

DOWN'S SYNDROME ASSOCIATION

England & Wales · Charity number 1061474

Details

Other names DOWNS SYNDROME ASSOCIATION, DSA

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [03310024](#)

Registered 1997-03-21

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

Contact

Address Downs Syndrome Association
The Langdon Down Centre
2a Langdon Park
Teddington
TW11 9PS

Phone 0333 1212300

Email info@downs-syndrome.org.uk

Website www.downs-syndrome.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO CREATE AND DEVELOP THE CONDITIONS WHICH WILL ENABLE PEOPLE WITH DOWN'S SYNDROME TO ATTAIN THEIR FULL POTENTIAL.TO UNDERTAKE ANY OTHER CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES IN CONNECTION WITH DOWN'S SYNDROME

Activities: We provide information and support for people with Down's syndrome, their families and carers, and the professionals who work with them.We strive to improve knowledge of the condition.We champion the rights of people with Down's syndrome.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** Education/training, Disability
- **Who:** People With Disabilities

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NATIONAL
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£2,706,258	£2,438,676	£3,439,523	44
2024-03-31	£1,762,073	£2,283,268	£3,171,888	44
2023-03-31	£2,032,121	£2,133,028	£3,693,031	40
2022-03-31	£2,100,328	£2,033,457	£3,793,875	38
2021-03-31	£2,896,514	£2,000,170	£3,551,378	42

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
DARREN WARKCUP		2012-10-25
Dr JOHN GERARD COGHLAN		
Professor Anthony J Holland		2023-06-01
ROBERT STIRLING		
SARAH LEGGAT		2012-10-25
TREVOR PEARCY		2015-01-24

DOWN'S SYNDROME ASSOCIATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1061474

Accounts

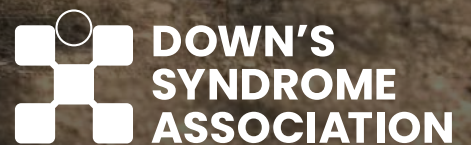


Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March

2025

Company number: 3310024 | Charity Number: 1061474



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Trustees' Annual Report

Company number

3310024

Country of incorporation

United Kingdom

Charity number

1061474

Country of registration

England

Registered office and operational address

Down's Syndrome Association
Langdon Down Centre,
2a Langdon Park, Teddington,
Middlesex, TW11 9PS

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank
2nd Floor, St Paul's House,
10 Warwick Lane, London
EC4M 7BP

Solicitors

Russell Cooke, 2 Putney Hill,
London, SW15 6AB

Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP,
Chartered Accountants
and Statutory Auditor, Invicta House,
110 Golden Lane, London EC1Y 0TG

Trustees

Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Dr Gerard Coghlan – Chair

Sarah Leggat – Vice Chair

Trevor Percy

Robert Stirling

Darren Warkcup – Treasurer

Professor Anthony J. Holland

Anya Souza – Resigned 31 August 24

Georgie Hill – Resigned 31 August 24

Key management personnel

Carol Boys OBE – Chief Executive

Gillian Bird – Services Director

Macarena Laclote – Head of Finance
and Administration

The trustees present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.



Objectives

- ▶ **To create and develop the conditions which will enable people who have Down's syndrome to attain their full potential.**
- ▶ **To undertake any other charitable activities in connection with Down's syndrome.**

In furtherance of these objectives, the Association offers information and support to people who have Down's syndrome, their parents and carers, interested professionals and the general public.

It also champions the rights of people who have Down's syndrome and works to improve knowledge and understanding of the condition. We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

Mission

Our mission is to benefit the public by creating and maintaining the conditions that will enable all people who have Down's syndrome to live full and rewarding lives. We create an inclusive environment where everyone can participate and contribute towards our work. In working towards our mission, we train and educate the professionals who work with people who have Down's syndrome to promote best practice and new initiatives. We carry out research into health issues and campaign to change policy and service provision. Most importantly, we provide information and support for people who have Down's syndrome, their families and carers on all aspects of living with Down's syndrome.

Aims

- ▶ To promote the rights of people who have Down's syndrome.
- ▶ To be the centre for information and training on all aspects of Down's syndrome.
- ▶ To involve more adults who have Down's syndrome in the work of the DSA.
- ▶ To increase and retain the membership of the organisation.
- ▶ To develop the organisation's sources of funding.
- ▶ To encourage and monitor research.
- ▶ To develop and maintain links with learning disability and other relevant organisations.
- ▶ To adopt new technology where this supports the aims of the DSA.
- ▶ To provide opportunities for physical activity to improve well-being, self-confidence, social awareness and self-esteem.





How Our Activities Deliver Public Benefit

The implementation of our aims and those we try to help are described below. All of our charitable activities focus on enabling people who have Down's syndrome to live full and rewarding lives and are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit. Our aims fully reflect the purposes the charity was set up to advance.

Who Uses and Benefits from Our Services?

The services we provide are available throughout England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Demand for our services is growing including our helpline. Most of our services are provided free of charge.

Equal access to our services is an important issue to us. We proactively try to reach underrepresented ethnic and social groups.

The trustees review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year. This report looks at what the charity has achieved and the outcomes of its work in the reporting period. The trustees report the success of each key activity and the benefits the charity has brought to those groups of people that it is set up to help. The review also helps the trustees ensure the charity's aims, objectives and activities remained focused on its stated purposes.



Strategic Report

Achievements and performance in the year to 31 March 2025

The charity's main activities and who it serves are described below. All its charitable activities are undertaken to further the Down's Syndrome Association's charitable purposes for the public benefit.



Beneficiary Projects and Services

Membership

Membership is a continuing priority for the organisation as the more members we have, the stronger our voice.

Strong relationships are developed with our members through frequent and regular communication utilising various channels. This ensures that all members have a sense of belonging and that they are made aware of the latest developments in Down's syndrome.

Adults who have Down's syndrome who live in the UK receive free lifetime membership. Membership costs just £15 per annum for everyone else. For expectant parents and new members who have a baby under 12 months of age, membership is offered free for the first year.

Members of the Down's Syndrome Association receive weekly email newsletters on a range of topics. They also receive *the Journal* in the post twice a year, along with Winter and Summer Updates.

During the year we have reviewed and updated our welcome letters, and we have started work on reviewing other member communications and ways to enhance engagement.



Inclusive Participation

Our salaried Inclusion Advisors and Our Voice® network of volunteers, all of whom have Down's syndrome, share their views and lived experience, inform and guide our activities and projects, advise other organisations by arrangement and co-produce information and training.

In the last year, DSA Inclusion Advisors:

- ▶ Created and delivered a Listen Include Respect training session for an Integrated Care Board.
- ▶ Presented their work at the World Down Syndrome Congress in Brisbane, Australia.
- ▶ Promoted self-advocacy for people who have Down's syndrome.
- ▶ Made valuable contributions to our work.

Our Voice members met

110 times



We appointed a person who has Down's syndrome into a new role for Trustee Liaison.

Feedback from a researcher who consulted with Our Voice.

Thank you so much for inviting me to the meeting today. I found the group incredibly insightful, and the feedback will be invaluable for shaping and designing the project.

Quotes from Our Voice members.

Our Voice means to be heard out. And to speak out for the community and to be able to be heard out.

I feel fantastic when I wear my Our Voice T shirt, inside or outside, because I'm showing people they can get involved.

DOWN'S SYNDROME ASSOCIATION



Policy, Campaigns and Consultations

We influence policy, contribute to government consultations and National Institute for Health & Care Excellence (NICE) information, and engage with relevant learning disability networks.

We work directly with Government and public officials to ensure the needs of individuals who have Down's syndrome and their families are considered in policymaking at all levels.

Through our policy work, we raise awareness about the issues affecting people who have Down's syndrome and seek to educate policymakers and the public about these challenges. This can lead to greater understanding and support for initiatives that will support the well-being of people who have Down's syndrome.

We continue to incorporate feedback from people who have Down's syndrome. This is essential to our policy work, as it ensures representation, empowers people who have Down's syndrome, adds authenticity to our advocacy efforts, and raises awareness about real-life challenges being faced, as well as ideas for improvement.

In 2024-25, we engaged with the following groups:

- ▶ Cross Party Learning Disability Groups in both England and Wales
- ▶ The Department of Health and Social Care Learning Disability and Autism Partners Network
- ▶ Welsh Government Learning Disability Ministerial Advisory Group
- ▶ The Down Syndrome Act Guidance Stakeholders Group
- ▶ Antenatal Screening Project implementation Boards in England and Wales
- ▶ The Growing Older with a Learning Disability (GOLD) group
- ▶ The LeDeR Project Independent Advisory Board
- ▶ The Reasonable Adjustment Digital Flag project advisory group
- ▶ Integrated Care Boards across England.

We engaged in several groups and meetings during 2024/25.

- ▶ Change NHS
- ▶ The Curriculum & Assessment Review
- ▶ Modernisation Committee calls for evidence x 2
- ▶ National Audit Office – Support for children and young people with SEND
- ▶ Disability and Employment Consultation – Wales
- ▶ Health & Social Care Committee inquiry into Adult Social Care
- ▶ Work & Pensions Committee inquiry into Disability Employment
- ▶ Further Education & Skills Inquiry
- ▶ Culture, Media and Sport Committee – Game On: Community and School Sport
- ▶ Hybrid Working
- ▶ Job Centre Reform
- ▶ Employment Support Scheme – Northern Ireland
- ▶ Education Committee – SEND Inquiry
- ▶ Spending Review recommendations
- ▶ SENEDD Routes into post-16 education and training – Children, Young People and Education Committee
- ▶ Law Commission Inquiry – Children’s social care
- ▶ Community of Practice for Professionals Allied to Learning Disability (Wales)
- ▶ Homes not Hospitals (Wales).

We also delivered a consultation event for the Law Commission (review of children’s social care) with DSA member parents.

We represented people who have Down’s syndrome and their families on sector networks including Special Educational Consortium (SEC), My Vote My Voice, Disabled Children’s Partnership (DCP), SEND Information Organisations Group (SENDIOG), Council for Disabled Children (CDC), Genetic Alliance, and the Health Policy Improvement Group (HPIG).

Affiliated Groups

We provide a service to a network of Affiliated Groups that offer local support to families and individuals who have Down's syndrome. They operate independently, often run by families in the local area and choose to affiliate with the DSA to access resources, guidance, and networking opportunities.

Helpline

It is important that people who have Down's syndrome and their families know that they can turn to the DSA whenever they need information, advice or support.

We received calls and emails that resulted in more than 10,000 contacts for support, advice and information.

Most common topics for in-depth advocacy and support:

- ▶ adult services, rights and housing (17% of contacts)
- ▶ benefits for families and people who have Down's syndrome (16%)
- ▶ education, development and services for children (16%)
- ▶ mental and physical health (15% of contacts).

The Down Syndrome Medical Interest Group UK & Ireland (DSMIG) continued to support our information team on complex health queries.

Quote from a parent who contacted our helpline service:

Your adviser has been understanding and given in-depth advice. He has also drafted complex letters for me which has saved so much time and energy. I have been stressed and struggling fighting with the council feeling everything I have said has fallen on deaf ears. He has been so supportive, and I can't thank him enough. I felt really listened to. The help I have received has gone way beyond my expectations.

Information

There are more than 500 information resources on the DSA website, all free.

This year we published:

- ▶ 39 new resources on healthcare and health conditions, development and education, transition to adulthood, and adult social care.
- ▶ A new area on the website to share information about regression, including parents' stories.
- ▶ Nine new video resources on vision, hearing, education, regression and dementia which were watched more than 2,000 times during the period.
- ▶ A new edition of our original dementia workbook, available in print and download with an explanatory video. This resource, Keeping People who have Down's Syndrome Well Before and During Dementia, written by Dr Karen Dodd, builds on our increased knowledge of dementia, especially our understanding of how to keep people healthy as they age. We were awarded the Dementia Trainer and Workforce Development Award at the Dementia Care Awards 2025 in recognition of the role of our training and the dementia workbook in supporting the development of understanding of the needs of individuals affected by dementia.

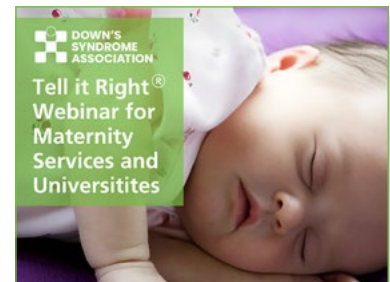


Quote from a parent.

I just want to say, this health information you are circulating is SO very helpful. So thank you very much indeed. I make sure I circulate it to all of Sarah's staff so they are kept as informed as possible.

Our information reached professionals in a variety of ways, including:

- ▶ Providing new parent packs to maternity hospitals across England, Wales and Northern Ireland.
- ▶ Distributing printed education and health resources and meeting with professionals at exhibitions and conferences in Birmingham, Cardiff, Glasgow, Liverpool, London, Sheffield and West Midlands, reaching 6000 teachers, GPs, Paediatricians and Midwives.
- ▶ Information sent to all Integrated Care Boards in England.



Training and Support Meetings

In the last year, 7,697 family members, professionals and people who have Down's syndrome participated in DSA training and support events (this number compares with 6000 participants during 2023-24):

- ▶ 6,911 people joined 138 live online or in-person meetings and webinars, and 786 accessed recorded webinars 'on demand'.
- ▶ Topics included Tell It Right® maternity care, pregnancy, early development, feeding, speech, language and communication, reading, sensory processing awareness, nursery, primary, secondary and college education, behaviour, health and wellbeing, sleep, vision, hearing, dual diagnosis with autism, ageing and dementia.
- ▶ We continued to build a network of support for parent carers of individuals who have Down's syndrome and complex needs, including autism. 578 parent carers benefitted from our range of 19 online and in-person support meetings. We extended this service with the addition of regular support meetings for parents whose children have experienced regression (loss of skills).
- ▶ 148 people participated in 18 Pregnancy and Baby Support and Early Communication and Development Groups.
- ▶ Our speech and language therapist provided 60 speech and language therapy assessments and 12 supervision sessions for speech and language therapists.

Feedback from parents.

I am not sure who has enjoyed the Pregnancy & Baby Online Support Group more, me or Rebecca. She lights up whenever we join the call and was keen to join the conversation today. She clearly knows a good group of people when she sees one. I am so grateful to everybody involved in the support group. Not only have you provided a wealth of helpful information and resources, but also reassurance, kindness and access to a new community. It has been a difficult eight months, and these calls have made an enormous difference to our family. You've helped empower me to look after and out for Rebecca, and that is something I will always be grateful for.

I am so grateful that the DSA offers this Early Communication and Development Group. It has been amazing to have constant support and guidance. Thanks so much for walking me throughout the first two years of my little one and making me feel I was never alone on the journey.

Speech and language therapy assessment feedback from a parent.

I came for a speech and language therapist assessment for my little boy last week. I just wanted to say the therapist has very kindly sent the report through on Monday. She's done it extremely quickly and efficiently, and it's absolutely fabulous. I just wanted to call with a message to say a huge thank you. It was wonderful to meet the therapist,so motivational, inspiring. And it just felt so good to be doing something with someone so professional. I'm very much now looking forward to taking this to the local authority and helping my son more with his speech and language. Thank you so much.



DSActive DSEngage

Our DSActive programme provided training and support for activity leaders and promoted local and national leisure and sport events to people who have Down's syndrome and their families throughout the year.

DSEngage online activities for well-being and health promotion continued to grow their range of themes and activity as well as increase in popularity and enjoyment. They have become a community of thousands of people who have Down's syndrome who experience friendship through the shared activities as well as having fun and getting exercise.

The service received 5387 registrations for 213 activity sessions, including:

- ▶ 50 weekly afternoon and evening discos
- ▶ 8 celebratory and holiday discos, parties and singalongs for Christmas, New Year, World Down Syndrome Day and across the summer. Special themes included music from the 70s, 80s and 90s, movies and musicals
- ▶ 154 weekly workouts, Zumba, Pilates Plus, Wake up and Dance with DanceSyndrome activity sessions, and Mr Motivator Wednesday workouts
- ▶ DSEngage also ran Christmas craft sessions.

Quotes from parents.

Thank you so much! Really wonderful to be a part of. Means the world.

D is very delayed with writing skills but your sessions are so good for his coordination and motor skills etc, and he has something lovely to display afterwards! The sessions are good for me too with actually being able to sit and relax!! Thank you so much again for a very lovely evening and hope to see you soon.

C and I both enjoyed the session and C loved seeing all the other participants. I attach a photo of C with the wreath which now has pride of place among our Christmas decorations. Thank you so much for putting on all the events that you do – C has thoroughly enjoyed her keep fit and crafts.





WorkFit®

We provide training, information and resources to employers, supporting them in offering employment opportunities to people who have Down's syndrome. We develop employment opportunities for people who have Down's syndrome and provide advice and support to enable them to embrace the exciting challenges that lie ahead on the journey to fulfilling their career ambitions. We provide ongoing support to employers and candidates at all stages of the programme.

In 2024-25, demand for the programme continued across England and Wales. For the first time, WorkFit engagement is taking place in Northern Ireland. WorkFit trained 912 (880 in 2023-24) workplace colleagues about Down's syndrome. These sessions are crucial in enlightening the workforce about the potential of people who have Down's syndrome in the workplace. We have maintained our 92% retention rate, and we are now seeing 81% (79% in 2023-24) of our candidates going into private sector roles (11% public sector, 8% third sector). In addition, 90% (87% in 2023-24) of candidates went directly into paid work.

We have welcomed employer registrations from a range of employers and have continued to develop our partnership with Hilton and GXO reaching our 50th job opportunity with both employers this year. We have further expanded our partnership with other major UK and international brands and organisations in all sectors including Tesco, Adept Corporate Services, The British Museum, Screwfix, Odeon, Savills, H&M, Nando's and DHL.



We held a national online conference in June which featured personal and professional stories from candidates and their employers.

WorkFit has been invited to high-profile events across the year, often featuring the talents and abilities of our candidates, including:

- ▶ Hilton Inspiring Pathways event: Inspiring Pathways
- ▶ Craft Guild of Chefs Charity Dinner
- ▶ stand at UK Parliament for World Down's Syndrome Day.



Research Support

We supported researchers to develop and seek funding for projects that align with our strategic aims by writing letters of support and we encouraged funding for projects to prioritise research in the field of Down's syndrome through partnership.

We worked with 26 research teams undertaking new research studies at universities in Birmingham, Cambridge, Cardiff, East Anglia, Edinburgh, Leeds, Lincoln, London, Manchester, Sheffield, Southampton and Ulster. The studies commenced investigation of aspects of menstruation, sleep, life experiences, including those of people from underrepresented communities, parental coping, movement and vision in dementia, school inclusion, disordered eating, digital technologies, support for clinically vulnerable patients, hearing loss and hearing aids, children's experiences of cancer treatment, sense of belonging in adolescents, communication in police interviews, home language and language development and socially inclusive ageing.

We evaluated and disseminated study reports from previous studies we had supported on positive experience of school, barriers and enablers for breastfeeding, children's word learning and music in people's lives.

The E-Child linked databases Down's syndrome research study funded by the DSA resulted in publication in the British Medical Journal archives of Hospital-recorded chronic health conditions in children with and without Down's syndrome in England: a national cohort of births from 2003 to 2019. The PhD student was awarded the Down Syndrome Medical Interest Group's Jennifer Dennis award for the next stage of the research, 'Primary School Children with Down Syndrome in England: What factors contribute to mainstream primary school enrolment?'



Communications

We ensure that members, stakeholders and the public can easily find out about the work of the Down's Syndrome Association. We try to make sure that key messages reach the right people at the right time.

By sharing stories from people who have Down's syndrome and amplifying their voices, we draw attention to the important contributions that people who have Down's syndrome make every day, both in shaping the work of the DSA and being involved in their local communities. Together with our members and supporters, we've highlighted the wide range of interests, abilities and achievements of people who have Down's syndrome.

During the year, we have ensured daily social media posts across a range of channels including Facebook, Twitter/X, LinkedIn, Instagram, YouTube and recently we added BlueSky. This includes posts about DSA events, activities and resources, news updates and policy initiatives, awareness raising and fundraising.

For World Down Syndrome Day and awareness week, we shared videos, blogs and testimony from people who have Down's syndrome about their experiences of support. We joined with a global community of social media users to raise awareness and promote inclusion for people who have Down's syndrome. We arranged for several buildings to light up for World Down Syndrome Day in blue and yellow, including Alexandra Palace, Grimsby Minster, Gateshead Millennium Bridge and various other landmarks.



The My Perspective Photography Competition is for photographers who have Down's syndrome. In 2024, we received 328 photograph submissions from 30 different countries, plus 7 video entries.

The awards evening was hosted by DSA Patron Sarah Gordy, and was attended by 120 guests. In addition, we secured a showcase with Disability Arts Online, a UK-based charitable arts organisation led by disabled people with a mission to champion disability arts and culture.

We also ran our own fully accessible online exhibition, and we secured another exhibition of the photographs at Christie's Auctioneers in London.



Photograph by Aaron Fitzmaurice

Raising Funds

The economic environment continued to be challenging for all charities, but we succeeded in maintaining a good income stream. Legacy income significantly increased this year. We were also very grateful to receive grant funding from the National Lottery Community Fund for our WorkFit programme.

Corporate support and partnerships are important to us, and we continue to increase our engagement with the corporate sector. The fundraising landscape for Trust Funding continues to be very competitive.

Events income has shown improvement for the last few years. Our supporters and members continue to help us raise funds with all kinds of innovative fundraising activities. A team led by two celebrities climbed Kilimanjaro earlier this year, raising over £100k for the DSA during their 10-day expedition.



Income and Expenditure

We are pleased to have continued receiving funds to support our work.

The Down's Syndrome Association income was **£2.7m** (2024: £1.8m). This increase from the previous year was largely due to an increase in Legacy income and the new grant from the National Lottery Community fund.

Total expenditure increased from the previous year to **£2.4m** (2024: £2.3m). This slight increase is due to more spending on staff costs and research.

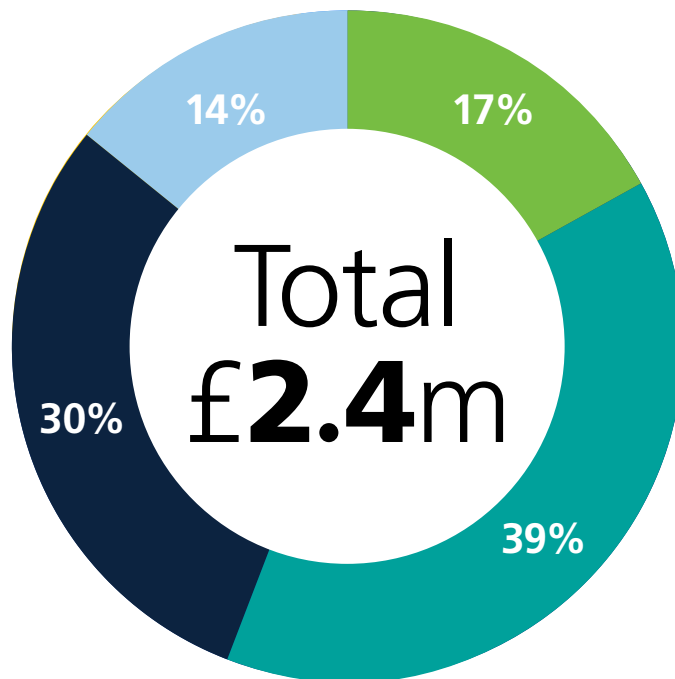
The amount of money spent on raising funds represented **17%** (2024: 16%) of total expenditure (or 17p in every £1 spent).

Overall, there was a surplus in the year of **£267,635** (2024: deficit £521,143). This surplus was greater than budgeted mainly due to legacy donations, the grant from the National Lottery Community Fund and increase in fundraising events income.

Down's Syndrome Trading Ltd

This is the subsidiary trading company of the Down's Syndrome Association. Its principal activity is the sale of Christmas cards and t-shirts. The company made a gross profit of £7,213 (2024 - £7,691) and after administrative expenses the company made an operating profit of £1,042. The company will gift aid any profits to the Down's Syndrome Association in this year (2024 - £772).

How we spend our money



- Raising funds **17%**
- Information, Training and Assessments **39%**
- Beneficiary Projects and Services **30%**
- Campaigning and Research **14%**

For every £1 spent in 24/25

83p was spent
in charitable
activities



Principal Risks and Uncertainties

Risk Management

As part of their ongoing strategic planning work, the trustees carry out a formal risk review each year to examine the major risks facing the charity. The review considers both top-down and bottom-up risks and ranks them in order of likelihood and impact. Responsibility for each risk is allocated either to a member of the senior management team or to the trustees. The senior management team provide updates to the trustees each quarter on their progress against action plans designed to manage the risks identified. The risk register was most recently reviewed and updated by the trustees in March 2025.

The main risks facing the Association have been identified as loss of funding and the possibility of members leaving. To address these, we have implemented a fundraising strategy to broaden our income sources, a communication strategy to strength our membership and established a reserves policy for financial security.

Reserves policy and going concern

Reserves are needed to bridge the gap between the spending and receiving of income and to cover any unplanned or emergency expenditure. The reserves policy provides a level of security and a buffer, which will allow our services to continue to be delivered with certainty over the next few years. This provides stability and reassurance to our members, supporters and the wider public that our organisation will continue to operate over the long term and is a going concern.

The reserves policy states that the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets and stocks (the free reserves) held by the charity should be between six to nine months of the resources expended. That equates to between £1.4m and £2m in general funds, based on the budget for 2025-26. The free reserves currently available equate to seven months running costs and amount to £1.7m.

The designated funds have been reviewed and updated to support specific projects. They are also allocated to ensure that adequate funding levels are available when required. The designated funds are:

- ▶ **Strategy Communication Fund** – funds to develop and deliver a three-year strategic communication plan focusing on various initiatives to enhance engagement and accessibility for individuals who have Down’s syndrome, their families and other stakeholders.
- ▶ **IT & Systems** – funds to allow our IT infrastructure and software to be kept secure and up to date to allow our services to be delivered in the most efficient way and staff to work flexibly as required. Specific short-term projects include updating hardware to be compatible with Windows 11. Medium to Long-term projects involve upgrading premises systems to the cloud.
- ▶ **Building Fund** – provision for building, repairs, and maintenance.
- ▶ **Inclusion Fund** – allowance for our Inclusion project.
- ▶ **Research Fund** – funds to allow us to launch research projects as the opportunity arises.

Our consolidated balance sheet remains strong. The trustees have reviewed the circumstances of the Down’s Syndrome Association and consider that adequate resources continue to be available to fund the activities of the Association for the foreseeable future. The trustees are of the view that the Association is a going concern.



Plans for the Future

Membership

In the year ahead, we plan to focus on increasing our membership. We will review, develop and implement a membership communications strategy to strengthen regular ongoing communications with members, including those for sign up, renewal and renewal reminders.

We aim to sustain and grow this year's 2% increase in membership renewals.

Inclusive Participation

We will review and develop our range of inclusive participation and engagement opportunities for people who have Down's syndrome.

Policy, Campaigns and Consultations

We will continue to campaign for the rights of people who have Down's syndrome.

We will continue to work with Government departments and public officials to ensure that the needs of people who have Down's syndrome and their families are noted when developing policy at national, regional and local levels.

We will continue to work with other organisations in the learning disability sector.

Affiliated Groups

We will focus on increasing interaction and reciprocal engagement with Affiliated Groups and obtain feedback for national policy consultations.

Information, Training and Support Meetings

We will continue to expand our range of early support services for parents of pre-school children and education professionals with the addition of new early learning sessions, including reading.

We will develop DSA Futures, a service to improve career and meaningful opportunities for young people.

We will attend five professional conferences to disseminate our information.



DSActive DSEngage

We will provide training to partner organisations across sports and recreational activities.

We will support providers to host events, and promote local and national participation.

We will broaden DSEngage sessions to facilitate friendship alongside healthy activity.



WorkFit®

We will make new videos to make our registration process more accessible to people who have Down's syndrome and to encourage aspirations for work.

We will continue to work with employers and partners to enable them to recruit employees who have Down's syndrome and to provide them with ongoing support.

Research Support

Our staff and volunteers who have Down's syndrome will continue to advise researchers.

We will continue to disseminate, promote and support research projects that align with our strategic aims and encourage funding agencies to prioritise research in the field of Down's syndrome.

Communications

Our aim is to promote the DSA as the 'go to source' for information, support, and resources on all aspects of life for people who have Down's syndrome. We will extend our reach via social media channels and through strategic partnerships to support wider sharing of information about the work being undertaken by the DSA.

We will make our website more accessible for everyone. We want to ensure that people who have Down's syndrome can easily find the information that they need.

We remain committed to amplifying the voices of people with Down's syndrome in our communications, showcasing diverse life-stories, and engaging more members and families, including those with complex needs.

We will improve the user journey for new parents.

During 2025-26 we anticipate the following growth:

- ▶ 2.5% growth in followers across all social media platforms except TikTok which is a new platform for us to be engaging with
- ▶ 100% growth in TikTok (from 1.1k to 2.2k)
- ▶ 10% increase active users on website
- ▶ 10% increase in recipients of our newsletter.



Raising Funds

We will strengthen the fundraising team to explore new channels of income and enhance membership and supporters' journeys.

We will boost our community fundraising by increasing the number of lottery players (aim of 25% increase) and marathon runners.





Structure, Governance and Management

Appointment of trustees

The board of trustees consists of up to eight Full Members elected by the Full Members together with any persons appointed or co-opted.

To be eligible for election, a Member must have been a Full Member of the Association for at least three years immediately prior to the election.

At each Annual General Meeting, one third of the elected trustees must retire by rotation, but all are eligible for re-election. Once trustees have served for a term of three years, they are required to stand down from the Board but are eligible to stand again for election.

Trustee induction and training

New trustees undergo orientation to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and inform them of the content of the memorandum and articles of association, the committee and decision-making processes, the business plan and recent financial performance of the charity. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will upskill them in their role.

Related parties and relationships with other organisations

The Association continues its close links with Down's Syndrome Scotland, Down's Syndrome Ireland and the Down's Heart Group. The DSA regularly works with many other national learning disability organisations. The DSA is a member of Down Syndrome International and supports the organisation financially. We also support the Down Syndrome Medical Interest Group UK & Ireland.

Remuneration policy for key management personnel

The Down's Syndrome Association is committed to ensuring a proper balance between (i) paying our staff and others who work for us fairly so that we attract and retain the best people for the job and (ii) careful management of our charity funds. In so doing we will ensure the greatest effectiveness in delivering our charitable objectives and meeting the needs of our beneficiaries.

When determining the salary for a newly created post, we will collect information about comparable roles in other organisations, preferably within the voluntary sector. We will use this information to benchmark our own salaries, normally aiming to set it at a level that appears to represent the market average. We will also seek advice from colleagues within other organisations, if applicable, when we know they employ people in similar roles.

Salary banding

Salaries for all current posts, other than the Chief Executive, will fall within a salary band, based on the skills required for the role, the responsibility of the role and the experience of the person.

Normally, in April each year, the trustees will consider awarding a cost of living adjustment for all staff when setting the following year's annual budget. This increase is to reflect changes in the cost of living and is entirely at the discretion of the trustees.

The trustees' considerations will begin with an assumption that salaries should be adjusted to match inflation (specifically the Consumer Price Index) over the preceding 12 months. They will also take into account economic forecasts for the rate of inflation in the year ahead. They will then determine whether this is appropriate in the context of the charity's financial situation and the charity's performance.

Fundraising

We regularly review all our fundraising processes and procedures to ensure that we adhere to the relevant codes of practice and that we are dealing with supporters or potential supporters in a way which aligns with our values.

Vulnerable people are protected as we never share personal data, never put any of our supporters under undue pressure, always seek consent for contact and anyone can opt out of hearing from us at any time.

We do not work with any commercial participators or professional fundraisers. We have never received any complaints related to our fundraising. All fundraising activities are reported on regularly and reviewed by the senior management team and trustees.

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

The trustees (who are also directors of Down's Syndrome Association 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 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 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. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 March 2025 was 8 (2024: 8). The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.



Auditors

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

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on 19 July 2025 and signed on their behalf by

**Dr John Gerard Coghlan,
Chair of Trustees**

Independent auditor's report to the members of the Down's Syndrome Association

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Down's Syndrome Association (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year 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 Down's Syndrome Association'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. 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.

Noelia Serrano (Senior statutory auditor)

Date

7 November 2025

for and on behalf of Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor

Invicta House, 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.

Down's Syndrome Association

Consolidated statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

www.downs-syndrome.org.uk

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2025 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 Total £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	2	1,790,944	68,559	1,859,503	912,499	30,896	943,395
Charitable activities							
Information, Training and Assessments	3	74,455	245,309	319,764	33,280	73,719	106,999
Beneficiary Projects and Services	3	–	252,524	252,524	–	528,225	528,225
Campaigning and Research	3	–	3,000	3,000	–	21,140	21,140
Other trading activities	4	196,427	3,600	200,027	97,573	2,430	100,003
Investments		71,440	–	71,440	62,311	–	62,311
Total income		2,133,266	572,992	2,706,258	1,105,663	656,410	1,762,073
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	5	394,715	4,699	399,414	361,034	4,836	365,870
Charitable activities	5						
Information, Training and Assessments	5	688,023	266,533	954,556	697,416	173,280	870,696
Beneficiary Projects and Services	5	352,339	387,492	739,831	336,735	404,750	741,485
Campaigning and Research	5	323,016	21,859	344,875	299,489	5,728	305,217
Total expenditure		1,758,093	680,583	2,438,676	1,694,673	588,595	2,283,268
Net (expenditure) before net gains on investments		375,173	(107,591)	267,582	(589,010)	67,815	(521,195)
Net gains on investments		53	–	53	52	–	52
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	7	375,226	(107,591)	267,635	(588,958)	67,815	(521,143)
Transfers between funds		–	–	–	–	–	–
Net movement in funds		375,226	(107,591)	267,635	(588,958)	67,815	(521,143)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		2,022,552	1,149,336	3,171,888	2,611,510	1,081,521	3,693,031
Total funds carried forward		2,397,778	1,041,745	3,439,523	2,022,552	1,149,336	3,171,888

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 21 to the financial statements.

Balance Sheet

www.downs-syndrome.org.uk

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Note	The group		The charity	
		2025 £	2024 £	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	12	927,005	975,208	927,005	975,208
Investments	13	362	309	364	311
		927,367	975,517	927,369	975,519
Current assets:					
Stock	16	11,778	11,383	9,754	9,118
Debtors	17	165,320	161,228	165,320	161,228
Short-term deposits		1,133,361	1,154,939	1,133,361	1,154,939
Cash at bank and in hand		1,502,132	1,076,423	1,497,673	1,062,462
		2,812,591	2,403,973	2,806,108	2,387,747
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(300,435)	(207,602)	(327,651)	(224,805)
Net current assets		2,512,156	2,196,371	2,478,457	2,162,942
Total net assets		3,439,523	3,171,888	3,405,826	3,138,461
Funds:					
Restricted income funds	21	1,041,745	1,149,336	1,041,745	1,149,336
Unrestricted income funds:					
Designated funds		665,743	767,364	665,743	767,364
General funds		1,698,336	1,221,759	1,698,339	1,221,761
Non-charitable trading funds		33,699	33,429	-	-
Total unrestricted funds		2,397,778	2,022,552	2,364,081	1,989,125
Total funds		3,439,523	3,171,888	3,405,826	3,138,461

Approved by the trustees on 19 July 2025 and signed on their behalf by

Darren Warkcup
Treasurer

Down's Syndrome Association

Statement of cash flows

www.downs-syndrome.org.uk

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Note	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities	22				
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		344,526		(606,081)	
Cash flows from investing activities:					
Dividends and interest from investments		71,440		62,311	
Purchase of fixed assets		(11,835)		(78,298)	
Movement in short-term deposits		21,578		(334,665)	
Net cash provided by/ (used in) by investing activities		81,183		(350,652)	
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		425,709		(956,733)	
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		1,076,423		2,033,156	
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		1,502,132		1,076,423	
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents					
		At 1 April 2024	Cash flows	Other non- cash changes	At 31 March 2025
		£	£	£	£
Short term deposits		1,154,939	(21,578)	-	1,133,361
Cash at bank and in hand		1,076,423	425,709	-	1,502,132
Total cash and cash equivalents		2,231,362	404,131	-	2,635,493

1 Accounting policies

a) Statutory information

Down's Syndrome Association is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in England. The registered office address and principal place of business is Langdon Down Centre, 2a Langdon Park, Teddington, Middlesex TW11 9PS.

b) Basis of preparation

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.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

These financial statements consolidate the results of the charitable company and its wholly-owned subsidiary Down's Syndrome Trading Limited 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.

c) Public benefit entity

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

d) Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees have considered the ongoing impact of the current challenging economic climate when reaching this conclusion.

There are no key judgements that the charitable company has made which have a significant effect on the accounts.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

e) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

For legacies, 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.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

Membership income is treated as donation income and recognised when received.

f) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

g) Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

h) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

i) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- 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
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering services, campaigning and research undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

j) Allocation of support costs

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on the following basis which are an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity.

Where information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is provided to potential beneficiaries, the costs associated with this publicity are allocated to charitable expenditure.

Support and governance costs are re-allocated to each of the activities on the following basis which is an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity

● Cost of Raising Funds	15%
● Information, Training and Assessments	31%
● Beneficiary Projects and Services	39%
● Campaigning and Research	15%

Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity. These costs are associated with constitutional and statutory requirements and include any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities.

k) Operating leases

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

l) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £1,000. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

● Freehold Property	2% straight line basis
● Long Leasehold Premises	2% straight line basis
● Improvements to Property	10% reducing balance basis
● Pullen Exhibition Assets	10% straight line basis
● Fixtures & Fittings	25% straight line basis
● Computer Equipment	33% straight line basis

m) Listed investments

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 and any excess of fair value over the historic cost of the investments will be shown as a fair value reserve in the balance sheet. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and shown in the heading "Net gains/(losses) on investments" in the statement of financial activities. The charity does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments.

Investments in subsidiaries

Investments in subsidiaries are at cost.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

n) Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. In general, cost is determined on a first in first out basis and includes transport and handling costs. Net realisable value is the price at which stocks can be sold in the normal course of business after allowing for the costs of realisation. Provision is made where necessary for obsolete, slow moving and defective stocks. Donated items of stock, held for distribution or resale, are recognised at fair value which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay for the items on the open market.

o) 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.

p) Short term deposits

Short term deposits includes cash balances that are invested in accounts with a maturity date of between 3 and 12 months.

q) 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.

r) 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.

s) Pensions

Payments to the stakeholder pension scheme are charged as an expense as they fall due.

t) Grants payable

Grants payable are made to third parties in furtherance of the charity's objects. Single or multi-year grants are accounted for when either the recipient has a reasonable expectation that they will receive a grant and the trustees have agreed to pay the grant without condition, or the recipient has a reasonable expectation that they will receive a grant and that any condition attaching to the grant is outside of the control of the charity.

2a Income from donations and legacies (current year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Gifts	994,535	28,539	1,023,074	856,058
Legacies	796,409	40,020	836,429	87,337
Total income from donations and legacies	1,790,944	68,559	1,859,503	943,395

2b Income from donations and legacies (prior year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 Total £
Legacies	827,162	28,896	856,058
	85,337	2,000	87,337
Total income from donations and legacies	912,499	30,896	943,395

2b Income from donations and legacies (prior year) continued

At the end of the year, we have been notified that we are entitled to funds from a total of 6 (2024: 4) residual legacies. However, as at 31 March 2025, we had not been notified as to the value of our entitlement or when this would be received. As such we are not able to recognise these funds in the financial statements for the year.

