 per person to £144, showing the depth of support for the charity.

- **We will grow our private sector income, building on recent success in the fashion industry and rail sector. We will also develop corporate relationships in East Africa, building in-country support for our work. We will secure over £315,000 through partnerships in rail and non-rail**

Despite the complete cancellation of our traditional annual events programme, our corporate relationships grew significantly this year, raising £698k with the average gift of corporate increasing from £10k to £14k. Whilst the development of new non-rail partnerships was difficult in the current climate, we maintained relationships with existing partners, and also secured a new single partnership worth £310k. In rail, we strengthened our reach and relationships through our new virtual fundraiser, Rail Aid which mitigated the loss from our annual Railway Ball, raising £534k. Corporate fundraising work in East Africa was delayed due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic with all external meetings and work cancelled. This will be restarted in 21/22.

#### **Strategic - Operational Goal 4**

**We will be the voice for street children, raising awareness and building a better understanding of the issue**

- **We will support our programme teams in the UK, India and Tanzania to further define and develop their communications and campaign activities in the wake of the Covid-19 crisis, enabling them to raise awareness and secure support for children alone and at risk on the streets**

The ongoing effects of the global pandemic have had a critical impact on all of our programmes around the world, leaving our operational teams in a prolonged state of crisis response management. Our initial plans to develop communication and campaign activities were adapted to meet the needs of this sustained emergency situation and we have worked with the teams to produce a constant flow of highly successful emergency appeals and stakeholder communications in support of our programme response.

- **We will support our fundraising operation to raise £4.3m, providing innovative communications and outstanding supporter care in all territories**

In addition to exceeding all fundraising targets, we have diversified our communications to deliver the most comprehensive marketing programme in our history. Our monitoring and evaluation systems have provided the most invaluable intelligence throughout the year, enabling us to respond and refine efficiently with maximum return on investment after every campaign.

In addition to achieving a total income result of £4.9m, our individual giving programme achieved £842,000, and in a year where we faced the potential loss of over £500k, we launched a brand-new virtual fundraising event 'Rail Aid', uniting the entire rail industry to raise £534k.

- **We will develop a revised interim marketing plan, enabling Railway Children and our international offices to deliver our core fundraising and programme activities and resume core strategic activities by June 2021**

We built comprehensive marketing plans and alongside our significant crisis communications work, we have continued to pursue broader communications projects that will support our influencing and engagement plans as COVID restrictions begin to lift. In India, we have built a broad communications programme in support of an ambitious fundraising expansion programme, including the delivery of COVID campaigns and campaign collateral.

In the UK we have undertaken all the planning and preparatory work to launch a public awareness campaign as part of our work with the UK rail networks and British Transport Police.

## **Partners & Projects - East Africa**

### **Cheka Sana, Mwanza, Tanzania**

The programme provides the resources needed to explore possibilities of children returning home to their families and communities. Work in the community with families and self-help groups ensures children can remain safe in a family environment and are therefore prevented from migrating to the streets.

(Total support 2020-21 £105,469 – Unrestricted designated funds 2021-22 £59k)

### **Kivuko, Mwanza, Tanzania (RCA Direct)**

Railway Children Africa's direct delivery project focuses on street work and family reintegration. Youths based on the street are supported to form 'associations' and develop life skills, including vocational and business skills to ensure improved opportunities and income generation.

(Total support 2020-21 £357,108 - Unrestricted designated funds 2021-22 £120k)

### **Amani, Moshi, Tanzania**

Providing care and protection for children and youth on the streets in Arusha and Moshi, reuniting children with families and enabling youths to become productive members of the community.

(Total support 2020-21 £86,329)

### **Baba Watoto, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania**

Ensuring children and youth are protected and their talents in arts and sports are developed. Empowering youth to become self-motivated and gain employment.

(Total support 2020-21 £108,592 - Unrestricted designated funds 2021-22 £90k)

### **Caritas, Mbeya, Tanzania**

Providing care and protection for children and youth on the streets in Mbeya, reuniting children with families and enabling youths to become productive members of the community.

(Total support 2020-21 £35,829)

### **IDYDC, Iringa, Tanzania**

Providing care and protection for children and youth on the streets in Iringa, reuniting children with families and enabling youths to become productive members of the community.

(Total support 2020-21 £71,867)

### **Kisedet, Dodoma, Tanzania**

Providing care and protection for children and youth on the streets in Dodoma, reuniting children with families and enabling youths to become productive members of the community.

(Total support 2020-21 £67,366 - Unrestricted Designated funds 2021-22 £29k)

### **Consortium for Street Children**

Providing advocacy support for the DFID project in Tanzania to ensure the General Comment No. 21 on Children in Street Situations is adopted.

(Total support 2020-21 £29,959)

### **Tanzania Child Rights Forum (TCRF)**

Works to bring together Civil Society Organisations working with and for children to promote the rights of children and young people. TCRF are working with Railway Children to ensure Tanzania applies much of what has been included in the UN General Comment 21 on Children in Street Situations.

(Total support 2020-21 £9,242)

### **Wote Sawa, Mwanza**

WoteSawa strives to empower current and former Child Domestic Workers to understand, safeguard, promote and reinforce their rights in Tanzania through legal and economic empowerment, child abuse monitoring, psychosocial support and policy reforms in conformity to the national and international child welfare standards.

(Total Support 2020-21 £14,015)

## **Partners & Projects - India**

### **Narayani Seva Sansthan, Bihar**

Outreach at Dharbhanga station and provision of a shelter for rehabilitation of children alongside a programme of family reunification and reintegration, including a school enrolment campaign

(Total support 2020-21 £22,752)

### **The Hope House, Tamil Nadu**

Outreach at Katpadi station and shelter for rehabilitation of children alongside a family reunification and reintegration programme

(Total support 2020-21 £47,791 – Unrestricted designated funds 2021-22 £68k)

### **Scope, Tamil Nadu**

Outreach at Villupuram station and shelter for rehabilitation of children alongside a family reunification and reintegration programme

(Total support 2020-21 £36,849 - Unrestricted Designated funds 2021-22 £32k)

### **Terre Des Hommes, Tamil Nadu**

Outreach at Salem station and shelter for rehabilitation of children alongside a family reunification and reintegration programme

(Total support 2020-21 £41,785)

### **Delhi (RCI Direct project)**

Outreach programme at Delhi Cantonment and Sarai Rohilla stations alongside a rehabilitation and family reunification programme

(Total support 2020-21 £103,942)

### **Humara Bachpan Trust, Bhubaneswar**

Outreach at station and shelter for rehabilitation of children alongside a family reunification and reintegration programme

(Total support 2020-21 £39,127)

### **Salam Balak Trust, Ghaziabad**

Outreach at station and shelter for rehabilitation of children alongside a family reunification and reintegration programme

(Total support 2020-21 £73,290)

### **SEVAI, Tiruchirappalli**

Outreach at Salem station and shelter for rehabilitation of children alongside a family reunification and reintegration programme

(Total support 2020-21 £50,540 – Unrestricted Designated funds 2021-22 £43k)

### **Sankalp Sanskritik Samiti, Raipur**

Outreach at Raipur station and shelter for rehabilitation of children alongside a family reunification and reintegration programme

(Total support 2020-21 £18,323 – Unrestricted Designated funds 2021-22 £9k)

### **Yuva Urban Initiatives, Mumbai**

Outreach at Dadar station and shelter for rehabilitation of children alongside a family reunification and reintegration programme

(Total support 2020-21 £28,590)

### **Covid-19 Family Strengthening Initiative**

Provision of dry ration groceries and hygiene kits to communities

(Total Support £16,540)

## **UK Projects**

Railway Children delivers direct support to children referred to us by the British Transport Police, with services running in Leeds, London and Manchester during the last year. Our services include; Information and guidance alongside intensive one-to-one and family support where children are referred with complex needs and vulnerabilities. In addition, we provide safeguarding training and awareness across the industry to protect and safeguard vulnerable children.

This incorporates our Safeguarding on Transport awareness training and having Railway Children project workers based within the station community to assess the needs of children referred from the British Transport Police and provide ongoing one-to-one support, family work or mentoring as appropriate. (Total support 2020-21 £230,986- Designated unrestricted funds 2021-22 £104k (Manchester), £88k (London) and £70k (Leeds))

## **Strategy Goals for 2021-22**

### **Goal 1**

**We will make a step change in the number of children we can reach, delivering services that significantly improve their life outcomes**

- Tanzania - We will provide support services to 1470 children and youth living & working on the streets, 80 child domestic workers, and 90 children in residential care in three cities in Tanzania, namely Dar es Salaam, Mwanza and Dodoma
- India - 7100 children living at and around 10 railway stations in India will be reached and protected. Of these, 2000 children protected at railway stations will be restored back to families or long-term care. A further 900 vulnerable families will be strengthened to ensure the wellbeing of their children and prevent their repeat separation
- UK- We will develop our existing projects with some new initiatives which include a new way of managing referrals so that 120 young people whose needs are best met by other services can be referred on promptly. Our outreach work will be enhanced to ensure that 517 young people are contacted at hot spot areas or whilst in custody. 600 young people will be provided with advice and information and we will support 160 young people and families directly

### **Goal 2**

**We will change people's perceptions of children on the streets to reduce the level of harm they face**

- In Tanzania, we will reach 31,200 people in Mwanza with awareness messages promoting the rights of children and youth living & working on the streets and domestic workers and continue to support the children & youth platforms to ensure children & young people have a voice and engage with the government.
- In India, 3500 railway officials and 20,000 passengers will be trained and sensitised on child protection and Covid-19 prevention in India. A network of 20,000 ticket checking staff will protect children alone on the rail network. Staff at 25 railway stations and districts recognised as hotspots for child trafficking will be alert to child protection issues
- In the UK, 6,000 transport staff will be provided with a greater awareness and understanding of vulnerable children through our training programme, ensuring they know how to respond to young people in need and where to refer them
- We will develop Safeguarding Action Groups in three key locations. These groups will raise awareness, share local intelligence, and generate local solutions designed to safeguard young people
- Our staff will engage with the British Transport Police through at least four joint initiatives. We will continue to brief and engage in events with 750 officers, increasing their awareness and engagement with the Safeguarding on Transport programme

### **Goal 3**

**We will build political will around the issues of children living on the streets**

- Tanzania - We will continue to lobby for investment in services to ensure support is made available to children & youth using governments own resources, ensuring investment from at least

five district councils. At national level we will ensure commitment from central government to develop a National Guideline for Working with children and youth living on the streets in Tanzania

- India -Civil society, Railway authorities and government child protection authorities are alert to child trafficking instances and are prepared to protect children at 25 hotspot railway stations
- UK - We will continue to work in partnership with the British Transport Police and industry bodies at a senior level to ensure that safeguarding continues to be included in the strategic vision for the rail industry. By working collaboratively, we will ensure that plans are in place to identify and respond to vulnerable people. This will specifically mean focussing on
  - Six train operators safeguarding policies will be approved by British Transport Police
  - Two further operators will receive full Safeguarding on Rail Scheme accreditation
  - We will continue to work with the Department for Transport to ensure that safeguarding remains central in new targets in the development of Great British Rail

## **Fundraising & Communications**

### **Operational Goal 3**

#### **Income goal being reassessed – goal was to grow income from £3.4m to £8m by 2022**

- As we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic, we will continue our growth in voluntary income, raising £2.8m in the UK and supporting our colleagues in India and Tanzania to grow their fundraising activities, particularly in corporate fundraising.
- We recognise that as our significant FCDO grant ends, we face a challenge in securing restricted income. We will develop a strategy to fill the £1m reduction in restricted income and reduce the risk of over reliance on single multi-year donors. We will undertake a thorough internal and external audit of the restricted fundraising market-place and create a strategic plan, tied to programme delivery, to reduce future financial cliff faces
- As a charity, we are committed to providing the highest quality of supporter care and will deliver a new strategy that ensures it is a key component of the entire group. This will include supporter panels and introduce a clear pathway to regular giving from our events participants. We will secure over 6,000 donors across the charity and grow our regular giving base to 2,400

### **Operational Goal 4**

#### **We will be the voice for street children, raising awareness and building a better understanding of the issue**

- We will continue to strengthen our position as the 'go-to' agency for children on the streets, strengthening our credibility and reputation internationally as we develop our new 5-year strategy. We will continue the development of the new brand strategy, ensuring it is relevant in all our territories in the post-Covid environment
- We will increase support for children on the streets through the development of new innovative communication collateral to maximise income and develop sustainable, long-term partnerships with supporters across all territories
- As we seek to increase the profile of our programmes in India, Tanzania and the UK, we will create a comprehensive communications calendar for each of our programme territories and specifically we will:
  - Support our communications team in India to establish campaign intelligence metrics to strengthen our marketing performance and ensure quality of engagement
  - Support our team in Tanzania to launch and host of an online international safeguarding conference
  - Work with our UK programme team to launch a public facing awareness campaign as part of our work with the UK rail network and British Transport Police