3a Income from charitable activities (current year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	-	25,000	25,000	12,900
Companies	-	200,309	200,309	50,819
National Lottery Community fund	-	20,000	20,000	10,000
Conference, Training & Assessments	74,455	-	74,455	33,280
Sub-total for Information, Training & Assessments	74,455	245,309	319,764	106,999
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	-	-	-	53,375
Companies	-	33,194	33,194	357,730
National Lottery Community fund	-	93,591	93,591	-
Welsh Government	-	95,026	95,026	87,772
DHSSPS	-	13,143	13,143	13,143
Contributions to Youth & Project Activities	-	17,570	17,570	16,205
Sub-total for Beneficiary Projects & Services	-	252,524	252,524	528,225
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	-	-	-	6,640
Companies	-	3,000	3,000	14,500
Sub-total for Campaigning & Research	-	3,000	3,000	21,140
Total income from charitable activities	74,455	500,833	575,287	656,364

Down's Syndrome Association

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For the year ended 31 March 2025

3b Income from charitable activities (prior year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	-	12,900	12,900	18,500
Companies	-	50,819	50,819	26,798
National Lottery Community fund	-	10,000	10,000	-
Conference, Training & Assessments	33,280	-	33,280	28,966
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Sub-total for Information, Training & Assessments	33,280	73,719	106,999	74,264
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	-	53,375	53,375	109,900
Companies	-	357,730	357,730	96,164
Welsh Government	-	87,772	87,772	107,879
DHSSPS	-	13,143	13,143	26,285
EU Active Inclusion	-	-	-	-
Contributions to Youth & Project Activities	-	16,205	16,205	15,903
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Sub-total for Beneficiary Projects & Services	-	528,225	528,225	356,131
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	-	6,640	6,640	-
Companies	-	14,500	14,500	-
National Lottery Heritage Fund	-	-	-	16,293
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Sub-total for Campaigning & Research	-	21,140	21,140	16,293
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total income from charitable activities	33,280	623,084	656,364	446,688

4a Income from other trading activities (current year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Lettings	171,450	3,600	175,050	80,468
Fundraising events	13,322	-	13,322	7,121
Subsidiary trading	11,655	-	11,655	12,414
Total income from other trading activities	196,427	3,600	200,027	100,003

4b Income from other trading activities (prior year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Lettings	78,038	2,430	80,468	72,330
Fundraising events	7,121	-	-	13,203
Subsidiary trading	12,414	-	-	19,930
Total income from other trading activities	97,573	2,430	100,003	105,464

Down's Syndrome Association

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For the year ended 31 March 2025

5a Analysis of expenditure (current year)

	Charitable activities						2025 Total £	2024 Total £
	Cost of raising funds £	Information, Training & Assessments £	Beneficiary Projects & Services £	Campaigning & Research £	Governance costs £	Support costs £		
Staff costs (Note 8)	192,846	396,086	504,977	186,597	30,050	167,734	1,478,290	1,368,545
Staff training & recruitment	561	126	–	–	–	773	1,460	3,499
Postage, telephone, fax and email	8,507	6,402	5,970	828	675	10,935	33,317	32,033
Research & museum costs	–	50,819	–	–	–	493	51,312	15,090
Information resources	1,072	38,125	1,728	52,932	672	1,399	95,928	84,978
Conferences and training costs	–	25,801	2,160	–	–	–	27,961	13,469
Projects and activities	–	151,089	19,179	14,119	–	–	184,387	174,425
Fundraising events	63,437	–	–	–	–	11	63,448	41,417
Fundraising costs	36,029	–	–	–	–	–	36,029	14,174
Appeals, advertising and media	–	–	–	21,807	–	–	21,807	17,473
Travel & meetings	264	9,636	16,701	1,043	14,846	2,576	45,066	26,583
Consultants, Advisors and professional fees	29,227	138,114	–	187	11,605	45,028	224,161	225,069
Office rent, running and equipment	551	912	12,684	2,611	67	98,648	115,473	207,950
Depreciation	–	–	1,200	–	–	58,837	60,037	58,563
	332,494	817,110	564,599	280,124	57,915	386,434	2,438,676	2,283,268
Support costs	58,198	119,532	152,393	56,312	–	(386,434)	–	–
Governance costs	8,722	17,914	22,839	8,439	(57,915)	–	–	–
Total expenditure 2025	399,414	954,556	739,831	344,875	–	–	2,438,676	2,283,268
Total expenditure 2024	365,870	870,696	741,485	305,217	–	–		2,283,268

Down's Syndrome Association

Notes to the financial statements

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For the year ended 31 March 2025

5b Analysis of expenditure (prior year)

	Charitable activities						2024 Total £
	Cost of raising funds £	Information, Training & Assessments £	Beneficiary Projects & Services £	Campaigning & Research £	Governance costs £	Support costs £	
Staff costs (Note 8)	184,258	372,779	475,315	164,034	27,812	144,347	1,368,545
Staff training & recruitment	-	562	1,000	300	-	1,637	3,499
Postage, telephone, fax and email	8,727	6,231	5,112	725	440	10,798	32,033
Research & museum costs	-	14,564	-	-	-	526	15,090
Information resources	589	24,684	5,398	51,740	662	1,905	84,978
Conferences and training costs	-	10,949	2,520	-	-	-	13,469
Projects and activities	-	147,573	17,025	9,827	-	-	174,425
Fundraising events	40,966	-	451	-	-	-	41,417
Fundraising costs	14,174	-	-	-	-	-	14,174
Appeals, advertising and media	11,494	-	-	5,979	-	-	17,473
Travel & meetings	14	8,118	14,991	676	2,761	23	26,583
Consultants, Advisors and professional fees	27,102	122,584	-	-	-	75,383	225,069
Office rent, running and equipment	984	5,733	18,392	2,887	99	179,855	207,950
Depreciation	-	-	1,200	-	-	57,363	58,563
	288,308	713,777	541,404	236,168	31,774	471,837	2,283,268
Support costs	72,669	147,019	187,457	64,693	-	(471,837)	-
Governance costs	4,894	9,900	12,624	4,356	(31,774)	-	-
Total expenditure 2024	365,870	870,696	741,485	305,217	-	-	2,283,268

6 Grant making	2025 £	2024 £
Cost		
University College London	50,819	–
Cambridge and Peterborough Foundation NHS	–	14,564
Down Syndrome International Funding Grant	105,000	115,000
Down Syndrome International: Inclusive Project	34,500	26,000
At the end of the year	<u>190,319</u>	<u>141,000</u>

University College London; the grant support the cost of a National study of education and health outcomes for children with Down's Syndrome

Cambridge and Peterborough Foundation NHS : The grant support the costs of investigating unexplained early regression in adolescents and adults with Down's syndrome.

Down Syndrome International Funding Grant: Grants are given by Down's Syndrome Association to support the work of Down Syndrome International.

Down Syndrome International: The grant for Inclusive project aim to support policy making to become accessible and inclusive of people with learning disabilities.

All Grant making costs are recognised withing Projects and activities and in research costs in note 5.

7 Net income for the year

This is stated after charging:

	2025 £	2024 £
Depreciation	60,038	58,563
Operating lease rentals:		
Property	5,760	11,235
Other	5,301	4,527
Auditor's remuneration (excluding VAT):		
Audit	15,225	14,500

8 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

Staff costs were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Salaries and wages	1,279,294	1,186,938
Social security costs	127,372	115,935
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	71,624	65,672
	<u>1,478,288</u>	<u>1,368,545</u>

One employee earned between £60,000 and £70,000 in 2025 (one in 2024)

The total employee benefits including pension contributions and employer's national insurance of the key management personnel were £190,298.94 (2024: £174,955).

The charity trustees were neither paid nor received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2024: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2024: £nil).

Trustees' expenses represent the payment or reimbursement of travel and subsistence costs totalling £Nil (2024: £745) from 0 (2024: 1) members relating to attendance at meetings of the trustees.

9 Staff numbers

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the year was as follows:

	2025 No.	2024 No.
Raising funds	5.5	5.3
Information, Training and Assessments	12.5	12.5
Beneficiary Projects and Services	15.4	15.8
Campaigning and Research	4.4	4.0
Support	5.0	5.0
Governance	1.0	1.0
	<u>43.8</u>	<u>43.6</u>

10 Related party transactions

There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties.

Down Syndrome International uses office space at the Down's Syndrome Association headquarters. Grants are given by Down's Syndrome Association to support the work of Down Syndrome International. The Chief Executive of Down's Syndrome Association, Carol Boys, is also a trustee of Down Syndrome International. The Treasurer Trustee, of Down's Syndrome Association, Darren Warkcup was a trustee of Down Syndrome International up to December 2024.

Down's Syndrome association is the payroll agency for Down Syndrome International.

The Down's Syndrome Association made the following payments to Down Syndrome International during the year:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Grant Payments	139,500	141,000
Membership Fee	300	300
Merchandise	14,550	15,498
Total	154,350	156,798

At the end of the Financial Year Down Syndrome International owed Down's Syndrome Association £20,220

In addition Down's Syndrome Trading is a subsidiary of Down's Syndrome Association. There is a balance between related parties in note 18.

11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes. The charity's trading subsidiary Down's Syndrome Trading Limited pays available profits to the charity through the Gift Aid scheme, eliminating or reducing their respective corporation tax liabilities. Its charge to corporation tax in the year was nil (2024: £nil)

12 Tangible fixed assets**The charity and the group**

	Freehold Property £	Long Leasehold Premises £	Improvements to Property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Pullen Exhibition Assets £	Computer Equipment £	Total £
Cost							
At the start of the year	1,286,250	60,000	78,712	120,540	42,128	122,057	1,709,687
Additions in year	-	-	-	6,123	-	5,712	11,835
Disposals in year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
At the end of the year	1,286,250	60,000	78,712	126,663	42,128	127,769	1,721,522
Depreciation							
At the start of the year	411,600	40,800	60,704	60,756	42,128	118,491	734,479
Charge for the year	29,400	1,200	1,801	22,167	-	5,470	60,038
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
At the end of the year	441,000	42,000	62,505	82,923	42,128	123,961	794,517
Net book value							
At the end of the year	845,250	18,000	16,207	43,740	-	3,808	927,005
At the start of the year	874,650	19,200	18,008	59,784	-	3,566	975,208

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

For the year ended 31 March 2025

13 Listed Investments

	The group		The charity	
	2025	2024	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Fair value at the start of the year	309	257	311	259
Net gain on change in fair value	53	52	53	52
Fair value at the end of the year	362	309	364	311
Historic cost at the end of the year	15	15	15	15

Investments comprise:

	The group		The charity	
	2025	2024	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Shares listed on the London Stock Exchange	362	309	362	309
Unlisted shares in UK registered companies	-	-	2	2
	362	309	364	311

14 Subsidiary undertaking

The charitable company owns the whole of the issued ordinary share capital of Down's Syndrome Trading Limited (DST), a company registered in England. The subsidiary is used for non-primary purpose trading activities. The Chief Executive of DSA is also a Director of DST. All activities have been consolidated on a line by line basis in the statement of financial activities. Available profits are gift aided to the charitable company. A summary of the results of the subsidiary is shown below:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Turnover	11,656	12,960
Cost of sales	(4,443)	(5,269)
Gross profit	7,213	7,691
Administrative expenses	(5,171)	(5,919)
Management Charge	(1,000)	(1,000)
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	1,042	772
Taxation on profit on ordinary activities	-	-
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation	1,042	772
Donation to parent undertaking	(772)	(9,775)
Profit/ (loss) for the financial year	270	(9,003)
The aggregate of the assets, liabilities and funds was:		
Assets	35,669	36,677
Liabilities	(1,969)	(3,249)
Funds	33,700	33,428

15 Parent charity

The parent charity's gross income and the results for the year are disclosed as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Gross income	2,696,427	1,759,941
Result for the year	267,364	(512,139)

16 Stocks

	The group		The charity	
	2025	2024	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Finished goods	11,778	11,383	9,754	9,118
	11,778	11,383	9,754	9,118

For the year ended 31 March 2025

17 Debtors

	The group		The charity	
	2025 £	2024 £	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	1,574	67,037	1,574	67,037
Other debtors	32,076	37,558	32,076	37,558
Prepayments	29,923	31,704	29,923	31,704
Accrued income	101,747	24,929	101,747	24,929
	165,320	161,228	165,320	161,228

18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	The group		The charity	
	2025 £	2024 £	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	31,681	34,774	31,681	34,774
Taxation and social security	49,085	35,935	48,315	33,886
Accruals	46,044	73,127	44,843	71,927
Deferred income (note 19)	173,625	63,766	173,625	63,766
Amounts owed to subsidiary company	-	-	29,187	20,452
	300,435	207,602	327,651	224,805

19 Deferred income

Deferred income comprises restricted donations, membership fees and sales.

	The group		The charity	
	2025 £	2024 £	2025 £	2024 £
Balance at the beginning of the year	63,766	17,519	63,766	17,519
Amount released to income in the year	(63,766)	(17,519)	(63,766)	(17,519)
Amount deferred in the year	173,625	63,766	173,625	63,766
Balance at the end of the year	173,625	63,766	173,625	63,766

20a Analysis of group net assets between funds (current year)

	General Unrestricted £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	47,548	879,457	927,005
Investments	362	-	-	362
Net current assets	1,731,674	618,195	162,288	2,512,156
Net assets at the end of the year	1,732,036	665,743	1,041,745	3,439,523

20b Analysis of group net assets between funds (prior year)

	General Unrestricted £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	63,350	911,858	975,208
Investments	309	-	-	309
Net current assets	1,254,879	704,014	237,478	2,196,371
Net assets at the end of the year	1,255,188	767,364	1,149,336	3,171,888

For the year ended 31 March 2025

21a Movements in funds (current year)

	At the start of the year £	Incoming resources & gains £	Outgoing resources & losses £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds:					
Welsh Government	(12,191)	95,026	(92,828)	-	(9,993)
Northern Ireland					
DHSSPS	-	13,142	(13,142)	-	-
Northern Ireland Fixed Asset Reserve	19,200	-	(1,200)	-	18,000
Other Northern Ireland funds	-	34,227	(34,227)	-	-
DSActive and DSEngage	-	200	(200)	-	-
Speech and Language	-	100	(100)	-	-
Information and training	10,400	267,172	(160,237)	-	117,335
National Lottery Community fund – WorkFit	-	93,592	(93,592)	-	-
National Lottery Community fund – Information	3,000	20,000	(13,000)	-	10,000
WorkFit – Employment Project	177,377	46,167	(223,544)	-	-
Ukraine appeal	1,699	127	-	-	1,826
My Perspective	-	3,000	(3,000)	-	-
LDC Theatre and Museum fund	57,193	239	(14,313)	-	43,120
LDC Fixed Asset Reserve	892,658	-	(31,201)	-	861,457
Total restricted funds	1,149,336	572,992	(680,584)	-	1,041,745
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds:					
Strategy Communication Fund	-	-	-	215,000	215,000
IT & Systems Fund	171,098	-	-	-	171,098
Emergency Fund	300,000	-	-	(300,000)	-
Building Fund	90,068	-	-	-	90,068
Inclusion Project	34,500	-	(34,500)	34,500	34,500
Research Fund	108,348	-	(50,819)	50,000	107,529
Fixed Asset Reserve	63,350	11,835	(27,637)	-	47,548
Total designated funds	767,364	11,835	(112,956)	(500)	665,743
General funds	1,221,759	2,109,828	(1,633,751)	500	1,698,336
Non-charitable trading funds	33,429	11,656	(11,386)	-	33,699
Total unrestricted funds	2,022,552	2,133,319	(1,758,093)	-	2,397,778
Total funds	3,171,888	2,706,311	(2,438,676)	-	3,439,523

21b Movements in funds (prior year)

	At the start of the year £	Incoming resources & gains £	Outgoing resources & losses £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds:					
Welsh Government	(7,135)	87,772	(92,828)		(12,191)
Northern Ireland					
DHSSPS	-	13,142	(13,142)	-	-
Northern Ireland Fixed Asset Reserve	20,400	-	(1,200)	-	19,200
Other Northern Ireland funds	-	39,223	(39,223)	-	-
DSActive and DSEngage	8,813	7,625	(16,438)	-	-
Speech and Language	-	3,000	(3,000)	-	-
Information	11,336	69,015	(69,951)	-	10,400
National Lottery Community fund	-	10,000	(7,000)	-	3,000
WorkFit – Employment Project	76,715	407,335	(306,673)	-	177,377
Ukraine appeal	7,823	192	(6,316)	-	1,699
Theatre Fund	39,510	19,106	(1,423)	-	57,193
LDC Fixed Asset Reserve	924,059	-	(31,401)	-	892,658
Total restricted funds	1,081,521	656,410	(588,595)	-	1,149,336
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds:					
IT & Systems Fund	182,335	-	(11,237)	-	171,098
Emergency Fund	300,000	-	-	-	300,000
Building Fund	150,000	-	(59,932)	-	90,068
Inclusion Project	30,000	-	(26,000)	30,500	34,500
Employment Project	32,000	-	(32,000)	-	-
Research Fund	122,912	-	(14,564)	-	108,348
Fixed Asset Reserve	11,014	78,298	(25,962)	-	63,350
Total designated funds	828,261	78,298	(169,695)	30,500	767,364
General funds	1,740,817	1,014,457	(1,503,015)	(30,500)	1,221,759
Non-charitable trading funds	42,432	12,960	(21,963)	-	33,429
Total unrestricted funds	2,611,510	1,105,715	(1,694,673)	-	2,022,552
Total funds	3,693,031	1,762,125	(2,283,268)	-	3,171,888

Purposes of restricted funds**Welsh Government**

The main funder for work in Wales is the Welsh Government as part of its scheme for organisations operating in the social care sector for people with learning disabilities. The grant is used to support the work of our projects in Wales. The fund is currently in deficit as grant claims are made in arrears.

Northern Ireland

The main funder of our core work in Northern Ireland is the DHSSPS.

Any funds raised as a result of the fundraising activities carried out in Wales and Northern Ireland are also restricted to our work in those regions. The staff team in Northern Ireland organise training and support their affiliated groups and individual families with advice and support. They also organise numerous activities for people with Down's syndrome and run weekend breaks and holidays. We also own a chalet in Northern Ireland and the Northern Ireland Fixed Asset Reserve represents the net book value of the chalet.

DSActive and DSEngage

Funding raised for our healthy lifestyle and activities programme, DSActive DSEngage, support sports, leisure and recreational organisations to successfully include people who have Down's syndrome (DSActive), and provide a varied range of daily, online activity sessions for children and adults who have Down's syndrome (DSEngage).

Speech and Language

Specific donations have been given to support the work of our speech and language therapist.

Information and Training

These funds are used to make and provide current information and advice through our information services of helpline, training events and support meetings. We provide a helpline service five days a week. We make and disseminate information resources in a range of media, including accessible information, online and printed publications such as fact sheets, leaflets, DSA Journals and workbooks, as well as training recordings and videos. DSA information is co-produced with people who have Down's syndrome.

For the year ended 31 March 2025

National Lottery Community fund

The National Lottery Community fund is currently our main funder for our unique WorkFit project which helps adults with Down's syndrome into employment.

Additionally specific funds were received for our complex needs work in Information.

WorkFit- Employment Project

These funds are used to support the work the Association does to support adults with Down's syndrome. This includes our unique WorkFit project which helps adults with Down's syndrome into employment.

Ukraine appeal

These funds are used to help Down's Syndrome Ukraine and other related organizations to provide small grants to their members, contacts and families in financial difficulty .

LDC Theatre & Museum Fund

This fund is used to maintain the glorious Victorian theatre at the Langdon Down Centre which was originally built and used by Dr John Langdon Down and for the Museum to promote and preserve the beautifully rich history and legacy of the Langdon Down Centre.

LDC Fixed Asset Reserve

This represents the value of the assets including buildings and fixtures and fittings which were acquired from the Langdon Down Centre Trust on merger.

Purposes of designated funds

Strategic Communication Fund

The trustees have designated these funds to develop and deliver a 3 year strategic communication plan focusing on various initiatives to enhance engagement and accessibility for individuals who have Down's syndrome, their families and other stakeholders.

IT & Systems Fund

The trustees have designated these funds to ensure that resources are available should any systems infrastructure need to be upgraded and other sources of funding cannot be secured.

Emergency Fund

The trustees designated these funds during the pandemic to provide a buffer for an emergency situation which may adversely affect our ability to raise funds.

Building Fund

The trustees have designated these funds to provide a sinking fund which will be used as necessary for building maintenance.

Inclusion Project

The trustees have designated these funds to start the first part of an innovative project to build a new Inclusion Team, through which people with Down's syndrome can support policy making at all levels to become accessible and inclusive of people with learning disabilities.

Employment Project

The trustees have designated these funds to employ more WorkFit officers to increase the support of adults with Down's syndrome into work.

Research Fund

The trustees have designated these funds to allow us to invest in research opportunities.

Fixed Asset Reserve

This represents the value of general funds invested in buildings, fixtures and fittings and computer equipment and is therefore not readily available for other purposes.

22 **Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Net income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	267,635	(521,143)
Depreciation charges	60,038	58,563
(Gains) on investments	(53)	(52)
Dividends and interest from investments	(71,440)	(62,311)
(Increase) in stocks	(395)	(5,042)
(Increase) in debtors	(4,092)	(82,264)
Increase in creditors	92,833	6,168
Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities	344,526	(606,081)

23 Operating lease commitments

The group's total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows for each of the following periods:

	Property		Equipment	
	2025 £	2024 £	2025 £	2024 £
Within one year	5,760	5,760	5,162	4,249
In the second to fifth years inclusive	1,440	11,520	7,744	6,418
	7,200	17,280	12,906	10,667

24 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.

DOWN'S SYNDROME ASSOCIATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1061474

Accounts

Report and Financial Statements

**For the year ended
31 March 2024**

Company number: 3310024

Charity Number: 1061474



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Trustees' annual report

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Company number	3310024
Country of incorporation	United Kingdom
Charity number	1061474
Country of registration	England
Registered office and operational address	Down's Syndrome Association Langdon Down Centre, 2a Langdon Park, Teddington, Middlesex, TW11 9PS

Trustees

Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Dr John Gerard Coghlan, Chair

Sarah Leggat, Vice Chair

Georgie Hill

Anya Souza

Trevor Percy

Robert Stirling

Darren Warkcup, Treasurer

Professor Anthony J. Holland

Key management personnel:

Carol Boys OBE, Chief Executive

Gillian Bird, Services Director

Macarena Laclote, Head of Finance and Administration

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank

2nd Floor, St Paul's House, 10 Warwick Lane, London EC4M 7BP

Solicitors

Russell Cooke, 2 Putney Hill, London, SW15 6AB

Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP, Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor,

Invicta House, 110 Golden Lane, London EC1Y 0TG

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

Reference and administrative information set out on this page forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

A young child with Down's syndrome is captured in a joyful moment, jumping on a sandy beach. The child has their arms outstretched and a wide smile, with sand kicked up around their feet. They are wearing a light-colored t-shirt with a geometric pattern and camouflage shorts. The background shows a clear blue sky and distant hills.

Objectives

To create and develop the conditions which will enable people who have Down's syndrome to attain their full potential.

To undertake any other charitable activities in connection with Down's syndrome.

In furtherance of these objectives, the Association offers information and support to people who have Down's syndrome, their parents and carers, interested professionals and the general public. It also champions the rights of people who have Down's syndrome and works to improve knowledge and understanding of the condition. We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.



Mission

Our mission is to benefit the public by creating and maintaining the conditions that will enable all people who have Down's syndrome to live full and rewarding lives. At the DSA we create an inclusive environment where everyone can participate and contribute towards our work. In working towards our mission, we train and educate the professionals who work with people who have Down's syndrome to promote best practice and new initiatives. We carry out research into health issues and campaign to change policy and service provision. Most importantly, we provide information and support for people who have Down's syndrome and their families and carers on all aspects of living with Down's syndrome.

Aims



To promote the rights of people who have Down's syndrome.

To be the centre for information and training on all aspects of Down's syndrome.

To involve adults who have Down's syndrome in the work of the DSA and to gather and represent their views.

To increase and retain the membership of the organisation.

To develop the organisation's sources of funding.

To encourage and monitor research.

To develop and maintain links with learning disability and other relevant organisations.

To adopt new technology where this supports the aims of the DSA.

How our activities deliver public benefit

The implementation of our aims and those we try to help are described below. All of our charitable activities focus on enabling people with Down's syndrome to live full and rewarding lives and are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit. Our aims fully reflect the purposes the charity was set up to advance.



Who uses and benefits from our services?

The services we provide are available throughout England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Demand for our services is growing and our helpline, which is usually our first point of contact with those requiring our services, is provided free of charge to everyone.

Equal access to our services is an important issue to us. We proactively try to reach underrepresented ethnic and social groups.

The trustees review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year. This report looks at what the charity has achieved and the outcomes of its work in the reporting period. The trustees report the success of each key activity and the benefits the charity has brought to those groups of people that it is set up to help. The review also helps the trustees ensure the charity's aims, objectives and activities remained focused on its stated purposes.

Strategic Report

Achievements and performance in the year to 31 March 2024

The charity's main activities and who it serves are described below. All its charitable activities are undertaken to further the Down's Syndrome Association's charitable purposes for the public benefit.

Beneficiary services and projects

Membership

Membership is a continuing priority for the organisation as 'the more members we have, the stronger our voice'.

During the year we successfully achieved our objectives:

Smooth integration of our website with our Customer Relationship Management platform to make joining or renewing a simple process.

An increase in renewals going out via email, therefore saving money on postage, our letters are enormously reduced.

Researching our membership journey and what we can offer.

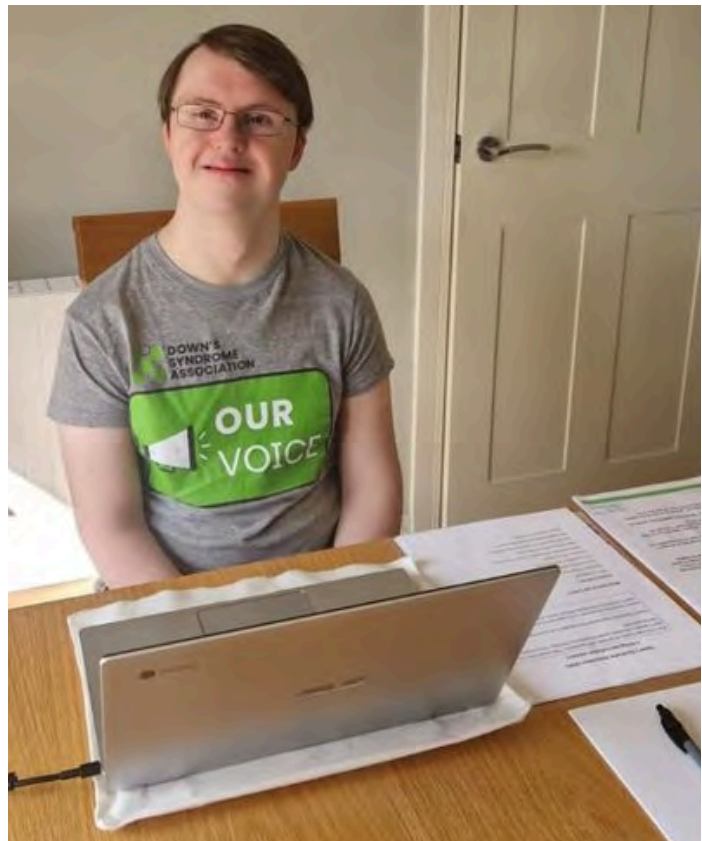
The Affiliated Group Membership package has been enhanced with monthly meetings, a special area on our website and improved communication.

Inclusive participation

We ensure that people who have Down's syndrome are fully involved and listened to.

People who have Down's syndrome work within and across our services as part of our inclusive participation strategy. We also promote and enable inclusive participation within other organisations.

We create opportunities for people who have Down's syndrome to be the voice of the Association.



Our Voice

During 2023-2024, Our Voice members, all of whom have Down's syndrome, participated in 114 online meetings to co-produce training, create accessible information, co-produce DSA and external information resources, and contribute to consultations for government and other organisations. We made significant contributions to DSA strategic aims, our education campaign and wellbeing resources, training for medical professionals and to education, self-advocacy and adolescence research projects. We also provided feedback to the civil servants developing the guidance for the Down Syndrome Act.

Listen, Include Respect UK (DSA)

In July 2023, the newly formed Listen Include Respect UK (DSA) project team commenced development of DSA training using the Listen Include Respect guidelines. LIR UK (DSA) training is designed to enable government departments and service providers to authentically involve people who have learning disabilities in determining the policies and services that affect them, leading to beneficial outcomes to improve their lives.



Policy, campaigns and consultations

We influence policy, contribute to government consultations and National Institute for Health & Care Excellence (NICE) information, and engage with relevant learning disability networks.



We interact directly with senior officials in Government departments and public officials to facilitate two-way communication and ensure that the needs of people who have Down's syndrome and their families are noted when developing policy at national, regional and local levels.

In 2023-24, we engaged with the following groups:

- Cross Party Learning Disability Groups in both England and Wales
- The Department of Health and Social Care Learning Disability and Autism Partners Network
- Welsh Government Learning Disability Ministerial Advisory Group
- Down Syndrome Statutory Guidance Advisory Group
- Antenatal Screening Project implementation Boards in England and Wales
- The Growing Older with a Learning Disability (GOLD) group
- The LeDeR Project Independent Advisory Board
- The UK COVID Inquiry
- The Reasonable Adjustment Digital Flag project advisory group
- Integrated Care Boards across England

Other activities across the year included representing the DSA at the annual UN CoSP meeting in New York where we participated in meetings and liaised with international organisations. We met with Disability Ministers, engaged with the Disability Unit on our response to the Disability Action Plan, delivered a Parliamentary event on World Down Syndrome Day and represented the Association at a Disability History Month event at Speakers House. We also delivered a consultation event for the Law Commission (review of children's social care) with DSA member parents. We represented people who have Down's syndrome and their families on sector networks including Special Educational Consortium (SEC), My Vote My Voice, Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA), Disabled Children's Partnership (DCP), SEND Information Organisations Group (SENDIOG), Council for Disabled Children (CDC), Genetic Alliance and Health Policy Improvement Group (HPIG).

Together, our information, training, Our Voice and communications teams delivered a 15-week education campaign packed with online events, resources and activities aimed at increasing the number of pupils who have a positive inclusive experience of mainstream education at all stages of education, from early years to post 16 education.

Helpline

Our information officers and specialists helped 10,000 families, including expectant and new parents, people who have Down's syndrome, carers and professionals, with information, support and advocacy through our confidential helpline service. A similar number of calls and emails were received in 2022-23. In addition, we supported many thousands of family members through our closed Facebook groups.

Trends in categories of helpline calls help to indicate the priority needs to address through our services. In 2023-24, 28% of queries were about children and young people's education, development, speech, language and communication, an increase from 23% in 2022-23. 23% of queries were about transition, adult needs and services, a similar proportion to last year (22%); 17% of calls were about welfare benefits (18% last year); 13% were physical and mental health queries (12% last year) and 19% were on other topics (25% in 2022-23).

Information



We offer more than 500 information resources on Down's syndrome across 'Our Voice', 'Pregnancy and Baby', 'Health' and 'Life's Journey' areas of the website. The 'Our Voice' area promotes inclusive participation, self-advocacy, easier-to-understand information and the My Perspective photographic and short film competition.

The 'Pregnancy and Baby' area is where we guide expectant and new parents to our helpline and share Tell It Right® information for maternity health care professionals. The 'Health' area provides information about physical and mental health conditions that are more common in people who have Down's syndrome, for example, how they may present and how to manage them.

The 'Life's Journey' area information promotes understanding and good practice in education, speech, language and communication, behaviour, Down's syndrome with complex needs, healthy lifestyle and physical activity, relationships and sex education, employment, benefits and finance, housing and support for adults, and parent and family carer well-being.



In 2023-24, we updated existing resources and published a range of new information for different professional groups. We shared more than 100 education resources, many of them new, for our inclusive education campaign, made a new resource on breast feeding and extended the range of information for carers of children and adults who have complex needs. A recording of an information webinar held with Dr Maggie Woodhouse, Cardiff University, and parent Cheryl Campsie to raise awareness of poor visual acuity has been viewed 5239 times between since publication in August 2023.

A recording of a webinar about regression in people who have Down's syndrome facilitated by Dr Shahid Zaman, Cambridge University, has received 1262 views since publication in April 2023. We also published a popular film about transition, 'Who Decides? Decision Making after 16 Years Old' in August 2023.

Our older videos continue to be viewed, including the series of 12 physiotherapy films for parents of infants which have now been watched by 61,000 people.



We have continued to develop our health information and query service by working with the Down Syndrome Medical Interest Group UK & Ireland (DSMIG) and other healthcare specialists.



Alongside colleagues from DSMIG, we contributed content on Down's syndrome for a new Mac Keith Press e-learning resource for trainee paediatricians, 'Child Development and Disability Essentials'. The content included the lived experiences of people who have Down's syndrome and family members.

Training

In 2023-24, 6000 professionals, parent carers and people who have Down's syndrome participated in 458 training and support events. We provided more training and support information through free films on our website and DSA YouTube channel, and greatly increased our offer of free training resources, including a wide range of education resources for teachers and parents.

In 2023-24, we delivered training sessions on 30 different topics including feeding, communication, development from birth to four years, early years, primary, secondary and college education, supporting young people through puberty and adolescence, preparation for adulthood, sleep hygiene, sensory processing awareness, dual diagnosis Down's syndrome and autism, 'regression' in Down's syndrome, supporting adults, supporting well-being of adolescents and adults, training for sports and activities providers, health profile and specific health topic webinars including ageing and dementia.



1000 maternity service professionals participated in Tell It Right® training, making a total of 12,000 maternity healthcare professionals whose awareness of the needs of families at diagnosis has been raised through our Tell It Right® service.

1000
maternity service
professionals
participated in
Tell It Right® training

Speech and language therapy assessments and advice

We provided more than 86 speech and language therapy assessments and feeding advice sessions at our assessment centres in London, York and Belfast, a reduced number compared with last year (95), although more parents have spoken with our speech and language therapist at regular online meetings for pregnant couples and new parents which offer emotional support and information including feeding, speech, language and communication, physical development, play and learning.

The DSA speech and language therapist also provided specialist support for qualified speech and language therapists throughout the year and webinars for parents on feeding and communication.



86
speech
and language
therapy
assessments

Support sessions for parent carers

In 2023-24, 721 parent carers joined our range of regular support sessions for parent carers.

Our series of Pregnancy and Baby support sessions for expectant and new parents ran throughout the year.

Seven online and two in-person 'complex needs including autism' parent carer meetings provided a safe space for parents to share their experiences and learn from each other and us, and to guide our work. The feedback showed how worthwhile the support sessions are for family members, and confirmed the value of the work the DSA is doing around complex needs. It was clear how much people gained from sharing common experiences and feelings, particularly when they have expressed how isolated they can feel in daily life.

We also offered monthly behaviour case study discussions.



Feedback from participants at our weekly well-being sessions, led by our wellbeing and mindfulness practitioner, showed how beneficial these regular support sessions have become.

DSActive DSEngage

Breaking down the barriers that prevent participation and inclusion is the fundamental aim of our healthy lifestyle and activities programme, DSActive DSEngage. The programme aims to improve physical health and mental wellbeing through in-person sports, leisure and recreational activities (DSActive) and DSEngage daily online activities, which are particularly important for people who have complex needs or face challenges to participating in activity outside of their homes. The programme also supports sport's governing bodies and organisations through information and training sessions.

In 2023-24 we received over 130 enquiries about DSActive partner session provision and from organisations looking to work with the programme to enable new or improved sessions, and delivered 34 DSActive online training sessions for leisure, recreation and sports session providers.

DSEngage provides daily online activity sessions for children and adults who have Down's syndrome with extra events at weekends, during special holidays and school holidays. In 2023-24 the programme provided 255 sessions which received 5,427 registrations from people who have Down's syndrome, an increase from 3563 registrations for 234 sessions in 2022-23. Activity sessions for children and adults included art and craft, Zumba, seasonal holiday discos, Tik Tok dance sessions, Zenergize exercise sessions, as well as the regular sessions provided on a weekly basis, including Weekly Workout, 4pm and Evening Discos, Motivation Workout, Wake Up and Dance with DanceSyndrome and Pilates Plus.





Let me take this opportunity to say a big thank you to the DSA for continuing with DSEngage.... they are still a very important part of Z's life now that she has left formal education. She is fortunate enough to have 2-3 weekly volunteering placements, but DSEngage, Our Voice and Dance Syndrome help so much in giving her something to look forward to on most days of the week.

We are so happy that we found you! X is very pleased to have an opportunity to move a little every afternoon! She loves to meet you all. So, thank you so much for those activities.

We are so grateful to you and everyone concerned at the DSA for the wonderful DSEngage programme.

We really are very grateful for all the great work you and your colleagues do. Please pass it on.



WorkFit[®]

We provide training, information and resources to employers to support them to offer employment opportunities to people who have Down's syndrome. We develop employment opportunities for people who have Down's syndrome and provide advice and support to enable them to embrace the exciting challenges that lie ahead on the journey to fulfilling their career ambitions. We provide ongoing support to employers and candidates at all stages of the programme.

In 2023-24, demand for the programme continued across England and Wales with London and the South showing the highest numbers of engagement. WorkFit trained 880 workplace colleagues about Down's syndrome. These sessions are crucial in enlightening the workforce about the potential of people who have Down's syndrome in the workplace. We have maintained our excellent 92% retention rate, and we are now seeing 80% of our candidates going into private sector roles. From the variety of job types that we can offer, 88% of candidates went directly into paid work last year compared with 53% in 2019-20.

We have welcomed employer registrations from a range of employers and have continued to expand our partnership with Hilton, GXO (reaching our 50th job opportunity with them in March), Odeon, Savills, Humberside Police, DHL, North Wales Police, Leeds United, SecuriGroup and CBRE.

We held a national online conference in March which featured personal and professional success stories from candidates and their employers.

The WorkFit team and partner employer GXO were both successful at the British Association for Supported Employment (BASE) Awards in November, winning the Small Supported Employment Team of the Year Award and the Large Employer Award respectively.

WorkFit launched a new WorkFit video in November featuring Daniel in his new role at the Bridge Theatre in London.

WorkFit was invited to attend the Hilton's Breaking Barriers Event on 25 October to talk to Hilton partners about the benefits of employing people who have Down's syndrome.

Securing paid work makes a huge difference to the lives of candidates. Along with developing paid work we also developed work experience placements, volunteering, supported internships and supported apprenticeships. We have seen our candidates grow in confidence, develop skills, expand their social circle, become more financially independent and enjoy the self-esteem of being part of a team where their contribution is valued.





Research Support

In 2023 -24, we provided ongoing support in the form of promotion and recruitment to 20 studies with a focus specifically on Down's syndrome. These studies covered a wide variety of issues including education, communication, motor skills, self-regulation, early feeding, impacts of Covid on young children and through transition, effects of caring on well-being, adolescence, dementia, reading, mathematical abilities and sleep. We supported a further ten studies that looked more widely at people who have learning disabilities.

Additional support was provided to five studies by DSA's Information Team, our Northern Ireland Office and the Our Voice Groups. This additional support took the form of advice around:

- Ethics applications and the scope, development, recruitment and promotion of studies
- Development of accessible recruitment materials and materials for study participants

The following studies are of note in terms of the high level of support we provided to researchers:

- Radiotherapy and people who have learning disabilities
- ABATE study trialling a vaccination for Alzheimer's disease in people who have Down's syndrome
- Role of sleep in Down's syndrome and ageing

We continued to support a PHD student at UCL Institute of Child Health working on the ECHILD project. The student has submitted a first paper of results for publication, 'Hospital-recorded chronic conditions in children with and without Down syndrome born in England from 2003-2019: A national birth cohort study'.

Communications

Communications ensure that the DSA messages reach the right people at the right time; are accessible, professional and engaging; and reflect the charity's expertise.

We continue to involve adults who have Down's syndrome in the work of the DSA and to represent everyone's views.

We continue to promote and share the stories and voices of people who have Down's syndrome.

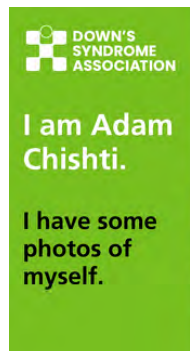
Together with our members and supporters we have created and shared stories via all our communications channels.

We continue to raise awareness of our existence, our work and the ways we can support people who have Down's syndrome and their families.

Blogs and social media posts



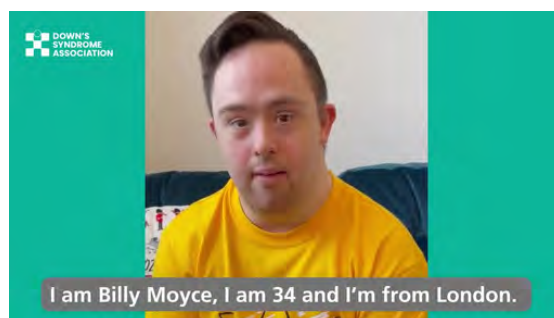
Betsy's mum shared how some simple changes made her daughter's dance class a truly inclusive experience.