## **Fundraising Statement**

Railway Children carries out a variety of fundraising activities, approaching individuals and companies for support and sponsorship as well as Trusts and Foundations. We occasionally employ a professional fundraising agency to undertake telephone and face-to-face fundraising activity on our behalf. Our policies and approach to fundraising are as follows;

- We are registered with the Fundraising Regulator and comply with the Codes of Fundraising Practice. We are regularly updated with changes in practice and enforce change where necessary
- We adhere to our policy set up to protect vulnerable people, ensuring that the policy is enforced throughout all fundraising activities and with all parties
- Before the appointment of a third-party fundraising supplier, we make checks with other charity clients including financial checks and ensure that their practices meet our ethical criteria. Once appointed strict stewardship of the relationship is applied through daily discussions on any issues and regularly listening to calls
- We reviewed our data protection policy and procedures in preparation for the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the fundraising code of practice and regularly monitor the implementation of this throughout the organisation
- We give our supporters clear opportunities to opt out of any further contact as part of every approach
- Our supporter promise and privacy policy is clearly displayed on our website and regularly communicated to our supporters
- We do not share or sell data with any other organisations
- During 2020/21 Railway Children received one complaint. This was dealt with and resolved.

Supporters and our beneficiaries are at the heart of what we do. We strive to achieve high standards in our fundraising and communication with supporters. We stand by the principles set out in our supporter promise.

## **Financial Results**

### **Income**

The total income for the year was £4.90m with £2.18m of unrestricted and £2.72m of restricted income. Within these amounts grant income contributed £2.57m. Corporate contributions included £0.53m from our Rail Aid event and £0.82m from other corporate fundraising including our events programme. Our individual giving programme, including fundraising in India raised £0.89m. The balance of the income was from donated services and interest. Income received through the UK increased from £3.79m to £3.95m.

### **Charitable Activities**

The total charitable expenditure delivered in the year was £3.56m - a decrease of £0.26m (6.5 per cent) this was largely a result of coronavirus slowing down programme delivery and programmes being adapted to provide alternative services. This expenditure made up 79.3 per cent (previous year 80.0 per cent) of total expenditure. Our geographically focused charitable activity divided between our Indian programme at 28 per cent (previously 28 per cent); our UK programme at 12 per cent (previously 13 per cent) and our Tanzania programme at 60 per cent (previously 59 per cent).

### **Expenditure on Fundraising**

Expenditure on fundraising accounted for 18.9 per cent of our total income (previous year 20.9%). These costs were a mixture of staff, support costs and mailing activity.

## Structure, Governance and Management

Railway Children is a charitable company limited by guarantee 3265496, Registered Charity No. 1058991, incorporated on 18th October 1996 and registered as a charity on 5th November 1996.

The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. Under those Articles, the Trustees, who form the Board of Trustees, are elected at the Annual General Meeting to serve a period of three years, with one third of their number retiring at each AGM.

The Memorandum and Articles of Railway Children express its objects as 'the relief of children and young persons under 25 years of age who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress, anywhere in the world and in particular those who are living on the streets'.

Railway Children Trading Limited is a wholly-owned subsidiary company (number 6533182) limited by shares. The company is registered for VAT and is used by Railway Children to conduct its trading activities. All profits are gift aided to the parent charity.

Railway Children Africa (RCA) is registered in Tanzania as an NGO, with NGO compliance (1563) under the Non-Governmental Organisations Act. The board consists of Railway Children representatives and Tanzanian nationals. The company manages our operations in Tanzania. The results for this company are consolidated into the accounts.

Railway Children India (RCI) is a Section 8 company registered in India that commenced operations in FY2015-16.

RCA and RCI operate as independent organisations governed by their own boards. These boards have been granted use of the Railway Children mark under licence in return for operating in accordance with group policies and quality standards in so far as is legally permissible in their jurisdiction. The results of RCA and RCI are consolidated into the group in view of the choice of these organisations to work to the current group strategy using group systems.

The governance of the charity has been reviewed in the context of the Charity Commission's Governance Code which has resulted in a strengthening of the quality standards the group uses to ensure integrity and inclusivity in the charity's operations.

## Vision and Beliefs

As an organisation, Railway Children recognises that the environment in which we operate in is one of uncertainty and constant change. The resources we rely on in order to meet our charitable aims are both competitive and subject to ever-changing trends, whilst our beneficiary environment is one that varies frequently. In response to this we construct our organisation so we can be as flexible and as innovative as possible. We nurture a culture that is both informal, inclusive and open without compromising on accountability or professionalism. This culture reflects a commitment to making a lasting change in the lives of children at risk on the streets and is informed by our stated values which work together to underpin all that we do:

'Our vision is a world where no child ever has to live on the streets'

## Values

- **Integrity:** We will always act with integrity towards our supporters, partners and peers, acting in the best interests of our beneficiaries at all times.
- **Bravery:** We are not afraid to push the boundaries, try new things or challenge the status quo in order to change the world for children living on the streets.
- **Innovation:** We are constantly reviewing our work to find new and improved ways of doing the best for our beneficiaries. We push ourselves to deliver sector-leading work in the interests of children living on the streets.
- **Effectiveness:** Our work is constantly judged on results and impact and then assessed to ensure maximum return on investment both in our programme outputs and financially. Every penny of donors' money is invested with care and attention to detail.

## **Governance - Trustee Responsibilities**

As a charity accountable to all our donors, our resources must be carefully managed and our legal responsibilities met.

Since its incorporation, the Railway Children Trustees have been the organisation's governing body. Trustees hold ultimate legal responsibility for the charity and collectively ensure delivery of our objectives, set our strategic direction and uphold our values as an organisation.

The key responsibilities of the Trustees are:

- Development and annual review of the charity's performance from definition of concepts to approval of the strategic direction
- Setting objectives for the development and review of our strategic plan, including approval on annual budgets and plans
- Approval of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts
- Identification and management of risks
- Appointment of Sub-Committees and delegation of powers
- Appointment, terms and conditions and delegation of powers to the Group Chief Executive
- Monitoring compliance with both company and charity law
- The stewardship of assets

Railway Children as a group operates under the guidance of a Board of Trustees. The implementation of the Trustees' plans and policies, and the responsibility for performance is vested in the Group Chief Executive.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total amount of such guarantees at 31 May 2021 was £280 (2020 - £550). The Trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The Trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

## **Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees**

Under the requirements of the Articles of Association, all members of the charity are permitted to stand for election as Trustees at the Annual General Meeting. The Trustee body has the necessary powers to appoint a new Trustee at any time. Any such appointed Trustee can hold office until the next Annual General Meeting, when they can stand for election.

One third of all, being the longest standing Trustees, retires in rotation and is eligible for re-appointment at the Annual General Meeting. The minimum number of Trustees is set at three and currently there are thirteen. There is no set maximum number.

## **Trustee Induction and Training**

Members of the charity who are considering standing as a Trustee are invited to attend Trustee meetings, to allow them to get to know the charity and the roles and responsibilities of a charity Trustee. Additionally, new Trustees are encouraged to attend an induction meeting, led by the Chairman and the Group Chief Executive. The meeting covers the following aspects:

- Background to and history of the charity and the context in which it operates.
- The principal responsibilities of a charity trustee.
- A summary of the charity's governing documents.
- The charity's current financial position and forecasts.
- The strategic plan and current progress against objectives.

A Trustee manual exists to assist both new and existing Trustees in the discharge of their responsibilities. The manual, which is reviewed annually, includes governance and operational policies, the Memorandum and Articles, role descriptions of officers and current delegations. Trustees are encouraged to keep themselves up to date through appropriate training.

**Remuneration Policy**

Railway Children commits to recruiting and paying all our staff up to the median rate, determined by an independently benchmarked scale that is reviewed every three years.

The data used for the benchmark cuts the data in five ways to ensure salaries are fair and competitive, the five categories used to determine salary levels are - rank, charity income, number of employees, charitable focus and charity location.

**Risks**

The Trustees and senior staff have produced a five-year strategy (2017-2022) setting out the major opportunities available to the charity and the risks to which it is exposed. All risks are reviewed and updated quarterly by the Finance and Audit Committee and the Board of Trustees. As part of this process, the Trustees have developed a Risk Management Policy, which comprises:

- A quarterly review of the risks the charity may face
- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the plan
- The implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should any of those risks materialise

Key risks for 2021-22	Mitigations
Securing ongoing funding	Continued investment in fundraising and diversifying income streams.
Delivering services safely in areas impacted by coronavirus	Taking best practice risk management and applying to local environments.
Recruitment and retention of suitable staff	Ensuring that salaries are benchmarked, there is emphasis on good staff supervision and financial planning gives confidence to key staff as regards retention.
Safeguarding	Safeguarding teams continue to respond to instances in line with policies and also build implementing partner capacity

**Reserves**

The Board of Trustees reviews the charity’s reserves policy annually.

The basis of Railway Children’s reserve policy is:

- To protect the continuity of our work, including specified liabilities and partner commitments
- To provide capacity to invest in innovative programme activities that may initially be difficult to fund

To achieve the above, a minimum reserve is defined as being three months of our core unrestricted expenditure. Our target reserve is based upon the level required to enable the following year’s programme to be funded and close at the guideline reserve level and is expressed as the opening reserve position for the following year’s budget.

The reserve levels for FY2020-21 were a minimum reserve level of £1.0m with a target reserve to fund the FY2021-22 programme of £1.6m.

The closing unrestricted reserve for the year was £1.4m which was £0.2m below the target level. Of the unrestricted reserve £0.7m is designated for programme work over the next twelve months. This work is outlined in each programme section of this report and a regional breakdown of the designation given in note 19 of the accounts. For the FY2021-22 the minimum reserve is £0.84m and the target reserve at the end of the financial year is £1.29m.

## **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

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

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the group and the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company / 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 judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- 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 charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and group and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## **AUDITORS**

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware;
- The Trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

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

A resolution to re-appoint Sayer Vincent LLP as the company's auditor will be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

The report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies' subject to the small companies' regime.

Haydn Abbott

Chairman of the Board

Date: 15 September 2021

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS AND TRUSTEES OF THE RAILWAY CHILDREN

### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Railway Children (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 May 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 May 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006

### Basis for opinion

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

### Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

## Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

## 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' annual report, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- The trustees' annual report, has 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 charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' annual 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 received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- The directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' annual report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

## Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities set out in the trustees' annual report, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being

satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

## Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

## Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We enquired of management, the finance and audit committee, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charity's policies and procedures relating to:
  - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
  - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
  - The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the charity from our professional and sector experience.

- We communicated applicable laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We reviewed any reports made to regulators.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

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 or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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

## Use of our report

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

Jonathan Orchard (Senior statutory auditor)

5 October 2021

for and on behalf of Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor

Invicta House, 108-114 Golden Lane, LONDON, EC1Y 0TL

**THE RAILWAY CHILDREN**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (incorporating Income & Expenditure Account)**  
**for the year ended 31 May 2021**

		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and Legacies	3	1,926,473	240,197	2,166,670	1,818,173
Charitable Activities					
Outreach		30,945	735,144	766,089	896,864
Shelter		17,945	426,313	444,258	353,067
Reintegration		46,365	1,101,475	1,147,840	591,261
Influencing		8,733	207,452	216,185	328,249
Other trading activities		150,402	855	151,257	553,133
Investments		363	7,229	7,592	15,988
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>2,181,226</b>	<b>2,718,665</b>	<b>4,899,891</b>	<b>4,556,735</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Fundraising		855,682	50,761	906,443	953,585
Charitable Activities					
Outreach		263,247	697,167	960,414	1,264,461
Shelter		135,905	364,116	500,021	575,732
Reintegration		441,847	1,150,529	1,592,376	1,290,471
Influencing		168,573	333,853	502,426	693,178
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	4	<b>1,865,254</b>	<b>2,596,426</b>	<b>4,461,680</b>	<b>4,777,427</b>
<b>Net Income / (Expenditure)</b>		<b>315,972</b>	<b>122,239</b>	<b>438,211</b>	<b>(220,692)</b>
<b>Transfer between funds</b>		-	-	-	-
<b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward	22	1,113,095	800,866	1,913,961	2,134,653
Total funds carried forward		1,429,067	923,105	2,352,172	1,913,961

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.

All recognised gains and losses are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Accordingly no statement of total recognised gains and losses are given.

All restricted funds received and expended relate to income funds.