Adam shared some of his favourite experiences with us which we turned into a series of social media videos



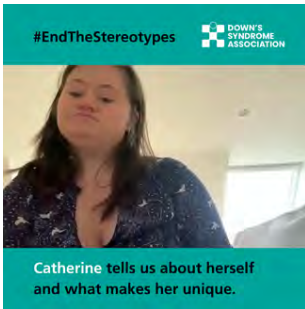
Actor Billy Moyce talked about his work on *Jerk* for BBC3, *Dreamland* on Sky, the *Ted Lasso* comedy film and music videos for *The Specials* and *Superbird*, amongst other things. He recorded a video to tell us about his life



Regular blogger Vinay kept us up to date on his weekly activities, his interest in cooking and looking after himself, as well as sharing highlights of a trip to Dubai



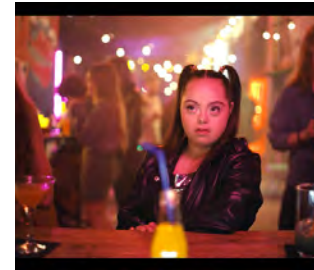
Awareness Week



During Awareness Week we celebrated the individuality of every person who has Down's syndrome with a series of case study posts and videos.



We also supported the hugely successful 'Assume That I Can' global awareness campaign



The Our Voice network have been vital to our communications work this year. They hosted online interviews with Councillor Sara Pickard, self-advocate and campaigner, and EastEnders actress Grace, who has played the part of Janet Mitchell in the soap since she was a baby.

They contributed valuable insights and resources to the Education campaign and helped us to celebrate the King's Coronation.

The 2024 My Perspective awards event was hosted by actor and DSA Patron Sarah Gordy.



For the first time we had a separate category for children, and a video category. The quality of both the films and the photography was sensational. We also followed the event with a series of exhibitions in public libraries and in three Hilton Hotels.

We worked with our Information Team and Maggie Woodhouse (Optometrist and Senior Lecturer at Cardiff University) to develop an accessible video to explain the issue of visual acuity in people who have Down's syndrome.



Our twice yearly Journal received a design revamp.

Raising funds

The last financial year has continued to be a challenge but we have managed to maintain a good income stream and our supporters and members continue to be very involved in helping us raise funds.

Corporate support has been significant and has exceeded expectations; this also shows a strong reputation in the corporate environment. Legacies suffered slightly this year, but we are forecasting a strong recovery in the next financial year. Our events fundraising is also showing improvement after being affected by the pandemic.



photo by Jon Santa Cruz

Financial review

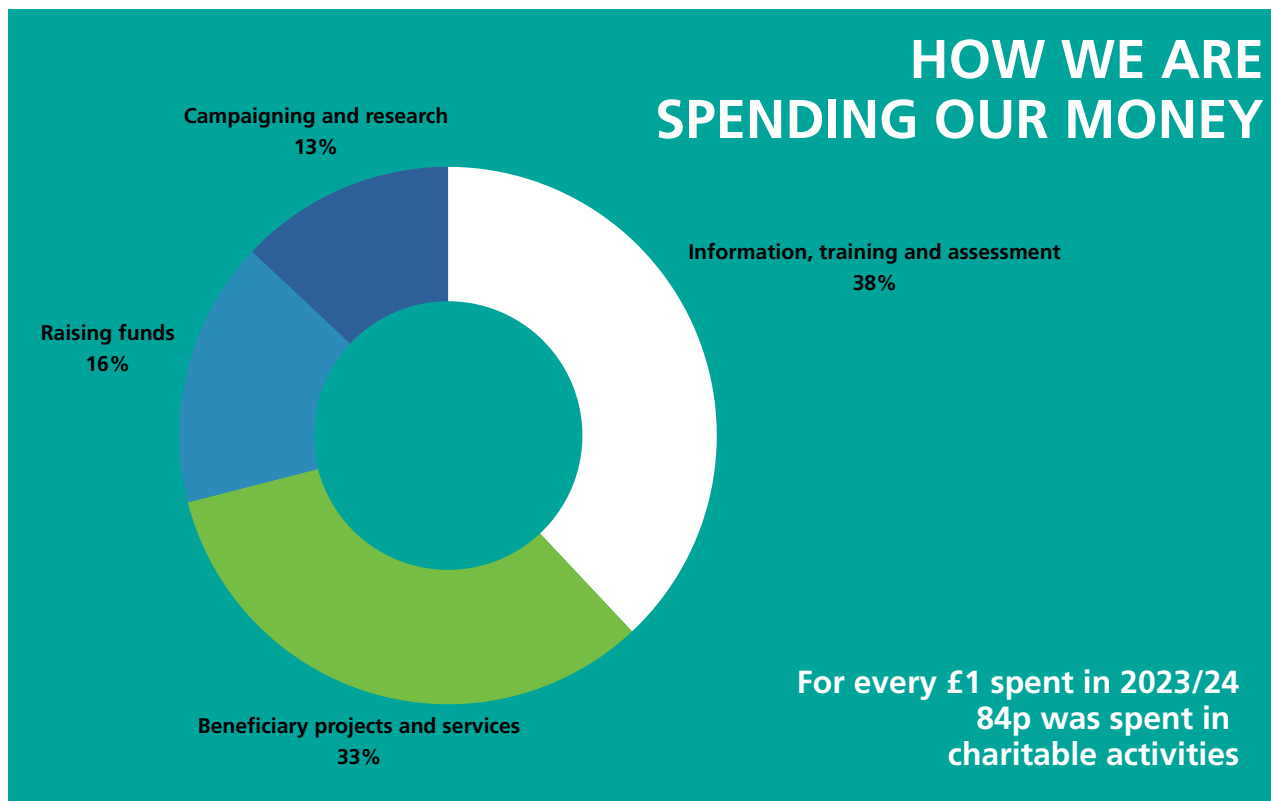
We are pleased to have continued receiving funds to support our work.

The Down's Syndrome Association income was £1.8m (2023: £2m). This decrease from the previous year was largely due to a decrease in Legacy income partially offset by increase in company income for restricted projects.

Total expenditure increased from previous year to £2.2m (2023: £2.1m). This slight increase is due to more spending on beneficiary projects and building improvements.

The amount of money spent on raising funds represented 16% (2023: 17%) of total expenditure (or 16p in every £1 spent).

Overall, there was a planned deficit in the year of £521,143 (2023: deficit £100,844). This deficit was greater than budgeted mainly due to significantly fewer legacy donations received during the year.



Down's Syndrome Trading Ltd

This is the subsidiary trading company of the Down's Syndrome Association. Its principal activity is the sale of Christmas cards and t-shirts.

The company made a gross profit of £7,691 (2023 - £14,498) and after administrative expenses the company made an operating profit of £772. The company will gift aid any profits to the Down's Syndrome Association in this year (2023 - £9,775).

Principal risks and uncertainties

Risk management

As part of their ongoing strategic planning work, the trustees carry out a formal risk review each year to examine the major risks facing the charity. The review considers both top down and bottom-up risks and ranks them in order of likelihood and impact. Responsibility for each risk is allocated either to a member of the senior management team or to the trustees. The senior management team provide updates to the trustees each quarter on their progress against action plans designed to manage the risks identified. The risk register was most recently reviewed and updated by the trustees in March 2024.

The main risks facing the Association have been identified as a loss of funding and the possibility of members leaving. In order to mitigate against these risks a fundraising strategy has been established which strengthens and diversifies our income streams. Additionally an adequate reserves policy has been established to ensure security and financial stability through the uncertain years expected ahead.

Strong relationships are developed with our members through frequent and regular communication utilising various channels, including our Journal, newsletters, social media and where necessary we have communicated on important issues via Zoom. This ensures that all members have a sense of 'belonging' and that all members are aware of our latest news and any developments, and that they are confident that the organisation is stronger because they are a part of it. Any lapses in membership are followed up and any reasons for lapses are addressed.

Reserves policy and going concern

Reserves are needed to bridge the gap between the spending and receiving of income and to cover any unplanned or emergency expenditure. The reserves policy was updated in light of the pandemic, in order to provide a level of security and a buffer, which will allow our services to continue to be offered and delivered with certainty over the next few years. This provides stability and reassurance to our members, supporters and the wider public that our organisation will continue to operate over the long term, is reliable and dependable and is a going concern. The reserves policy states that the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets and stocks ('the free reserves') held by the charity should be between six to nine months of the resources expended. That equates to between £1.2m and £1.7m in general funds, based on the budget for 2024-25. The free reserves currently available equate to 6 months running costs and amount to £1.2m.

The designated funds have also been reviewed and maintained to provide adequate levels of funding to ensure that when they are needed to be drawn on sufficient funds will be available. The designated funds are:

IT & Systems – funds to allow our IT infrastructure and software to be kept secure and up to date to allow our services to be delivered in the most efficient way and staff to work flexibly as required.

Emergency Fund - funds to be drawn on if an unexpected drop in income or other emergency requires an immediate response.

Building Fund - provision for building, repairs, and maintenance.

Inclusion Fund - allowance for launching our Inclusion project.

Research Fund - funds to allow us to launch research projects as the opportunity arises.

Our consolidated balance sheet remains strong. The trustees have reviewed the circumstances of the Down's Syndrome Association and consider that adequate resources continue to be available to fund the activities of the Association for the foreseeable future.

The trustees are of the view that the Association is a going concern.





Plans for the future

Membership

We will continue to promote membership through all our available channels. More outreach work is planned in the coming year, including at regional conferences and meetings, which will be a great opportunity to promote membership. We will hold five regional meetings with our affiliated groups.

We will continue to work on strengthening communication with members, with higher levels of personalisation and relevant information being shared with the right people.

We will continue to promote free membership to all adults 18+ who have Down's syndrome and we are also ensuring that all sign-ups to WorkFit are DSA members.

Inclusive participation

We will provide Listen Include Respect UK (DSA) training and consultancy to organisations. We will make more of our information resources and training courses accessible with the addition of easy read text and short explanatory videos co-produced and presented by Our Voice members.

Policy, campaigns and consultations

We will continue to work with Government departments and public officials to ensure that the needs of people who have Down's syndrome and their families are noted when developing policy at national, regional and local levels.

As key stakeholders, we will continue to work with all organisations seeking the views of people who have Down's syndrome and their families on a range of issues.

We will continue to campaign for people's rights and for better services throughout their lives.



Information, training and support

We will build on the success of our education project for children and young people in education by developing our information and support services for parents of pre-school children and by creating a service for young people 14 – 25 years old to improve career opportunities post 16 and better prepare for adulthood.

We will provide webinars for social care, health and education professionals and increase our presence in professional networks.

We will publish a new dementia resource for carers and practitioners.

We will continue to support parent carers of people who have complex needs including autism through regular online meetings and regional in-person meetings.

We will develop awareness of housing and support options for adults who have Down's syndrome and advocate for people's choices.

DSActive DSEngage

We will continue to build DSEngage by welcoming people who have Down's syndrome and by communicating the health and wellbeing benefits of participating in activities.

We will provide training and support to partner organisations across all sports and recreational activities.

We will continue to increase opportunities for people who have Down's syndrome to be included in leisure, recreational and sporting activities.

WorkFit®

We will continue to raise aspirations and to encourage candidates who want to work to register with us.

We will continue to work with employers to enable them to recruit employees who have Down's syndrome and to provide them with ongoing support.

We will continue to work with partners to develop work opportunities.



Research support

We will continue to support researchers where research will benefit people who have Down's syndrome, including clinical trials to assess the drug treatment for Alzheimer's disease in people who have Down's syndrome, and to better understand 'regression' in younger adults who have Down's syndrome.

We will continue to offer advice to researchers, particularly from people who have Down's syndrome.

Communications

We will continue to amplify the voices of people who have Down's syndrome in the communications output of the DSA.

We will continue to encourage more engagement with our members and their families through life-stories and include people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to ensure a wide range of life experience is shown.

We will work to ensure that our resources and information are current, accessible and engaging.

We will continue to develop the DSA's website to be accessible.

Raising Funds

Global economies are still unstable, but we are hoping to show some growth. We have managed and maintained our reserves according to our policies and are in a confident position.



Our weekly lottery is now well established so we can work on showing a stronger revenue performance from it in the coming year. This will be a great source of unrestricted funds.

Structure, governance and management

The organisation started as a parent support group in 1970. It was registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee, registered as a charity on 11 June 1973 and incorporated on 30 January 1997.

The organisation was established under a memorandum of association which set out the objects and powers of the organisation and is governed under its articles of association.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in note 8 to the accounts.

Trustee induction and training

New trustees undergo orientation to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and inform them of the content of the memorandum and articles of association, the committee and decision-making processes, the business plan and recent financial performance of the charity. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will upskill them in their role.

Related parties and relationships with other organisations

The Association continues its close links with Down's Syndrome Scotland, Down's Syndrome Ireland and the Down's Heart Group. The DSA regularly works with other many national learning disability organisations. The DSA is a member of Down Syndrome International and supports the organisation financially. We also support the Down Syndrome Medical Interest Group UK & Ireland.



Remuneration policy for key management personnel

The Down's Syndrome Association is committed to ensuring a proper balance between (i) paying our staff and others who work for us fairly so that we attract and retain the best people for the job and (ii) careful management of our charity funds. In so doing we will ensure the greatest effectiveness in delivering our charitable objectives and meeting the needs of our beneficiaries.

When determining the salary for a newly created post, we will collect information about comparable roles in other organisations, preferably within the voluntary sector. We will use this information to benchmark our own salaries, normally aiming to set it at a level that appears to represent the market average. We will also seek advice from colleagues within other organisations, if applicable, when we know they employ people in similar roles.

Salary banding

Salaries for all current posts, other than the Chief Executive, will fall within a salary band, based on the skills required for the role, the responsibility of the role and the experience of the person.

In April each year, the trustees will consider awarding a cost of living adjustment for all staff when setting the following year's annual budget. This increase is to reflect changes in the cost of living and is entirely at the discretion of the trustees.

The trustees' considerations will begin with an assumption that salaries should be adjusted to match inflation (specifically the Consumer Price Index) over the preceding 12 months. They will also take into account economic forecasts for the rate of inflation in the year ahead. They will then determine whether this is appropriate in the context of the charity's financial situation and the charity's performance.

Fundraising

We regularly review all our fundraising processes and procedures to ensure that we adhere to the relevant codes of practice and that we are dealing with supporters or potential supporters in a way which aligns with our values.

Vulnerable people are protected as we never share personal data, never put any of our supporters under undue pressure, always seek consent for contact and anyone can opt out of hearing from us at any time.

We do not work with any commercial participators. We have never received any complaints related to our fundraising. All fundraising activities are reported on regularly and reviewed by the senior management team and trustees.

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

The trustees (who are also directors of Down's Syndrome Association 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 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 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. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 March 2024 was eight (2023: seven). The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditors

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

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on 20 July 2024 and signed on their behalf by

Dr John Gerard Coghlan

Chair of Trustees





CONTACT US

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Independent auditor's report to the members of the Down's Syndrome Association

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Down's Syndrome Association (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 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 March 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 Down's Syndrome Association'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.

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. 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.

Noelia Serrano (Senior statutory auditor)

Date 1 November 2024

for and on behalf of Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor
Invicta House, 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

Down's Syndrome Association

Consolidated statement of financial activities (Incorporating an income and expenditure account)

downs-syndrome.org.uk

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 Total £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	2	912,499	30,896	943,395	1,336,021	124,270	1,460,291
Charitable activities							
Information, Training and Assessments	3	33,280	73,719	106,999	28,966	45,298	74,264
Beneficiary Projects and Services	3	–	528,225	528,225	–	356,131	356,131
Campaigning and Research	3	–	21,140	21,140	–	16,293	16,293
Other trading activities	4	97,573	2,430	100,003	102,233	3,230	105,463
Investments		62,311	–	62,311	19,679	–	19,679
Total income		1,105,663	656,410	1,762,073	1,486,899	545,222	2,032,121
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	5	361,034	4,836	365,870	368,042	4,906	372,948
Charitable activities							
Information, Training and Assessments	5	697,416	173,280	870,696	716,138	153,092	869,231
Beneficiary Projects and Services	5	336,735	404,750	741,485	215,040	408,417	623,456
Campaigning and Research	5	299,489	5,728	305,217	247,479	19,914	267,393
Total expenditure		1,694,673	588,595	2,283,268	1,546,699	586,329	2,133,028
Net (expenditure) before net gains on investments		(589,010)	67,815	(521,195)	(59,800)	(41,107)	(100,907)
Net gains on investments		52	–	52	63	–	63
Net (expenditure) for the year	7	(588,958)	67,815	(521,143)	(59,737)	(41,107)	(100,844)
Transfers between funds		–	–	–	(67,257)	67,257	–
Net movement in funds		(588,958)	67,815	(521,143)	(126,994)	26,150	(100,844)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		2,611,510	1,081,521	3,693,031	2,738,504	1,055,371	3,793,875
Total funds carried forward		2,022,552	1,149,336	3,171,888	2,611,510	1,081,521	3,693,031

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 21 to the financial statements.

Balance Sheet

downs-syndrome.org.uk

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Note	The group		The charity	
		2024	2023	2024	2023
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	12	975,208	955,473	975,208	955,473
Investments	13	309	257	311	259
		975,517	955,730	975,519	955,732
Current assets:					
Stock	16	11,383	6,341	9,118	3,429
Debtors	17	161,228	78,964	161,228	78,784
Short-term deposits		1,154,939	820,274	1,154,939	820,274
Cash at bank and in hand		1,076,423	2,033,156	1,062,462	2,018,350
		2,403,973	2,938,735	2,387,747	2,920,837
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(207,602)	(201,434)	(224,805)	(225,968)
Net current assets		2,196,371	2,737,301	2,162,942	2,694,869
Total net assets		3,171,888	3,693,031	3,138,461	3,650,601
Funds:	21				
Restricted income funds		1,149,336	1,081,521	1,149,336	1,081,521
Unrestricted income funds:					
Designated funds		767,364	828,261	767,364	828,261
General funds		1,221,759	1,740,817	1,221,761	1,740,819
Non-charitable trading funds		33,429	42,432	-	-
Total unrestricted funds		2,022,552	2,611,510	1,989,125	2,569,080
Total funds		3,171,888	3,693,031	3,138,461	3,650,601

Approved by the trustees on 20 July 2024 and signed on their behalf by

Darren Warkcup
Treasurer

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Note	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities	22				
Net cash used in operating activities			(606,081)		(27,624)
Cash flows from investing activities:					
Dividends and interest from investments		62,311		19,679	
Purchase of fixed assets		(78,298)		(10,698)	
Movement in short-term deposits		(334,665)		(14,714)	
Net cash (used in) by investing activities			(350,652)		(5,733)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year			(956,732)		(33,357)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year			2,033,156		2,066,513
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year			1,076,423		2,033,156

Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	At 1 April 2023	Cash flows	Other non- cash changes	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
Short term deposits	820,274	334,665	-	1,154,939
Cash at bank and in hand	2,033,156	(956,733)	-	1,076,423
Total cash and cash equivalents	2,853,430	(622,068)	-	2,231,362

1 Accounting policies

a) Statutory information

Down's Syndrome Association is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in England. The registered office address and principal place of business is Langdon Down Centre, 2a Langdon Park, Teddington, Middlesex TW11 9PS.

b) Basis of preparation

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.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

These financial statements consolidate the results of the charitable company and its wholly-owned subsidiary Down's Syndrome Trading Limited 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.

c) Public benefit entity

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

d) Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees have considered the ongoing impact of the current challenging economic climate when reaching this conclusion.

There are no key judgements that the charitable company has made which have a significant effect on the accounts.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

e) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

For legacies, 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.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

Membership income is treated as donation income and recognised when received.

f) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

g) Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

h) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

i) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- 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
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering services, campaigning and research undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

j) Allocation of support costs

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on the following basis which are an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity.

Where information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is provided to potential beneficiaries, the costs associated with this publicity are allocated to charitable expenditure.

Support and governance costs are re-allocated to each of the activities on the following basis which is an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity

● Cost of Raising Funds	15%
● Information, Training and Assessments	31%
● Beneficiary Projects and Services	40%
● Campaigning and Research	14%

Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity. These costs are associated with constitutional and statutory requirements and include any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities.

k) Operating leases

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

l) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £1,000. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

● Freehold Property	2% straight line basis
● Long Leasehold Premises	2% straight line basis
● Improvements to Property	10% reducing balance basis
● Pullen Exhibition Assets	10% straight line basis
● Fixtures & Fittings	25% straight line basis
● Computer Equipment	33% straight line basis

m) Listed investments

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 and any excess of fair value over the historic cost of the investments will be shown as a fair value reserve in the balance sheet. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and shown in the heading "Net gains/(losses) on investments" in the statement of financial activities. The charity does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments.

Investments in subsidiaries

Investments in subsidiaries are at cost.

1 Accounting policies (continued)**n) Stocks**

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. In general, cost is determined on a first in first out basis and includes transport and handling costs. Net realisable value is the price at which stocks can be sold in the normal course of business after allowing for the costs of realisation. Provision is made where necessary for obsolete, slow moving and defective stocks. Donated items of stock, held for distribution or resale, are recognised at fair value which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay for the items on the open market.

o) 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.

p) Short term deposits

Short term deposits includes cash balances that are invested in accounts with a maturity date of between 3 and 12 months.

q) 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.

r) 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.

s) Pensions

Payments to the stakeholder pension scheme are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2a Income from donations and legacies (current year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Gifts	827,162	28,896	856,058	1,001,738
Legacies	85,337	2,000	87,337	458,553
Total income from donations and legacies	912,499	30,896	943,395	1,460,291

2b Income from donations and legacies (prior year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 Total £
Gifts	924,804	76,934	1,001,738
Legacies	411,217	47,336	458,553
Total income from donations and legacies	1,336,021	124,270	1,460,291

At the end of the year, we have been notified that we are entitled to funds from a total of 4 (2023: 4) residual legacies. However, as at 31 March 2024, we had not been notified as to the value of our entitlement or when this would be received. As such we are not able to recognise these funds in the financial statements for the year. Where we have received further correspondence since the year end, we are aware income of approximately £356,000 from these legacies.

3a Income from charitable activities (current year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	-	12,900	12,900	18,500
Companies	-	50,819	50,819	26,798
National Lottery Community fund	-	10,000	10,000	-
Conference, Training & Assessments	33,280	-	33,280	28,966
Sub-total for Information, Training & Assessments	33,280	73,719	106,999	74,264
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	-	53,375	53,375	109,900
Companies	-	357,730	357,730	96,164
Welsh Government	-	87,772	87,772	107,879
DHSSPS	-	13,143	13,143	26,285
Contributions to Youth & Project Activities	-	16,205	16,205	15,903
Sub-total for Beneficiary Projects & Services	-	528,225	528,225	356,131
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	-	6,640	6,640	-
Companies	-	14,500	14,500	-
National Lottery Heritage Fund	-	-	-	16,293
Sub-total for Campaigning & Research	-	21,140	21,140	16,293
Total income from charitable activities	33,280	623,084	656,364	446,688

Down's Syndrome Association

Notes to the financial statements

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For the year ended 31 March 2024

3b Income from charitable activities (prior year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	-	18,500	18,500	20,000
Companies	-	26,798	26,798	33,100
Conference, Training & Assessments	28,966	-	28,966	46,096
Sub-total for Information, Training & Assessments	28,966	45,298	74,264	99,196
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	-	109,900	109,900	121,833
Companies	-	96,164	96,164	47,568
Big Lottery Fund	-	-	-	10,000
Welsh Government	-	107,879	107,879	102,180
DHSSPS	-	26,285	26,285	26,285
EU Active Inclusion	-	-	-	4,617
Contributions to Youth & Project Activities	-	15,903	15,903	17,579
Sub-total for Beneficiary Projects & Services	-	356,131	356,131	330,062
Companies	-	-	-	5,000
National Lottery Heritage Fund	-	16,293	16,293	64,042
Sub-total for Campaigning & Research	-	16,293	16,293	69,042
Total income from charitable activities	28,966	417,722	446,688	498,300

4a Income from other trading activities (current year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Lettings	78,038	2,430	80,468	72,330
Fundraising events	7,121	-	7,121	13,203
Subsidiary trading	12,414	-	12,414	19,930
Total income from other trading activities	97,573	2,430	100,003	105,463

4b Income from other trading activities (prior year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Lettings	69,100	3,230	72,330	36,748
Fundraising events	13,203	-	13,203	8,488
Subsidiary trading	19,930	-	19,930	23,979
Total income from other trading activities	102,233	3,230	105,463	69,216

5a Analysis of expenditure (current year)

	Charitable activities						2024 Total £	2023 Total £
	Cost of raising funds £	Information, Training & Assessments £	Beneficiary Projects & Services £	Campaigning & Research £	Governance costs £	Support costs £		
Staff costs (Note 8)	184,258	372,779	475,315	164,034	27,812	144,347	1,368,545	1,261,665
Staff training & recruitment	-	562	1,000	300	-	1,637	3,499	4,562
Postage, telephone, fax and email	8,727	6,231	5,112	725	440	10,798	32,033	28,236
Research & museum costs	-	14,564	-	-	-	526	15,090	85,179
Information resources	589	24,684	5,398	51,740	662	1,905	84,978	76,088
Conferences and training costs	-	10,949	2,520	-	-	-	13,469	13,989
Projects and activities	-	147,573	17,025	9,827	-	-	174,425	97,982
Fundraising events	40,966	-	451	-	-	-	41,417	58,933
Fundraising costs	14,174	-	-	-	-	-	14,174	13,808
Appeals, advertising and media	11,494	-	-	5,979	-	-	17,473	47,625
Travel & meetings	14	8,118	14,991	676	2,761	23	26,583	32,897
Consultants, Advisors and professional fees	27,102	122,584	-	-	-	75,383	225,069	195,207
Office rent, running and equipment	984	5,733	18,392	2,887	99	179,855	207,950	175,378
Depreciation	-	-	1,200	-	-	57,363	58,563	41,479
	288,308	713,777	541,404	236,168	31,774	471,837	2,283,268	2,133,028
Support costs	72,669	147,019	187,457	64,693	-	(471,837)	-	-
Governance costs	4,894	9,900	12,624	4,356	(31,774)	-	-	-
Total expenditure 2024	365,870	870,696	741,485	305,217	-	-	2,283,268	2,133,028
Total expenditure 2023	372,948	869,231	623,456	267,393	-	-	-	2,133,028

5b Analysis of expenditure (prior year)

	Charitable activities						2023 Total £
	Cost of raising funds £	Information, Training & Assessments £	Beneficiary Projects & Services £	Campaigning & Research £	Governance costs £	Support costs £	
Staff costs (Note 8)	170,034	414,376	386,118	125,504	27,180	138,453	1,261,665
Staff training & recruitment	803	504	-	-	-	3,255	4,562
Postage, telephone, fax and email	5,088	5,608	4,306	856	697	11,681	28,236
Research & museum costs	-	63,775	2,108	18,947	-	349	85,179
Information resources	3,818	19,091	7,946	42,847	897	1,489	76,088
Conferences and training costs	-	11,145	2,844	-	-	-	13,989
Projects and activities	-	68,735	20,162	9,085	-	-	97,982
Fundraising events	42,169	-	407	-	-	16,357	58,933
Fundraising costs	13,808	-	-	-	-	-	13,808
Appeals, advertising and media	33,886	252	-	13,347	-	140	47,625
Travel & meetings	150	8,533	13,190	684	9,760	580	32,897
Consultants, Advisors and professional fees	25,072	92,531	-	-	7,544	70,060	195,207
Office rent, running and equipment	4,318	4,824	17,584	1,649	1,908	145,095	175,378
Depreciation	-	-	1,200	-	-	40,279	41,479
	299,146	689,374	455,865	212,919	47,986	427,738	2,133,028
Support costs	66,358	161,715	150,686	48,979	-	(427,738)	-
Governance costs	7,444	18,142	16,905	5,495	(47,986)	-	-
Total expenditure 2023	372,948	869,231	623,456	267,393	-	-	2,133,028

For the year ended 31 March 2024

6 Grant making	2024	2023
	£	£
Cost		
Cambridge and Peterborough Foundation NHS	14,564	50,000
Down Syndrome International Funding Grant	115,000	42,500
Down Syndrome International: Inclusive Project	26,000	20,000
At the end of the year	<u>141,000</u>	<u>62,500</u>

Cambridge and Peterborough Foundation NHS : The grant support the costs of investigating unexplained early regression in adolescents and adults with Down's syndrome.

Down Syndrome International Funding Grant: Grants are given by Down's Syndrome Association to support the work of Down Syndrome International.

Down Syndrome International: The grant for Inclusive project aim to support policy making to become accessible and inclusive of people with learning disabilities.

All grant making costs are recognised within Projects and activities costs in note 5.

7 Net expenditure for the year

This is stated after charging:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation	58,563	41,479
Operating lease rentals:		
Property	11,235	22,848
Other	4,527	4,573
Auditor's remuneration (excluding VAT):		
Audit	14,500	13,550
	<u>145,825</u>	<u>82,950</u>

8 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

Staff costs were as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries and wages	1,186,938	1,089,568
Social security costs	115,935	111,165
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	65,672	60,932
	<u>1,368,545</u>	<u>1,261,665</u>

One employee earned over £60,000 in 2024 (None in 2023)

The total employee benefits including pension contributions and employer's national insurance of the key management personnel were £174,955 (2023: £167,881).

The charity trustees were neither paid nor received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2023: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2023: £nil).

Trustees' expenses represent the payment or reimbursement of travel and subsistence costs totalling £745 (2023: £841) incurred by 1 (2023: 1) members relating to attendance at meetings of the trustees.

9 Staff numbers

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
Raising funds	5.3	5.1
Information, Training and Assessments	12.5	10.8
Beneficiary Projects and Services	15.8	13.6
Campaigning and Research	4.0	4.3
Support	5.0	5.0
Governance	1.0	1.0
	<u>43.6</u>	<u>39.8</u>

10 Related party transactions

There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties.

Down Syndrome International uses office space at the Down's Syndrome Association headquarters. Grants are given by Down's Syndrome Association to support the work of Down Syndrome International. The Chief Executive of Down's Syndrome Association, Carol Boys, is also a trustee of Down Syndrome International. The Treasurer Trustee, of Down's Syndrome Association, Darren Warwick is also trustee of Down Syndrome International.

DSA is the payroll agency for DSI.

The Down's Syndrome Association made the following payments to Down Syndrome International during the year:

	2024 £	2023 £
Grant Payments	141,000	62,500
Membership Fee	300	300
Merchandise	15,498	10,962
Total	156,798	73,762

At the end of the Financial Year DSI owed Down's Syndrome Association £20,943.

In addition Down's Syndrome Trading is a subsidiary of Down's Syndrome Association. There was no balance owing to Down's Syndrome Association at the end of the financial year.

11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes. The charity's trading subsidiary Down's Syndrome Trading Limited pays available profits to the charity through the Gift Aid scheme, eliminating or reducing their respective corporation tax liabilities. Its charge to corporation tax in the year was nil (2023: £2,260)

12 Tangible fixed assets**The charity and the group**

	Freehold Property £	Long Leasehold Premises £	Improvements to Property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Pullen Exhibition Assets £	Computer Equipment £	Total £
Cost							
At the start of the year	1,286,250	60,000	78,712	95,133	42,128	122,057	1,684,280
Additions in year	-	-	-	78,298	-	-	78,298
Disposals in year	-	-	-	(52,891)	-	-	(52,891)
At the end of the year	1,286,250	60,000	78,712	120,540	42,128	122,057	1,709,687
Depreciation							
At the start of the year	382,200	39,600	58,703	91,251	42,128	114,925	728,807
Charge for the year	29,400	1,200	2,001	22,396	-	3,566	58,563
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-	(52,891)	-	-	(52,891)
At the end of the year	411,600	40,800	60,704	60,756	42,128	118,491	734,479
Net book value							
At the end of the year	874,650	19,200	18,008	59,784	-	3,566	975,208
At the start of the year	904,050	20,400	20,009	3,882	-	7,132	955,473

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

For the year ended 31 March 2024

13 Listed investments

	The group		The charity	
	2024 £	2023 £	2024 £	2023 £
Fair value at the start of the year	257	194	259	196
Net gain on change in fair value	52	63	52	63
Fair value at the end of the year	309	257	311	259
Historic cost at the end of the year	15	15	15	15

Investments comprise:

	The group		The charity	
	2024 £	2023 £	2024 £	2023 £
Shares listed on the London Stock Exchange	309	257	309	257
Unlisted shares in UK registered companies	-	-	2	2
	309	257	311	259

14 Subsidiary undertaking

The charitable company owns the whole of the issued ordinary share capital of Down's Syndrome Trading Limited (DST), a company registered in England. The subsidiary is used for non-primary purpose trading activities. The Chief Executive of DSA is also a Director of DST. All activities have been consolidated on a line by line basis in the statement of financial activities. Available profits are gift aided to the charitable company. A summary of the results of the subsidiary is shown below:

	2024 £	2023 £
Turnover	12,960	20,452
Cost of sales	(5,269)	(5,954)
Gross profit	7,691	14,498
Administrative expenses	(5,919)	(3,723)
Management Charge	(1,000)	(1,000)
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	772	9,775
Taxation on profit on ordinary activities	-	(2,270)
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation	772	7,505
Donation to parent undertaking	(9,775)	-
Loss/ (profit) for the financial year	(9,003)	7,505
The aggregate of the assets, liabilities and funds was:		
Assets	36,677	45,902
Liabilities	(3,249)	(3,470)
Funds	33,428	42,432

15 Parent charity

The parent charity's gross income and the results for the year are disclosed as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Gross income	1,759,941	2,012,731
Result for the year	(512,139)	(108,351)

16 Stocks

	The group		The charity	
	2024 £	2023 £	2024 £	2023 £
Finished goods	11,383	6,341	9,118	3,429
	11,383	6,341	9,118	3,429

For the year ended 31 March 2024

17 Debtors

	The group		The charity	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Trade debtors	67,037	2,354	67,037	2,354
Other debtors	37,558	63,782	37,558	63,602
Prepayments	31,704	12,828	31,704	12,828
Accrued income	24,929	-	24,929	-
	161,228	78,964	161,228	78,784

18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	The group		The charity	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	34,774	51,917	34,774	51,917
Taxation and social security	35,935	31,948	33,886	31,948
Accruals	73,127	100,050	71,927	96,580
Deferred income (note 19)	63,766	17,519	63,766	17,519
Amounts owed to subsidiary company	-	-	20,452	28,004
	207,602	201,434	224,805	225,968

19 Deferred income

Deferred income comprises restricted donations, membership fees and sales.

	The group		The charity	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Balance at the beginning of the year	17,519	11,042	17,519	11,042
Amount released to income in the year	(17,519)	(11,042)	(17,519)	(11,042)
Amount deferred in the year	63,766	17,519	63,766	17,519
Balance at the end of the year	63,766	17,519	63,766	17,519

20a Analysis of group net assets between funds (current year)

	General	Designated	Restricted	Total funds
	Unrestricted	funds	funds	
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	63,350	911,858	975,208
Investments	309	-	-	309
Net current assets	1,254,879	704,014	237,478	2,196,371
Net assets at the end of the year	1,255,188	767,364	1,149,336	3,171,888

20b Analysis of group net assets between funds (prior year)

	General	Designated	Restricted	Total funds
	Unrestricted	funds	funds	
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	11,014	944,459	955,473
Investments	320	-	-	320
Net current assets	1,782,929	817,247	137,062	2,737,238
Net assets at the end of the year	1,783,249	828,261	1,081,521	3,693,031

For the year ended 31 March 2024

21a Movements in funds (current year)

	At the start of the year £	Incoming resources & gains £	Outgoing resources & losses £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds:					
Welsh Government	(7,135)	87,772	(92,828)		(12,191)
Northern Ireland					
DHSSPS	-	13,142	(13,142)	-	-
Northern Ireland Fixed Asset Reserve	20,400	-	(1,200)	-	19,200
Other Northern Ireland funds	-	39,223	(39,223)	-	-
DActive and DEngage	8,813	7,625	(16,438)	-	-
Speech and Language	-	3,000	(3,000)	-	-
Information	11,336	69,015	(69,951)	-	10,400
National Lottery Community fund	-	10,000	(7,000)	-	3,000
WorkFit – Employment Project	76,715	407,335	(306,673)	-	177,377
Ukraine appeal	7,823	192	(6,316)	-	1,699
LDC Theatre and Museum fund	39,510	19,106	(1,423)	-	57,193
LDC Fixed Asset Reserve	924,059	-	(31,401)	-	892,658
Total restricted funds	1,081,521	656,410	(588,595)	-	1,149,336
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds:					
IT & Systems Fund	182,335	-	(11,237)	-	171,098
Emergency Fund	300,000	-	-	-	300,000
Building Fund	150,000	-	(59,932)	-	90,068
Inclusion Project	30,000	-	(26,000)	30,500	34,500
Employment Project	32,000	-	(32,000)	-	-
Research Fund	122,912	-	(14,564)	-	108,348
Fixed Asset Reserve	11,014	78,298	(25,962)	-	63,350
Total designated funds	828,261	78,298	(169,695)	30,500	767,364
General funds	1,740,817	1,014,457	(1,503,015)	(30,500)	1,221,759
Non-charitable trading funds	42,432	12,960	(21,963)	-	33,429
Total unrestricted funds	2,611,510	1,105,715	(1,694,673)	-	2,022,552
Total funds	3,693,031	1,762,125	(2,283,268)	-	3,171,888

For the year ended 31 March 2024

21b Movements in funds (prior year)

	At the start of the year £	Incoming resources & gains £	Outgoing resources & losses £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds:					
Welsh Government	(22,186)	107,879	(92,828)		(7,135)
Northern Ireland					
DHSSPS	-	26,285	(26,285)	-	-
Youth Activities	-	-	-	-	-
Other Northern Ireland funds	-	38,234	(38,234)	-	-
DActive	19,977	50,300	(61,464)	-	8,813
Training and Conferences	-	-	-	-	-
Information	14,200	79,797	(82,661)	-	11,336
Our Voice	-	1,295	(1,295)	-	-
WorkFit – Employment Project	37,500	176,158	(204,200)	67,257	76,715
Ukraine appeal	15,169	21,416	(28,762)	-	7,823
50th Year Memories and Stories	-	16,293	(16,293)	-	-
Museum Fund	-	26,081	-	-	26,081
LDC Fixed Asset Reserve	955,682	-	(31,623)	-	924,059
Total restricted funds	1,055,371	545,222	(586,329)	67,257	1,081,521
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds:					
IT & Systems Fund	200,000	-	(17,665)	-	182,335
Emergency Fund	300,000	-	-	-	300,000
Building Fund	150,000	-	-	-	150,000
Inclusion Project	-	-	(20,000)	50,000	30,000
Employment Project	40,000	-	(2,200)	(5,800)	32,000
Research Fund	186,687	-	(63,775)	-	122,912
Fixed Asset Reserve	8,972	10,698	(8,656)	-	11,014
Total designated funds	885,659	10,698	(112,296)	44,200	828,261
General funds	1,817,918	1,455,812	(1,421,456)	(111,457)	1,740,817
Non-charitable trading funds	34,927	20,452	(12,947)	-	42,432
Total unrestricted funds	2,738,504	1,486,962	(1,546,699)	(67,257)	2,611,510
Total funds	3,793,875	2,032,184	(2,133,028)	-	3,693,031

Purposes of restricted funds

Welsh Government

The main funder for work in Wales is the Welsh Government as part of its scheme for organisations operating in the social care sector for people with learning disabilities. The grant is used to support the work of our projects in Wales. The fund is currently in deficit as grant claims are made in arrears.

Northern Ireland

The main funder of our core work in Northern Ireland is the DHSSPS.

Any funds raised as a result of the fundraising activities carried out in Wales and Northern Ireland are also restricted to our work in those regions. The staff team in Northern Ireland organise training and support their affiliated groups and individual families with advice and support. They also organise numerous activities for people with Down's syndrome and run weekend breaks and holidays. We also own a chalet in Northern Ireland and the Northern Ireland Fixed Asset Reserve represents the net book value of the chalet.

DSActive and DSEngage

Funding raised for our healthy lifestyle and activities programme. DSActive and DSEngage aims to improve physical health and mental wellbeing through in-person sports, leisure and recreational activities (DSActive) and DSEngage daily online activities.

Speech and Language

Specific donations have been given to support the work of our speech and language therapist.

Information

These funds are used to provide information and advice. We provide a help line 5 days a week and distribute leaflets and publications. The information department also publishes the *Journal* twice a year which is distributed to the members of the Association. Our publications and leaflets are continually being developed and updated. Our information department also has specialists who offer advice and support to families about welfare benefits.