**THE RAILWAY CHILDREN**  
**CONSOLIDATED AND PARENT BALANCE SHEET**  
**As at 31 May 2021**

	Notes	Group 2021 £	2020 £	Charity 2021 £	2020 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>					
Tangible Assets	10	15,817	26,338	1,293	1,842
Investment	11	17,624	24,624	17,724	24,724
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Debtors & Prepayments	17	228,110	109,036	706,971	165,422
Short Term Deposits		400,000	-	400,000	-
Cash at Bank & in Hand		1,919,179	1,924,340	1,067,278	1,530,436
		2,547,289	2,033,376	2,174,249	1,695,858
<b>Current Liabilities</b>					
Amounts Falling Due within One Year	18	(228,558)	(170,377)	(161,580)	(138,340)
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		2,318,731	1,862,999	2,012,669	1,557,518
<b>Net Assets</b>	19	2,352,172	1,913,961	2,031,686	1,584,084
<b>Funds</b>					
Unrestricted Income Funds					
General Funds		753,107	604,068	883,150	653,109
Designated Funds		676,000	509,027	676,000	509,027
Restricted Income Funds		968,504	812,519	517,975	433,601
Restricted Income Funds in Deficit		(45,439)	(11,653)	(45,439)	(11,653)
<b>Total Funds</b>	19	2,352,172	1,913,961	2,031,686	1,584,084

The financial statement of Railway Children, registered number 03265496, were approved by the Board of Trustees on 15 September 2021 and signed on its behalf by

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Haydn Abbott Chairman of the Board

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 Malcolm Brown Honorary Treasurer

**THE RAILWAY CHILDREN**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
for the year ended 31 May 2021

	Note	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>					
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>			38,080		87,563
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>					
Purchase of fixed assets	10	-		(26,496)	
Dividends and interest from investments		14,592		15,988	
Purchase of investments		-		-	
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities</b>			14,592		(10,508)
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>			52,672		77,055
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year			1,924,340		1,834,007
Change in cash and cash equivalents due to exchange rate movements			(57,833)		13,278
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>			<b>1,919,179</b>		<b>1,924,340</b>

**Reconciliation of net income / (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities**

	2021	2020
	£	£
<b>Net income / (expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)</b>	<b>438,211</b>	<b>(220,692)</b>
Depreciation charges	10,521	15,753
Exchange (Gains)/Losses	57,833	(15,594)
(Increase)/decrease in short term deposits	(400,000)	400,000
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(119,074)	(44,563)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	58,181	(31,354)
Dividends and interest from investments	(7,592)	(15,988)
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities</b>	<b>38,080</b>	<b>87,562</b>

**Analysis of cash and cash equivalents**

	At 1 June 2020	Cash flows	Other	At 31 May 2021
	£	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	1,924,340	52,672	(57,833)	1,919,179
Notice deposits (less than 3 months)	-	-	-	-
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>1,924,340</b>	<b>52,672</b>	<b>(57,833)</b>	<b>1,919,179</b>

## **1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements are prepared under the historic cost convention. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (August 2014) and the Companies Act 2006.

As explained in the Trustees' Report, after making enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation and no material uncertainties that Railway Children has adequate financial resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

### **Reconciliation with previously Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (GAAP)**

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 a restatement of comparative items was required. The transition date was 1 June 2014. No transitional adjustments were required.

### **Basis of Consolidation**

The Group financial statements consolidate the financial statements of Railway Children and its wholly owned subsidiary undertakings drawn up to 31<sup>st</sup> May each year. The results of the charitable company and its wholly-owned subsidiaries Railway Children Trading Limited, Railway Children Africa Limited and the overseas entity over which the charity has control through membership, Railway Children India, are consolidated on a line by line basis. Transactions and balances between the charitable company and its subsidiary have been eliminated from the consolidated financial statements. Balances between the two companies are disclosed in the notes of the charitable company's balance sheet. A separate statement of financial activities, or income and expenditure account, for the charitable company itself is not presented because the charitable company has taken advantage of the exemptions afforded by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

### **Public benefit entity**

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

### **Incoming Resources**

All income is recognised in the statement of financial activities when the conditions for receipt have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably. Where a claim for Income Tax has or will be made, such income is grossed up for tax recoverable. Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which it has been received. The following accounting policies are applied to income:

### **Gifts in Kind and donated goods & facilities**

Assets given for use by the charity are recognised as incoming resources at their estimated market value when receivable. If they form part of the fixed assets at the year-end they are included in the balance sheet at the value at which the gift was included in incoming resources. Donated facilities are included at their estimated value and the corresponding expenditure included under the appropriate heading. All estimates of value of gifts are estimated as the value to the charity of the service or facility received; being the price the charity estimates it would pay in the open market for a service or facility of equivalent utility to the charity.

### **Donations**

Donations and all other receipts from fundraising are reported gross and the related fundraising costs are reported in other expenditure.

## Legacies

For legacies that can be estimated and receipt is reasonably assured, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably, and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

## Grants received

Grants are recognised when the conditions of entitlement are met.

## Charitable expenditure

Charitable expenditure includes expenditure directly related to the objects of the charity and comprises grants payable, accounted for when the trustees have approved such grant and instruction is given to the charity's bankers. In addition, costs incurred in transmitting project grants to those projects, and the cost of visits by trustees and staff to assess, monitor and develop the work of these projects is accounted for on an accruals basis. Salary costs for co-coordinators in India, Programme Development Manager, National Policy and Strategy Officer, National Research & Strategy Manager and a proportion of the CEO salary are included as this work is concerned with the development of the management of and enhancement of capacity of the projects supported are also accounted for on an accruals basis.

Costs of raising funds relate to the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.

## Allocation of operating costs

The charity's operating costs are accounted for on an accruals basis and are allocated between costs of generating funds, charitable expenditure and governance. Wherever possible the costs are positively identified and specific to the activity, in other cases such as office provision and some staff costs a percentage allocation of total cost is made based upon an estimate of staff time attributable to each activity. The allocations for the year were:

Percentages	UK Support staff				Other costs	Depreciation
	CEO	Marketing & Comms	Finance & Admin			
Charitable	58%	60%	55%		40%	44%
CORF	25%	40%	31%		58%	50%
Governance	17%		14%		2%	6%
	100%	100%	100%		100%	100%

## Tangible fixed assets

The fixed assets are limited to equipment, furniture and fittings and are capitalised where the purchase cost exceeds £1,000. Depreciation is provided on these assets in equal annual instalments over the estimated lives of the assets as follows:

Office Equipment	- 4 years
Display Equipment	- 4 years
Furniture & fixtures	- 5 years

## **Fund Structures**

Unrestricted funds are where funds have been received without any conditions from donors. Some unrestricted funds have subsequently been set aside by Railway Children as designated funds where they have been earmarked to fund a specific partner from unrestricted funds.

Where funds have been received from donors for particular purposes these are represented as restricted funds. Transfers are made between restricted funds to represent changes agreed with the donor of the funds.

## **Foreign Currency**

Transactions in foreign currencies are converted at rates prevailing at the date of the transaction. Balances denominated in foreign currencies are converted at the rate of exchange prevailing at the balance sheet date. Exchange rate differences are taken into account in arriving at net incoming resources for the year.

## **Investments**

In the charity balance sheet, investments in the subsidiary are shown at cost less provision for impairments.

## **Pensions**

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable under the scheme by the charitable company to the fund. The charitable company has no liability under the scheme other than for the payment of those contributions.

## **Operating leases**

Rental charges are charged on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

## **Investments in subsidiaries**

Investments in subsidiaries are at cost.

## **Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

## **Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account. Cash balances exclude any funds held on behalf of service users.

## **Creditors and provisions**

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

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

## 2 Detailed comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 Total £
<b>Income from:</b>				
Donations and Legacies	3	1,583,591	234,582	1,818,173
Charitable Activities		73,091	2,096,350	2,169,441
Other trading activities		550,063	3,070	553,133
Investments		1,812	14,176	15,988
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>2,208,557</b>	<b>2,348,178</b>	<b>4,556,735</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Fundraising		853,454	100,131	953,585
Charitable Activities		1,476,132	2,347,710	3,823,842
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	4	<b>2,329,586</b>	<b>2,447,841</b>	<b>4,777,427</b>
<b>Net Income / (Expenditure)</b>		<b>(121,029)</b>	<b>(99,663)</b>	<b>(220,692)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward	19	1,234,124	900,529	2,134,653
Total funds carried forward		<b>1,113,095</b>	<b>800,866</b>	<b>1,913,961</b>

### 3a Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Individual Donations:				
General	671,002	132,569	803,571	875,680
Legacies	79,686	4,000	83,686	14,945
Corporate Donations	1,128,085	103,628	1,231,713	840,077
Donated services	47,700	-	47,700	87,471
	<b>1,926,473</b>	<b>240,197</b>	<b>2,166,670</b>	<b>1,818,173</b>

### 3b Comparative Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 Total £
Individual Donations:			
General	763,546	112,134	875,680
Legacies	14,895	50	14,945
Corporate Donations	717,679	122,398	840,077
Donated services	87,471	-	87,471
	<b>1,583,591</b>	<b>234,582</b>	<b>1,818,173</b>

#### 4a Analysis of Expenditure

	Charitable activities	Cost of raising funds	Governance	Support costs	2021 Total	2020 Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Grants payable (see note 5a)	968,438	-	-	-	968,438	1,110,566
UK Staff	360,947	333,623	45,011	711,477	1,451,058	1,415,697
Overseas Staff	674,863	37,974	-	-	712,837	852,543
Office & Supplies	170,119	9,551	-	32,624	212,294	242,553
Services	365,396	208,996	11,610	70,457	656,459	573,428
Travel & Accommodation	279,460	8,090	-	124	287,674	376,002
Other	114,009	-	-	-	114,009	103,413
Depreciation	7,757	-	-	3,454	11,211	15,753
Gifts in Kind	15,450	32,250	-	-	47,700	87,472
Sub total	2,956,439	630,484	56,621	818,136	4,461,680	4,777,427
Support costs	531,682	264,114	22,340	(818,136)	-	-
Governance costs	67,116	11,845	(78,961)			
Total expenditure 2021	3,555,237	906,443	-	-	4,461,680	4,777,427
Total expenditure 2020	3,823,842	953,585	-	-	4,777,427	

#### 4b Comparative Analysis of Expenditure

	Charitable activities	Cost of raising funds	Governance	Support costs	2020 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Grants payable (see note 6)	1,110,566	-	-	-	1,110,566
UK Staff	376,202	297,747	35,276	706,472	1,415,697
Overseas Staff	817,947	34,596	-	-	852,543
Office & Supplies	190,256	5,136	-	47,161	242,553
Services	256,879	236,074	16,467	64,008	573,428
Travel & Accommodation	314,080	48,326	1,156	12,440	376,002
Other	103,413	-	-	-	103,413
Depreciation	9,200	-	-	6,553	15,753
Gifts in Kind	37,136	50,336	-	-	87,472
Sub total	3,215,679	672,215	52,899	836,634	4,777,427
Support costs	535,914	268,893	31,827	(836,634)	-
Governance costs	72,249	12,477	(84,726)		
Total expenditure 2020	3,823,842	953,585	-	-	4,777,427

### 5a Analysis of Charitable Expenditure by Activity

Grants	Outreach 2021 £	Shelter 2021 £	Reintegration 2021 £	Influencing 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
India	109,834	89,050	232,173	8,693	439,750	472,831
Kenya	-	-	-	-	-	88,673
Tanzania	182,831	77,110	197,198	71,549	528,688	549,062
<b>Grants sub total</b>	<b>292,665</b>	<b>166,160</b>	<b>429,371</b>	<b>80,242</b>	<b>968,438</b>	<b>1,110,566</b>
UK Staff	15,140	6,386	238,347	101,074	360,947	376,202
Overseas Staff	214,219	109,730	282,636	68,278	674,863	817,947
Office & Supplies	50,676	24,445	66,435	28,563	170,119	190,256
Services	91,910	46,464	138,715	88,307	365,396	256,879
Travel & Accommodation	91,446	40,216	109,975	37,823	279,460	314,080
Other	35,586	18,421	48,409	11,593	114,009	103,413
Depreciation	2,343	1,331	3,439	644	7,757	9,200
Gifts in Kind	4,669	2,651	6,850	1,280	15,450	37,136
	<b>505,989</b>	<b>249,644</b>	<b>894,806</b>	<b>337,562</b>	<b>1,988,001</b>	<b>2,105,113</b>
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>798,654</b>	<b>415,804</b>	<b>1,324,177</b>	<b>417,804</b>	<b>2,956,439</b>	<b>3,215,679</b>
Support costs	143,629	74,778	238,138	75,137	531,682	535,914
Governance costs	18,131	9,439	30,061	9,485	67,116	72,249
<b>Total</b>	<b>960,414</b>	<b>500,021</b>	<b>1,592,376</b>	<b>502,426</b>	<b>3,555,237</b>	<b>3,823,842</b>

Outreach work includes streetwork, local helplines, association models and child friendly stations.

Shelter includes drop in centres, night shelters, government home work and refuge.

Reintegration work includes return home interviews, intensive family work, working with government homes and bio diverse farming.