Our Voice

Specific donations have been given to grow the Our Voice project which empowers young adults with Down's syndrome to be active citizens in their communities.

WorkFit- Employment Project

These funds are used to support the work the Association does to support adults with Down's syndrome. This includes our unique WorkFit project which helps adults with Down's syndrome into employment.

Ukraine appeal

These funds are used to help Down's Syndrome Ukraine and other related organizations to provide small grants to their members, contacts and families in financial difficulty.

50th Year Memories and Stories

A project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund to capture the memories and stories of people with Down's syndrome over the last 50 years.

LDC Theatre & Museum Fund

This fund is used to maintain the glorious Victorian theatre at the Langdon Down Centre which was originally built and used by Dr John Langdon Down and for the Museum to promote and preserve the beautifully rich history and legacy of the Langdon Down Centre.

LDC Fixed Asset Reserve

This represents the value of the assets including buildings and fixtures and fittings which were acquired from the Langdon Down Centre Trust on merger.

Purposes of designated funds

IT & Systems Fund

The trustees have designated these funds to ensure that resources are available should any systems infrastructure need to be upgraded and other sources of funding cannot be secured.

Emergency Fund

The trustees have designated these funds to provide a buffer for an emergency situation which may adversely affect our ability to raise funds.

Building Fund

The trustees have designated these funds to provide a sinking fund which will be used as necessary for building maintenance.

Inclusion Project

The trustees have designated these funds to start the first part of an innovative project to build a new Inclusion Team, through which people with Down's syndrome can support policy making at all levels to become accessible and inclusive of people with learning disabilities.

Employment Project

The trustees have designated these funds to employ more WorkFit officers to increase the support of adults with Down's syndrome into work.

Research Fund

The trustees have designated these funds to allow us to invest in research opportunities.

Fixed Asset Reserve

This represents the value of general funds invested in buildings, fixtures and fittings and computer equipment and is therefore not readily available for other purposes.

For the year ended 31 March 2024

22 Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(521,143)	(100,844)
Depreciation charges	58,563	41,479
(Gains) on investments	(52)	(63)
Dividends and interest from investments	(62,311)	(19,679)
(Increase)/Decrease in stocks	(5,042)	11,506
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	(82,264)	13,412
Increase in creditors	6,168	26,565
Net cash (used in) operating activities	(606,081)	(27,624)

23 Operating lease commitments

The group's total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows for each of the following periods:

	Property		Equipment	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Within one year	5,760	10,935	4,249	2,228
In the second to fifth years inclusive	11,520	17,280	6,418	-
	17,280	28,215	10,667	2,228

24 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.

DOWN'S SYNDROME ASSOCIATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1061474

Accounts



**DOWN'S
SYNDROME
ASSOCIATION**

Report and Financial Statements

**For the year ended
31 March 2023**

Company number: 3310024
Charity Number: 1061474

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Trustees' annual report

For the year ended 31 March 2023

Company number
3310024

Country of incorporation
United Kingdom

Charity number
1061474

Country of registration
England

Registered office and operational address
Down's Syndrome Association
Langdon Down Centre, 2a Langdon Park, Teddington, Middlesex, TW11 9PS

Trustees

Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Dr Gerard Coghlan, Chair
Sarah Leggat, Vice Chair
Georgie Hill
Anya Souza
Trevor Percy
Robert Stirling

Darren Warkcup, Treasurer
Professor Anthony J. Holland, appointed 1 June, 2023

Key management personnel:
Carol Boys, Chief Executive
Gillian Bird, Services Director
Macarena Laclote, Finance Manager

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank
2nd Floor, St Paul's House, 10 Warwick Lane, London EC4M 7BP

Solicitors

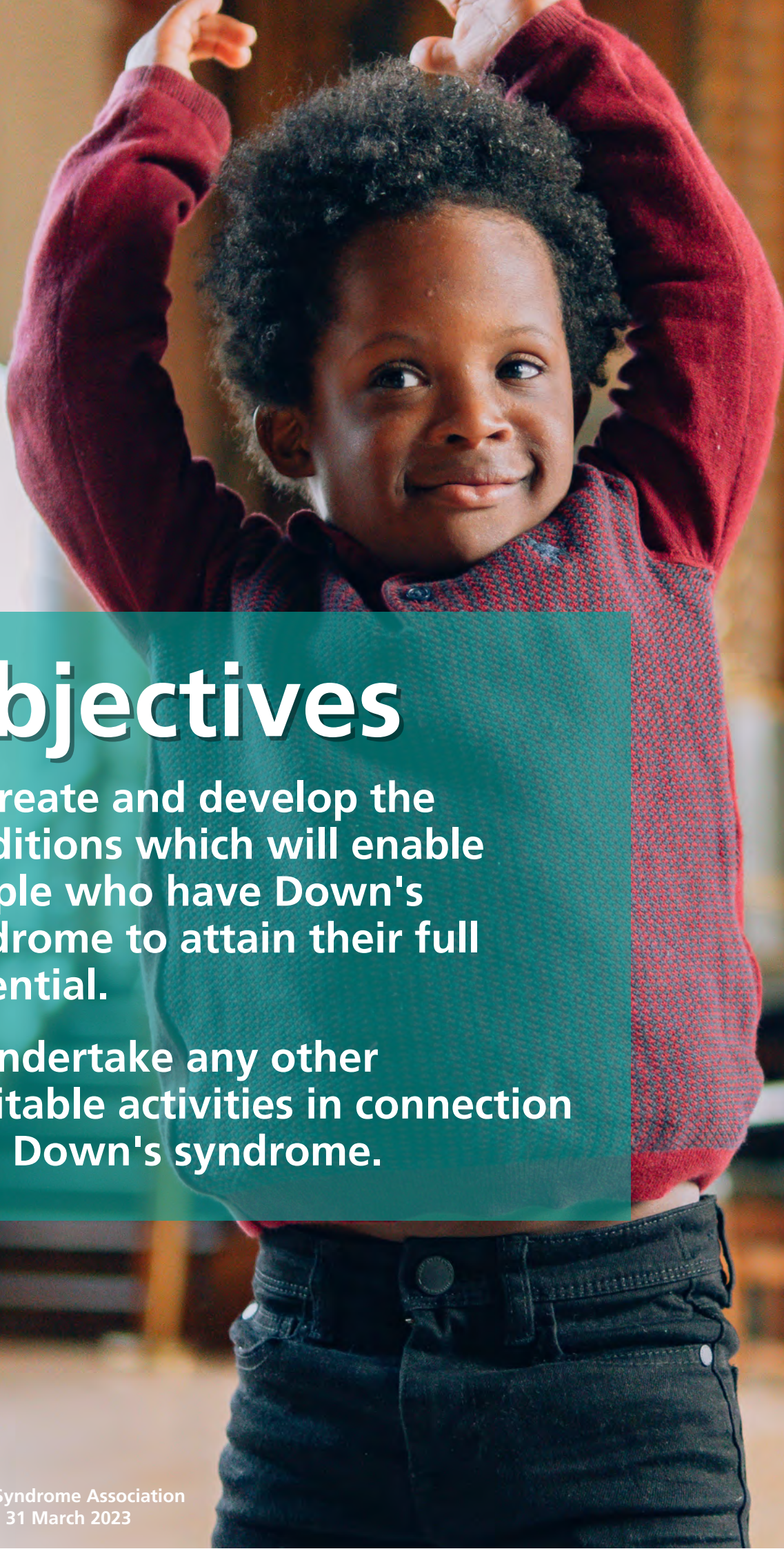
Russell Cooke, 2 Putney Hill, London, SW15 6AB

Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP, Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor,
Invicta House, 108-114 Golden Lane, London EC1Y 0TL

The trustees present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Reference and administrative information set out on page 2 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.



Objectives

To create and develop the conditions which will enable people who have Down's syndrome to attain their full potential.

To undertake any other charitable activities in connection with Down's syndrome.

In furtherance of these objectives, the Association offers information and support to people who have Down's syndrome, their parents and carers, interested professionals and the general public. It also champions the rights of people who have Down's syndrome and works to improve knowledge and understanding of the condition. We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

Mission

Our mission is to benefit the public by creating and maintaining the conditions that will enable all people who have Down's syndrome to live full and rewarding lives. At the DSA we create an inclusive environment where everyone can participate and contribute towards our work. In working towards our mission, we train and educate the professionals who work with people who have Down's syndrome to promote best practice and new initiatives. We carry out research into health issues and campaign to change policy and service provision. Most importantly, we provide information and support for people who have Down's syndrome and their families and carers on all aspects of living with Down's syndrome.



Aims

To promote the rights of people who have Down's syndrome.

To be the centre for information and training on all aspects of Down's syndrome.

To involve adults who have Down's syndrome in the work of the DSA and to gather and represent their views.

To increase and retain the membership of the organisation.

To develop the organisation's sources of funding.

To encourage and monitor research.

To develop and maintain links with learning disability and other relevant organisations.

To adopt new technology where this supports the aims of the DSA.



How our activities deliver public benefit

The implementation of our aims and those we try to help are described below. All of our charitable activities focus on enabling people with Down's syndrome to live full and rewarding lives and are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit. Our aims fully reflect the purposes the charity was set up to advance.

Who uses and benefits from our services?

The services we provide are available throughout England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Demand for our services is growing and our helpline, which is usually our first point of contact with those requiring our services, is provided free of charge to everyone.

Equal access to our services is an important issue to us. We proactively try to reach underrepresented ethnic and social groups.

The trustees review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year. This report looks at what the charity has achieved and the outcomes of its work in the reporting period. The trustees report the success of each key activity and the benefits the charity has brought to those groups of people that it is set up to help. The review also helps the trustees ensure the charity's aims, objectives and activities remained focused on its stated purposes.



Achievements and performance in the year to 31 March 2023

The charity's main activities and who it serves are described below. All its charitable activities are undertaken to further the Down's Syndrome Association's charitable purposes for the public benefit.

Beneficiary services and projects

Membership

Membership is a continuing priority for the organisation as 'the more members we have, the stronger our voice'.

During the year we successfully achieved our objectives:

Smooth integration of our website with our Customer Relationship Management platform to make joining or renewing a simple process.

An increase in renewals going out via email, therefore saving money on postage, our letters are enormously reduced.

Researching our membership journey and what we can offer.

The Affiliated Group Membership package has been enhanced with monthly meetings, a special area on our website and improved communications.



Inclusive participation



THE DUKE OF
EDINBURGH'S AWARD

Ensuring that people who have Down's syndrome are fully involved and listened to.

People who have Down's syndrome work within and across our services as part of our inclusive participation strategy. We also promote and enable **inclusive participation** within other organisations.

Creating opportunities for people who have Down's syndrome to be the voice of the Association.

Our Voice is a network of hundreds of people who have Down's syndrome living in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Some members meet weekly and some work on projects in focus groups.

During 2022-2023, Our Voice members co-produced a range of information for the DSA, government bodies and other organisations and research teams. We thought of new ideas and made resources that people wanted.

Our Voice held eight meetings to provide evidence for the DSA's submission for the Down Syndrome Act Call for Evidence and also contributed to many other Government consultations.

Our Voice provided extensive feedback on the Reasonable Adjustment Digital Flag and Consent Form, a new resource for everyone who has additional needs and who use NHS services.



Policy, Campaigns and Consultations

We influence policy and contribute to government consultations and National Institute for Health & Care Excellence (NICE) information.

Over the last year, we responded to the following consultations:

Submission of comprehensive report under the DHSC 'Call for Evidence' in relation to the Down Syndrome Act

Dept. of Justice – Hate Crime consultation

DWP engagement with Disabled People In Polices Which Affect Them

Reducing Restrictive Practices (Wales)

Welsh Government Learning Disability Action Plan

Ministry of Justice Access to Child Trust Funds

NICE antenatal Care Quality Standard

The UK Government COVID Public Inquiry – submitting specific evidence under the health strand



Working in partnership for change

We continued to work with partnership organisations and government representatives to improve health, education, employment, social care and housing.

We sought contributions for the consultation responses listed above, and also ran a series of online consultation events and a survey to gather information from many hundreds of our members to inform our submission to the DHSC Down Syndrome Act Call for Evidence. Some of the meetings were thematic (health, adult social care, employment, housing, early regression, dementia) and some brought together specific groups (people who have Down's syndrome, families from ethnic minorities, expectant and new parents, families with children under 25 and families with adult children, parents and carers of children with complex needs and/or autism, local support group representatives, and meetings for education, health and social care professionals).

We also published a range of resources to support engagement with individuals, families and local groups and promoted the Call for Evidence through mailouts, newsletters and social media.



Helpline

Our confidential helpline received in excess of **10,000** requests for information, support and advocacy.

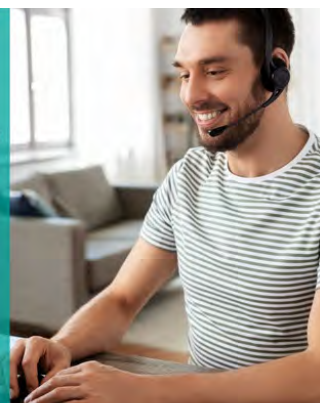


DOWN'S SYNDROME ASSOCIATION

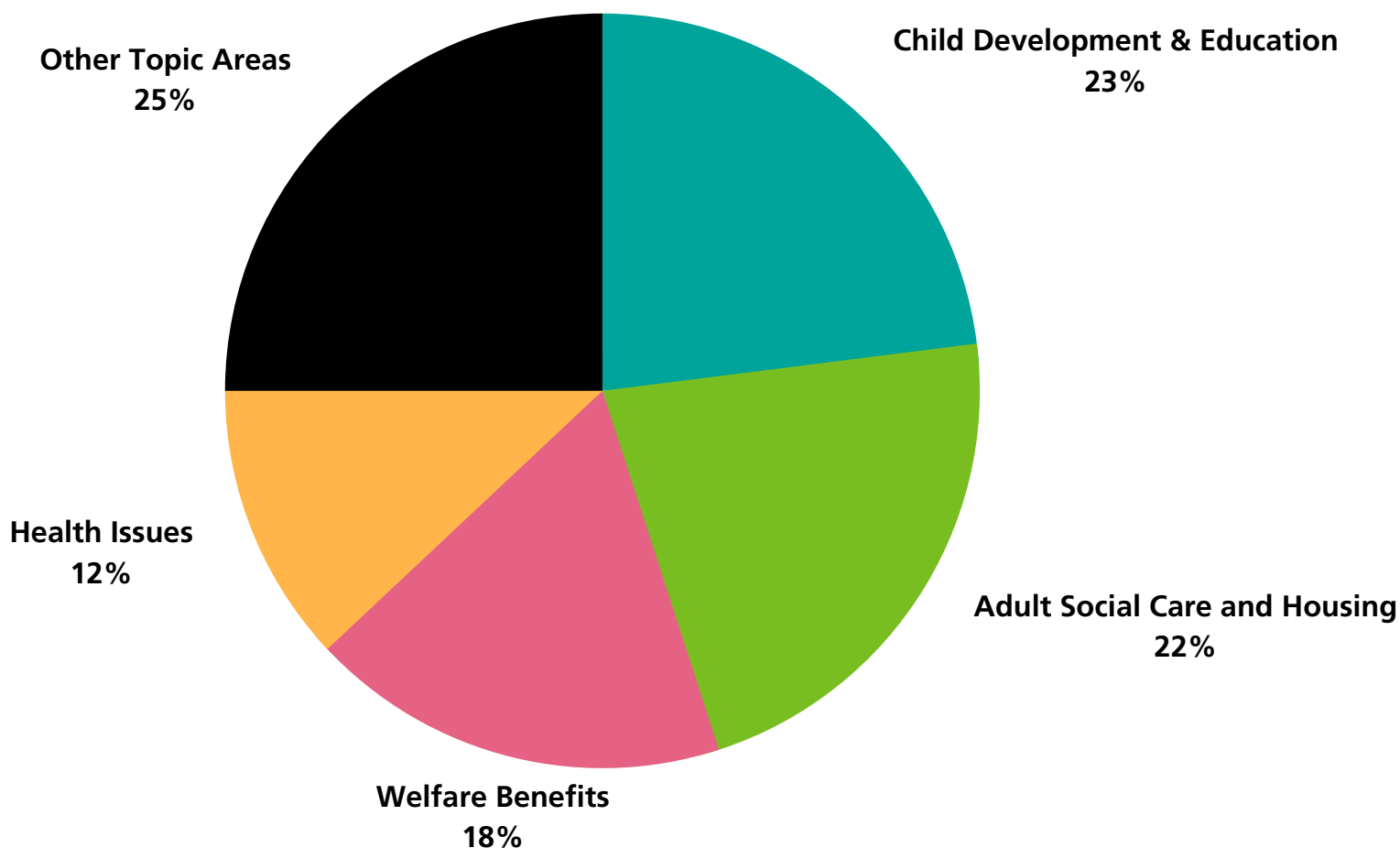
Give our Helpline a call.

0333 1212 300

Monday to Friday
10am - 4pm



23% of helpline queries were about child development and education, 22% on adult social care and housing, 18% about welfare benefits and 12% on health issues, with other queries on a wide range of topics including support through the antenatal period, legal issues and service provision, inclusion in sports, transition, sex and relationships, employment, training, and ageing. Our benefits advisor supported people with their appeals with 95% success rate.



We supported many thousands of family members through our closed Facebook groups focused on children, young people and adults who have Down's syndrome and through online groups offering support where children, young people and adults either have complex needs, are experiencing regression or have dementia.



“

Within an organisation offering such expertise, you are all invaluable. Knowing you are there provides such reassurance to us when we face changing issues and needs. A huge thank you to you all.

Parent

”

Information

We updated information for friends and family of expectant and new parents and published new information resources to explain adult social care and children's social care and how to access services.

We developed the 'Down's syndrome with complex needs' area of the website, adding many new information resources and parent stories which offer guidance about conditions that may sit alongside Down's syndrome, such as autism, attention deficit and hyperactivity, mental health and epilepsy conditions.



Down's syndrome

A Resource for Family and Friends

“

I ask you to pass on to the relevant people at The DSA that I find all your information and resources so very helpful and relevant. Your website is my first 'go to place' when I am seeking guidance and information.

Parent

”

“

I cannot thank you enough for all the resources and info!

Parent

”

Maternity Information

We continued to improve maternity information and support in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. DSA representatives contributed at meetings with relevant Wales and England public bodies delivering antenatal screening services.



Speech, Language and Communication Services

We provided 95 speech and language assessments and feeding consultations for children and young people.

The recommendations made by our speech and language therapist benefited people by identifying needs to support development and improve local service provision.

The therapist also shared information on feeding and communication at our online pregnancy and baby meetings, advised hundreds of parents and supported many practising speech and language therapists through meetings, emails and phone calls.

95

**speech and
language
assessments**

Training, Events and Support Meetings

394

training, support and
engagement events for
more than

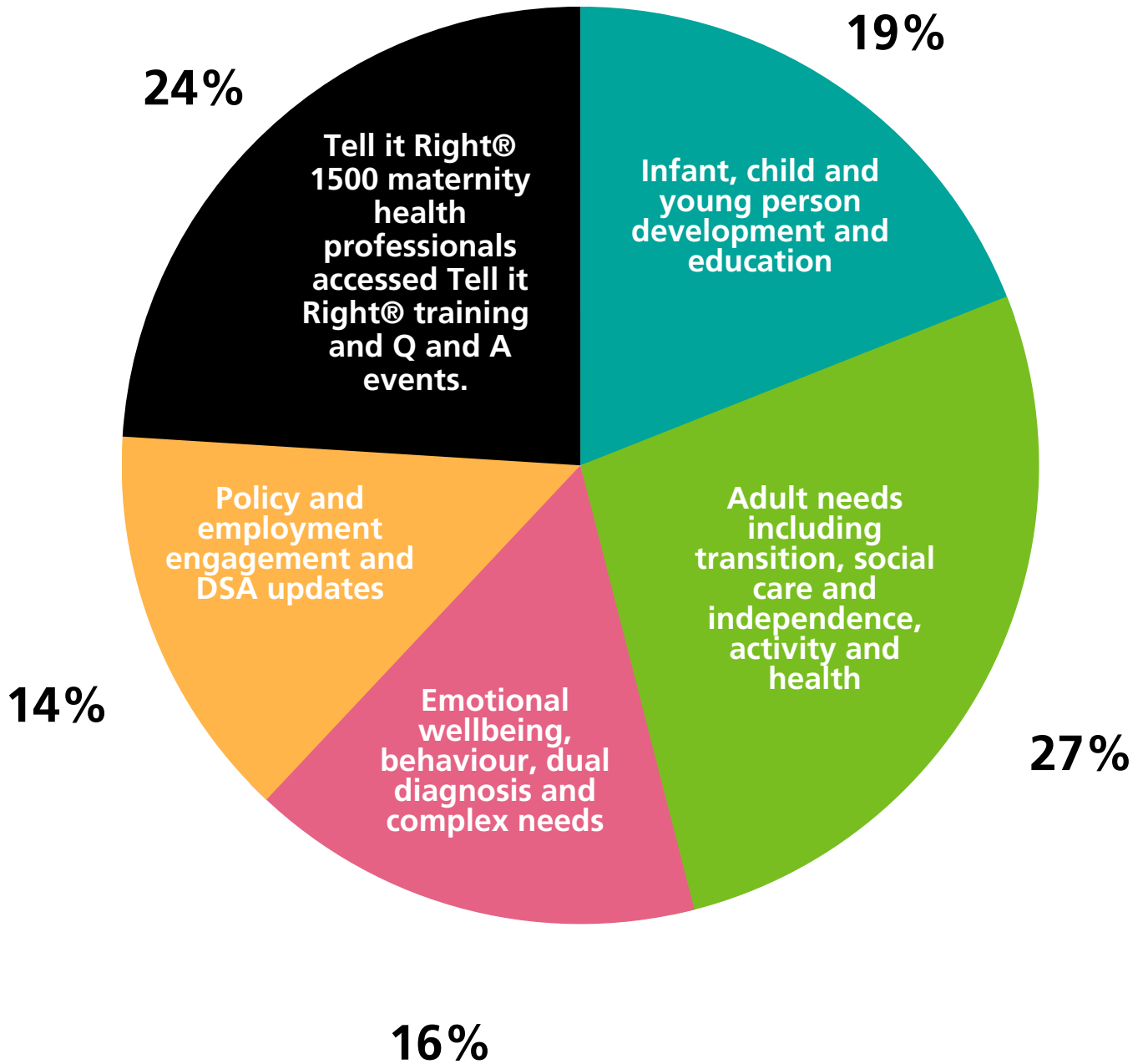
7,000


families, education,
health and social care
professionals

Our training events and support meetings included:

- Tell it Right® for maternity service professionals and students
- Supporting early development from birth to 4 years
- Early years and primary education
- Secondary education
- Using the model of positive behaviour support for change
- Puberty and adolescence
- Preparing for adulthood sessions
- Relationships and sex education
- Dual diagnosis of Down's syndrome and autism
- Supporting wellbeing of people who have Down's syndrome
- Supporting adults
- Your rights webinar: highlights from the Care Act
- Down's syndrome and dementia
- DSActive training for sports and activity providers
- WorkFit® employment engagement conferences
- 'Regression' in Down syndrome conference with Cambridge University Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Group
- DSAct: legal perspective
- The SEND review
- Twenty seven policy engagement events for the DSAct consultation
- Fortnightly Pregnancy and Baby meetings featuring information and discussion about early development, feeding, communication and physical therapy
- A series of ten Complex Needs meetings, each with a different focus requested by parent members
- Nine Behaviour Case Study sessions where parents discussed example cases and shared their experiences
- Weekly Wellbeing Wednesday sessions
- Dads Group Meetings

We continued to work to ensure that individuals who have Down's syndrome, and their families, are at the forefront of information and training, every step of the way.





We support the provision of opportunities in leisure, recreational and sporting organisations and activities for people who have Down's syndrome which in turn supports opportunities to be physically and mentally active and healthy.

We continue to develop and strengthen partnership working and collaboration.

We provide training and support to partner organisations.

DSActive and DSEngage

DSActive provided support for people who have Down's syndrome to be included in the activities available in their communities and further afield. Such activities are available through open mixed ability, pan disability and learning disability sessions.

Fourteen partner organisations received funding to assist with procurement of equipment through to provision of indoor venues to support attendance, participation and inclusion of session members.

The DSEngage programme enabled physical and wellbeing benefits for 3563 participants through 243 online sessions across 50 weeks of the year. At its busiest, there were eight sessions a week. The sessions included dance, crafts, disco's, Singing Hands, Pilates, yoga, and cardiovascular based exercise classes.

Twice as many sessions ran during the summer holidays compared to last year. We held weekend as well as weekday activities.

Down's Syndrome Association DSActive was invited by Down Syndrome Swimming GB to be physically present and visible as a partner organisation at the inaugural British Down's Syndrome Swimming Championships. DSActive is working positively with Down Syndrome Swimming GB and have collaborated on information sharing for DSA members.

DSActive was invited by the Football Association (FA) to review and contribute to their Coaching Disabled Footballers learning offer. We have collaborated and contributed to their Down's syndrome specific support cards which are a resource that will be published as part of their online module and subsequent face to face CPD session.

A series of free, Down's Syndrome Association DSActive online training opportunities were booked by 86 representatives providing leisure, recreational and sporting session opportunities for children and adults who have Down's syndrome.





WorkFit®

We provide training, information and resources to employers to support them to offer employment opportunities to people who have Down's syndrome.

We develop employment opportunities for people who have Down's syndrome and provide advice and support to enable them to embrace the exciting challenges that lie ahead on the journey to fulfilling their career ambitions.

We provide ongoing support to employers and candidates at all stages of the programme.

We have seen a tremendous increase in demand with more candidate and employer registrations. In the last financial year, 92% of candidates placed went directly into paid work compared with 53% two years ago. 78% of our placements were in the private sector (an increase from last year), 12% with the public sector and 10% with the third sector.

We welcomed many major brands into the programme. We also held a national online event for our stakeholders which featured personal and professional success stories from candidates and their employers.

Securing paid work makes a huge difference to the lives of a large number of candidates and their families. Along with developing paid work we also developed work experience placements, volunteering, supported internships and supported apprenticeships.

We have seen our candidates grow in confidence, develop skills, expand their social circle, become more financially independent and enjoy the self-esteem of being part of a team where their contribution is valued.





What our candidates say

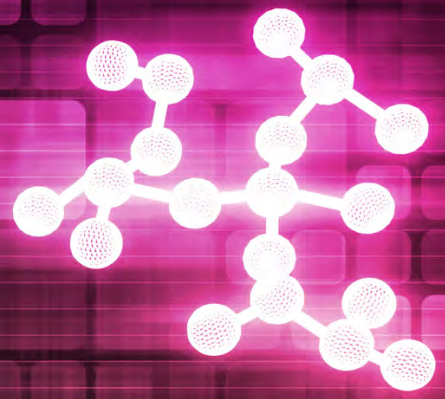
I love my job; I enjoy doing all my tasks well and my buddies help me to learn new things. I have got so much ability and want to work hard to make people proud of me. I know that working hard will help me to get even better at my job. I feel so proud of myself for the great progress I have made, I want to learn even more new things so I can be given more tasks.

What our employers say

GXO is now the largest single employer of adults with Down's syndrome in the UK through the WorkFit programme. The programme keeps going from strength to strength and I thank everyone who has had a hand in this fantastic partnership, which demonstrates true inclusion and offers our colleagues with Down's syndrome independence through employment.



Research Support



We support research to improve quality of life for people who have Down's syndrome and their families

We work with established research partners

We supported 28 research studies with potential to benefit people who have Down's syndrome and their families.

We provided advice to researchers, co-produced accessible resources with Our Voice, advertised studies and shared study outcomes.

As part of our vetting process, we asked for evidence of ethics approval and, where a study involved people who have Down's syndrome, use of accessible materials. We wrote letters of support for researchers applying for funding and we acted as research partners, attending meetings about the development and progress of studies.

The DSA funded the first year of a research project to better understand how education affects health and how health affects education for children who have Down's syndrome specifically. The project is part of the 'Education and Child Health Insights from Linked Data' (ECHILD) project run by University College London that joins together existing health, education and social care information for all children in England for the first time.

The DSA funded a role to set up research by the University of Cambridge Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Group



**UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE**

to find out more about 'regression' in people who have Down's syndrome. The study involves people who have Down's syndrome aged 11-35 years and a family member. 320 people joined a live online conference hosted by the DSA and University of Cambridge. Many hundreds more have watched the recording on DSA YouTube.

Communications



We involve adults who have Down's syndrome in the work of the DSA and to represent everyone's views.

We continue to promote and share the stories and voices of people who have Down's syndrome.

Together with our members and supporters we have created and shared stories via all our communications channels.

We continue to raise awareness of our existence and our work.

Blogs and social media posts

We publicised a continuous stream of blogs and social media posts through the year covering a wide range of news and issues.



Safroz told us what he thought of the film Champions which came out at the start of 2023.

What did you like best about the film?

It had dancing and funny basketball celebrations.

Who was your favourite character in the film and why?

There was a donkey – I love donkeys!

We've heard that you've already watched the film twice, would you watch it again?

Yes, of course!



Maya reviewed a new book called Harper the Confidence Fairy.

She said 'There should be characters with Down's Syndrome and other disabilities in lots of other books so people will respect us and who we are.'



In autumn 2022 we celebrated the launch of TV show Ralph & Katie by sharing an interview with Our Voice member Claire-May Minette who had been part of the production team.

Claire told us more about herself as well as what it was like to be part of the show.



'It was my very first Television Credit of which I am very proud of.

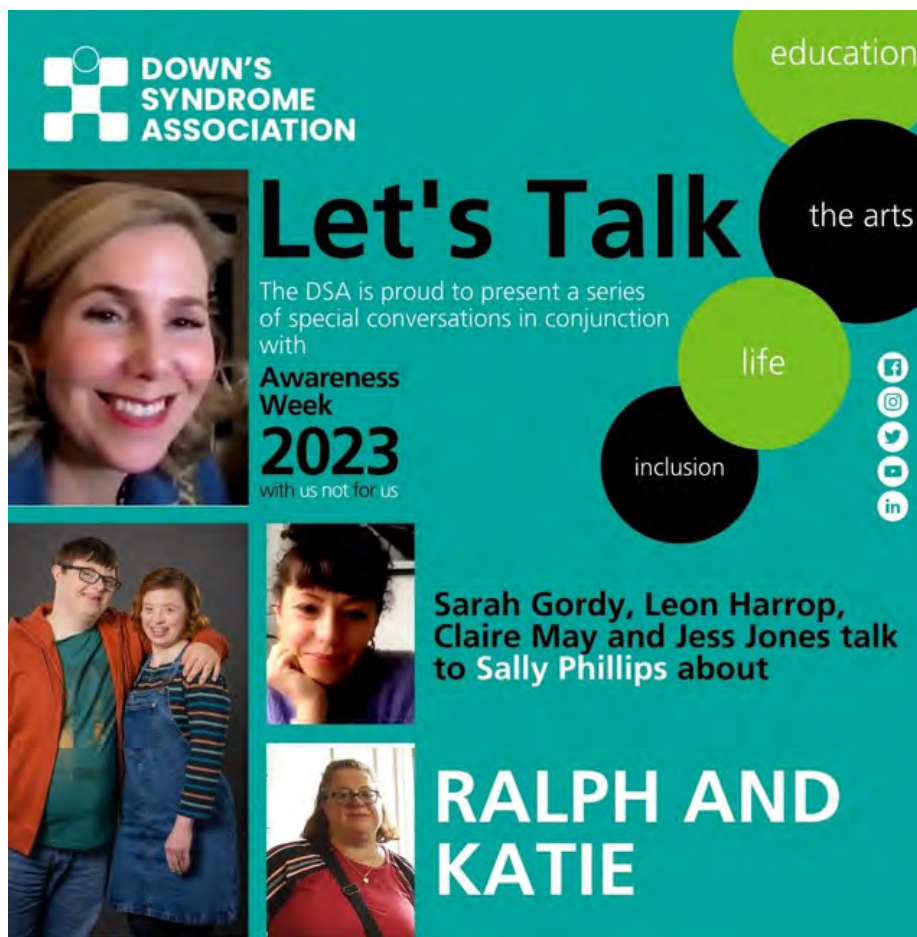
All of the production crew were diverse including me. I found everyone so welcoming and kind.

I loved every moment of it.

It was THE best job of my life.'

Awareness Week

We created a series of filmed conversations, with an array of guests, to celebrate World Down Syndrome Day.



My Perspective

We were pleased to welcome shortlisted photographers, their families and friends and special guests back to the Langdon Down Centre to celebrate their spectacular work. The event was hosted by Sally Phillips.



The winners were:

JUDGES CHOICE WINNER: Jonathan Grosvenor for his photograph Golden Sunset

PEOPLE'S CHOICE WINNER: Lucia Sedano for her photograph My Beautiful Huancayo

STEPHEN THOMAS AWARD WINNER: Carlos Biggemann for his photograph Where God's Face is Hidden

Helpline story

Lasting Power of Attorney



Helpline story

Sleeping



Helpline story

Community Learning
Disability Teams
- a service for adults



Helpline story

Benefit services



We created a series of social media friendly films focusing on the work of the Helpline, highlighting how the team is able to help.

The Our Voice team have been advising an advertising agency recently.

Here is Catherine to tell you more...

The Our Voice team have been helping us with a new resource for families.

Here is Isla to tell you more...

The Our Voice have been thinking about topics they want to cover in the future

Here is Lindsay to tell you more...

The Our Voice team continue to help our WorkFit team make resources.

Here is James to tell you more...

Earlier this month Our Voice provided feedback on an Easy Read document for our WorkFit programme. Here is Emma to tell you more...



We amplified the work of the Our Voice network through films, interviews and blogs.



Our Voice represented DSA international conferences in New York and Geneva

Raising funds

We are extremely grateful to everyone who has supported the Down's Syndrome Association through fundraising.

Despite the challenging economic climate and cost of living crisis support has continued this year.

However, support from corporates has been significant and exceeded expectations. Legacies have again been strong and we hope to build on this in the future.

The economic future continues to be a concern.

Unrestricted funds give us the freedom to allocate expenditure as needed.

We worked to maintain our reserves and wherever possible increase.

We worked throughout the financial year to establish our new Weekly Prize Draw Lottery which we hope will increase regular unrestricted donations from our supporters .



“

My mum died recently and we have decided to have the collection in her memory for the DSA. This is because my daughter had Down's syndrome and my mum was her greatest champion. Our daughter died very tragically in 2015, and we collected for you then as well. We felt this is a way of remembering our daughter and her relationship with her Grandma as well as our Mum. I will never forget the support from a member of your team.

”

Financial Review

We are pleased to have continued receiving funds to support our work.

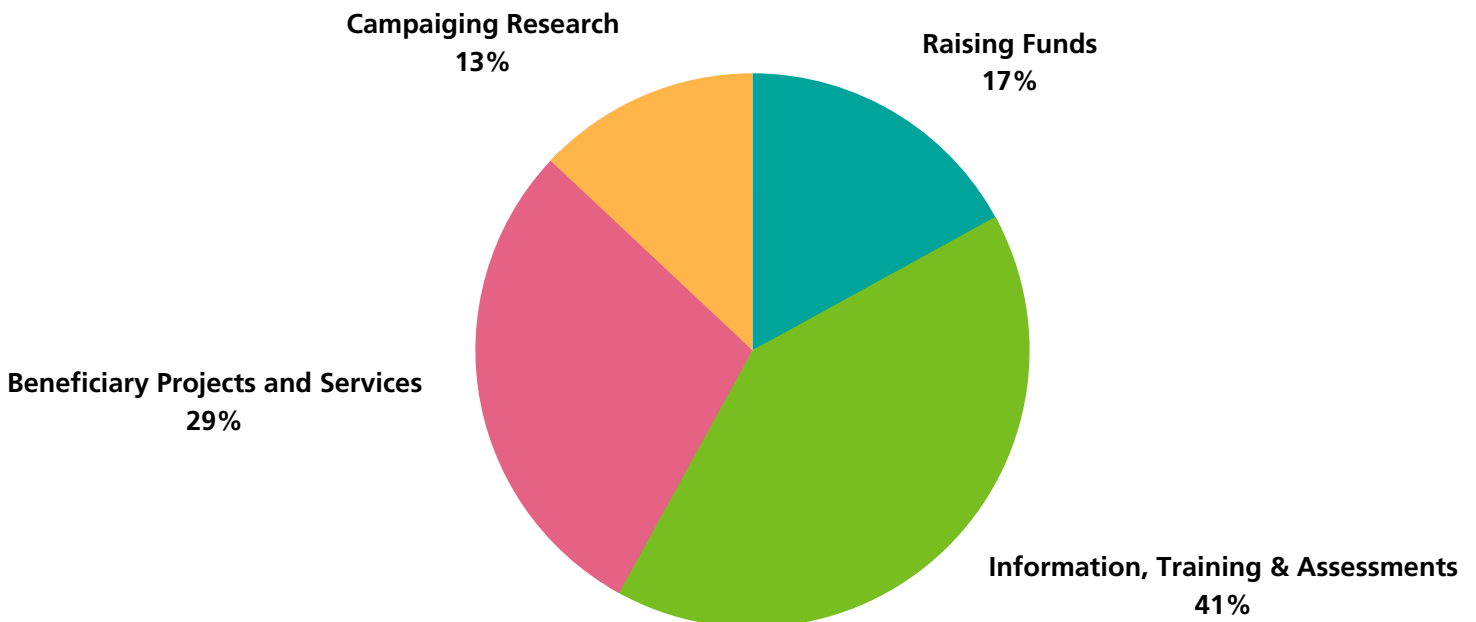
The Down's Syndrome Association income was £2m (2022: £2.1m). This slight decrease from the previous year was due mainly to a decrease in restricted Grants and other income from the Job retention scheme.

Total expenditure increased from previous year to £2.1m (2022: £2.0m). This increase is due to more spending in research and campaigning projects.

The amount of money spent on raising funds represented 17% (2022: 17%) of total expenditure (or 17p in every £1 spent).

Overall, there was a planned deficit in the year of £100,844 (2022: surplus £66,934). This deficit was less than budgeted mainly due to slower spending in research and savings in staff and office running costs unbudgeted.

How we spend our money



For every **£1** spent in 2022/23

83p

was spent in charitable activities

Down's Syndrome Trading Ltd

This is the subsidiary trading company of the Down's Syndrome Association. Its principal activity is the sale of Christmas cards, t-shirts and books. The company made a profit of £7,505 (2022 - loss of £3,218)

Principal risks and uncertainties

Risk management

As part of their ongoing strategic planning work, the trustees carry out a formal risk review each year to examine the major risks facing the charity. The review considers both top down and bottom-up risks and ranks them in order of likelihood and impact. Responsibility for each risk is allocated either to a member of the senior management team or to the trustees. The senior management team provide updates to the trustees each quarter on their progress against action plans designed to manage the risks identified. The risk register was most recently reviewed and updated by the trustees in March 2023.

The main risks facing the Association have been identified as a loss of funding and the possibility of members leaving. In order to mitigate against these risks a fundraising strategy has been established which strengthens and diversifies our income streams.

Additionally, the reserves policy has been revised and updated to ensure security and financial stability through the uncertain years expected ahead.

Strong relationships are developed with our members through frequent and regular communication utilising various channels, including social media and regular virtual updates via zoom. This ensures that all members have a sense of 'belonging' and that all members are aware of our latest news and any developments and that they are confident that the organisation is stronger because they are a part of it. Any lapses in membership are followed up and any reasons for lapses are addressed.



Reserves policy and going concern

Reserves are needed to bridge the gap between the spending and receiving of income and to cover any unplanned or emergency expenditure. The reserves policy was updated in light of the pandemic, in order to provide a level of security and a buffer, which will allow our services to continue to be offered and delivered with certainty over the next few years. This provides stability and reassurance to our members, supporters and the wider public that our organisation will continue to operate over the long term, is reliable and dependable and is a going concern. The reserves policy states that the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets and stocks ('the free reserves') held by the charity should be between six to nine months of the resources expended. That equates to between £1.1m and £1.7m in general funds, based on the budget for 2023-24. The free reserves currently available equate to 9 months running costs and amount to £1.7m. The designated funds are reviewed every year to provide adequate levels of funding to ensure that when they are needed to be drawn on sufficient funds will be available. The designated funds are:

IT & Systems – funds to allow our IT infrastructure and software to be kept secure and up to date to allow our services to be delivered in the most efficient way and staff to work flexibly as required.

Emergency Fund - funds to be drawn on if an unexpected drop income or other emergency needs an immediate response

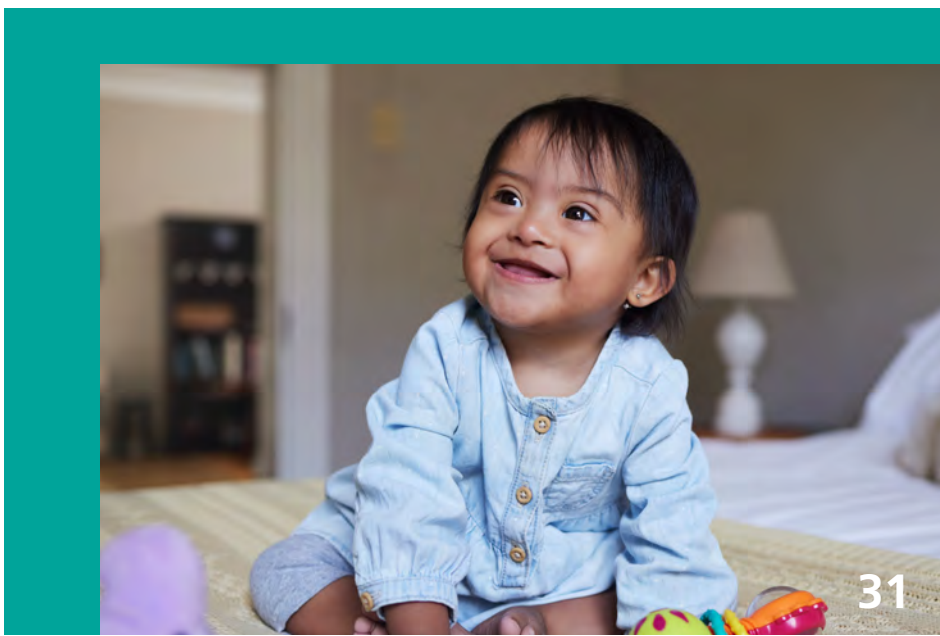
Building Fund - provision for building, repairs and maintenance

Employment Fund - allowance for investment in our WorkFit project

Inclusion Fund - allowance for launching our Inclusion project

Research Fund - funds to allow us to launch research projects as the opportunity arises.

Our consolidated balance sheet remains strong. The trustees have reviewed the circumstances of the Down's Syndrome Association and consider that adequate resources continue to be available to fund the activities of the Association for the foreseeable future. The trustees are of the view that the Association is a going concern.



Plans for the Future



Membership

We will continue to promote membership at all online and offline events. We will continue the process of developing the membership journey with a wish-list of activities. This also involves increased personalisation and a higher level of communication.

We will develop the Affiliated Group Membership offering. Part of this is growing the dedicated Affiliated Group Membership area of our website, making it a go-to for our groups to help answer questions and disseminate information.

We will produce an Easy Read mail-out and membership form for people who have Down's syndrome over 18 who are not currently registered for free lifetime membership.

Inclusive Participation

We will train a new Inclusion Team that employs Inclusion Advisors who have Down's syndrome.

We will continue to develop inclusive participation across all DSA services and activities.

We will work to enable more people who have Down's syndrome to self-advocate through innovative, inclusive practices.

We will continue to work with NHS and other organisations.

Policy, Campaigns and Consultations

As key stakeholders, we will continue to work with all organisations seeking the views of people who have Down's syndrome and their families on range of issues.

We will continue to campaign for people's rights and for better services throughout their lives.

We will be working with relevant stakeholders in the shaping of guidance to accompany the Down Syndrome Act.

Information, Training and Support

We will co-produce training modules with people who have Down's syndrome.

We will update training content and make information videos available on our website.

We will continue to work with partners to promote better health, answer parent health queries, run conferences and co-produce information resources.

We will continue to work with partners to improve guidance and services for effective speech, language and communication support for children, young people and adults who have Down's syndrome.

DSActive and DSEngage

We will continue to increase opportunities of people who have Down's syndrome to be included in leisure, recreational and sporting activities. We will liaise with partner organisations to assist in the successful delivery of national style events.

We will provide training and support to partner organisations across all sports and recreational activities.

We will continue to explore and develop different type of activities that can be made available through DSEngage including a DSEngage Nature Group.

We will improve networking in Wales and across the UK through participation in the newly formed Wales Alliance for Physical Activity (including sport) for People with Learning Disabilities (The Alliance). Through this partnership working we will increase awareness of the DSA DSActive and DSEngage programmes within education and health networks, Welsh Government and National Sporting organisations

WorkFit®

We will continue to place people in varied and interesting roles across all sectors and encourage adults who have Down's syndrome to explore employment opportunities, pursue career development and progression, and share and celebrate their experiences and success.



Research Support

The DSA will continue to support two large research projects, one investigating causes and treatment for unexplained early 'regression' with the Cambridge Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Group (CIDDRG) and the other investigating links between education and health for children who have Down's syndrome through the ECHILD project.

We will help research sites undertaking clinical trials to assess the effects of drug treatment for Alzheimer's disease in people who have Down's syndrome.

We will continue to encourage researchers to co-produce their projects with people who have Down's syndrome and to make project information accessible.

Communications

We will work closely with members of the Our Voice team to amplify the voices of people who have Down's syndrome in the communications output of the DSA.

We will continue to encourage more engagement with our members and their families through life-stories and include people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to ensure a wide range of life experience is shown.

We will work with the Information and Training team to ensure that our resources and information are current, accessible and engaging.

Raising Funds

Fundraising is the foundation that supports the work of the DSA. We anticipate that the coming year could be challenging due to the ongoing cost of living crisis and high inflation.

We will continue to develop new opportunities for supporters to raise funds through events. We are looking to extend our events programme.

We will continue to work to strengthen relationships with existing funders and create opportunities with new funders.

We will work to improve community fundraising during the coming year.



Structure, Governance and Management

The organisation started as a parent support group in 1970. It was registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee, registered as a charity on 11 June 1973 and incorporated on 30 January 1997.

The organisation was established under a memorandum of association which set out the objects and powers of the organisation and is governed under its articles of association.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in note 8 to the accounts.

Appointment of trustees

The board of trustees consists of up to eight Full Members elected by the Full Members together with any persons appointed or co-opted.

To be eligible for election, a Member must have been a Full Member of the Association for at least three years immediately prior to the election.

At each Annual General Meeting, one third of the elected trustees must retire by rotation, but all are eligible for re-election. Once trustees have served for a term of three years they are required to stand down from the Board but are eligible to stand again for election.

Trustee induction and training

New trustees undergo orientation to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and inform them of the content of the memorandum and articles of association, the committee and decision-making processes, the business plan and recent financial performance of the charity. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will upskill them in their role.

Related parties and relationships with other organisations

The Association continues its close links with Down's Syndrome Scotland, Down's Syndrome Ireland and the Down's Heart Group. The DSA regularly works with other many national learning disability organisations. The DSA is a member of Down Syndrome International and supports the organisation financially. We also support the Down Syndrome Medical Interest Group UK & Ireland.

Remuneration policy for key management personnel

The Down's Syndrome Association is committed to ensuring a proper balance between (i) paying our staff and others who work for us fairly so that we attract and retain the best people for the job and (ii) careful management of our charity funds. In so doing we will ensure the greatest effectiveness in delivering our charitable objectives and meeting the needs of our beneficiaries.

When determining the salary for a newly created post, we will collect information about comparable roles in other organisations, preferably within the voluntary sector. We will use this information to benchmark our own salaries, normally aiming to set it at a level that appears to represent the market average. We will also seek advice from colleagues within other organisations, if applicable, when we know they employ people in similar roles.

Salary banding

Salaries for all current posts, other than the Chief Executive, will fall within a salary band, based on the skills required for the role, the responsibility of the role and the experience of the person.

Normally, in April each year, the trustees will consider awarding a cost of living adjustment for all staff when setting the following year's annual budget. This increase is to reflect changes in the cost of living and is entirely at the discretion of the trustees.

The trustees' considerations will begin with an assumption that salaries should be adjusted to match inflation (specifically the Consumer Price Index) over the preceding 12 months. They will also take into account economic forecasts for the rate of inflation in the year ahead. They will then determine whether this is appropriate in the context of the charity's financial situation and the charity's performance.

Fundraising

We regularly review all our fundraising processes and procedures to ensure that we adhere to the relevant codes of practice and that we are dealing with supporters or potential supporters in a way which aligns with our values.

Vulnerable people are protected as we never share personal data, never put any of our supporters under undue pressure, always seek consent for contact and anyone can opt out of hearing from us at any time.

We do not work with any commercial participators or professional fundraisers. We have never received any complaints related to our fundraising. All fundraising activities are reported on regularly and reviewed by the senior management team and trustees.

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

The trustees (who are also directors of Down's Syndrome Association 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. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 March 2023 was 7 (2022: 7). The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditor

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

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on 15 July 2023 and signed on their behalf by

Dr John Gerard Coghlan,

Chair of Trustees





CONTACT US

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Independent Auditor's Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Down's Syndrome Association (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 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 March 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 Down's Syndrome Association'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. 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.

Noelia Serrano (Senior statutory auditor)

Date **6 November 2023**

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



downs-syndrome.org.uk

Consolidated statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

Down's Syndrome Association, for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	2	1,336,021	124,270	1,460,291	1,400,226	65,267	1,465,493
Charitable activities							
Information, Training and Assessments	3	28,966	45,298	74,264	31,096	68,100	99,196
Beneficiary Projects and Services	3	-	356,131	356,131	-	330,062	330,062
Campaigning and Research	3	-	16,293	16,293	-	69,042	69,042
Other trading activities	4	102,233	3,230	105,463	99,198	3,800	102,998
Investments		19,679	-	19,679	1,471	-	1,471
Other Income – Job Retention Scheme		-	-	-	32,066	-	32,066
Total income		1,486,899	545,222	2,032,121	1,564,057	536,271	2,100,328
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	5	368,042	4,906	372,948	356,309	5,301	361,610
Charitable activities							
Information, Training and Assessments	5	716,138	153,092	869,231	622,211	105,598	727,809
Beneficiary Projects and Services	5	215,040	408,417	623,456	183,244	443,993	627,237
Campaigning and Research	5	247,479	19,914	267,393	81,477	235,324	316,801
Total expenditure		1,546,699	586,329	2,133,028	1,243,241	790,216	2,033,457
Net (expenditure) / income before net gains on investments		(59,800)	(41,107)	(100,907)	320,816	(253,945)	66,871
Net gains on investments		63	-	63	63	-	63
Net (expenditure)/ income for the year	7	(59,737)	(41,107)	(100,844)	320,879	(253,945)	66,934
Transfers between funds		(67,257)	67,257	-	(100,563)	100,563	-
Net movement in funds		(126,994)	26,150	(100,844)	220,316	(153,382)	66,934
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		2,738,504	1,055,371	3,793,875	2,518,188	1,208,753	3,726,941
Total funds carried forward		2,611,510	1,081,521	3,693,031	2,738,504	1,055,371	3,793,875

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 21 to the financial statements.

Balance Sheet

Down's Syndrome Association, for the year ended 31 March 2023

Company number: 3310024

	Note	The group 2023 £	2022 £	The charity 2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	12	955,473	986,254	955,473	986,254
Investments	13	257	194	259	196
		955,730	986,448	955,732	986,450
Current assets:					
Stock	16	6,341	17,847	3,429	16,305
Debtors	17	78,964	92,376	78,784	91,741
Short-term deposits		820,274	805,560	820,274	805,560
Cash at bank and in hand		2,033,156	2,066,513	2,018,350	2,047,292
		2,938,735	2,982,296	2,920,837	2,960,898
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(201,434)	(174,869)	(225,968)	(188,397)
Net current assets		2,737,301	2,807,427	2,694,869	2,772,501
Total net assets		3,693,031	3,793,875	3,650,601	3,758,950
Funds:	21				
Restricted income funds		1,081,521	1,055,371	1,081,521	1,055,371
Unrestricted income funds:					
Designated funds		828,261	885,659	828,261	885,659
General funds		1,740,817	1,817,918	1,740,819	1,817,920
Non-charitable trading funds		42,432	34,927	-	-
Total unrestricted funds		2,611,510	2,738,504	2,569,080	2,703,579
Total funds		3,693,031	3,793,875	3,650,601	3,758,950

Approved by the trustees on 15 July 2023 and signed on their behalf by

Darren Warkcup
Treasurer

Statement of cash flows

Down's Syndrome Association, for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities	22				
Net cash used in operating activities			(27,624)		78,650
Cash flows from investing activities:					
Dividends and interest from investments		19,679		1,471	
Purchase of fixed assets		(10,698)		(4,246)	
Movement in short-term deposits		(14,714)		49,568	
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities			(5,733)		46,793
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year			(33,357)		125,443
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year			2,066,513		1,941,070
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year			2,033,156		2,066,513

Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	At 1 April 2022 £	Cash flows £	Other non- cash changes £	At 31 March 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	2,066,513	(33,357)	-	2,033,156
Total cash and cash equivalents	2,066,513	(33,357)	-	2,033,156

Notes to the financial statements

Down's Syndrome Association, for the year ended 31 March 2023

1 Accounting policies

a) Statutory information

Down's Syndrome Association is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in England. The registered office address and principal place of business is Langdon Down Centre, 2a Langdon Park, Teddington, Middlesex TW11 9PS.

b) Basis of preparation

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.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

These financial statements consolidate the results of the charitable company and its wholly-owned subsidiary Down's Syndrome Trading Limited 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.

c) Public benefit entity

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

d) Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees have considered the ongoing impact of the current challenging economic climate when reaching this conclusion.

There are no key judgements that the charitable company has made which have a significant effect on the accounts.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

e) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

For legacies, 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.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met. Membership income is treated as donation income and recognised when received.

Notes to the financial statements

Down's Syndrome Association, for the year ended 31 March 2023

1 Accounting policies (continued)

f) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

g) Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

h) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

i) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- 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
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering services, campaigning and research undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

j) Allocation of support costs

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on the following basis which are an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity.

Where information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is provided to potential beneficiaries, the costs associated with this publicity are allocated to charitable expenditure.

Support and governance costs are re-allocated to each of the activities on the following basis which is an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity

- | | |
|---|-----|
| ● Cost of Raising Funds | 16% |
| ● Information, Training and Assessments | 38% |
| ● Beneficiary Projects and Services | 35% |
| ● Campaigning and Research | 11% |

Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity. These costs are associated with constitutional and statutory requirements and include any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities

Notes to the financial statements

Down's Syndrome Association, for the year ended 31 March 2023

1 Accounting policies (continued)

k) Operating leases

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

l) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £1,000. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

● Freehold Property	2% straight line basis
● Long Leasehold Premises	2% straight line basis
● Improvements to Property	10% reducing balance basis
● Pullen Exhibition Assets	10% straight line basis
● Fixtures & Fittings	25% straight line basis
● Computer Equipment	33% straight line basis

m) Listed investments

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 and any excess of fair value over the historic cost of the investments will be shown as a fair value reserve in the balance sheet. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and shown in the heading "Net gains/(losses) on investments" in the statement of financial activities. The charity does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments.

Investments in subsidiaries

Investments in subsidiaries are at cost.

n) Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. In general, cost is determined on a first in first out basis and includes transport and handling costs. Net realisable value is the price at which stocks can be sold in the normal course of business after allowing for the costs of realisation. Provision is made where necessary for obsolete, slow moving and defective stocks. Donated items of stock, held for distribution or resale, are recognised at fair value which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay for the items on the open market.

o) 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.

p) Short term deposits

Short term deposits includes cash balances that are invested in accounts with a maturity date of between 3 and 12 months.

q) 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.

Notes to the financial statements

Down's Syndrome Association, for the year ended 31 March 2023

1 Accounting policies (continued)

r) 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.

s) Pensions

Payments to the stakeholder pension scheme are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2a Income from donations and legacies (current year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Gifts	924,804	76,934	1,001,738	969,115
Legacies	411,217	47,336	458,553	496,378
Total income from donations and legacies	1,336,021	124,270	1,460,291	1,465,493

2b Income from donations and legacies (prior year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £
Gifts	903,848	65,267	969,115
Legacies	496,378	-	496,378
Total income from donations and legacies	1,400,226	65,267	1,465,493

At the end of the year, we have been notified that we are entitled to funds from a total of 4 (2022: 4) residual legacies. However, as at 31 March 2023, we had not been notified as to the value of our entitlement or when this would be received. As such we are not able to recognise these funds in the financial statements for the year. Where we have received further correspondence since the year end, we are aware income of approximately £47,000 from these legacies.

Notes to the financial statements

Down's Syndrome Association, for the year ended 31 March 2023

3a Income from charitable activities (current year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	–	18,500	18,500	20,000
Companies	–	26,798	26,798	33,100
Conference, Training & Assessments	28,966	–	28,966	46,096
Sub-total for Information, Training & Assessments	28,966	45,298	74,264	99,196
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	–	109,900	109,900	121,833
Companies	–	96,164	96,164	47,568
Big Lottery Fund	–	–	–	10,000
Welsh Government	–	107,879	107,879	102,180
DHSSPS	–	26,285	26,285	26,285
EU Active Inclusion	–	–	–	4,617
Contributions to Youth & Project Activities	–	15,903	15,903	17,579
Sub-total for Beneficiary Projects & Services	–	356,131	356,131	330,062
Companies	–	–	–	5,000
National Lottery Heritage Fund	–	16,293	16,293	64,042
Sub-total for Campaigning & Research	–	16,293	16,293	69,042
Total income from charitable activities	28,966	417,722	446,688	498,300

Notes to the financial statements

Down's Syndrome Association, for the year ended 31 March 2023

3b Income from charitable activities (prior year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	–	20,000	20,000	71,955
Companies	–	33,100	33,100	10,000
National Lottery Community Fund	–	–	–	100,000
Conference, Training & Assessments	31,096	15,000	46,096	32,218
Sub-total for Information, Training & Assessments	31,096	68,100	99,196	214,173
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	–	121,833	121,833	20,000
Companies	–	47,568	47,568	69,248
Big Lottery Fund	–	10,000	10,000	–
Welsh Government	–	102,180	102,180	62,968
DHSSPS	–	26,285	26,285	32,856
EU Active Inclusion	–	4,617	4,617	7,826
Contributions to Youth & Project Activities	–	17,579	17,579	8,515
Sub-total for Beneficiary Projects & Services	–	330,062	330,062	201,413
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	–	–	–	175,563
Companies	–	5,000	5,000	5,000
National Lottery Heritage Fund	–	64,042	64,042	47,430
Sub-total for Campaigning & Research	–	69,042	69,042	227,993
Total income from charitable activities	31,096	467,204	498,300	643,579

4a Income from other trading activities (current year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Lettings	69,100	3,230	72,330	64,243
Fundraising events	13,203	–	13,203	14,886
Subsidiary trading	19,930	–	19,930	23,869
Total income from other trading activities	102,233	3,230	105,463	102,998

4b Income from other trading activities (prior year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Lettings	60,443	3,800	64,243	36,748
Fundraising events	14,886	–	14,886	8,488
Subsidiary trading	23,869	–	23,869	23,979
Total income from other trading activities	99,198	3,800	102,998	69,216

Notes to the financial statements

Down's Syndrome Association, for the year ended 31 March 2023

5a Analysis of expenditure (current year)

	Charitable activities						2023 Total £	2022 Total £
	Cost of raising funds £	Information, Training & Assessments £	Beneficiary Projects & Services £	Campaigning & Research £	Governance costs £	Support costs £		
Staff costs (Note 8)	170,034	414,376	386,118	125,504	27,180	138,453	1,261,665	1,239,187
Staff training & recruitment	803	504	-	-	-	3,255	4,562	1,615
Postage, telephone, fax and email	5,088	5,608	4,306	856	697	11,681	28,236	29,493
Research & museum costs	-	63,775	2,108	18,947	-	349	85,179	52,209
Information resources	3,818	19,091	7,946	42,847	897	1,489	76,088	61,690
Conferences and training costs	-	11,145	2,844	-	-	-	13,989	5,959
Projects and activities	-	68,735	20,162	9,085	-	-	97,982	77,386
Fundraising events	42,169	-	407	-	-	16,357	58,933	57,217
Fundraising costs	13,808	-	-	-	-	-	13,808	14,465
Appeals, advertising and media	33,886	252	-	13,347	-	140	47,625	36,593
Travel & meetings	150	8,533	13,190	684	9,760	580	32,897	16,767
Consultants, Advisors and professional fees	25,072	92,531	-	-	7,544	70,060	195,207	151,407
Office rent, running and equipment	4,318	4,824	17,584	1,649	1,908	145,095	175,378	232,927
Depreciation	-	-	1,200	-	-	40,279	41,479	56,542
	299,146	689,374	455,865	212,919	47,986	427,738	2,133,028	2,033,457
Support costs	66,358	161,715	150,687	48,979	-	(427,738)	-	-
Governance costs	7,444	18,142	16,905	5,495	(47,986)	-	-	-
Total expenditure 2023	372,948	869,231	623,456	267,393	-	-	2,133,028	2,033,457
Total expenditure 2022	361,610	727,809	627,237	316,801	-	-		2,033,457

Notes to the financial statements

Down's Syndrome Association, for the year ended 31 March 2023

5b Analysis of expenditure (prior year)

	Charitable activities						2022 Total £	2021 Total £
	Cost of raising funds £	Information, Training & Assessments £	Beneficiary Projects & Services £	Campaigning & Research £	Governance costs £	Support costs £		
Staff costs (Note 8)	175,385	355,078	372,898	151,034	26,300	158,492	1,239,187	1,287,644
Staff training & recruitment	-	605	-	-	-	1,010	1,615	4,484
Postage, telephone, fax and email	6,615	6,736	4,359	591	890	10,302	29,493	31,440
Research & museum costs	-	13,312	1,847	36,848	-	202	52,209	54,796
Information resources	752	8,074	5,029	32,654	305	14,876	61,690	48,552
Conferences and training costs	49	4,553	1,357	-	-	-	5,959	4,071
Projects and activities	-	56,020	20,114	1,252	-	-	77,386	125,926
Fundraising events	51,198	40	336	-	-	5,643	57,217	37,285
Fundraising costs	14,165	-	300	-	-	-	14,465	12,823
Appeals, advertising and media	15,941	6,951	-	12,674	-	1,027	36,593	23,361
Travel & meetings	148	4,447	10,297	249	-	1,626	16,767	5,051
Consultants, Advisors and professional fees	5,292	83,713	960	-	8,426	53,016	151,407	130,613
Office rent, running and equipment	3,230	8,428	19,662	4,998	1,238	195,371	232,927	175,150
Depreciation	-	-	1,200	-	-	55,342	56,542	58,972
	<u>272,775</u>	<u>547,957</u>	<u>438,359</u>	<u>240,300</u>	<u>37,159</u>	<u>496,907</u>	<u>2,033,457</u>	<u>2,000,168</u>
Support costs	82,654	167,338	175,736	71,178	-	(496,907)	-	-
Governance costs	6,181	12,514	13,142	5,323	(37,159)	-	-	-
Total expenditure 2022	<u>361,610</u>	<u>727,809</u>	<u>627,237</u>	<u>316,801</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,033,457</u>	
Total expenditure 2021	<u>305,073</u>	<u>740,554</u>	<u>638,276</u>	<u>316,265</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>		<u>2,000,168</u>

Notes to the financial statements

Down's Syndrome Association, for the year ended 31 March 2023

6 Grant making	2023	2022
	£	£
Cost		
Cambridge and Peterborough Foundation NHS	50,000	-
Down Syndrome International Funding Grant	42,500	-
Down Syndrome International: Inclusive Project	20,000	-
Down Syndrome International : Educational Guidelines Project	-	50,000
At the end of the year	<u>62,500</u>	<u>50,000</u>

Cambridge and Peterborough Foundation NHS : The grant support the costs of investigating unexplained early regression in adolescents and adults with Down's syndrome.

Down Syndrome International Funding Grant: Grants are given by Down's Syndrome Association to support the work of Down Syndrome International.

Down Syndrome International: The grant for Inclusive project aim to support policy making to become accessible and inclusive of people with learning disabilities.

Down Syndrome International: The grant supporting the Educational Guidelines project is bringing more positive educational outcomes for children with Down syndrome and disabilities in classrooms in the UK.

7 Net income for the year

This is stated after charging:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation	41,479	56,542
Operating lease rentals:		
Property	22,848	31,446
Other	4,573	5,921
Auditor's remuneration (excluding VAT):		
Audit	13,550	11,800
	<u>13,550</u>	<u>11,800</u>

8 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

Staff costs were as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Salaries and wages	1,089,568	1,074,031
Social security costs	111,165	105,955
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	60,932	59,201
	<u>1,261,665</u>	<u>1,239,187</u>

No employee earned over £60,000 in 2023 and 2022.

The total employee benefits including pension contributions and employer's national insurance of the key management personnel were £167,881 (2022: £194,128).

The charity trustees were neither paid nor received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2022: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2022: £nil).

Trustees' expenses represent the payment or reimbursement of travel and subsistence costs totalling £841 (2022: £nil) incurred by 1 (2022: nil) members relating to attendance at meetings of the trustees.

9 Staff numbers

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Raising funds	5.1	5.4
Information, Training and Assessments	10.8	9.2
Beneficiary Projects and Services	13.6	11.5
Campaigning and Research	4.3	4.8
Support	5.0	5.8
Governance	1.0	1.0
	<u>39.8</u>	<u>37.7</u>

Notes to the financial statements

Down's Syndrome Association, for the year ended 31 March 2023

10 Related party transactions

There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties.

Down Syndrome International uses office space at the Down's Syndrome Association headquarters. Grants are given by Down's Syndrome Association to support the work of Down Syndrome International. The Chief Executive of Down's Syndrome Association, Carol Boys, is also a trustee of Down Syndrome International. The Treasurer Trustee, of Down's Syndrome Association, Darren Warwick is also trustee of Down Syndrome International.

DSA is the payroll agency for DSI.

The Down's Syndrome Association made the following payments to Down Syndrome International during the year:

	2023 £	2022 £
Grant Payments	62,500	50,000
Membership Fee	300	180
Merchandise	10,962	25,040
Total	73,762	75,220

In addition Down's Syndrome Trading is a subsidiary of Down's Syndrome Association. There was no balance owing to Down's Syndrome Association at the end of the financial year.

11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes. The charity's trading subsidiary Down's Syndrome Trading Limited pays available profits to the charity through the Gift Aid scheme, eliminating or reducing their respective corporation tax liabilities. Its charge to corporation tax in the year was £2,260 (2022: £nil)

12 Tangible fixed assets

The charity and the group

	Freehold Property £	Long Leasehold Premises £	Improvements to Property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Pullen Exhibition Assets £	Computer Equipment £	Total £
Cost							
At the start of the year	1,286,250	60,000	78,712	95,133	42,128	156,504	1,718,727
Additions in year	-	-	-	-	-	10,698	10,698
Disposals in year	-	-	-	-	-	(45,145)	(45,145)
At the end of the year	1,286,250	60,000	78,712	95,133	42,128	122,057	1,684,280
Depreciation							
At the start of the year	352,800	38,400	56,480	86,161	42,128	156,504	732,473
Charge for the year	29,400	1,200	2,223	5,090	-	3,566	41,479
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-	-	-	(45,145)	(45,145)
At the end of the year	382,200	39,600	58,703	91,251	42,128	114,925	728,807
Net book value							
At the end of the year	904,050	20,400	20,009	3,882	-	7,132	955,473
At the start of the year	933,450	21,600	22,232	8,972	-	-	986,254

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

Notes to the financial statements

Down's Syndrome Association, for the year ended 31 March 2023

13 Listed investments

	The group		The charity	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Fair value at the start of the year	194	131	196	133
Net gain on change in fair value	63	63	63	63
Fair value at the end of the year	257	194	259	196
Historic cost at the end of the year	15	15	15	15

Investments comprise:

	The group		The charity	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Shares listed on the London Stock Exchange	257	194	257	194
Unlisted shares in UK registered companies	-	-	2	2
	257	194	259	196

14 Subsidiary undertaking

The charitable company owns the whole of the issued ordinary share capital of Down's Syndrome Trading Limited (DST), a company registered in England. The subsidiary is used for non-primary purpose trading activities. The Chief Executive of DSA is also a Director of DST. All activities have been consolidated on a line by line basis in the statement of financial activities. Available profits are gift aided to the charitable company. A summary of the results of the subsidiary is shown below:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Turnover	20,452	24,581
Cost of sales	(5,954)	(7,025)
Gross profit	14,498	17,556
Administrative expenses	(3,723)	(4,610)
Management Charge	(1,000)	(1,000)
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	9,775	11,946
Taxation on profit on ordinary activities	(2,270)	-
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation	7,505	11,946
Donation to parent undertaking	-	(15,164)
Profit/ (loss) for the financial year	7,505	(3,218)
The aggregate of the assets, liabilities and funds was:		
Assets	45,902	36,127
Liabilities	(3,470)	(1,200)
Funds	42,432	34,927

15 Parent charity

The parent charity's gross income and the results for the year are disclosed as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Gross income	2,012,731	2,091,655
Result for the year	(108,351)	70,154

16 Stocks

	The group		The charity	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Finished goods	6,341	17,847	3,429	16,305
	6,341	17,847	3,429	16,305

Notes to the financial statements

Down's Syndrome Association, for the year ended 31 March 2023

17 Debtors

	The group		The charity	
	2023 £	2022 £	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	2,354	4,748	2,354	4,748
Other debtors	63,782	60,406	63,202	59,771
Prepayments	12,828	8,684	12,828	8,684
Accrued income	-	18,538	-	18,538
	78,964	92,376	78,384	91,741

18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	The group		The charity	
	2023 £	2022 £	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	51,917	68,250	51,917	68,250
Taxation and social security	31,948	30,345	31,948	30,345
Accruals	100,050	65,232	96,580	64,032
Deferred income (note 19)	17,519	11,042	17,519	11,042
Amounts owed to subsidiary company	-	-	28,004	14,728
	201,434	174,869	225,968	188,397

19 Deferred income

Deferred income comprises restricted donations, membership fees and sales.

	The group		The charity	
	2023 £	2022 £	2023 £	2022 £
Balance at the beginning of the year	11,042	83,297	11,042	83,297
Amount released to income in the year	(11,042)	(83,297)	(11,042)	(83,297)
Amount deferred in the year	17,519	11,042	17,519	11,042
Balance at the end of the year	17,519	11,042	17,519	11,042

20a Analysis of group net assets between funds (current year)

	General	Designated	Restricted	Total funds £
	Unrestricted £	funds £	funds £	
Tangible fixed assets	-	11,014	944,459	955,473
Investments	257	-	-	257
Net current assets	1,782,992	817,247	137,062	2,737,301
Net assets at the end of the year	1,783,249	828,261	1,081,521	3,693,031

20b Analysis of group net assets between funds (prior year)

	General	Designated	Restricted	Total funds £
	Unrestricted £	funds £	funds £	
Tangible fixed assets	-	8,972	977,282	986,254
Investments	194	-	-	194
Net current assets	1,852,651	876,687	78,089	2,807,427
Net assets at the end of the year	1,852,845	885,659	1,055,371	3,793,875

Notes to the financial statements

Down's Syndrome Association, for the year ended 31 March 2023

21a Movements in funds (current year)

	At the start of the year £	Incoming resources & gains £	Outgoing resources & losses £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds:					
Welsh Government Northern Ireland	(22,186)	107,879	(92,828)		(7,135)
DHSSPS	-	26,285	(26,285)	-	-
Northern Ireland Fixed Asset Reserve	21,600	-	(1,200)	-	20,400
Other Northern Ireland funds	-	38,234	(38,234)	-	-
DSActive	19,977	50,300	(61,464)	-	8,813
Speech and Language Information	-	1,484	(1,484)	-	-
Our Voice	14,200	79,797	(82,661)	-	11,336
WorkFit – Employment Project	-	1,295	(1,295)	-	-
Ukraine appeal	37,500	176,158	(204,200)	67,257	76,715
50th Year Memories and Stories	15,169	21,416	(28,762)	-	7,823
Theatre Fund	-	16,293	(16,293)	-	-
Museum Fund	13,429	-	-	-	13,429
LDC Fixed Asset Reserve	-	26,081	-	-	26,081
	955,682	-	(31,623)	-	924,059
Total restricted funds	1,055,371	545,222	(586,329)	67,257	1,081,521
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds:					
IT & Systems Fund	200,000	-	(17,665)	-	182,335
Emergency Fund	300,000	-	-	-	300,000
Building Fund	150,000	-	-	-	150,000
Inclusion Project	-	-	(20,000)	50,000	30,000
Employment Project	40,000	-	(2,200)	(5,800)	32,000
Research Fund	186,687	-	(63,775)	-	122,912
Fixed Asset Reserve	8,972	10,698	(8,656)	-	11,014
Total designated funds	885,659	10,698	(112,296)	44,200	828,261
General funds	1,817,918	1,455,812	(1,421,456)	(111,457)	1,740,817
Non-charitable trading funds	34,927	20,452	(12,947)	-	42,432
Total unrestricted funds	2,738,504	1,486,962	(1,546,699)	(67,257)	2,611,510
Total funds	3,793,875	2,032,184	(2,133,028)	-	3,693,031

Notes to the financial statements

Down's Syndrome Association, for the year ended 31 March 2023

21b Movements in funds (prior year)

	At the start of the year £	Incoming resources & gains £	Outgoing resources & losses £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds:					
Welsh Government	(29,534)	102,180	(94,832)	-	(22,186)
Northern Ireland					
DHSSPS	-	26,285	(26,285)	-	-
Northern Ireland Fixed Asset Reserve	22,800	-	(1,200)	-	21,600
Other Northern Ireland funds	-	42,037	(56,794)	14,757	-
DSActive	45,985	85,117	(111,125)	-	19,977
Information	7,500	98,447	(91,747)	-	14,200
Having a Voice	-	3,118	(3,118)	-	-
Digital Communications	175,562	-	(175,562)	-	-
WorkFit – Employment Project	-	72,160	(120,466)	85,806	37,500
WorkFit North – Big Lottery Fund	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Ukraine Appeal	-	27,189	(12,020)	-	15,169
50th Year Memories and Stories	(20,359)	64,042	(43,683)	-	-
Theatre Fund	15,036	5,696	(7,303)	-	13,429
LDC Fixed Asset Reserve	987,552	-	(31,870)	-	955,682
Pullen Exhibition Assets (Heritage Lottery funded)	4,211	-	(4,211)	-	-
Total restricted funds	1,208,753	536,271	(790,216)	100,563	1,055,371
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds:					
IT & Systems Fund	200,000	-	(33,459)	33,459	200,000
Emergency Fund	300,000	-	-	-	300,000
Building Fund	150,000	-	-	-	150,000
Employment Project	40,000	-	-	-	40,000
Research Fund	250,000	-	(63,313)	-	186,687
Fixed Asset Reserve	23,987	4,246	(19,261)	-	8,972
Total designated funds	963,987	4,246	(116,033)	33,459	885,659
General funds	1,516,056	1,535,230	(1,099,346)	(134,022)	1,817,918
Non-charitable trading funds	38,145	24,581	(27,799)	-	34,927
Total unrestricted funds	2,518,188	1,564,057	(1,243,178)	(100,563)	2,738,504
Total funds	3,726,941	2,100,328	(2,033,394)	-	3,793,875

Purposes of restricted funds

Welsh Government

The main funder for work in Wales is the Welsh Government as part of its scheme for organisations operating in the social care sector for people with learning disabilities. The grant is used to support the work of our projects in Wales. The fund is currently in deficit as grant claims are made in arrears.

Northern Ireland

The main funder of our core work in Northern Ireland is the DHSSPS.

Any funds raised as a result of the fundraising activities carried out in Wales and Northern Ireland are also restricted to our work in those regions. The staff team in Northern Ireland organise training and support their affiliated groups and individual families with advice and support. They also organise numerous activities for people with Down's syndrome and run weekend breaks and holidays. We also own a chalet in Northern Ireland and the Northern Ireland Fixed Asset Reserve represents the net book value of the chalet.

DSActive

Funding raised to provide participation in sport opportunities for young people with Down's syndrome. This enables the young people with Down's syndrome to develop their physical, social and emotional health through the joy of sport.

Speech and Language

Specific donations have been given to support the work of our speech and language therapist.

Information

These funds are used to provide information and advice. We provide a help line 5 days a week and distribute leaflets and publications. The information department also publishes the *Journal* twice a year which is distributed to the members of the Association. Our publications and leaflets are continually

Notes to the financial statements

Down's Syndrome Association, for the year ended 31 March 2023

being developed and updated. Our information department also has specialists who offer advice and support to families about welfare benefits, in particular the Disability Living Allowance.

Our Voice

Specific donations have been given to grow the Our Voice project which empowers young adults with Down's syndrome to be active citizens in their communities.

Digital Communications

This income relates to support received to fund our digital communications strategy revolution.

WorkFit- Employment Project

These funds are used to support the work the Association does to support adults with Down's syndrome. This includes our unique WorkFit project which helps adults with Down's syndrome into employment.

Ukraine appeal

These funds are used to help Down's Syndrome Ukraine and other related organizations to provide small grants to their members, contacts and families in financial difficulty .

50th Year Memories and Stories

A project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund to capture the memories and stories of people with Down's syndrome over the last 50 years.

Theatre Fund

This fund is used to maintain the glorious Victorian theatre at the Langdon Down Centre which was originally built and used by Dr John Langdon Down.

Museum Fund

Specific donation have been given for the Museum to promote and preserve the beautifully rich history and legacy of the Langdon Down Centre.

LDC Fixed Asset Reserve

This represents the value of the assets including buildings and fixtures and fittings which were acquired from the Langdon Down Centre Trust merger.

Pullen Exhibition Assets

This represents the value of the glass display cases, which were purchased for the Pullen Exhibition, with Heritage Lottery Funds.

Purposes of designated funds

IT & Systems Fund

The trustees have designated these funds to ensure that resources are available should any systems infrastructure need to be upgraded and other sources of funding cannot be secured.

Emergency Fund

The trustees have designated these funds to provide a buffer for an emergency situation which may adversely affect our ability to raise funds.

Building Fund

The trustees have designated these funds to provide a sinking fund which will be used as necessary for building maintenance.

Inclusion Project

The trustees have designated these funds to start the first part of an innovative project to build a new Inclusion Team, through which people with Down's syndrome can support policy making at all levels to become accessible and inclusive of people with learning disabilities.

Employment Project

The trustees have designated these funds to employ more WorkFit officers to increase the support of adults with Down's syndrome into work.

Research Fund

The trustees have designated these funds to allow us to invest in research opportunities.

Fixed Asset Reserve

This represents the value of general funds invested in buildings, fixtures and fittings and computer equipment and is therefore not readily available for other purposes

Down's Syndrome Association, for the year ended 31 March 2023

22 Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Net income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(100,844)	66,934
Depreciation charges	41,479	56,542
(Gains) on investments	(63)	(63)
Dividends and interest from investments	(19,679)	(1,471)
Decrease/(Increase) in stocks	11,506	(12,112)
Decrease/(Increase) in debtors	13,412	(22,829)
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	26,565	(8,351)
Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities	(27,624)	78,650

23 Operating lease commitments

The group's total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows for each of the following periods:

	Property		Equipment	
	2023 £	2022 £	2023 £	2022 £
Within one year	10,935	21,230	2,228	3,583
In the second to fifth years inclusive	17,280	17,280	-	1,898
	28,215	38,510	2,228	5,481

24 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.

DOWN'S SYNDROME ASSOCIATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1061474

Accounts

About the Down's Syndrome Association



Report and financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Company number: 3310024
Charity Number: 1061474
Auditors:



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For the year ended 31 March 2022

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Trustees' annual report For the year ended 31 March 2022

Company number	3310024
Country of incorporation	United Kingdom
Charity number	1061474
Country of registration	England
Registered office and operational address	Down's Syndrome Association Langdon Down Centre, 2a Langdon Park, Teddington, Middlesex, TW11 9PS

Trustees

Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Georgie Hill	Chair
Sarah Leggat	Vice Chair
Anya Souza	
Trevor Percy	
Gerry Coghlan	
Robert Stirling	
Darren Warkcup	Treasurer

Key management personnel

Carol Boys	Chief Executive
Gillian Bird	Services Director
Sharon Gordon-Roberts	Finance & Fundraising Director (until 31 December 2021)
Macarena Laclote	Finance Manager (from 1 January 2022)

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank
2nd Floor, St Paul's House, 10 Warwick Lane, London EC4M 7BP

Solicitors

Russell Cooke, 2 Putney Hill, London, SW15 6AB

Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP, Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor
Invicta House, 108-114 Golden Lane, London EC1Y 0TL

The trustees present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

Objectives and activities

Purposes and aims

Objects of the charity

The objects of the Association, as stated in its memorandum and articles of association, are:

- To create and develop the conditions which will enable people with Down's syndrome to attain their full potential.
- To undertake any other charitable activities in connection with Down's syndrome.