## 5b Comparative Analysis of Charitable Expenditure by Activity

Grants	Outreach	Shelter	Reintegration	Influencing	Total
	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020
	£	£	£	£	£
India	246,236	106,991	109,636	9,968	472,831
Kenya	34,991	25,212	25,727	2,743	88,673
Tanzania	171,163	71,885	178,412	127,602	549,062
<b>Grants sub total</b>	<b>452,390</b>	<b>204,088</b>	<b>313,775</b>	<b>140,313</b>	<b>1,110,566</b>
UK Staff	13,009	6,129	248,048	109,016	376,202
Overseas Staff	311,230	142,082	240,910	123,725	817,947
Office & Supplies	64,670	29,679	56,082	39,825	190,256
Services	67,900	30,962	75,606	82,411	256,879
Travel & Accommodation	100,243	46,404	105,017	62,416	314,080
Other	34,927	16,265	32,748	19,473	103,413
Depreciation	3,858	1,732	2,550	1,060	9,200
Gifts in Kind	15,128	6,824	10,492	4,692	37,136
	<b>610,965</b>	<b>280,077</b>	<b>771,453</b>	<b>442,618</b>	<b>2,105,113</b>
Sub total	1,063,355	484,165	1,085,228	582,931	3,215,679
Support costs	177,215	80,689	180,860	97,150	535,914
Governance costs	23,891	10,878	24,383	13,097	72,249
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,264,461</b>	<b>575,732</b>	<b>1,290,471</b>	<b>693,178</b>	<b>3,823,842</b>

## 6 Staff Costs

	2021	2020
	£	£
<b>UK Based Staff</b>		
Wages and salaries	1,259,621	1,230,085
National Insurance	124,526	110,296
Pension costs	66,910	75,316
<b>UK Based Sub Total</b>	<b>1,451,057</b>	<b>1,415,697</b>
Overseas staff	712,837	852,543
	<b>2,163,894</b>	<b>2,268,240</b>

## 7 Staff Numbers

The average number of employees was:

	2021	2020
Project development	17	16
Fundraising	16	18
Support and administration	2	2
<b>UK staff subtotal</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>36</b>
East Africa programme staff	36	32
India programme staff	29	31
<b>Total staff</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>99</b>

## Information regarding employees and trustees

\*One employee had emoluments in the range of £90,000 - £99,999 (2020 - one), one in the range £80-£89,999 (2020 - one) one in the range £70,000 - £79,999 (2020 - one) and three in the range £60,000 - £69,999 (2020 - two).

\*The cost of employing key management personnel including employer's NI and pension contributions was £521,774 (2020: £496,189)

## 8 Net incoming resources for the year

This is stated after charging:

	2021 £	2020 £
Operating lease rentals		
- Property	12,701	15,200
- Other	500	500
Depreciation	10,521	15,753
Auditors remuneration		
- Audit (excl irrecoverable VAT)	9,300	9,150
- Audit accrual adjustment (incl VAT)	-	-
- Audit disbursement	-	-
Trustees remuneration	-	-
Trustee expenses	-	1,156
Of which Trustees reimbursed expenses	-	91
	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>

Trustee expenses represents the reimbursed travel and expenses of no Trustees (2020: 5).

## 9 Operating lease commitments

The charity had annual commitments at the year end under operating leases expiring as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Less than one year	21,780	11,817
2-5 years	48,603	60,813
	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
	70,383	72,630

**10 Tangible Fixed Assets (Group and Charity)**

	Charity Equipment & Furniture	Group Vehicles	Group Equipment	Group Total
Cost	£	£	£	£
At beginning of year	67,589	38,798	-	106,387
Additions in year	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At close of year	67,589	38,798	-	106,387
<b>Depreciation</b>				
At beginning of year	65,747	14,302	-	80,049
Change for year	549	9,972	-	10,521
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At close of year	66,296	24,274	-	90,570
<b>Net Book Value</b>				
Group and charity at close of year	1,293	14,524	-	15,817
Group and charity at beginning of year	1,842	24,496	-	26,338

**11 Investments**

These consist of £100 of shares in Railway Children Trading Limited and an endowment fund invested for the benefit of work in India with a current value of £17,624.

Railway Children Trading Limited	2021	2020
	£	£
Turnover	483,594	31,527
Expenditure	(86,817)	(19,420)
Use of Railway Children logo	(1,000)	(1,000)
Use of Railway Children staff	(5,000)	(5,000)
Trading profit / (loss)	390,777	6,107
Loan interest paid to Railway Children	-	-
Profit donated to Railway Children	(390,777)	(6,107)
Net profit for the year	-	-
Net assets carried forward at May 31	100	100

Railway Children Trading Company Limited is a 100% subsidiary of Railway Children. During the year £428,560 from Rail Aid, £28,904 from Xmas cards and £26,130 from UK programme activities. Net profit donated to the charity was £390,777 (2020: £6,107)

All the Railway Children Trading Company Limited's profits for the year are donated to Railway Children. Payments to Railway Children are regarded as a reduction of the charity's expenditure and cancel out on the consolidated accounts.

**12 Taxation**

Railway Children Limited is a registered charity and is thus exempt from taxation of its income and gains falling within Section 505 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that they are applied to its charitable objectives. No tax charge has arisen in the year.

13 Railway Children Africa	2021	2020
	£	£
Turnover	396,355	317,454
Income from Railway Children	1,174,138	1,257,075
Expenditure	(1,570,493)	(1,574,529)
Net assets carried forward at May 31st	-	-

Railway Children Africa Limited is a 100% subsidiary of Railway Children and income is derived from the restricted income from the parent charity with some locally raised restricted income. Railway Children Africa Limited carries out Railway Children's programme of work in Tanzania.

14 Railway Children India	2021	2020
	£	£
Turnover	573,980	407,062
Income from Railway Children	27,223	-
Expenditure	(580,957)	(578,048)
Surplus/(Deficit)	(6,977)	(170,986)

Railway Children India Limited is a section 25 company registered in India. The company operates under the Railway Children trademark.

**15 India Liaison Office**

This legal entity employs the Railway Children staff in India and is treated as a subsidiary in these accounts. Income for India LO was solely from the charity and amounted to £78,056 (2020: £149,569) and expenditure £60,226 (2020: £121,434).

**16 Railway Children parent charity**

The parent charity gross income for the year excluding RCTL income is £3,467,082 (2020: £3,794,889) and the net deficit for the year is £427,993 (2020 net deficit: £61,974).