In furtherance of these objectives, the Association offers information and support to people with Down's syndrome, their parents and carers, interested professionals and the general public. It also champions the rights of people with Down's syndrome and works to improve knowledge and understanding of the condition. We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

Mission

Our mission is to benefit the public by creating and maintaining the conditions that will enable all people with Down's syndrome to live full and rewarding lives. In working towards this we train and educate the professionals who work with people with Down's syndrome to promote best practice and new initiatives. We carry out research into various health issues and campaign to change policy and service provision. Most importantly, we provide information and support directly to families and carers on all aspects of living with and supporting people with Down's syndrome throughout their lives.

Aims

- To campaign for the rights of people with Down's syndrome.
- To be the centre for information and training in relation to people with Down's syndrome throughout their lives.
- To involve adults with Down's syndrome in the work of the DSA and to gather and represent their views.
- To increase and retain the membership of the organisation.
- To develop the organisation's sources of funding, working within the annual budget and managing risk.
- To encourage and monitor research into health and education.
- To develop and maintain links with learning disability and other relevant organisations.

How our activities deliver public benefit

The implementation of our aims and those we try to help are described below. All of our charitable activities focus on enabling people with Down's syndrome to live full and rewarding lives and are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit. Our aims fully reflect the purposes the charity was set up to advance.

Who uses and benefits from our services?

The services we provide are available throughout England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Demand for our services is growing and our helpline, which is usually our first point of contact with those requiring our services, is provided free of charge to everyone.

Equal access to our services is an important issue to us. We proactively try to reach underrepresented ethnic and social groups.

The trustees review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year. This report looks at what the charity has achieved and the outcomes of its work in the reporting period. The trustees report the success of each key activity and the benefits the charity has brought to those groups of people that it is set up to help. The review also helps the trustees ensure the charity's aims, objectives and activities remained focused on its stated purposes.

Strategic Report

Achievements and performance in the year to 31 March 2022

The charity's main activities and who it serves are described below. All its charitable activities are undertaken to further the Down's Syndrome Association's charitable purposes for the public benefit.

Beneficiary projects and services

Membership

Membership is a continuing priority for the organisation as 'the more members we have, the stronger our voice'.

During the year we successfully achieved our objectives:

- Smoothly integration of our new website with our Customer Relationship Management platform to make joining or renewing a simple process.
- An increase in renewals going out via email, therefore saving money on postage.
- Researching our membership journey and what we can offer. This is ongoing.

The Affiliated Group Membership package has been continued.

Inclusive participation

Objective 1: To enable inclusive participation at all levels within the DSA and society

Our Voice operates across all of our services as part of our inclusive participation strategy. We include people who have Down's syndrome in our work and promote and enable inclusive participation within other organisations.

Objective 2: To facilitate regular Our Voice meetings and focus groups to inform, guide and shape activities, including co-production of projects and information

We welcomed new members to our weekly meetings and focus groups. More than 100 people from England, Wales and Northern Ireland belong to Our Voice. Some members meet weekly and some work on projects in focus groups.

Our Voice was commissioned by DHSC to work on the NHS Digital Flag project. We expect this technology project to improve health services for people who have Down's syndrome and other learning disabilities.

We provided content for Tell it Right® training in order to tell maternity staff and students about our lives. We also gave advice to professionals and new parents.

We interviewed people about inclusion for World Down Syndrome Day and made an online gallery of art to celebrate inclusion.

We were part of a group of organisations helping the NHS review their Accessible Information Standard.

We helped researchers to plan their projects by telling them about our experiences and asking them questions.



Policy, campaigns and consultations

Objective 1: To influence policy and contribute to government consultations and National Institute for Health & Care Excellence (NICE) information

We responded to the following consultations:

- Human Rights Act Reform: a Modern Bill of Rights
- NICE Vaccine Uptake which covered childhood vaccination programme for babies and children who have Down's syndrome
- Department of Justice Child Trust Fund Access – Small Grants Payments
- DWP Health Assessments for Welfare Benefits Claims
- UK Government Health and Disability Green Paper
- NICE guidance on Social Work Interventions for Children and Young People Under 25 with Severe and Complex Needs
- NICE Social Work Interventions for Adults with Complex Needs
- DWP consultation 'Engagement with disabled people on policies which affect them'
- Welsh Government Learning Disability Action Plan
- Consultation on the proposed UK Government consultation on management of the COVID pandemic.

Objective 2: to work in partnership for change

We continued to work with partnership organisations and government representatives to improve health, education, social care and housing services.

Objective 3: To inform and engage with members on important policy issues and consultations

We sought contributions for the consultation responses listed above and informed members and supporters about future consultations and relevant policy.

Information and training

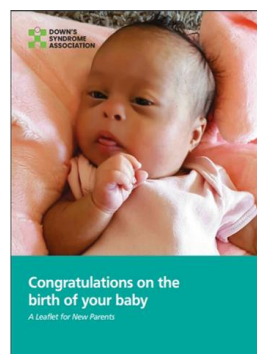
Objective 1: To continue to develop and provide information, advice and support

This year we provided advice, information, support and advocacy for 10,000 parent carers, family members, people who have Down's syndrome, professionals and members of the public.

Confidential Helpline: Our Helpline team of information officers and specialist advisers provided information, support and advocacy on a wide range of issues. 24% of queries related to the needs of children and young people, for example, child development, education, service provision, behaviour support, and speech, language and communication. 20% of queries were from adults who have Down's syndrome and their families enquiring about rights, housing, social care and other aspects of service provision, 15% were about financial support and benefits, and 12% were in relation to mental and physical health. Other common topic areas included calls for support through the prenatal period, enquiries about employment, leisure activities such as sports and drama, and ageing.

Our online forums supported many thousands with groups for families with children from birth to 11 years, young people 12 -18 years, adults who have Down's syndrome, and specialised groups for families with children with additional diagnoses and complex needs, parent carers whose young people are experiencing mental regression and those who have relatives with dementia. We also hosted online groups for Our Voice members and forums for health care professionals including those working in maternity services.

Information resources: We updated our 'Congratulations on the birth of your baby' booklet, made a new 'Parent and carer wellbeing' resource, updated the 'My Rights, My Community – your rights under the Equality Act' leaflet and commissioned new Down Syndrome Medical Interest Group UK & Ireland (DSMIG) health articles for the DSA Autumn and Spring Journals. We made our unique, comprehensive and widely acclaimed training package for adults, 'Let's Talk about Relationships and Sex', freely available, together with a suite of relationships and sex education resources for teenagers.



Objective 2: To deliver a series of national training and parent carer support events that meet the needs of family members and practitioners

We delivered regular online training events and parent carer support meetings as well as bespoke training and consultancy services in relation to maternity services, education, health, meeting adult needs including social care and housing, and support for parent carer wellbeing.

Regular meetings and training events, some weekly, many monthly, included:

- Pregnancy and baby support meetings
- Introduction to Makaton for new families
- Supporting early development from birth to 4 years
- Early years and primary education
- Using the model of positive behaviour support for change
- Secondary education
- Puberty and adolescence
- Preparing for adulthood sessions
- Relationships and sex education
- Complex needs and autism parent carer support meetings
- Well-being Wednesday for parent carers
- Dual diagnosis of Down's syndrome and autism
- Supporting wellbeing of people who have Down's syndrome
- Behaviour case study support session for parents and family carers
- Tell it Right® webinars for maternity services, universities and parents
- Your rights webinar: highlights from the Care Act
- Housing options masterclass
- Personal budgets and self-directed support
- Down's syndrome and dementia
- DSAActive training for sports and activity providers
- WorkFit® employment conferences and meetings
- Webinars with Cambridge University Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Group: understanding cognitive decline and how to engage in research
- Webinars with the Down Syndrome Medical Interest Group UK & Ireland
- DSA Going Forward Updates

Objective 3: To continue to provide speech and language assessments to identify needs, support development and improve service provision

Our speech and language therapist advocated for approaching one hundred people through individual assessments at DSA offices in Teddington and Belfast.

Objective 4: To continue to improve information and support in England, Wales and Northern Ireland in maternity and in other health care specialisms

DSA representatives contributed at meetings with relevant Wales and England public bodies delivering antenatal screening services.

We continued to work to ensure that experiences of individuals who have Down's syndrome and their families are always at the forefront of our work and embedded in all of our training for health care professionals.

Many thousands of maternity health professionals and university students in training accessed Tell it Right® training webinars with live Q and A events.

We provided bespoke training for health care staff working in maternity and other specialist fields including podiatry.

We worked with NHS Digital and families to develop new films about lived experience, 'Having a child with Down's syndrome', for the NHS website. <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/downs-syndrome/>

DActive and DEngage

Objective 1: To actively support the provision of opportunities for people who have Down's syndrome to be active and healthy both mentally and physically

DActive provided support for clubs and teams to run Down's syndrome specific football, tennis, cricket and athletic sessions. DEngage sessions significantly increased the range of opportunities for physical activity and emotional wellbeing. We opened doors for the inclusion and participation of people who have Down's syndrome within different types of activities with a focus on inclusion, community and friendship through our work with national governing bodies and recreational activity providers.

Objective 2: To provide training and support

DActive coach education online training supported coaches to include children and adults in a range of sporting activities.

Objective 3: To deliver DEngage online activities

The DEngage online programme ran within DActive to help children and adults remain active physically and mentally. More than 1000 people benefitted from regular live sessions ranging from Pilates, Zumba, workouts and discos through to arts and crafts.

WorkFit®

Connecting Employers with Employees who have Down's syndrome

Objective 1: To provide training, information and resources to employers to support them to offer employment opportunities to people who have Down's syndrome.

Objective 2: To develop employment opportunities for people who have Down's syndrome and provide advice and support to enable them to embrace the exciting challenges that lie ahead on the journey to fulfilling their career ambitions.

Objective 3: To provide ongoing support to employers and candidates at all stages of the programme.

The continued success of our programme is borne out in the numbers of people who are still in their jobs after many years of employment. This year, 84% of candidates placed went directly into paid work compared with 53% two years ago. 74% of our placements were in the private sector, 14% with the public sector and 12% with the third sector. As we work towards our 1000th placement, with more candidates and employers registered, the team continues to ensure that opportunities for permanent paid jobs continue to be developed. We welcomed

many major brands into the programme and held a national online event for our stakeholders which featured personal and professional success stories from candidates and their employers.

Securing paid work makes a huge difference to the lives of a large number of candidates and their families. Along with developing paid work we also developed work experience placements, volunteering, supported internships and supported apprenticeships. We have seen our candidates grow in confidence, develop skills, expand their social circle, become more financially independent and enjoy the self-esteem of being part of a team where their contribution is valued.

Please see below a small selection of feedback related to the impact of WorkFit® and the significant contribution that people who have Down's syndrome are making to their workplace.

Candidate: The best thing about working is that my job is much more exciting and I am learning new things all the time. I feel happy working alongside the team, they make me feel part of the team and all that I do is important.

Candidate: I always wanted to either work in the police or be a postman. Working here I feel very comfortable and I like working in a team in the office. I like everybody.

Employer: The candidate has settled in fantastically, we are thrilled to have him as part of our team. It has brought a huge smile to myself and our leadership team. He has taken to his buddy like a hand fits a glove, I think it was meant to be.

Employer: I found the employer training invaluable to the whole process. I learnt so much about Down's syndrome that I just didn't know before, enabling me to better understand the candidate to ensure her employment was as enjoyable and fulfilling as possible. I have gained a real insight into equal opportunities within the workplace, especially for people with Down's syndrome. I think it is so important that we broaden our horizons and not judge a book by its cover, so to speak. Down's syndrome does not stop anyone from doing the job and if anything, it inspires the team around them to better themselves! I have gained a huge amount of respect for the programme and look forward to seeing the candidate's bright future develop.

Employer: We are very excited to have the candidate join our team. He is extremely enthusiastic, showing great capability, a strong work ethic and we look forward to seeing how he can develop further skills with us.

Employer: The candidate is an incredible person and a great asset to us. His work ethic is incredible and we're so pleased he joined the team. Inclusivity is a core value here and we are determined to make sure everyone feels welcome in this force.



Research support

Objective 1: to support research to improve quality of life for people who have Down's syndrome and their families

We supported research studies with potential to benefit people who have Down's syndrome and their families. As part of our vetting process, we asked for evidence of ethics approval and, where a study involved the recruitment of people who have Down's syndrome, the provision of accessible materials.

We supported post graduate research studies by advertising for study participants. We wrote letters of support for researchers applying for funding and we acted as research partners, attending meetings about the development and progress of studies.

Our Voice members helped with a University of Manchester and Health Education England study looking at how to improve hearing services for people with learning disabilities.

One of the researchers on the study wrote:

We recently held a focus group with members of the Our Voice group who have accessed hearing services. It was fantastic to hear the group's perspectives on the care they have received and their ideas for how services can be improved. It is vital to hear the voices of people with learning disabilities in research, especially around the services they receive. Thanks to the Our Voice team for enabling us to do this.

Objective 2: to work with established research partners

The DSA commenced funding for a research project about children who have Down's syndrome within the 'Education and Child Health Insights from Linked Data' (ECHILD) project run by University College London.

Communications

Objective 1: Involve adults who have Down's syndrome in the work of the DSA and to gather and represent their views

We continue to promote and share the stories and voices of people who have Down's syndrome.

Working with our members, supporters and our colleagues we have created and shared stories via all our communications channels throughout the year.

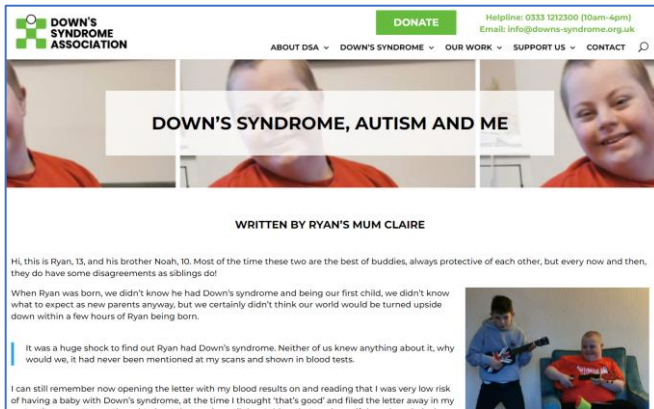


In 2022 we released the fourth series of our Shifting Perspectives podcast

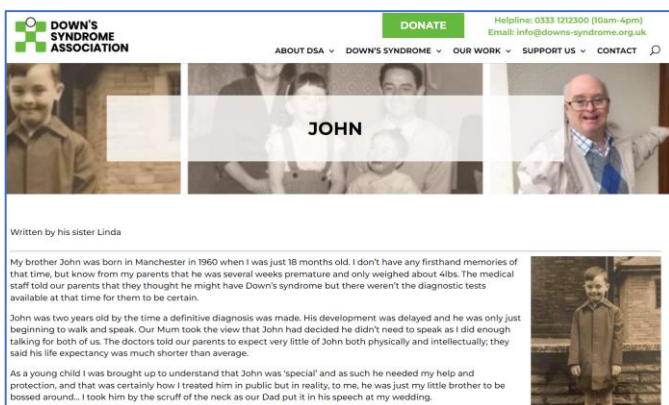
All five episodes featured people who have Down's syndrome, and we were pleased to welcome Sarah Gordy onto the team as a guest interviewer. She talked to author Ann Cleves about Ann's career, inspiration, and some very interesting jobs she's done in the past.

Blogs and social media posts

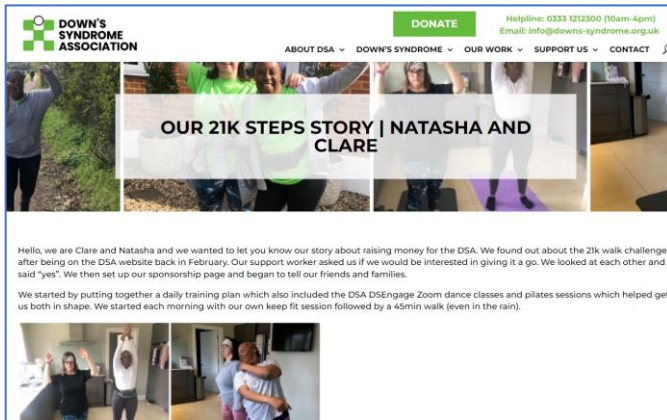
We have released a continuous stream of blogs and social media posts through the year covering a wide range of news and issues. In total over 500,000 people have been engaged through our social media channels. Examples of some of these are: -



Claire, mum to Ryan (13) and Noah (10), shared her story about being mum to Ryan, who has Down's syndrome and a diagnosis of autism.



We were very happy to share John's story in the year he turned 61! He's a huge Everton fan, loves dancing and has worked in a local factory for 20 years.



Natasha and Clare, two housemates and good friends, were featured in a blog post about completing our 21k steps fundraising challenge.

They were also featured in one of our Shifting Perspectives podcast episodes.

Objective 2: Continue to raise awareness of our existence and our work

In July 2021 we launched our new website.



A new structure and edited content created a fresh, accessible and inspiring site that appeals to those who have never visited before but also makes our information and resources much more accessible for those that need them.

Memories & Stories

Our delayed 50th anniversary project culminated in an incredibly successful exhibition launch event in March 2022.

The Memories & Stories project was our opportunity to celebrate what the DSA and the wider Down's syndrome community has achieved in the last 50 years...and to mark where we are now, creating a multimedia collage in words, audio and photography, of individuals who have Down's syndrome of all ages.

The exhibition featured the work of 13 well-known photographers, including Richard Bailey, Aron Hosie and Blair Moore.

It juxtaposes the powerful and moving portraits of people who have Down's syndrome in their 50s, with edgy and stereotype busting images of younger subjects.

Snippets from 12 oral histories of people who have Down's syndrome aged fifty and over were available for visitors to listen to at the event and available to listen to on our website.

The Memories & Stories project was funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.



Raising funds

We are extremely grateful to everyone who has supported the Down's Syndrome Association through fundraising.

Objective 1: To maintain sufficient funding for the DSA

We are extremely grateful for the generous support we received from our loyal donors. This was underpinned by legacy income, however corporate support remained strong and events did remarkably considering uncertainty.

We faced new and unknown challenges with uncertainty in financial markets. The fundraising team worked to make sure that we stayed alert and aware and were able to react accordingly.

Objective 2: To increase unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds give us freedom to allocate expenditure as needed. We worked to maintain and wherever possible increase our unrestricted funds.

Financial review

The Down's Syndrome Association income was £2.1m (2021: £3.1m). This decrease from the previous year was largely due to a decrease in legacy income, trust donations, and grant.

Total expenditure is flat versus the previous year £2.0m (2021: £2.0m). We were continuing with new working practices after the pandemic maintaining low staff travel costs while delivering more effective services.

The amount of money spent on raising funds represented 16.6% (2021: 15.3%) of total expenditure (or 17p in every £1 spent).

Overall, there was a surplus in the year of £66,934 (2021: surplus £1.1m). This surplus was achieved due to the unbudgeted legacy and overall less expenditure than budgeted.

Down's Syndrome Trading Ltd

This is the subsidiary trading company of the Down's Syndrome Association. Its principal activity is the sale of Christmas cards, t-shirts and books. The company made a gross profit of £17,556 (2021 - £22,354) and after administrative expenses the company made an operating loss of £3,218. The company gift aid previous year profit to its parent undertaking, the Down's Syndrome Association during the year of £15,164 (2021 - £4,074).

Principal risks and uncertainties

Risk management

As part of their ongoing strategic planning work, the trustees carry out a formal risk review each year to examine the major risks facing the charity. The review considers both top down and bottom-up risks and ranks them in order of likelihood and impact. Responsibility for each risk is allocated either to a member of the senior management team or to the trustees. The senior management team provide updates to the trustees each quarter on their progress against action plans designed to manage the risks identified. The risk register was most recently reviewed and updated by the trustees in March 2022.

The main risks facing the Association have been identified as a loss of funding and the possibility of members leaving. In order to mitigate against these risks a fundraising strategy has been established which strengthens and diversifies our income streams. Additionally, the reserves policy has been revised and updated to ensure security and financial stability through the uncertain years expected ahead.

Strong relationships are developed with our members through frequent and regular communication utilising various channels, including social media and regular virtual updates via zoom. This ensures that all members have a sense of 'belonging' and that all members are aware of our latest news and any developments and that they are confident that the organisation is stronger because they are a part of it. Any lapses in membership are followed up and any reasons for lapses are addressed.

Reserves policy and going concern

Reserves are needed to bridge the gap between the spending and receiving of income and to cover any unplanned or emergency expenditure. The reserves policy was updated in light of the pandemic, in order to provide a level of security and a buffer, which will allow our services to continue to be offered and delivered with certainty over the next few years. This provides stability and reassurance to our members, supporters and the wider public that our organisation will continue to operate over the long term, is reliable and dependable and is a going concern. The reserves policy states that the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets and stocks ('the free reserves') held by the charity should be

between six to nine months of the resources expended. That equates to between £1.1m and £1.7m in general funds, based on the budget for 2022-23. The free reserves currently available equate to 10 months running costs and amount to £1.8m.

Given the uncertainty of the current financial situation in the UK and potential repercussions from the Global Economy beyond our shores, the trustees have decided that it would be prudent and wish to maintain a higher level of reserves, possibly up to and even over 12 months current operating costs. At this level the trustees feel that they would be able to continue the current activities of the charity in the event of a significant drop in income and have time to implement any required changes to ensure that the Charity remains a going concern. The trustees are aware that should there be a reduction in income for the charity, consideration would need to be given to how funding might be replaced or activities changed. This position is designed to be a temporary solution and once the Economy of primarily the UK is back on a more balanced forecast footing we will look to return the Reserve Funding levels to the normal circa 6 months. We do appreciate this is an unusual position to be describing but The Trustees feel strongly that having a strong Reserve can only allow the Charity to continue to thrive and protect the interests of those with Down's Syndrome.

The DSA had retained a large amount of designated funds for a research project looking into mental regression in younger adults who have Down's syndrome with Cambridge University. The Cambridge project was seriously delayed and only started in June 2022 so the charity will now begin to use those funds. The charity is also spending designated funds on an I.T. systems upgrade.

IT & Systems – funds to allow our IT infrastructure and software to be kept secure and up to date to allow our services to be delivered in the most efficient way and staff to work flexibly as required

Emergency Fund - funds to be drawn on if an unexpected drop income or other emergency needs an immediate response

Building Fund - provision for building repairs and maintenance

Employment Fund - allowance for investment in our WorkFit project

Research Fund - funds to allow us to launch research projects as the opportunity arises

Our consolidated balance sheet remains strong. The trustees have reviewed the circumstances of the Down's Syndrome Association and consider that adequate resources continue to be available to fund the activities of the Association for the foreseeable future. The trustees are of the view that the Association is a going concern.

Plans for the future

Membership

We will continue to promote membership at all online and offline events.

We will continue the process of developing the membership journey with a wish-list of activities. This also involves increased personalisation and a higher level of communication.

We will develop the Affiliated Group Membership offering. Part of this is growing the dedicated Affiliated Group Membership area of our website, making it a go-to for our groups to help answer questions and disseminate information.

We will produce an Easy Read mail-out and membership form for people who have Down's syndrome over 18 who are not currently registered for free lifetime membership.

Inclusive participation

We will continue to develop inclusive participation across all DSA services and activities.

We will work to enable more people who have Down's syndrome to self-advocate through innovative, inclusive practices.

We will continue to work with NHS and other organisations.

Policy, campaigns and consultations

As key stakeholders, we will continue to work with all organisations seeking the views of people who have Down's syndrome and their families on range of issues.

We will continue to campaign for people's rights and for better services throughout their lives.

We will continue to work with DHSC on issues related to Covid-19 and Down's syndrome.

Information and training

We will continue to offer support, advice, information and training for people who have Down's syndrome, their families and professionals.

We will continue to work with the Down Syndrome Medical Interest Group UK & Ireland to promote health, to manage parent health queries and co-produce new information resources.

We will continue to work to improve evidence-informed guidance and services for effective speech, language and communication practice for children, young people and adults.

DActive and DSEngage

We will increase opportunities for people who have Down's syndrome to be included in their community activities through pan disability, learning disability and other recreational and sporting groups.

We will develop partner organisation networking through online forums and social media to encourage and promote sessions, events and tournaments across England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

We will provide training and support to partner organisations across all sports and recreational activities.

We will continue to strengthen DSEngage activities with increased provision for children and adults.

WorkFit®

We will continue to place people in roles in arts and heritage, construction, finance, law, banking warehousing & distribution, manufacturing, IT and a range of public sector bodies to further our expansion beyond the traditional sectors of catering, retail and hospitality.

We will continue to encourage adults who have Down's syndrome to explore employment opportunities, source employer contacts and share job vacancies.

We will continue to provide online workshops including a series of specialist workshops to provide careers information for our candidates.

Research support

The DSA will be funding a research project into the cause, recognition, and possible treatment of Unexplained Early Regression with the Cambridge Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Group.

We will continue to encourage researchers to co-produce their projects with people who have Down's syndrome and to make project information accessible.

We will continue to collect information from families about their experiences of accessing speech and language therapy to gain insight into NHS speech and language therapy provision for children who have Down's syndrome living in England, Northern Ireland, and Wales.

Communications

We will continue to develop the website, with new content and improved useability and functionality.

We will work closely with members of the Our Voice team to amplify the voices of people who have Down's syndrome in the communications output of the DSA.

We will continue to encourage more engagement with our members and their families through life-stories and include people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to ensure a wide range of life experience is shown.

Raising Funds

Fundraising is the foundation that supports the work of the DSA. The coming year could be difficult because of the developing financial crisis.

We will continue to research new Trusts and work on extending relationships with existing Trusts.

We will continue to develop new opportunities for supporters to raise funds through events.

There will be more emphasis on corporate partnerships and employees taking on events in support of the charity.

We will work to improve community fundraising during the coming year.

Structure, governance and management

The organisation started as a parent support group in 1970. It was registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee, registered as a charity on 11 June 1973 and incorporated on 30 January 1997.

The organisation was established under a memorandum of association which set out the objects and powers of the organisation and is governed under its articles of association.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in note 8 to the accounts.

Appointment of trustees

The board of trustees consists of up to eight Full Members elected by the Full Members together with any persons appointed or co-opted.

To be eligible for election, a Member must have been a Full Member of the Association for at least three years immediately prior to the election.

At each Annual General Meeting, one third of the elected trustees must retire by rotation, but all are eligible for re-election. Once trustees have served for a term of three years they are required to stand down from the Board but are eligible to stand again for election.

Trustee induction and training

New trustees undergo orientation to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and inform them of the content of the memorandum and articles of association, the committee and decision-making processes, the business plan and recent financial performance of the charity. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will upskill them in their role.

Related parties and relationships with other organisations

The Association continues its close links with Down's Syndrome Scotland, Down's Syndrome Ireland and the Down's Heart Group. The DSA regularly works with other many national learning disability organisations. The DSA is a member of Down Syndrome International and supports the organisation financially. We also support the Down Syndrome Medical Interest Group UK & Ireland.

Remuneration policy for key management personnel

The Down's Syndrome Association is committed to ensuring a proper balance between (i) paying our staff and others who work for us fairly so that we attract and retain the best people for the job and (ii) careful management of our charity funds. In so doing we will ensure the greatest effectiveness in delivering our charitable objectives and meeting the needs of our beneficiaries.

When determining the salary for a newly created post, we will collect information about comparable roles in other organisations, preferably within the voluntary sector. We will use this information to benchmark our own salaries, normally aiming to set it at a level that

appears to represent the market average. We will also seek advice from colleagues within other organisations, if applicable, when we know they employ people in similar roles.

Salary banding

Salaries for all current posts, other than the Chief Executive, will fall within a salary band, based on the skills required for the role, the responsibility of the role and the experience of the person.

Normally, in April each year, the trustees will consider awarding a cost of living adjustment for all staff when setting the following year's annual budget. This increase is to reflect changes in the cost of living and is entirely at the discretion of the trustees.

The trustees' considerations will begin with an assumption that salaries should be adjusted to match inflation (specifically the Consumer Price Index) over the preceding 12 months. They will also take into account economic forecasts for the rate of inflation in the year ahead. They will then determine whether this is appropriate in the context of the charity's financial situation and the charity's performance.

Fundraising

We regularly review all our fundraising processes and procedures to ensure that we adhere to the relevant codes of practice and that we are dealing with supporters or potential supporters in a way which aligns with our values.

Vulnerable people are protected as we never share personal data, never put any of our supporters under undue pressure, always seek consent for contact and anyone can opt out of hearing from us at any time.

We do not work with any commercial participators or professional fundraisers. We have never received any complaints related to our fundraising. All fundraising activities are reported on regularly and reviewed by the senior management team and trustees.

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

The trustees (who are also directors of Down's Syndrome Association 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 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 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.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 March 2022 was 7 (2021: 7). The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditors

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

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on 9 July 2022 and signed on their behalf by

Georgie Hill,

Chair of Trustees

Independent auditor's report to the members of the Down's Syndrome Association

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Down's Syndrome Association (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2022 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 2022 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 Down's Syndrome Association'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. 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.

Noelia Serrano (Senior statutory auditor)
11 August 2022
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

Down's Syndrome Association

Consolidated statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

www.downs-syndrome.org.uk

For the year ended 31 March 2022

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	2	1,400,226	65,267	1,465,493	2,088,331	18,390	2,106,721
Charitable activities							
Information, Training and Assessments	3	31,096	68,100	99,196	31,738	182,435	214,173
Beneficiary Projects and Services	3	-	330,062	330,062	-	201,413	201,413
Campaigning and Research	3	-	69,042	69,042	-	227,993	227,993
Other trading activities	4	99,198	3,800	102,998	69,215	-	69,215
Investments		1,471	-	1,471	4,705	-	4,705
Other Income – Job Retention Scheme		32,066	-	32,066	247,855	-	247,855
Total income		1,564,057	536,271	2,100,328	2,441,844	630,231	3,072,075
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	5	356,309	5,301	361,610	300,234	4,839	305,073
Charitable activities							
Information, Training and Assessments	5	622,211	105,598	727,809	547,106	193,448	740,554
Beneficiary Projects and Services	5	183,244	443,993	627,237	271,250	367,026	638,276
Campaigning and Research	5	81,477	235,324	316,801	257,266	59,000	316,265
Total expenditure		1,243,241	790,216	2,033,457	1,375,855	624,313	2,000,168
Net income / (expenditure) before net gains / (losses) on investments							
		320,816	(253,945)	66,871	1,065,989	5,918	1,071,907
Net gains / (losses) on investments		63	-	63	39	-	39
Net income / (expenditure) for the year	7	320,879	(253,945)	66,934	1,066,028	5,918	1,071,946
Transfers between funds		(100,563)	100,563	-	(72,431)	72,431	-
Net movement in funds		220,316	(153,382)	66,934	993,597	78,349	1,071,946
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		2,518,188	1,208,753	3,726,941	1,524,591	1,130,404	2,654,995
Total funds carried forward		2,738,504	1,055,371	3,793,875	2,518,188	1,208,753	3,726,941

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 21 to the financial statements.

Balance Sheet

www.downs-syndrome.org.uk

For the year ended 31 March 2022

	Note	The group 2022 £	2021 £	The charity 2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	12	986,254	1,038,550	986,254	1,038,550
Investments	13	194	131	196	133
		986,448	1,038,681	986,450	1,038,683
Current assets:					
Stock	16	17,847	5,735	16,305	3,814
Debtors	17	92,376	69,547	91,741	69,361
Short-term deposits		805,560	855,128	805,560	855,128
Cash at bank and in hand		2,066,513	1,941,070	2,047,292	1,922,944
		2,982,296	2,871,480	2,960,898	2,851,247
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(174,869)	(183,220)	(188,397)	(201,133)
Net current assets		2,807,427	2,688,260	2,772,501	2,650,114
Total net assets		3,793,875	3,726,941	3,758,950	3,688,796
Funds:	21				
Restricted income funds		1,055,371	1,208,753	1,055,371	1,208,753
Unrestricted income funds:					
Designated funds		885,659	963,987	885,659	963,987
General funds		1,817,918	1,516,056	1,817,920	1,516,056
Non-charitable trading funds		34,927	38,145	-	-
Total unrestricted funds		2,738,504	2,518,188	2,703,579	2,480,043
Total funds		3,793,875	3,726,941	3,758,950	3,688,796

Approved by the trustees on 9 July 2022 and signed on their behalf by

Darren Warkcup
Treasurer

Down's Syndrome Association**Statement of cash flows**www.downs-syndrome.org.uk**For the year ended 31 March 2022**

	Note	2022		2021	
		£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities	22				
Net cash used in operating activities			78,650		1,207,941
Cash flows from investing activities:					
Dividends and interest from investments		1,471		4,705	
Purchase of fixed assets		(4,246)		(7,038)	
Movement in short-term deposits		49,568		(2,427)	
Net cash used in investing activities			46,793		(4,760)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year			125,443		1,203,181
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year			1,941,070		737,889
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year			2,066,513		1,941,070

1 Accounting policies

a) Statutory information

Down's Syndrome Association is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in England. The registered office address and principal place of business is Langdon Down Centre, 2a Langdon Park, Teddington, Middlesex TW11 9PS.

b) Basis of preparation

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.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

These financial statements consolidate the results of the charitable company and its wholly-owned subsidiary Down's Syndrome Trading Limited 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.

c) Public benefit entity

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

d) Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees have considered the ongoing impact of the Covid-19 pandemic when reaching this conclusion.

There are no key judgements that the charitable company has made which have a significant effect on the accounts.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

e) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

For legacies, 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.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

Membership income is treated as donation income and recognised when received.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

f) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

g) Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

h) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

i) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- 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
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering services, campaigning and research undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

j) Allocation of support costs

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on the following basis which are an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity.

Where information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is provided to potential beneficiaries, the costs associated with this publicity are allocated to charitable expenditure.

Support and governance costs are re-allocated to each of the activities on the following basis which is an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity

● Cost of Raising Funds	17%
● Information, Training and Assessments	34%
● Beneficiary Projects and Services	35%
● Campaigning and Research	14%

Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity. These costs are associated with constitutional and statutory requirements and include any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

k) Operating leases

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

l) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £1,000. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

● Freehold Property	2% straight line basis
● Long Leasehold Premises	2% straight line basis
● Improvements to Property	10% reducing balance basis
● Pullen Exhibition Assets	10% straight line basis
● Fixtures & Fittings	25% straight line basis
● Computer Equipment	33% straight line basis

m) Listed investments

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 and any excess of fair value over the historic cost of the investments will be shown as a fair value reserve in the balance sheet. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and shown in the heading "Net gains/(losses) on investments" in the statement of financial activities. The charity does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments.

Investments in subsidiaries

Investments in subsidiaries are at cost.

n) Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. In general, cost is determined on a first in first out basis and includes transport and handling costs. Net realisable value is the price at which stocks can be sold in the normal course of business after allowing for the costs of realisation. Provision is made where necessary for obsolete, slow moving and defective stocks. Donated items of stock, held for distribution or resale, are recognised at fair value which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay for the items on the open market.

o) 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.

p) Short term deposits

Short term deposits includes cash balances that are invested in accounts with a maturity date of between 3 and 12 months.

q) 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.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

r) 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.

s) Pensions

Payments to the stakeholder pension scheme are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2a Income from donations and legacies (current year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Gifts	903,848	65,267	969,115	1,250,333
Legacies	496,378		496,378	856,388
Total income from donations and legacies	1,400,226	65,267	1,465,493	2,106,721

2b Income from donations and legacies (prior year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £
Gifts	1,231,943	18,390	1,250,333
Legacies	856,388	–	856,388
Total income from donations and legacies	2,088,331	18,390	2,106,721

At the end of the year, we have been notified that we are entitled to funds from a total of 4 (2021: 4) residual legacies. However, as at 31 March 2022, we had not been notified as to the value of our entitlement or when this would be received. As such we are not able to recognise these funds in the financial statements for the year. Where we have received further correspondence since the year end, we are aware income of approximately £150,000 from these legacies.

3a Income from charitable activities (current year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	–	20,000	20,000	71,955
Companies	–	33,100	33,100	10,000
National Lottery Community Fund	–	–	–	100,000
Conference, Training & Assessments	31,096	15,000	46,096	32,218
Sub-total for Information, Training & Assessments	31,096	68,100	99,196	214,173
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	–	121,833	121,833	20,000
Companies	–	47,568	47,568	69,248
Big Lottery Fund	–	10,000	10,000	–
Welsh Government	–	102,180	102,180	62,968
DHSSPS	–	26,285	26,285	32,856
EU Active Inclusion	–	4,617	4,617	7,826
Contributions to Youth & Project Activities	–	17,579	17,579	8,515
Sub-total for Beneficiary Projects & Services	–	330,062	330,062	201,413
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	–	–	–	175,563
Companies	–	5,000	5,000	5,000
National Lottery Heritage Fund	–	64,042	64,042	47,430
Sub-total for Campaigning & Research	–	69,042	69,042	227,993
Total income from charitable activities	31,096	467,204	498,300	643,579

For the year ended 31 March 2022

3b Income from charitable activities (prior year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	–	71,955	71,955	58,455
Companies	–	10,000	10,000	10,776
National Lottery Community Fund	–	100,000	100,000	–
Conference, Training & Assessments	31,738	480	32,218	47,076
Sub-total for Information, Training & Assessments	31,738	182,435	214,173	116,307
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	–	20,000	20,000	72,700
Companies	–	69,248	69,248	100,355
Department of Digital, Culture, Media & Sport	–	–	–	106,414
Big Lottery Fund	–	–	–	179,732
Welsh Government	–	62,968	62,968	–
DHSSPS	–	32,856	32,856	26,285
EU Active Inclusion	–	7,826	7,826	38,412
Contributions to Youth & Project Activities	–	8,515	8,515	24,216
Sub-total for Beneficiary Projects & Services	–	201,413	201,413	548,114
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	–	175,563	175,563	–
Companies	–	5,000	5,000	7,959
National Lottery Heritage Fund	–	47,430	47,430	–
Sub-total for Campaigning & Research	–	227,993	227,993	7,959
Total income from charitable activities	31,738	611,841	643,579	672,379

4a Income from other trading activities (current year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Lettings	60,443	3,800	64,243	36,748
Fundraising events	14,886	–	14,886	8,488
Subsidiary trading	23,869	–	23,869	23,979
Total income from other trading activities	99,198	3,800	102,998	69,215

4b Income from other trading activities (prior year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Lettings	36,748	–	36,748	102,938
Fundraising events	8,488	–	8,488	25,455
Subsidiary trading	23,979	–	23,979	21,499
Total income from other trading activities	69,215	–	69,215	149,893

5a Analysis of expenditure (current year)

	Charitable activities						2022 Total £	2021 Total £
	Cost of raising funds £	Information, Training & Assessments £	Beneficiary Projects & Services £	Campaigning & Research £	Governance costs £	Support costs £		
Staff costs (Note 8)	175,385	355,078	372,898	151,034	26,300	158,492	1,239,187	1,287,644
Staff training & recruitment	-	605	-	-	-	1,010	1,615	4,484
Postage, telephone, fax and email	6,615	6,736	4,359	591	890	10,302	29,493	31,440
Research & museum costs	-	13,312	1,847	36,848	-	202	52,209	54,796
Information resources	752	8,074	5,029	32,654	305	14,876	61,690	48,552
Conferences and training costs	49	4,553	1,357	-	-	-	5,959	4,071
Projects and activities	-	56,020	20,114	1,252	-	-	77,386	125,926
Fundraising events	51,198	40	336	-	-	5,643	57,217	37,285
Fundraising costs	14,165	-	300	-	-	-	14,465	12,823
Appeals, advertising and media	15,941	6,951	-	12,674	-	1,027	36,593	23,361
Travel & meetings	148	4,447	10,297	249	-	1,626	16,767	5,051
Consultants, Advisors and professional fees	5,292	83,713	960	-	8,426	53,016	151,407	130,613
Office rent, running and equipment	3,230	8,428	19,662	4,998	1,238	195,371	232,927	175,150
Depreciation	-	-	1,200	-	-	55,342	56,542	58,972
	272,775	547,957	438,359	240,300	37,159	496,907	2,033,457	2,000,168
Support costs	82,654	167,338	175,736	71,178	-	(496,907)	-	-
Governance costs	6,181	12,514	13,142	5,323	(37,159)	-	-	-
Total expenditure 2022	361,610	727,809	627,237	316,801	-	-	2,033,457	
Total expenditure 2021	305,073	740,554	638,276	316,265	-	-		2,000,168

5b Analysis of expenditure (prior year)

	Charitable activities						2021 Total £	2020 Total £
	Cost of raising funds £	Information, Training & Assessments £	Beneficiary Projects & Services £	Campaigning & Research £	Governance costs £	Support costs £		
Staff costs (Note 8)	166,742	364,828	407,741	168,274	26,608	153,451	1,287,644	1,371,693
Staff training & recruitment	-	304	240	-	-	3,940	4,484	13,183
Postage, telephone, fax and email	4,607	8,769	5,978	1,250	1,165	9,671	31,440	41,331
Research & museum costs	-	-	17,444	31,091	-	6,261	54,796	90,324
Information resources	631	17,983	3,781	23,234	600	2,323	48,552	63,726
Conferences and training costs	-	2,263	1,798	10	-	-	4,071	17,194
Projects and activities	-	116,215	6,232	3,479	-	-	125,926	192,466
Fundraising events	36,688	-	-	-	-	597	37,285	75,125
Fundraising costs	12,823	-	-	-	-	-	12,823	45,834
Appeals, advertising and media	5,126	5,806	-	12,429	-	-	23,361	13,948
Travel & meetings	319	3,877	30	-	531	294	5,051	103,047
Consultants, Advisors and professional fees	6,018	59,656	1,781	-	24,234	38,924	130,613	86,217
Office rent, running and equipment	967	5,174	18,061	4,693	1,802	144,453	175,150	242,745
Depreciation	-	-	1,200	-	-	57,772	58,972	57,517
	233,921	584,875	464,286	244,460	54,940	417,686	2,000,168	2,414,350
Support costs	62,881	137,582	153,765	63,459	-	(417,686)	-	-
Governance costs	8,271	18,097	20,225	8,347	(54,940)	-	-	-
Total expenditure 2021	305,073	740,554	638,276	316,265	-	-	2,000,168	
Total expenditure 2020	415,423	646,648	920,007	432,273	-	-		2,414,350

For the year ended 31 March 2022

6 Grant making

	2022 £	2021 £
Cost		
Down Syndrome International : Educational Guidelines Project	50,000	-
Down Syndrome International: International Liaisons	-	111,000
At the end of the year	<u>50,000</u>	<u>111,000</u>

Down Syndrome International: The grant supporting the Educational Guidelines project will bring more positive educational outcomes for children with Down syndrome and disabilities in classrooms in the UK.

Down Syndrome International: The grant supporting the International Liaisons project will enable the fellowship of Down Syndrome organisations around the world to be facilitated.

7 Net income for the year

This is stated after charging:

	2022 £	2021 £
Depreciation	56,542	58,972
Operating lease rentals:		
Property	31,446	26,555
Other	5,921	6,064
Auditor's remuneration (excluding VAT):		
Audit	11,800	11,800

8 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

Staff costs were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Salaries and wages	1,074,031	1,120,062
Social security costs	105,955	107,919
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	59,201	59,663
	<u>1,239,187</u>	<u>1,287,644</u>

No employee earned over £60,000 (2021: one employee earned between £60,000 – £70,000)

The total employee benefits including pension contributions and employer's national insurance of the key management personnel were £194,128 (2021: £202,354).

The charity trustees were neither paid nor received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2021: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2021: £nil).

Trustees' expenses represent the payment or reimbursement of travel and subsistence costs totalling £0 (2021: £720) incurred by nil (2021: 8) members relating to attendance at meetings of the trustees.

9 Staff numbers

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the year was as follows:

	2022 No.	2021 No.
Raising funds	5.4	7.3
Information, Training and Assessments	9.2	10.2
Beneficiary Projects and Services	11.5	13.5
Campaigning and Research	4.8	5.0
Support	5.8	5.0
Governance	1.0	1.0
	<u>37.7</u>	<u>42.0</u>

10 Related party transactions

There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties.

Down Syndrome International uses office space at the Down's Syndrome Association headquarters. Grants are given by Down's Syndrome Association to support the work of Down Syndrome International. The Chief Executive of Down's Syndrome Association, Carol Boys, is also a trustee of Down Syndrome International.

DSA is the payroll agency for DSI.

The Down's Syndrome Association made the following payments to Down Syndrome International during the year:

	2022 £	2021 £
Grant Payments	50,000	111,000
Membership Fee	180	240
Merchandise	25,040	-
Total	75,220	111,240

In addition Down's Syndrome Trading is a subsidiary of Down's Syndrome Association. There was no balance owing to Down's Syndrome Association at the end of the financial year.

11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes. The charity's trading subsidiary Down's Syndrome Trading Limited gift aids available profits to the parent charity so no tax is payable.

12 Tangible fixed assets**The charity and the group**

	Freehold Property £	Long Leasehold Premises £	Improvements to Property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Pullen Exhibition Assets £	Computer Equipment £	Total £
Cost							
At the start of the year	1,286,250	60,000	78,712	90,887	42,128	156,504	1,714,481
Additions in year	-	-	-	4,246	-	-	4,246
Disposals in year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
At the end of the year	1,286,250	60,000	78,712	95,133	42,128	156,504	1,718,727
Depreciation							
At the start of the year	323,400	37,200	54,010	81,071	37,917	142,333	675,931
Charge for the year	29,400	1,200	2,470	5,090	4,211	14,171	56,542
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
At the end of the year	352,800	38,400	56,480	86,161	42,128	156,504	732,473
Net book value							
At the end of the year	933,450	21,600	22,232	8,972	-	-	986,254
At the start of the year	962,850	22,800	24,702	9,816	4,211	14,171	1,038,550

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

For the year ended 31 March 2022

13 Listed investments

	The group		The charity	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Fair value at the start of the year	131	92	133	94
Net gain on change in fair value	63	39	63	39
Fair value at the end of the year	194	131	196	133
Historic cost at the end of the year	15	15	15	15

Investments comprise:

	The group		The charity	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Shares listed on the London Stock Exchange	194	132	194	132
Unlisted shares in UK registered companies	-	-	2	2
	194	132	196	134

14 Subsidiary undertaking

The charitable company owns the whole of the issued ordinary share capital of Down's Syndrome Trading Limited (DST), a company registered in England. The subsidiary is used for non-primary purpose trading activities. The Chief Executive of DSA is also a Director of DST. All activities have been consolidated on a line by line basis in the statement of financial activities. Available profits are gift aided to the charitable company. A summary of the results of the subsidiary is shown below:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Turnover	24,581	25,840
Cost of sales	(7,025)	(3,486)
Gross profit	17,556	22,354
Administrative expenses	(4,610)	(6,190)
Management Charge	(1,000)	(1,000)
Profit on ordinary activities	11,946	15,164
Donation to parent undertaking	(15,164)	(4,074)
Profit for the financial year	(3,218)	11,090
The aggregate of the assets, liabilities and funds was:		
Assets	36,127	39,645
Liabilities	(1,200)	(1,500)
Funds	34,927	38,145

15 Parent charity

The parent charity's gross income and the results for the year are disclosed as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Gross income	2,091,655	2,623,819
Result for the year	70,154	1,129,072

16 Stocks

	The group		The charity	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Finished goods	17,847	5,735	16,305	3,814
	17,847	5,735	16,305	3,814

For the year ended 31 March 2022

17 Debtors

	The group		The charity	
	2022 £	2021 £	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	4,748	5,359	4,748	5,359
Other debtors	60,406	47,168	59,771	46,982
Prepayments	8,684	7,105	8,684	7,105
Accrued income	18,538	9,915	18,538	9,915
	92,376	69,547	91,741	69,361

18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	The group		The charity	
	2022 £	2021 £	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	68,250	6,307	68,250	6,307
Taxation and social security	30,345	28,124	30,345	28,124
Accruals	65,232	65,492	64,032	63,992
Deferred income (note 19)	11,042	83,297	11,042	83,297
Amounts owed to subsidiary company	-	-	14,728	19,413
	174,869	183,220	188,397	201,133

19 Deferred income

Deferred income comprises restricted donations, membership fees and sales.

	The group		The charity	
	2022 £	2021 £	2022 £	2021 £
Balance at the beginning of the year	83,297	13,765	83,297	13,765
Amount released to income in the year	(83,297)	(13,765)	(83,297)	(13,765)
Amount deferred in the year	11,042	83,297	11,042	83,297
Balance at the end of the year	11,042	83,297	11,042	83,297

20a Analysis of group net assets between funds (current year)

	General Unrestricted £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	8,972	977,282	986,254
Investments	194	-	-	194
Net current assets	1,852,651	876,687	78,089	2,807,427
Net assets at the end of the year	1,852,845	885,659	1,055,371	3,793,875

20b Analysis of group net assets between funds (prior year)

	General Unrestricted £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	23,987	1,014,563	1,038,550
Investments	131	-	-	131
Net current assets	1,854,070	640,000	194,190	2,688,260
Net assets at the end of the year	1,854,201	663,987	1,208,753	3,726,941

For the year ended 31 March 2022

21a Movements in funds (current year)

	At the start of the year £	Incoming resources & gains £	Outgoing resources & losses £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds:					
Welsh Government	(29,534)	102,180	(94,832)		(22,186)
Northern Ireland					
DHSSPS	-	26,285	(26,285)	-	-
Northern Ireland Fixed Asset Reserve	22,800	-	(1,200)	-	21,600
Other Northern Ireland funds	-	42,037	(56,794)	14,757	-
DSActive	45,985	85,117	(111,125)	-	19,977
Information	7,500	98,447	(91,747)	-	14,200
Having a Voice	-	3,118	(3,118)	-	-
Digital Communications	175,562	-	(175,562)	-	-
WorkFit – Employment Project	-	72,160	(120,466)	85,806	37,500
WorkFit North – Big Lottery Fund	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Ukraine appeal	-	27,189	(12,020)	-	15,169
50th Year Memories and Stories	(20,359)	64,042	(43,683)	-	-
Theatre Fund	15,036	5,696	(7,303)	-	13,429
LDC Fixed Asset Reserve	987,552	-	(31,870)	-	955,682
Pullen Exhibition Assets (Heritage Lottery funded)	4,211	-	(4,211)	-	-
Total restricted funds	1,208,753	536,271	(790,216)	100,563	1,055,371
Unrestricted funds:	Start of yr	In	Out	Transfers	End of yr
Designated funds:					
IT & Systems Fund	200,000	-	(33,459)	33,459	200,000
Emergency Fund	300,000	-	-	-	300,000
Building Fund	150,000	-	-	-	150,000
Employment Project	40,000	-	-	-	40,000
Research Fund	250,000	-	(63,313)	-	186,687
Fixed Asset Reserve	23,987	4,246	(19,261)	-	8,972
Total designated funds	963,987	4,246	(116,033)	33,459	885,659
General funds	1,516,056	1,535,230	(1,099,346)	(134,022)	1,817,918
Non-charitable trading funds	38,145	24,581	(27,799)	-	34,927
Total unrestricted funds	2,518,188	1,564,057	(1,243,178)	(100,563)	2,738,504
Total funds	3,726,941	2,100,328	(2,033,394)	-	3,793,875

21b Movements in funds (prior year)

	At the start of the year £	Incoming resources & gains £	Outgoing resources & losses £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds:					
Welsh Government	-	62,968	(92,502)		(29,534)
Northern Ireland					
DHSSPS	-	32,856	(32,856)	-	-
Northern Ireland Fixed Asset Reserve	24,000	-	(1,200)	-	22,800
Other Northern Ireland funds	-	9,991	(71,267)	61,276	-
DSActive	48,099	10,222	(12,336)	-	45,985
Training and Conferences	5,000	-	(5,000)	-	-
Information	-	182,441	(174,941)	-	7,500
Having a Voice	-	2,919	(2,919)	-	-
Digital Communications	-	175,562	-	-	175,562
WorkFit – Employment Project	-	100,784	(111,939)	11,155	-
WorkFit North – Big Lottery Fund	33,093	-	(33,093)	-	-
50th Year Memories and Stories	(20,032)	47,430	(47,757)	-	(20,359)
Theatre Fund	12,124	5,058	(2,146)	-	15,036
LDC Fixed Asset Reserve	1,019,696	-	(32,144)	-	987,552
Pullen Exhibition Assets (Heritage Lottery funded)	8,424	-	(4,213)	-	4,211
Total restricted funds	1,130,404	630,231	(624,313)	72,431	1,208,753
Unrestricted funds:					
	Start of yr	In	Out	Transfers	End of yr
Designated funds:					
IT & Systems Fund	100,000	-	-	100,000	200,000
Emergency Fund	-	-	-	300,000	300,000
Building Fund	50,000	-	-	100,000	150,000
Employment Project	40,000	-	-	-	40,000
Research Fund	-	-	-	250,000	250,000
Fixed Asset Reserve	38,363	7,038	(21,414)	-	23,987
Total designated funds	228,363	7,038	(21,414)	750,000	963,987
General funds	1,269,196	2,408,966	(1,339,675)	(822,431)	1,516,056
Non-charitable trading funds	27,032	25,840	(14,727)	-	38,145
Total unrestricted funds	1,524,591	2,441,844	(1,375,816)	(72,431)	2,518,188
Total funds	2,654,995	3,072,075	(2,000,129)	-	3,726,941

Purposes of restricted funds**Welsh Government**

The main funder for work in Wales is the Welsh Government as part of its scheme for organisations operating in the social care sector for people with learning disabilities. The grant is used to support the work of our projects in Wales. The fund is currently in deficit as grant claims are made in arrears.

Northern Ireland

The main funder of our core work in Northern Ireland is the DHSSPS.

Any funds raised as a result of the fundraising activities carried out in Wales and Northern Ireland are also restricted to our work in those regions. The staff team in Northern Ireland organise training and support their affiliated groups and individual families with advice and support. They also organise numerous activities for people with Down's syndrome and run weekend breaks and holidays. We also own a chalet in Northern Ireland and the Northern Ireland Fixed Asset Reserve represents the net book value of the chalet.

DSActive

Funding raised to provide participation in sport opportunities for young people with Down's syndrome. This enables the young people with Down's syndrome to develop their physical, social and emotional health through the joy of sport.

Training and Conferences

These funds are raised to support our comprehensive training and conference programme.

Education

These funds are used to continue the Down's Syndrome Association's important work in all areas of education for people with Down's syndrome. This includes providing help and advice on the Statementing process, design and production of Curriculum Support packs, organisation of training and conferences for education professionals, as well as responding to a variety of calls and requests for information specific to education.

Information

These funds are used to provide information and advice. We provide a help line 5 days a week and distribute leaflets and publications. The information department also publishes the *Journal* twice a year which is distributed to the members of the Association. Our publications and leaflets are continually being developed and updated. Our information department also has specialists who offer advice and support to families about welfare benefits, in particular the Disability Living Allowance.

Having a Voice

Specific donations have been given to grow the Having a Voice project which empowers young adults with Down's syndrome to be active citizens in their communities.

Digital Communications

This income relates to support received to fund our digital communications strategy revolution.

WorkFit– Employment Project

These funds are used to support the work the Association does to support adults with Down's syndrome. This includes our unique WorkFit project which helps adults with Down's syndrome into employment.

Our WorkFit project in the North of England is currently funded by the Big Lottery Fund.

50th Year Memories and

A project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund to capture the memories and stories of people with Down's syndrome over the last 50 years.

Theatre Fund

This fund is used to maintain the glorious Victorian theatre at the Langdon Down Centre which was originally built and used by Dr John Langdon Down.

LDC Fixed Asset Reserve

This represents the value of the assets including buildings and fixtures and fittings which were acquired from the Langdon Down Centre Trust on merger.

Pullen Exhibition Assets

This represents the value of the glass display cases, which were purchased for the Pullen Exhibition, with Heritage Lottery Funds.

Purposes of designated funds

IT & Systems Upgrade

The trustees have designated these funds to ensure that resources are available should any systems infrastructure need to be upgraded and other sources of funding cannot be secured.

Emergency Fund

The trustees have designated these funds to provide a buffer for an emergency situation which may adversely affect our ability to raise fu

Building Fund

The trustees have designated these funds to provide a sinking fund which will be used as necessary for building maintenance.

Employment Project

The trustees have designated these funds to initiate the employment project which will support adults with Down's syndrome into work.

Research Funds

The trustees have designated these funds to allow us to invest in research opportunities.

Fixed Asset Reserve

This represents the value of general funds invested in buildings, fixtures and fittings and computer equipment and is therefore not readily available for other purposes.

For the year ended 31 March 2022

22 Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Net income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	66,934	1,071,946
Depreciation charges	56,542	58,971
(Gains) on investments	(63)	(39)
Dividends and interest from investments	(1,471)	(4,705)
(Increase)/decrease in stocks	(12,112)	6,811
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(22,829)	12,057
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(8,351)	62,900
Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities	78,650	1,207,941

23 Operating lease commitments

The group's total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows for each of the following periods:

	Property		Equipment	
	2022 £	2021 £	2022 £	2021 £
Within one year	21,230	16,270	3,583	5,762
In the second to fifth years inclusive	17,280	-	1,898	5,151
	38,510	16,270	5,481	10,913

24 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 Down's Syndrome Association provides information and support on all aspects of living with Down's syndrome.

We also work to champion the rights of people with Down's syndrome, by campaigning for change and challenging discrimination.

A wide range of Down's Syndrome Association

LANGDON DOWN CENTRE

publications can be downloaded free of charge from our website.

Contact us

Down's Syndrome Association

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LANGDON DOWN
MUSEUM OF
LEARNING
DISABILITY

www.langdondownmuseum.org.uk

LANGDON DOWN CENTRE

www.langdondowncentre.org.uk



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DOWN'S SYNDROME ASSOCIATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1061474

Accounts

About the Down's Syndrome Association



Report and financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Company number: 3310024
Charity Number: 1061474
Auditors:



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Trustees' annual report For the year ended 31 March 2021

Company number	3310024
Country of incorporation	United Kingdom
Charity number	1061474
Country of registration	England
Registered office and operational address	Down's Syndrome Association Langdon Down Centre, 2a Langdon Park, Teddington, Middlesex, TW11 9PS

Trustees

Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Georgie Hill	Chair
Sarah Leggat	Vice Chair
Anya Souza	
Trevor Pearcy	
Gerry Coghlan	
Robert Stirling	
Darren Warkcup	Treasurer

Key management personnel

Carol Boys	Chief Executive
Sharon Gordon-Roberts	Finance & Fundraising Director
Gillian Bird	Services Director

Bankers

Royal Bank of Scotland, St Paul's Branch, 9-13 Paternoster Row, London EC4M 7EH

Solicitors

Russell Cooke, 2 Putney Hill, London, SW15 6AB

Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP, Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor,
Invicta House, 108-114 Golden Lane, London EC1Y 0TL

The trustees present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

Objectives and activities

Purposes and aims

Objects of the charity

The objects of the Association, as stated in its memorandum and articles of association, are:

- To create and develop the conditions which will enable people with Down's syndrome to attain their full potential.
- To undertake any other charitable activities in connection with Down's syndrome.

In furtherance of these objectives, the Association offers information and support to people with Down's syndrome, their parents and carers, interested professionals and the general public. It also champions the rights of people with Down's syndrome and works to improve knowledge and understanding of the condition. We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

Mission

Our mission is to benefit the public by creating and maintaining the conditions that will enable all people with Down's syndrome to live full and rewarding lives. In working towards this we train and educate the professionals who work with people with Down's syndrome to promote best practice and new initiatives. We carry out research into various health issues and campaign to change policy and service provision. Most importantly, we provide information and support directly to families and carers on all aspects of living with and supporting people with Down's syndrome throughout their lives.

Aims

- To campaign for the rights of people with Down's syndrome.
- To be the centre for information and training in relation to people with Down's syndrome throughout their lives.
- To involve adults with Down's syndrome in the work of the DSA and to gather and represent their views.
- To increase and retain the membership of the organisation.

- To develop the organisation's sources of funding, working within the annual budget and managing risk.
- To encourage and monitor research into health and education.
- To develop and maintain links with learning disability and other relevant organisations.

How our activities deliver public benefit

The implementation of our aims and those we try to help are described below. All of our charitable activities focus on enabling people with Down's syndrome to live full and rewarding lives and are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit. Our aims fully reflect the purposes the charity was set up to advance.

Who uses and benefits from our services?

The services we provide are available throughout England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Demand for our services is growing and our helpline, which is usually our first point of contact with those requiring our services, is provided free of charge to everyone.

Equal access to our services is an important issue to us and we monitor the ethnic diversity of our members and proactively try to reach underrepresented ethnic and social groups.

The trustees review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year. This report looks at what the charity has achieved and the outcomes of its work in the reporting period. The trustees report the success of each key activity and the benefits the charity has brought to those groups of people that it is set up to help. The review also helps the trustees ensure the charity's aims, objectives and activities remained focused on its stated purposes.

▪

Strategic Report

Achievements and performance in the year to 31 March 2021

The charity's main activities and who it serves are described below. All its charitable activities are undertaken to further the Down's Syndrome Association's charitable purposes for the public benefit.

1. Information, training and assessments

Objective 1: To continue to develop and provide information, advice and support

In 2020 - 2021 we provided advice, information, support and advocacy through our Helpline service, closed Facebook groups, assessment service, training and online meetings. We published a range of new information resources focused on support for people who have Down's syndrome and families during the pandemic, including supported decision making, learning and emotional well-being.

Helpline service: phone calls and emails

We saw a significant increase in the demand for our Helpline service. We provided advice, information, support and advocacy for thousands of parent carers, family members, people who have Down's syndrome, professionals, and members of the public. Calls and emails increased by 50% compared with the previous year.

A proportion of calls were specific to the pandemic, including shielding advice and interpretation of guidance for health, education, work, day opportunities and supported living. Requests for information about child development and education, emotional well-being, and support during the prenatal period also increased. Consistent with previous years, calls for information on welfare benefits and support for appeals remained very high.

Closed Facebook groups

We supported thousands of members of private online forums. Each of our nine closed Facebook groups has a unique focus: children from birth to 11 years of age, young people 12 -18 years, adults, children and adults with complex needs and/or autism, teenagers and young adults experiencing mental regression, maternity services, health care, dementia and a group for members of Our Voice.

Information resources, campaigning and consultation responses

In September 2020, we published a comprehensive suite of resources to support people's emotional well-being.



We established Our Voice in 2020 to operate across all of our services as part of our inclusive participation strategy. Members of Our Voice responded quickly to the urgent need for accessible information as the coronavirus epidemic developed, creating 45 accessible information resources in different formats. Members of Our Voice also worked with Government to co-produce accessible information for people who have Down's syndrome and people with a learning disability.



Working with the Our Voice team

We worked with members of the Our Voice team to amplify their stories, voices and creativity.

The Our Voice team have told us [how they found 2020](#), interviewed researchers, [exercise gurus](#) and more, and shared their views on the representation of people who have Down's syndrome in TV and the movies.

They also created [this amazing film about the Our Voice team](#).

We added new information resources, including videos, to help parents and practitioners support speech, language and communication. Two resources presented evidence-informed guidance about the role of the speech and language therapist, one for pre-school children and one for primary age children.

We made sure our community was heard by campaigning on health, safety and rights during the pandemic. We asked questions and gave feedback to the Department of Health and Social Care at each step as Government guidance was developed and communicated.

We submitted consultation responses to Welsh Government on transition from children to adult health services in July 2020, for NICE Postnatal Care guidance in November 2020, The Disability Employment Gap (WorkFit) in November 2020, the Law Commission Hate Crime consultation in December 2020 and for NICE Antenatal Care guidance in March 2021.

Objective 2: To continue to deliver a series of national training events that meet the needs of professionals and families

We offered online training and support events to support individuals at every stage of their lives.



More parent carers, professionals and people who have Down's syndrome than ever before participated in one or more of our 155 online training and support events. By converting to online training, we increased our reach compared with 2019-2020 and thousands more people were able to access the 76 training online training events:

Education

- Education and development at home, primary and secondary school and in college
- Positive behaviour support for individuals within different age ranges, and in depth sharing of good practice with case studies for parent carers
- Relationships and sex education

Health

- Covid-19 related and health inequalities
- Cognitive decline and dementia
- Emotional well-being

Support for adults

Our range of titles for supporting adults who have Down's syndrome included training on all related areas as well as masterclasses on personal budgets, planning for a good life, housing options and support to make decisions.

Parent carer resilience

Our online training events are designed for parent carers as well professionals. In order to provide additional support for parent carers we held regular meetings focused on caring for people who have complex needs and /or an additional diagnosis of autism throughout the year, and, from January 2020 onwards, well-being meetings led by a Mindfulness practitioner.

Maternity Services

More maternity professionals learned about the lived experience of people who have Down's syndrome and how to support new parents and pregnant women and partners during the prenatal period through our Tell it Right training events. We provided access to recorded online webinars for maternity service students and qualified professionals as well as live online training.

DSA Updates

We provided weekly updates on Covid-19 and people who have Down's syndrome between November 2020 and March 2021. The updates shared new information with thousands of family members, people who have Down's syndrome and practitioners.

Objective 3: To develop assessment and education consultancy services

Our speech and language therapist and inclusive participation officer advocated for more people who have Down's syndrome in need through individual assessments and reports by facilitating individual, person-centred plans.

Speech and language therapy assessments took place at DSA offices in Teddington and Belfast.

We provided more online education consultancy for schools.

Objective 4: We will continue to engage with Public Health England and Public Health Wales with regard to the offer of antenatal screening in England and Wales and provide the lived experience of individuals with Down's syndrome and their families in the delivery of training for relevant health professionals.

This has continued to be an area of focus for us this year. We have attended 4 x quarterly Wales NIPT (Non-Invasive Pre-Natal Screening) Evaluation Board meetings and have additionally worked with policy leads in Antenatal Screening Wales in reviewing their booklets for women and their handbook for midwives. We have made our Tell it Right training for health professionals available as a pre-recorded webinar and this has been accessed extensively across Wales, increasing our reach.

Objective 5: We will be active members of the Welsh Ministerial Advisory Group in Learning Disability, which meets quarterly.

Our Services Development Manager is a member of the Ministerial Advisory Group on Learning Disability, which has continued to meet (virtually) during the last 6 months. Additionally, since April 2020, the Down's Syndrome Association has played an important role in participating in regular Zoom meetings with Welsh Government officials and other third sector Sustainable Social Services Funding recipients (including Mencap, Learning Disability Wales, People First Wales and All Wales Forum). This has been crucial in developing a coordinated response to the current pandemic and how this has been affecting people with a learning disability in Wales. It has also contributed to greater sense of collaboration and partnership.

The role of Ministerial Advisory Group has been of paramount importance during this period of great change and uncertainty. We were delighted to see the swift restarting of the Improving Lives Programme (after the necessary, temporary pause during the early stage of COVID-19). We were grateful that the Minister was able to join us for one of virtual meetings.

These meetings have continued throughout the last 6 months and have been invaluable. It has been helpful to have additional Welsh Government officials join us for focused discussions on a number of relevant topics, especially around health inequalities and annual health checks and we have accessed presentations from researchers who have been focusing in COVID19 deaths of individuals who have a learning disability, helping us to quickly translate any learning from these into improvements in practice.

Beneficiary projects and services

Membership

Membership is a continuing priority for the organisation as 'the more members we have, the stronger our voice'.

During the year we successfully achieved all 5 objectives:

- Successful integration between the website and the Salesforce database – streamlining the joining and renewal process. We will be promoting this method to all.
- Gathered more email addresses so renewals can be sent out digitally rather than through the traditional mail method.
- Continue to promote membership in all training, conference and other events.
- Digitalise membership pack so it is easier to send out more efficiently and in a more cost-effective way.

Throughout the year it became a real necessity to digitise more aspects of our work. Our online reach meant we could extend the promotion of membership.

We successfully created a 'Group Membership' package for our local affiliated groups, which brings a beneficial structure to the relationship.

WorkFit®

Connecting Employers with Employees who have Down's syndrome

Objectives: To provide training, information and resources to employers to support them to offer employment opportunities to people who have Down's syndrome. To develop employment opportunities for people who have Down's syndrome and provide advice and support to enable them to embrace the exciting challenges that lie ahead on the journey to fulfilling their career ambitions. To provide ongoing support to employers and candidates at all stages of the programme. The success of our Workfit programme is borne out in the numbers of people who are still in their jobs after many years of employment.

During 2020-21 the WorkFit programme was significantly impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic, which saw the WorkFit Team on partial or full-time furlough for the entire financial year. Despite massive restrictions in opportunities, we still managed to deliver the programme to some employers and follow up employment opportunities across England and Wales.

Since the project launch in 2012, WorkFit has secured hundreds of employment opportunities for people who have Down's syndrome. Opportunities for development had to be deferred due to Covid-19 but it is anticipated that the projected growth of the project will resume once Covid-19 restrictions are fully removed and numbers of employers expressing an interest is encouraging. The project has adapted its delivery to a fully online model.

During the year 15 WorkFit candidates were either made redundant or did not have fixed term contracts renewed, however a further 4 jobs were saved following discussions between WorkFit and the employers.

Since 2011, 1,176 people who have Down's syndrome have registered with the WorkFit programme, with candidate registrations last year reaching 40. It is clear that people's aspirations have been raised by the success of WorkFit in recent years with more family members now seeing permanent, paid work as a realistic and sustainable outcome for their relative who has Down's syndrome.

The following are examples of feedback related to the impact of the pandemic and the types of situations that WorkFit are supporting.

Candidates:

'My employer has said I can work from home but I miss getting out of the house and seeing my friends at work.'

Parents:

'The employer was great. We had a 'live' discussion with them about changes e.g. hand hygiene and wearing a visor etc. and the best way to reintroduce him. He couldn't wait but was clearly nervous. Because of bus difficulties I give him a lift in but am hoping he'll feel confident to come home by himself on the bus soon as he has used public transport few times.'

Employers:

'We can't wait to welcome her back to work when it is safe and appropriate to do so.'

Our profile had a significant boost recently due to our involvement with this year's World Down's Syndrome Day theme on employment. The DSA sponsored the 'The Hiring Chain' by CoorDown (Italy) video featuring actors who have Down's syndrome and a title song sung by the artist Sting. The video illustrated the benefits of hiring people who have Down's syndrome across a range of industry sectors and how this approach can create a virtuous chain reaction. The video and song have been warmly welcomed and widely shared across social media platforms around the world. The website provided a conduit for prospective employers to contact their Down's Syndrome Association or equivalent in their country. WorkFit received 33 enquiries through the website and is hoping to secure the first placement from one of these employers next month. WorkFit candidates have also appeared on TV, radio and podcasts being interviewed about their experiences.

We have not hosted any regional WorkFit conferences due to Covid-19, however we have initiated a series of online events where we invited candidates and employers to talk about their experiences of the world of work. At all of the events we welcomed WorkFit members, employers, professionals and practitioners from a range of services. Feedback from the events has been very positive and will continue for the present to complement the significant range of other online activities now being provided by the DSA.

Securing paid work has made a huge difference to the lives of WorkFit candidates. Along with developing paid work we also develop work experience, volunteering and supported apprenticeships placements to secure potentially life-changing opportunities for people who have Down's syndrome. We have seen our candidates grow in confidence, develop skills, expand their social circle and enjoy the self-esteem of being part of a team where their contribution is valued.

At all stages of the WorkFit programme our dedicated Employment Development Officers (EDO's) support the process and activities are underpinned by the expertise, resources and experience of WorkFit and the wider Down's Syndrome Association.

DSActive

The DSActive team have spent most of the financial year on full time or part time furlough. It has also been a challenging year for sport and physical activity, with leisure facilities having been shut since March 2020, with many only just reopening their doors in May 2021. Adults with Down's syndrome have also been advised to shield given their increased susceptibility to the coronavirus, which has negatively affected physical activity levels.

Objective 1: To provide opportunities for people who have Down's syndrome to be active, be healthy and play sport.

All DSActive sessions were stopped in April 2020 until at least December 2020. Some sessions did return in early 2021, and by the end of Spring 2021 football, tennis and athletics sessions were running regularly with almost 600 participants attending.

Objective 2: Festivals

All festivals in 2020 were suspended due to the coronavirus pandemic. We have plans in place to run 5 sailing festivals, 4 cricket festivals and 1 kayaking festival this summer in a range of places across England and Wales. These are all dependent on any future restrictions, but they are all due to be outside, so we hope to be able to run all of them.

Objective 3: Coach education

We have adapted all our coach education workshops to be delivered online. This has proved to be well received, has allowed us to invite more than 1 group to each session and has naturally made us more efficient as we do not need to travel to deliver these workshops. Since January 2021 we have delivered regular online workshops.

Objective 4: Nutrition app

The nutrition app has kept running throughout the pandemic, but numbers of users has dropped. This is most likely due to a lack of marketing and engagement whilst the team were on furlough. As sporting activities were stopped for most of 2020, and many adults with Down's syndrome would not have been going to do their food shopping, this will also have affected interested in the features of the app.

Objective 5: DSEngage

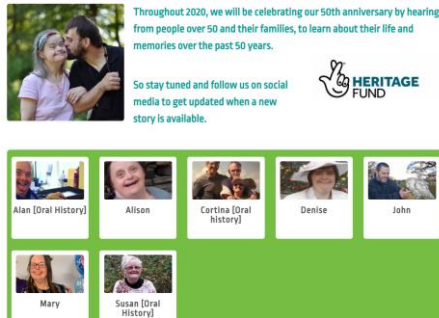
Since returning from furlough, the DSActive team have been heavily involved in the running and administration of the DSEngage programme. The programme has ensured that those at home have been able to keep active and healthy through a range of live and recorded sessions. From dance and yoga to live workouts and Pilates, and even sessions run by Mr Motivator. The programme so far has engaged over 620 people who have Down's syndrome.

Campaigning

Objective 1: Involve adults who have Down's syndrome in the work of the DSA and to gather and represent their views.

We continue to promote and share the stories and voices of people who have Down's syndrome.

Working with our members, supporters and our colleagues we have created and shared stories via all our communications channels throughout the year.



50th Anniversary Memories & Stories Project

Despite the challenges of producing oral histories the pandemic we were able to continue with the project during 2020/21. We were pleased to share two further oral histories as well as eight more written pieces.

Blogs and social media posts

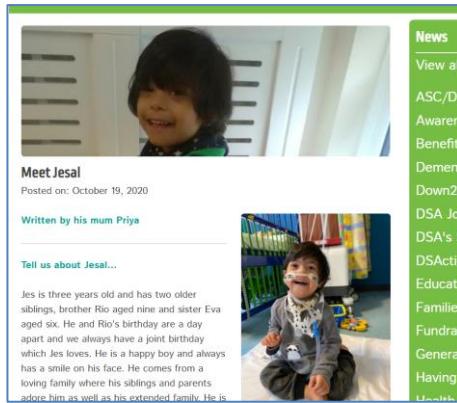
We have released a continuous stream of blogs and social media posts through the year covering a wide range of news and issues. In total over 500,000 people have been engaged through our social media channels. Examples of some of these are:-



Hannah wrote a blog about a project that she done for her degree course, inspired by her beautiful sister Mercy. They also made some fabulous films for us too!



In May 2020, Lauren's mum Sarah, shared their experience of Lauren falling ill with Covid-19 and being hospitalised.



Jesal's mum, Priya, wrote a blog post to introduce us to Jesal and to tell their story.

- 1,053 page views
- 9,021 people reached on Facebook
- 4,980 reach on Instagram

Objective 2: Continue to raise awareness of our existence and our work

We continue to increase awareness of all aspects of the DSA's work through films, social media and press, supporting our colleagues in the Fundraising, Training & Information, WorkFit® and DSActive teams.

Considerable progress was made on the development of a new website for the organisation during the year. The new website was launched in May 2021.

We are... film



This compilation film has a simple but powerful message from people who have Down's syndrome about about all the different aspects of their lives.

Click here to view the film on YouTube: [We are... film](#)

Covid-19 information and resources

Working with the Information and Training and Our Voice teams we produced and shared vital easy read information throughout the pandemic.



Research

Objective 1: To identify new areas of research that should be undertaken

We continue to record and monitor the experiences of callers to our Helpline. This information, along with our knowledge of current research, allows us to identify potential new avenues for study that may lead to practical outcomes for people who have Down's syndrome and their families. We communicate this knowledge to researchers to inform the direction of their research.

Objective 2: To support other organisations or people who are conducting research that may be of benefit to people who have Down's syndrome

The DSA has worked with a number of researchers this year, advising on the development of projects and project materials, finding participants and raising awareness of the work of researchers through our website and social media channels. Below are some of the projects we are involved with at an advisory level or have supported:

- Survey of experience of Covid-19 crisis of people with a learning disability or autistic spectrum disorders – University of Cardiff
- Fathers' experiences of parenting a young adult (18 to 25 years) who has Down's syndrome – University of Leeds
- EUROlinkCAT Parent Survey – University of London
- Flourishing Lives (looking at the gap between learning disability policy and practice – social care and support for adults) – University of Oxford
- Quality of EHCP outcomes for primary school students (aged 5 to 12 years) with Down Syndrome - University of Oslo
- Exploring how quality of life is measured for adults with a learning disability – University of Leeds
- Technology Usage by Children with Down Syndrome – University of Leicester
- Speech Fluency in Down Syndrome (Wayne State University, USA)

Meetings and collaboration

- Technology Usage by Children with Down Syndrome – University of Leicester – Zoom meeting re wording and questions for a survey for parents
- Fractures in people with intellectual disabilities – University of Oxford– update meeting and a supporting letter for a follow-up study by the team.
- We met to offer support for further investigation into the development of bilingualism in children who have Down syndrome – University of Bangor.
- We collaborated with the University of Cambridge Dementia in Down Syndrome team to publicise their work looking at dementia during this year's Awareness Week.
- We met with researchers from the 'Education and Child Health Insights from Linked Data' team (ECHILD), University College London, to discuss our future involvement as a stakeholder and our support for a study using the linked data on health and education for children and young people who have Down's syndrome.

- We met with Cambridge University researchers to discuss a study to investigate regression in teenagers and young adults who have Down's syndrome that we are supporting.

Raising funds

Objective 1: To maintain sufficient funding for the DSA

We are extremely grateful for the generous support we received from our loyal donors in the year which resulted in total income ending the year over budget. This was underpinned by legacy and trust income, however corporate support remained strong and events did remarkably considering lockdown.

In the next year we face new and unknown challenges but the team is ensuring that we stay alert and aware of what they are and react accordingly

Objective 2: To increase unrestricted fundraising

We ran a successful Appeal during the year and also promoted the benefits of legacies to our supporters.

Objective 3: Ensure the fundraising structure complements the economic environment

The team has changed a lot over the last year. The reduced team has worked more flexibly but as things re-open we need to stay aware of how we manage to keep all bases covered and maximise our income.

Financial review

The Down's Syndrome Association income was £3.1m (2020: £2.3m). This increase from the previous year was largely due to an increase in legacy income and trust donations, including new donors. We were also very grateful to have received grant funding during the year from the National Lottery Community Fund who provided a grant to support our work in response to Covid-19, and grant income from the Furlough Job Retention Scheme.

Total expenditure decreased from the previous year to £2.0m (2020: £2.4m). The decrease was largely due to savings made as projects were furloughed and there was no staff travel during the year.

The amount of money spent on raising funds represented 15.3% (2020: 16.8%) of total expenditure (or 15p in every £1 spent).

Overall there was a surplus in the year of £1.1m (2020: deficit £56,000). This surplus was achieved due to the unbudgeted legacy, trust and grant income received during the year.

Down's Syndrome Trading Ltd

This is the subsidiary trading company of the Down's Syndrome Association. Its principal activity is the sale of Christmas cards, socks, t-shirts and books. 'The Lots of Socks' campaign was incredibly popular during Awareness Week. The company made a gross profit of £22,354 (2020 - £10,596) and after administrative expenses the company made an operating profit of £15,164. The company will gift aid any profits to its parent undertaking, the Down's Syndrome Association in the next year (2020 - £3,508).

Principal risks and uncertainties

Risk management

As part of their ongoing strategic planning work, the trustees carry out a formal risk review each year to examine the major risks facing the charity. The review considers both top down and bottom up risks and ranks them in order of likelihood and impact. Responsibility for each risk is allocated either to a member of the senior management team or to the trustees. The senior management team provide updates to the trustees each quarter on their progress against action plans designed to manage the risks identified. The risk register was most recently reviewed and updated by the trustees in March 2021.