## 17 Debtors and Prepayments

	Consolidated		Charity	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Debtors	-	-	-	-
Gift aid debtor	27,814	55,749	27,814	55,749
Other debtors	186,536	31,907	185,135	31,704
Prepayments and accrued income	13,760	21,380	13,760	21,380
Railway Children Africa - owed to charity	-	-	45,108	48,675
Railway Children Trading Limited - owed to charity	-	-	435,154	7,914
Total	228,110	109,036	706,971	165,422

## 18 Liabilities: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	Consolidated		Charity	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Creditors	48,736	36,378	31,415	19,715
Tax and national insurance	26,465	26,465	26,465	26,465
Accrued Expenditure	153,357	107,534	103,700	92,160
Total	228,558	170,377	161,580	138,340

## 19a Analysis of group net assets between funds

	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	General Funds	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	-	-	33,441	33,441
Net current assets	923,065	676,000	719,666	2,318,731
Net assets at the end of the year	923,065	676,000	753,107	2,352,172

## 19b Comparative of group net assets between funds

	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	General Funds	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	50,962	50,962
Net current assets	800,866	509,027	553,106	1,862,999
Net assets at the end of the year	800,866	509,027	604,068	1,913,961

## 20 Related Parties

During the year there were related party transactions with Railway Children India, Railway Children Africa Limited and Railway Children Ball Limited. Income from Railway Children Ball Limited was £105,595 (2020: £525,531).

Railway Children is registered as a liaison office in India and manages the delivery of the India programme with funding provided entirely via Railway Children. Railway Children India is registered as a section 25 company in India and FCRA registered.

The Railway Children Ball Limited has one Trustee in common with Railway Children and runs an annual fundraising ball.

Railway Children Africa Limited is registered as a company in Tanzania and manages the delivery of the Tanzania programme with most funding provided via Railway Children. Railway Children representatives make up a majority of the board positions.

## 21 Funds held on behalf of others

The charity is part of an unincorporated association known as the Partnership for Vulnerable Children, formed with with three other charities: Childhope, Get Connected and ICT. The association operates a payroll giving scheme on behalf of its members. Railway Children performs the financial administration for the association.

The sole assets of the association are funds collected not yet dispersed which are held in a separate bank account. The balance on the account at May 31st 2021 was £5,958 (2020: £12,516). This bank account does not form part of these consolidated accounts.

## 22a Movement in Funds

		Balance at	Movement in Resources		Transfers	Balance at
		01/06/2020	Incoming	Outgoing		31/05/2021
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Restricted Funds</b>						
<b>Region</b>	<b>Funder</b>					
East Africa	Other funders	22,459	98,620	(26,102)	-	94,977
	DfID - UK Aid Match	-	76,699	(166,052)	-	(89,353)
	DfID - UK Aid Direct	65,258	881,819	(774,377)	-	172,700
India	APPI	312,140	421,870	(383,892)	-	350,118
	Comic Relief	-	-	-	-	-
	Other funders	268,972	468,801	(384,952)	-	352,821
	BLF	-	-	-	-	-
	Honda	10,800	3,135	-	-	13,935
UK	Other UK	51,056	273,943	(251,693)	-	73,306
<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>		<b>730,685</b>	<b>2,224,887</b>	<b>(1,987,068)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>968,504</b>
<b>Restricted Funds in Deficit</b>		<b>70,181</b>	<b>493,774</b>	<b>(609,394)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(45,439)</b>
<b>Overall Restricted Funds</b>		<b>800,866</b>	<b>2,718,661</b>	<b>(2,596,462)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>923,065</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>						
<b>Designated Funds</b>						
	India	158,011	(5,976)	(35)	-	152,000
	UK	204,000	140,977	(119,977)	-	225,000
	East Africa	147,016	201,325	(49,341)	-	299,000
	Total Designated Funds	509,027	336,326	(169,353)	-	676,000
	General Funds	604,068	1,844,900	(1,695,901)	-	753,067
	<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>1,113,095</b>	<b>2,181,226</b>	<b>(1,865,254)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,429,067</b>
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b>1,913,961</b>	<b>4,899,887</b>	<b>(4,461,716)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,352,132</b>

### Purposes of Restricted Funds

All restricted funds are held for the relief of children and young persons in conditions of hardship and distress who live on or are at risk of running to the streets.

APPI funds are for work to assist street children on railway stations in India

PACT: Restricted for the assistance of street children and youth in Tanzania, in deficit as this is funded in arrears.

DfID: These funds relate to the assistance of street children in Tanzania.

### Purposes of Designated Funds

These are to cover commitments made to partners made for the year ended May 31st 2021, details are contained in the annual report.

## 22b Comparative Movement in Funds

		Balance at	Movement in Resources		Transfers	Balance at
		01/06/2019	Incoming	Outgoing		31/05/2020
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Restricted Funds</b>						
<b>Region</b>	<b>Funder</b>					
East Africa	Other funders	71,215	207,996	(176,151)	-	103,060
	DfID - UK Aid Match	(1)	-	1	-	-
	DfID - UK Aid Direct	72,708	990,963	(998,413)	-	65,258
India	APPI	532,400	230,834	(451,094)	-	312,140
	Comic Relief	(36)	-	36	-	-
	Other funders	136,169	441,395	(308,592)	-	268,972
	BLF	79,437	(61,245)	(18,192)	-	-
	Honda	7,897	48,183	(45,280)	-	10,800
UK	Other UK	44,896	187,387	(179,994)	-	52,289
<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>		<b>944,685</b>	<b>2,045,513</b>	<b>(2,177,679)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>812,519</b>
<b>Restricted Funds in Deficit</b>						
PACT - East Africa		(44,156)	302,665	(270,162)	-	(11,653)
		<b>(44,156)</b>	<b>302,665</b>	<b>(270,162)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(11,653)</b>
<b>Overall Restricted Funds</b>		<b>900,529</b>	<b>2,348,178</b>	<b>(2,447,841)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>800,866</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>						
<b>Designated Funds</b>						
India		213,000	(46,414)	(8,575)		158,011
UK		262,000	61,977	(119,977)		204,000
East Africa		245,000	88,062	(186,046)		147,016
<b>Total Designated Funds</b>		<b>720,000</b>	<b>103,625</b>	<b>(314,598)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>509,027</b>
General Funds		514,124	2,104,932	(2,014,988)	-	604,068
<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>		<b>1,234,124</b>	<b>2,208,557</b>	<b>(2,329,586)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,113,095</b>
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b>2,134,653</b>	<b>4,556,735</b>	<b>(4,777,427)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,913,961</b>