The main risks facing the Association have been identified as a loss of funding and the possibility of members leaving. In order to mitigate against these risks a fundraising strategy has been established which strengthens and diversifies our income streams. Additionally the reserves policy has been revised and updated to ensure security and financial stability through the uncertain years expected ahead.

Strong relationships are developed with our members through frequent and regular communication utilising various channels, including social media and regular virtual updates via zoom. This ensures that all members have a sense of "belonging" and that all members are aware of our latest news and any developments and that they are confident that the organisation is stronger because they are a part of it. Any lapses in membership are followed up and any reasons for lapses are addressed.

Reserves policy and going concern

Reserves are needed to bridge the gap between the spending and receiving of income and to cover any unplanned or emergency expenditure. The reserves policy has been updated in light of the pandemic, in order to provide a level of security and a buffer, which will allow our services to continue to be offered and delivered with certainty over the next few years. This provides stability and reassurance to our members, supporters and the wider public that our organisation will continue to operate over the long term, is reliable and dependable and is a going concern. The reserves policy states that the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets and stocks ('the free reserves') held by the charity should be between six to nine months of the resources expended. That equates to between £1.2m and £1.8m in general funds, based on the budget for 2021-22. At this level the trustees feel that they would be able to continue the current activities of the charity in the event of a significant drop in funding. The trustees are aware that should this occur consideration would need to be given to how

such funding would be replaced or the activities changed. The free reserves currently available equate to just over seven months running costs and amount to £1.5m.

The designated funds have also been reviewed and have been built up to provide adequate levels of funding to ensure that when they are needed to be drawn on sufficient funds will be available. The designated funds are:-

IT & Systems – funds to allow our IT infrastructure and software to be kept secure and up to date to allow our services to be delivered in the most efficient way and staff to work flexibly as required

Emergency Fund - funds to be drawn on if an unexpected drop income or other emergency needs an immediate response

Building Fund - provision for building repairs and maintenance

Employment Fund - allowance for investment in our WorkFit project

Research Fund - funds to allow us to launch research projects as the opportunity arises

Our consolidated balance sheet remains strong. The trustees have reviewed the circumstances of the Down's Syndrome Association and consider that adequate resources continue to be available to fund the activities of the Association for the foreseeable future. The trustees are of the view that the Association is a going concern.

Plans for the future

Information, training and assessments

- We will continue to develop inclusive participation at all levels, including development of new services, training events, information resources and as advisers on research.
 - We will continue to inform, raise awareness and campaign about the health, education, employment and adult support needs of people who have Down's syndrome and their rights.
 - We will develop a pathway with national stakeholders to improve quality of care and support for new and expectant parents.
 - We will continue to improve our series of evidence-informed guidance about the role of the speech and language therapist with recommendations for effective speech, language and communication practice for children and young people at secondary school and college, and to work with others to improve speech and language therapy services for children, young people and adults.
 - We will use promote inclusive education with partner organisations.
 - We will continue to offer support, information and training for parent carers, family members and professionals.
 - As key stakeholders, we will submit evidence for government consultations in Wales, England and Northern Ireland. We will continue to advise on the Wales ministerial advisory group and to feedback on NICE clinical guidance.
-

WorkFit

- After the hiatus of Covid-19, the demand for the programme has been re-energised with significant interest both from people who have Down's syndrome who want to start or develop their careers and from employers who wish to partner with us to offer opportunities.
 - We continue to expand our reach beyond the traditional sectors of catering, retail and hospitality, placing people in roles in arts and heritage, construction, finance and law, warehouse and distribution and a range of public sector bodies including the emergency services.
 - We will continue to work with affiliated groups to encourage adults who have Down's syndrome to explore employment opportunities, source employer contacts and share job vacancies.
-

DSActive

- Continue to re-launch as many DSActive sessions as possible so that people with Down's syndrome have opportunities to remain active and healthy.
 - To run as many taster festivals in a variety of sports as possible, to ensure that we are encouraging people with Down's syndrome to return to sport and physical activity.
-

- Ensure that those who are not able to attend sessions are able to keep active at home through the DSEngage programme.
 - To restructure the programme to ensure it reaches its main aim given that the landscape of disability sport has changed significantly following the coronavirus pandemic.
-

Campaigns, policy and research

- Launch new DSA website. Continue to develop it to ensure that it provides the best possible platform for our community and the organisation.
 - Deliver our postponed 50th anniversary celebrations.
 - Work closely with members of the Our Voice team to amplify the voices of people who have Down's syndrome in the communications output of the DSA.
 - We will continue to encourage more engagement with our members and their families through life-stories and include people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to ensure a wide range of life experience is shown.
-

Raising Funds

Trusts

- Build on the incredibly good year for trust income in 2020/21
- Trusts are being sent much more in-depth reports/updates and stewardship has been improved. Better management of relationships is being continued and expanded.
- Focus on funding for specific programmes – for example DSEngage received a grant for just under £70k to help run and expand the project by a new Trust.
- Other focuses for 2021/22 financial year will be on:
 - Continuing with the good level of stewardship currently set up.
 - The creation of a 'touch base' document to be sent to Trusts who have supported us previously but not recently. We hope this will result in new and also extended grants.

Events

- Covid-19 had a huge impact on physical fundraising events. The entire calendar of events was cancelled/postponed which resulted in a switch to virtual fundraising:
 - MAYrathon was launched in May 2020 to increase income, which saw £8k+ raised.
 - Challenge 21 was relaunched in March 2021 which has so far seen just under £27k raised. We launched this event with the help of Run for Charity and had new medals created. This event is now going to run continuously throughout the rest of the financial year.
 - Our London Marathon and Great North Run places were all postponed and we did not have to pay any extra money. Due to dropouts and reallocation of years, we were
-

able to recruit new runners for both events which should hopefully result in an injection of funds raised during this new financial year.

- The now cancelled Prudential RideLondon has seen 6 places be transferred to our London Marathon allocation over the next 3 years, between 2021 and 2024. This will result in extra income that we previously would have not received.
- Our partnership with Ultra Challenges was extended to incorporate this year, at no extra cost. Their events are the first mass participation events we hold places in to restart. 2021/22 should be a relatively profitable year for these challenges.
- Our relationship with Run for Charity is proving a good one and we will continue this when our partnership is due for renewal. Buying 'pay as you go' places in events is much more cost effective.
- There will be more emphasis on Corporate partnerships and employees taking on events in support of the charity. This has worked well with several current supporters so far and we hope to expand this income stream.

Community

- This branch of fundraising has had to be paused due to the current climate. Changes to the community fundraising offer will be looked at in 2021/22.
- We still plan to look into new community themed inserts for our fundraising pack.

Corporates

- Good relationships were established with new companies in 2019-20 and we will build on these relationship in 2021-2022 to encourage more donations.
- Working with larger corporates we will apply for quality grants over £20,000 to sustain projects including WorkFit and core work of DSA
- Work alongside the Northern Ireland offices to encourage more corporates from NI, to give donations
- Explore opportunities for support in South-West and build on any relationship with existing companies in this area
- Actively work to secure new companies to support DSA and bring in a 'stable of new support for DSA'.

Other

- Government and Lottery funding: We will continue to pursue these funding streams.
- Social Media: we will ensure we are up to date with social media trends and reacting accordingly. Tik Tok fundraising could be something we promote this year.
- We will explore new fundraising channels.

Membership

- Continue to promote membership at all online and offline events.
 - Continue to gather email addresses and be more efficient by renewals going through this method.
 - Produce an Easy Read mail-out and membership form for people who have Down's syndrome over 18 who are not currently registered for free lifetime membership.
-

Structure, governance and management

The organisation started as a parent support group in 1970. It was registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee, registered as a charity on 11 June 1973 and incorporated on 30 January 1997.

The organisation was established under a memorandum of association which set out the objects and powers of the organisation and is governed under its articles of association.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in note 8 to the accounts.

Appointment of trustees

The board of trustees consists of up to eight Full Members elected by the Full Members together with any persons appointed or co-opted.

To be eligible for election, a Member must have been a Full Member of the Association for at least three years immediately prior to the election.

At each Annual General Meeting, one third of the elected trustees must retire by rotation, but all are eligible for re-election. Once trustees have served for a term of three years they are required to stand down from the Board but are eligible to stand again for election.

Trustee induction and training

New trustees undergo orientation to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and inform them of the content of the memorandum and articles of association, the committee and decision-making processes, the business plan and recent financial performance of the charity. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will upskill them in their role.

Related parties and relationships with other organisations

The Association continues its close links with Down's Syndrome Scotland, Down's Syndrome Ireland and the Down's Heart Group. The DSA regularly works with other national organisations such as Mencap, Early Support and the National Autistic Society. It belongs to the Care and Support Alliance, a group of national charities who campaign for improvements in social care, as well as Disability Rights UK and the Special Education

Consortium. The DSA is a member of Down Syndrome International and supports the organisation financially.

The DSA works in collaboration with a number of Universities, and is currently involved with Cambridge, Cardiff, Kingston, Newcastle, Suffolk, Birmingham and Middlesex Universities, working together on specific projects.

Remuneration policy for key management personnel

The Down's Syndrome Association is committed to ensuring a proper balance between (i) paying our staff and others who work for us fairly so that we attract and retain the best people for the job and (ii) careful management of our charity funds. In so doing we will ensure the greatest effectiveness in delivering our charitable objectives and meeting the needs of our beneficiaries.

When determining the salary for a newly created post, we will collect information about comparable roles in other organisations, preferably within the voluntary sector. We will use this information to benchmark our own salaries, normally aiming to set it at a level that appears to represent the market average. We will also seek advice from colleagues within other organisations, if applicable, when we know they employ people in similar roles.

Salary banding

Salaries for all current posts, other than the Chief Executive, will fall within a salary band, based on the skills required for the role, the responsibility of the role and the experience of the person.

Normally, in April each year, the trustees will consider awarding a cost of living adjustment for all staff when setting the following year's annual budget. This increase is to reflect changes in the cost of living and is entirely at the discretion of the trustees.

The trustees' considerations will begin with an assumption that salaries should be adjusted to match inflation (specifically the Consumer Price Index) over the preceding 12 months. They will also take into account economic forecasts for the rate of inflation in the year ahead. They will then determine whether this is appropriate in the context of the charity's financial situation and the charity's performance.

Fundraising

We regularly review all our fundraising processes and procedures to ensure that we adhere to the relevant codes of practice and that we are dealing with supporters or potential supporters in a way which aligns with our values.

Vulnerable people are protected as we never share personal data, never put any of our supporters under undue pressure, always seek consent for contact and anyone can opt out of hearing from us at any time.

We do not work with any commercial participators or professional fundraisers. We have never received any complaints related to our fundraising. All fundraising activities are reported on regularly and reviewed at the senior management team and trustees.

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

The trustees (who are also directors of Down's Syndrome Association 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 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 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.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 March 2021 was 7 (2020: 7). The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditors

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

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on 10 July 2021 and signed on their behalf by Georgie Hill, Chair of Trustees

Independent auditor's report to the members of the Down's Syndrome Association

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Down's Syndrome Association (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2021 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 2021 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 Down's Syndrome Association'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. 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.

Noelia Serrano (Senior statutory auditor)

22 September 2021

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

For the year ended 31 March 2021

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 Total £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	2	2,088,331	18,390	2,106,721	1,431,779	82,919	1,514,698
Charitable activities							
Information, Training and Assessments	3	31,738	182,435	214,173	43,691	72,616	116,307
Beneficiary Projects and Services	3	–	201,413	201,413	–	548,114	548,114
Campaigning and Research	3	–	227,993	227,993	–	7,959	7,959
Other trading activities	4	69,215	–	69,215	148,732	1,160	149,892
Investments		4,705	–	4,705	9,947	–	9,947
Other Income – Job Retention Scheme		247,855	–	247,855	–	–	–
Total income		2,441,844	630,231	3,072,075	1,634,150	712,767	2,346,917
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	5	300,234	4,839	305,073	410,496	4,926	415,422
Charitable activities	5						
Information, Training and Assessments	5	547,106	193,448	740,554	490,048	156,600	646,648
Beneficiary Projects and Services	5	271,250	367,026	638,276	270,906	649,101	920,007
Campaigning and Research	5	257,266	59,000	316,265	381,015	51,258	432,273
Total expenditure		1,375,855	624,313	2,000,168	1,552,465	861,885	2,414,350
Net income / (expenditure) before net gains / (losses) on investments		1,065,989	5,918	1,071,907	81,685	(149,118)	(67,433)
Net gains / (losses) on investments		39	–	39	(185)	–	(185)
Net income / (expenditure) for the year	7	1,066,028	5,918	1,071,946	81,500	(149,118)	(67,618)
Transfers between funds		(72,431)	72,431	–	(83,769)	83,769	–
Net movement in funds		993,597	78,349	1,071,946	(2,269)	(65,349)	(67,618)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		1,524,591	1,130,404	2,654,995	1,526,860	1,195,753	2,722,613
Total funds carried forward		2,518,188	1,208,753	3,726,941	1,524,591	1,130,404	2,654,995

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 21 to the financial statements.

	Note	The group 2021 £	2020 £	The charity 2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	12	1,038,550	1,090,483	1,038,550	1,090,483
Investments	13	131	92	133	94
		1,038,681	1,090,575	1,038,683	1,090,577
Current assets:					
Stock	16	5,735	12,546	3,814	8,536
Debtors	17	69,547	81,604	69,361	80,019
Short-term deposits		855,128	852,701	855,128	852,701
Cash at bank and in hand		1,941,070	737,889	1,922,944	733,073
		2,871,480	1,684,740	2,851,247	1,674,329
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(183,220)	(120,320)	(201,133)	(136,943)
Net current assets		2,688,260	1,564,420	2,650,114	1,537,386
Total net assets		3,726,941	2,654,995	3,688,796	2,627,963
Funds:					
Restricted income funds	21	1,208,753	1,130,404	1,208,753	1,130,404
Unrestricted income funds:					
Designated funds		963,987	228,363	963,987	228,363
General funds		1,516,056	1,269,196	1,516,056	1,269,196
Non-charitable trading funds		38,145	27,032	-	-
Total unrestricted funds		2,518,188	1,524,591	2,480,043	1,497,559
Total funds		3,726,941	2,654,995	3,688,796	2,627,963

Approved by the trustees on 10 July 2021 and signed on their behalf by

Darren Warkcup
Treasurer

	Note	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities	22				
Net cash used in operating activities			1,207,941		(89,905)
Cash flows from investing activities:					
Dividends and interest from investments		4,705		9,947	
Purchase of fixed assets		(7,038)		(51,586)	
Movement in short-term deposits		(2,427)		(6,322)	
Net cash used in investing activities			(4,760)		(47,961)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year			1,203,181		(137,866)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year			737,889		875,755
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year			<u>1,941,070</u>		<u>737,889</u>

1 Accounting policies

a) Statutory information

Down's Syndrome Association is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in England. The registered office address and principal place of business is Langdon Down Centre, 2a Langdon Park, Teddington, Middlesex TW11 9PS.

b) Basis of preparation

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.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

These financial statements consolidate the results of the charitable company and its wholly-owned subsidiary Down's Syndrome Trading Limited 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.

c) Public benefit entity

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

d) Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees have considered the ongoing impact of the Covid-19 pandemic when reaching this conclusion.

There are no key judgements that the charitable company has made which have a significant effect on the accounts.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

e) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

For legacies, 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.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

Membership income is treated as donation income and recognised when received.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

f) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

g) Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

h) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

i) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- 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
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering services, campaigning and research undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

j) Allocation of support costs

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on the following basis which are an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity.

Where information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is provided to potential beneficiaries, the costs associated with this publicity are allocated to charitable expenditure.

Support and governance costs are re-allocated to each of the activities on the following basis which is an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity

- | | |
|---|-----|
| ● Cost of Raising Funds | 15% |
| ● Information, Training and Assessments | 33% |
| ● Beneficiary Projects and Services | 37% |
| ● Campaigning and Research | 15% |

Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity. These costs are associated with constitutional and statutory requirements and include any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities.

k) Operating leases

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

1 Accounting policies (continued)**l) Tangible fixed assets**

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £1,000. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

● Freehold Property	2% straight line basis
● Long Leasehold Premises	2% straight line basis
● Improvements to Property	10% reducing balance basis
● Pullen Exhibition Assets	10% straight line basis
● Fixtures & Fittings	25% straight line basis
● Computer Equipment	33% straight line basis

m) Listed investments

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 and any excess of fair value over the historic cost of the investments will be shown as a fair value reserve in the balance sheet. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and shown in the heading "Net gains/(losses) on investments" in the statement of financial activities. The charity does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments.

Investments in subsidiaries

Investments in subsidiaries are at cost.

n) Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. In general, cost is determined on a first in first out basis and includes transport and handling costs. Net realisable value is the price at which stocks can be sold in the normal course of business after allowing for the costs of realisation. Provision is made where necessary for obsolete, slow moving and defective stocks. Donated items of stock, held for distribution or resale, are recognised at fair value which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay for the items on the open market.

o) 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.

p) Short term deposits

Short term deposits includes cash balances that are invested in accounts with a maturity date of between 3 and 12 months.

q) 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.

r) 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.

s) Pensions

Payments to the stakeholder pension scheme are charged as an expense as they fall due.

For the year ended 31 March 2021

2a Income from donations and legacies (current year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 total Total £	2020 Total £
Gifts	1,231,943	18,390	1,250,333	1,081,457
Legacies	856,388		856,388	428,720
Donated services			-	4,521
Total income from donations and legacies	2,088,331	18,390	2,106,721	1,514,698

2b Income from donations and legacies (prior year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 total Total £	2019 Total £
Gifts	1,017,352	64,105	1,081,457	1,102,071
Legacies	409,907	18,813	428,720	385,229
Donated services	4,521		4,521	21,132
Total income from donations and legacies	1,431,780	82,918	1,514,699	1,508,432

At the end of the year, we have been notified that we are entitled to funds from a total of 4 (2020: 4) residual legacies. However, as at 31 March 2021, we had not been notified as to the value of our entitlement or when this would be received. As such we are not able to recognise these funds in the financial statements for the year.

3a Income from charitable activities (current year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	-	71,955	71,955	58,455
Companies	-	10,000	10,000	10,776
National Lottery Community Fund	-	100,000	100,000	-
Conference, Training & Assessments	31,738	480	32,218	47,076
Sub-total for Information, Training & Assessments	31,738	182,435	214,173	116,307
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	-	20,000	20,000	72,700
Companies	-	69,248	69,248	100,355
Department of Digital, Culture, Media & Sport	-	-	-	106,414
Big Lottery Fund	-	-	-	179,732
Welsh Government	-	62,968	62,968	-
DHSSPS	-	32,856	32,856	26,285
EU Active Inclusion	-	7,826	7,826	38,412
Contributions to Youth & Project Activities	-	8,515	8,515	24,216
Sub-total for Beneficiary Projects & Services	-	201,413	201,413	548,114
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	-	175,563	175,563	-
Companies	-	5,000	5,000	7,959
National Lottery Heritage Fund	-	47,430	47,430	-
Sub-total for Campaigning & Research	-	227,993	227,993	7,959
Total income from charitable activities	31,738	611,841	643,579	672,379

3b Income from charitable activities (prior year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 Total £	2019 Total £
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	–	58,455	58,455	80,723
Companies	–	10,776	10,776	17,945
Conference, Training & Assessments	43,961	3,385	47,076	34,060
Sub-total for Information, Training & Assessments	43,691	72,616	116,307	132,728
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	–	72,700	72,700	66,300
Companies	–	100,355	100,355	51,540
Sport England	–	–	–	–
Department of Digital, Culture, Media & Sport	–	106,414	106,414	35,000
Big Lottery Fund	–	179,732	179,732	167,987
Welsh Assembly	–	–	–	6,250
DHSSPS	–	26,285	26,285	26,285
EU Active Inclusion	–	38,412	38,412	32,024
Contributions to Youth & Project Activities	–	24,216	24,216	20,513
Sub-total for Beneficiary Projects & Services	–	548,114	548,114	405,899
Charitable Trusts & Foundations	–	–	–	13,316
Companies	–	7,959	7,959	15,425
Heritage Lottery Fund	–	–	–	–
Sub-total for Campaigning & Research	–	7,959	7,959	28,741
Total income from charitable activities	43,691	628,688	672,379	567,368

4a Income from other trading activities (current year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Lettings	36,748	–	36,748	102,938
Fundraising events	8,488	–	8,488	25,455
Subsidiary trading	23,979	–	23,979	21,499
Total income from other trading activities	69,215	–	69,215	149,893

4b Income from other trading activities (prior year)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 Total £	2019 Total £
Lettings	101,778	1,160	102,938	116,555
Fundraising events	25,455	–	25,455	16,524
Subsidiary trading	2,149	–	21,499	24,611
Total income from other trading activities	148,733	1,160	149,893	157,690

5a Analysis of expenditure (current year)

	Cost of raising funds £	Charitable activities					Support costs £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
		Information, Training & Assessments £	Beneficiary Projects & Services £	Campaigning & Research £	Governance costs £				
Staff costs (Note 8)	166,742	364,828	407,741	168,274	26,608	153,451	1,287,644	1,371,693	
Staff training & recruitment	-	304	240	-	-	3,940	4,484	13,183	
Postage, telephone, fax and email	4,607	8,769	5,978	1,250	1,165	9,671	31,440	41,331	
Research & museum costs	-	-	17,444	31,091	-	6,261	54,796	90,324	
Information resources	631	17,983	3,781	23,234	600	2,323	48,552	63,726	
Conferences and training costs	-	2,263	1,798	10	-	-	4,071	17,194	
Projects and activities	-	116,215	6,232	3,479	-	-	125,926	192,466	
Fundraising events	36,688	-	-	-	-	597	37,285	75,125	
Fundraising costs	12,823	-	-	-	-	-	12,823	45,834	
Appeals, advertising and media	5,126	5,806	-	12,429	-	-	23,361	13,948	
Travel & meetings	319	3,877	30	-	531	294	5,051	103,047	
Consultants, Advisors and professional fees	6,018	59,656	1,781	-	24,234	38,924	130,613	86,217	
Office rent, running and equipment	967	5,174	18,061	4,693	1,802	144,453	175,150	242,745	
Depreciation	-	-	1,200	-	-	57,772	58,972	57,517	
	233,921	584,875	464,286	244,460	54,940	417,686	2,000,168	2,414,350	
Support costs	62,881	137,582	153,765	63,459	-	(417,686)	-	-	
Governance costs	8,271	18,097	20,225	8,347	(54,940)	-	-	-	
Total expenditure 2021	305,073	740,554	638,276	316,265	-	-	2,000,168		
Total expenditure 2020	415,423	646,648	920,007	432,273	-	-		2,414,350	

5b Analysis of expenditure (prior year)

	Cost of raising funds £	Charitable activities					Support costs £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
		Information, Training & Assessments £	Beneficiary Projects & Services £	Campaigning & Research £	Governance costs £				
Staff costs (Note 8)	178,137	342,871	482,924	169,490	27,945	170,326	1,371,693	1,249,686	
Staff training & recruitment	330	80	2,486	-	364	9,923	13,183	16,090	
Postage, telephone, fax and email	7,722	7,020	6,868	1,678	1,233	16,810	41,331	42,210	
Research & museum costs	-	-	25,596	64,728	-	-	90,324	25,377	
Information resources	404	6,590	11,870	44,862	-	-	63,726	61,066	
Conferences and training costs	530	5,911	8,303	-	2,450	-	17,194	19,521	
Projects and activities	-	32,298	61,315	65,245	-	33,608	192,466	193,922	
Fundraising events	74,975	-	150	-	-	-	75,125	102,412	
Fundraising costs	45,834	-	-	-	-	-	45,834	29,102	
Appeals, advertising and media	13,948	-	-	-	-	-	13,948	4,140	
Travel & meetings	1,799	26,523	60,509	3,942	8,277	1,997	103,047	107,295	
Consultants, Advisors and professional fees	4,271	59,119	-	-	16,632	6,195	86,217	71,445	
Office running and equipment costs	2,985	3,346	6,634	1,851	1,764	125,430	142,010	155,425	
Rent, Insurance & Maintenance	-	271	23,108	90	-	77,266	100,735	97,093	
Depreciation	-	-	1,200	-	-	56,317	57,517	41,417	
	330,935	484,029	690,963	351,886	58,665	497,872	2,414,350	2,216,201	
Support costs	75,582	145,477	204,900	71,913	-	(497,872)	-	-	
Governance costs	8,906	17,142	24,144	8,474	(58,665)	-	-	-	
Total expenditure 2021	415,423	646,648	920,007	432,273	-	-	2,414,350		
Total expenditure 2020	363,723	553,293	878,676	375,409	-	-		2,171,101	

6 Grant making

	2021 £	2020 £
Cost		
Down Syndrome International: International Liaisons	111,000	51,000
University of Cambridge– Mental Regression Research	–	45,000
	<u>111,000</u>	<u>96,000</u>
At the end of the year	<u>111,000</u>	<u>96,000</u>

Down Syndrome International: The grant supporting the International Liaisons project will enable the fellowship of Down Syndrome organisations around the world to be facilitated.

University of Cambridge: The grant supports the research into mental regression in adults with Down's syndrome.

7 Net income / (expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging:

	2021 £	2020 £
Depreciation	58,971	57,517
Operating lease rentals:		
Property	26,555	27,965
Other	6,064	4,346
Auditor's remuneration (excluding VAT):		
Audit	11,800	11,200
	<u>111,000</u>	<u>96,000</u>

8 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

Staff costs were as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Salaries and wages	1,120,062	1,202,265
Social security costs	107,919	114,039
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	59,663	55,389
	<u>1,287,644</u>	<u>1,371,693</u>

One employee earned between £60,000 – £70,000 during the year (2020: none).

The total employee benefits including pension contributions and employer's national insurance of the key management personnel were £202,354 (2020: £192,807).

The charity trustees were neither paid nor received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2020: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2020: £nil).

Trustees' expenses represent the payment or reimbursement of travel and subsistence costs totalling £720 (2020: £788) incurred by 8 (2020: 8) members relating to attendance at meetings of the trustees.

9 Staff numbers

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the year was as follows:

	2021 No.	2020 No.
Raising funds	7.3	9.2
Information, Training and Assessments	10.2	9.3
Beneficiary Projects and Services	13.5	15.3
Campaigning and Research	5.0	5.0
Support	5.0	5.0
Governance	1.0	1.0
	<u>42.0</u>	<u>44.7</u>

10 Related party transactions

There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties.

Down Syndrome International uses office space at the Down's Syndrome Association headquarters. Grants are given by Down's Syndrome Association to support the work of Down Syndrome International. The Chief Executive of Down's Syndrome Association, Carol Boys, is also a trustee of Down Syndrome International.

DSA is the payroll agency for DSI.

The Down's Syndrome Association made the following payments to Down Syndrome International during the year:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Grant Payments	111,000	51,000
Membership Fee	240	240
Projects, Meetings and Events	-	8,902
Merchandise	-	13,565
Total	111,240	73,707

In addition Down's Syndrome Trading is a subsidiary of Down's Syndrome Association. There was no balance owing to Down's Syndrome Association at the end of the financial year.

11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes. The charity's trading subsidiary Down's Syndrome Trading Limited gift aids available profits to the parent charity so no tax is payable.

12 Tangible fixed assets**The charity and the group**

	Freehold Property £	Long Leasehold Premises £	Improvements to Property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Pullen Exhibition Assets £	Computer Equipment £	Total £
Cost							
At the start of the year	1,286,250	60,000	78,712	83,849	42,128	156,504	1,707,443
Additions in year	-	-	-	7,038	-	-	7,038
Disposals in year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
At the end of the year	1,286,250	60,000	78,712	90,887	42,128	156,504	1,714,481
Depreciation							
At the start of the year	294,000	36,000	51,266	76,441	33,704	125,549	616,960
Charge for the year	29,400	1,200	2,744	4,630	4,213	16,784	58,971
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
At the end of the year	323,400	37,200	54,010	81,071	37,917	142,333	675,931
Net book value							
At the end of the year	962,850	22,800	24,702	9,816	4,211	14,171	1,038,550
At the start of the year	992,250	24,000	27,446	7,408	8,424	30,955	1,090,483

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

13 Listed investments

	The group		The charity	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Fair value at the start of the year	92	277	94	279
Net gain / (loss) on change in fair value	39	(185)	39	(185)
Fair value at the end of the year	131	92	133	94
Historic cost at the end of the year	15	15	15	15
Investments comprise:				
	The group		The charity	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Shares listed on the London Stock Exchange	132	93	132	93
Unlisted shares in UK registered companies	-	-	2	2
	132	93	134	95

14 Subsidiary undertaking

The charitable company owns the whole of the issued ordinary share capital of Down's Syndrome Trading Limited (DST), a company registered in England. The subsidiary is used for non-primary purpose trading activities. The Chief Executive of DSA is also a Director of DST. All activities have been consolidated on a line by line basis in the statement of financial activities. Available profits are gift aided to the charitable company. A summary of the results of the subsidiary is shown below:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Turnover	25,840	22,684
Cost of sales	(3,486)	(12,088)
Gross profit	22,354	10,596
Administrative expenses	(6,190)	(6,088)
Management Charge	(1,000)	(1,000)
Profit on ordinary activities	15,164	3,508
Donation to parent undertaking	(4,074)	-
Profit for the financial year	11,090	3,508
The aggregate of the assets, liabilities and funds was:		
Assets	39,645	28,555
Liabilities	(1,500)	(1,500)
Funds	38,145	27,055

15 Parent charity

The parent charity's gross income and the results for the year are disclosed as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Gross income	2,623,819	2,329,307
Result for the year	1,129,072	(67,052)

16 Stocks

	The group		The charity	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Finished goods	5,735	12,546	3,814	8,536
	5,735	12,546	3,814	8,536

17 Debtors

	The group		The charity	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Trade debtors	5,359	15,038	5,359	15,038
Other debtors	47,168	46,547	46,982	44,962
Prepayments	7,105	20,019	7,105	20,019
Accrued income	9,915	-	9,915	-
	69,547	81,604	69,361	80,019

18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	The group		The charity	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	6,307	15,636	6,307	15,636
Taxation and social security	28,124	33,195	28,124	33,195
Pension	-	-	-	-
Accruals	65,492	57,724	63,992	56,224
Deferred income (note 19)	83,297	13,765	83,297	13,765
Amounts owed to subsidiary company	-	-	19,413	18,123
	183,220	120,320	201,133	136,943

19 Deferred income

Deferred income comprises restricted donations, membership fees and sales.

	The group		The charity	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Balance at the beginning of the year	13,765	61,917	13,765	61,917
Amount released to income in the year	(13,765)	(61,917)	(13,765)	(61,917)
Amount deferred in the year	83,297	13,765	83,297	13,765
Balance at the end of the year	83,297	13,765	83,297	13,765

20a Analysis of group net assets between funds (current year)

	General Unrestricted	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	23,987	1,014,563	1,038,550
Investments	131	-	-	131
Net current assets	1,854,070	640,000	194,190	2,688,260
Net assets at the end of the year	1,854,201	663,987	1,208,753	3,726,941

20b Analysis of group net assets between funds (prior year)

	General Unrestricted	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	38,363	1,052,120	1,090,483
Investments	92	-	-	92
Net current assets	1,296,136	190,000	78,284	1,564,420
Net assets at the end of the year	1,296,228	228,363	1,130,404	2,654,995

21a Movements in funds (current year)

	At the start of the year £	Incoming resources & gains £	Outgoing resources & losses £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds:					
Welsh Government	-	62,968	(92,502)		(29,534)
Northern Ireland					
DHSSPS	-	32,856	(32,856)	-	-
Youth Activities	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Ireland Fixed Asset Reserve	24,000	-	(1,200)	-	22,800
Other Northern Ireland funds	-	9,991	(71,267)	61,276	-
DSActive	48,099	10,222	(12,336)	-	45,985
Training and Conferences	5,000	-	(5,000)	-	-
Speech and Language	-	-	-	-	-
Information	-	182,441	(174,941)	-	7,500
Having a Voice	-	2,919	(2,919)	-	-
Digital Communications	-	175,562	-	-	175,562
WorkFit – Employment Project	-	100,784	(111,939)	11,155	-
WorkFit North – Big Lottery Fund	33,093	-	(33,093)	-	-
Midwives Training	-	-	-	-	-
50th Year Memories and Stories	(20,032)	47,430	(47,757)	-	(20,359)
Theatre Fund	12,124	5,058	(2,146)	-	15,036
LDC Fixed Asset Reserve	1,019,696	-	(32,144)	-	987,552
Pullen Exhibition Assets (Heritage Lottery funded)	8,424	-	(4,213)	-	4,211
Total restricted funds	1,130,404	630,231	(624,313)	72,431	1,208,753
Unrestricted funds:	Start of yr	In	Out	Transfers	End of yr
Designated funds:					
IT & Systems Fund	100,000	-	-	100,000	200,000
Emergency Fund	-	-	-	300,000	300,000
Building Fund	50,000	-	-	100,000	150,000
Employment Project	40,000	-	-	-	40,000
Research Fund	-	-	-	250,000	250,000
Fixed Asset Reserve	38,363	7,038	(21,414)	-	23,987
Total designated funds	228,363	7,038	(21,414)	750,000	963,987
General funds	1,269,196	2,408,966	(1,339,675)	(822,431)	1,516,056
Non-charitable trading funds	27,032	25,840	(14,727)	-	38,145
Total unrestricted funds	1,524,591	2,441,844	(1,375,816)	(72,431)	2,518,188
Total funds	2,654,995	3,072,075	(2,000,129)	-	3,726,941

21b Movements in funds (prior year)

	At the start of the year £	Incoming resources & gains £	Outgoing resources & losses £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds:					
Training – Amyloid Disposition and Alzheimer's Disease Northern Ireland	5,400	700	(6,100)	-	-
DHSSPS	-	26,285	(26,285)	-	-
Youth Activities	-	5,110	(5,110)	-	-
Northern Ireland Fixed Asset Reserve	25,200	-	(1,200)	-	24,000
Other Northern Ireland funds	-	54,623	(88,538)	33,915	-
DSActive	8,523	236,802	(197,226)	-	48,099
Training and Conferences	15,000	5,000	(15,000)	-	5,000
Speech and Language Information	12,050	5,000	(17,050)	-	-
Having a Voice	-	96,543	(96,543)	-	-
Campaigning and Research	-	10,459	(10,459)	-	-
WorkFit – Employment Project	15,737	88,809	(154,400)	49,854	-
WorkFit North – Big Lottery Fund	25,842	170,239	(162,988)	-	33,093
Midwives Training	7,006	966	(7,972)	-	-
Heritage Lottery Fund	4,213	-	(24,245)	-	(20,032)
Theatre Fund	12,000	7,778	(7,654)	-	12,124
LDC Fixed Asset Reserve	1,052,145	-	(32,449)	-	1,019,696
Pullen Exhibition Assets (Heritage Lottery funded)	12,637	-	(4,213)	-	8,424
Total restricted funds	1,195,753	712,767	(861,885)	83,769	1,130,404
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds:					
IT Upgrade	10,000	-	-	90,000	100,000
Building Fund	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
Employment Project	40,000	-	-	-	40,000
Mental Regression Research	45,000	-	(45,000)	-	-
Fixed Asset Reserve	6,432	51,586	(19,655)	-	38,363
Total designated funds	151,432	51,586	(64,655)	90,000	228,363
General funds	1,351,884	1,559,880	(1,468,799)	(173,769)	1,269,196
Non-charitable trading funds	23,544	22,684	(19,196)	-	27,032
Total unrestricted funds	1,526,860	1,634,150	(1,552,650)	(83,769)	1,524,591
Total funds	2,722,613	2,346,917	(2,414,535)	-	2,654,995

Purposes of restricted funds**Training – Alzheimer's Disease**

This fund supports training of health and care professionals who work with people with Down's syndrome and Alzheimer's disease.

Welsh Government

The main funder for work in Wales is the Welsh Government as part of its scheme for organisations operating in the social care sector for people with learning disabilities. The grant is used to support the work of our projects in Wales. The fund is currently in deficit as grant claims are made in arrears.

Northern Ireland

The main funder of our core work in Northern Ireland is the DHSSPS. Also we have been grateful to receive funding from the Big Lottery Fund to support the Harvest Project working with older people.

Any funds raised as a result of the fundraising activities carried out in Wales and Northern Ireland are also restricted to our work in those regions. The staff team in Northern Ireland organise training and support their affiliated groups and individual families with advice and support. They also organise numerous activities for people with Down's syndrome and run weekend breaks and holidays. We also own a chalet in Northern Ireland and the Northern Ireland Fixed Asset Reserve represents the net book value of the chalet.

DSActive

Funding raised to provide participation in sport opportunities for young people with Down's syndrome. This enables the young people with Down's syndrome to develop their physical, social and emotional health through the joy of sport.

Training and Conferences

These funds are raised to support our comprehensive training and conference programme.

Education

These funds are used to continue the Down's Syndrome Association's important work in all areas of education for people with Down's syndrome. This includes providing help and advice on the Statementing process, design and production of Curriculum Support packs, organisation of training and conferences for education professionals, as well as responding to a variety of calls and requests for information specific to education.

Information

These funds are used to provide information and advice. We provide a help line 5 days a week and distribute leaflets and publications. The information department also publishes the *Journal* twice a year which is distributed to the members of the Association. Our publications and leaflets are continually being developed and updated. Our information department also has specialists who offer advice and support to families about welfare benefits, in particular the Disability Living Allowance.

Having a Voice

Specific donations have been given to grow the Having a Voice project which empowers young adults with Down's syndrome to be active citizens in their communities.

Digital Communications

This income relates to support received to fund our digital communications strategy revolution.

WorkFit- Employment Project

These funds are used to support the work the Association does to support adults with Down's syndrome. This includes our unique WorkFit project which helps adults with Down's syndrome into employment.

Our WorkFit project in the North of England is currently funded by the Big Lottery Fund.

Midwives Training

This funding is used to provide essential training to midwives as part of our "Tell it Right, Start it Right" campaign.

50th Year Memories and Stories

A project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund to capture the memories and stories of people with Down's syndrome over the last 50 years. The fund is currently in deficit as grant claims are made in arrears.

Theatre Fund

This fund is used to maintain the glorious Victorian theatre at the Langdon Down Centre which was originally built and used by Dr John Langdon Down.

LDC Fixed Asset Reserve

This represents the value of the assets including buildings and fixtures and fittings which were acquired from the Langdon Down Centre Trust on merger.

Pullen Exhibition Assets

This represents the value of the glass display cases, which were purchased for the Pullen Exhibition, with Heritage Lottery Funds.

Purposes of designated funds

IT & Systems Upgrade

The trustees have designated these funds to ensure that resources are available should any systems infrastructure need to be upgraded and other sources of funding cannot be secured.

Emergency Fund

The trustees have designated these funds to provide a buffer for an emergency situation which may adversely affect our ability to raise funds.

Building Fund

The trustees have designated these funds to provide a sinking fund which will be used as necessary for building maintenance.

Employment Project

The trustees have designated these funds to initiate the employment project which will support adults with Down's syndrome into work.

Research Funds

The trustees have designated these funds to allow us to invest in research opportunities.

Fixed Asset Reserve

This represents the value of general funds invested in buildings, fixtures and fittings and computer equipment and is therefore not readily available for other purposes.

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

	2021 £	2020 £
Net income / (expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	1,071,946	(67,618)
Depreciation charges	58,971	57,517
(Gains)/losses on investments	(39)	185
Dividends and interest from investments	(4,705)	(9,947)
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	6,811	(251)
Decrease in debtors	12,057	8,463
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	62,900	(78,254)
Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities	1,207,941	(89,905)

23 Operating lease commitments

The group's total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows for each of the following periods:

	Property		Equipment	
	2021 £	2020 £	2021 £	2020 £
Within one year	16,270	30,300	5,762	6,025
In the second to fifth years inclusive	-	19,925	5,151	12,299
	16,270	50,225	10,913	18,324

24 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 Down's Syndrome Association provides information and support on all aspects of living with Down's syndrome.

We also work to champion the rights of people with Down's syndrome, by campaigning for change and challenging discrimination.

A wide range of Down's Syndrome Association publications can be downloaded free of charge from our website.

Contact us

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WorkFit® is a registered trade mark of the Down's Syndrome Association. Photographs courtesy of DSA members and supporters.



www.dsactive.org



www.dsworkfit.org.uk



www.langdondownmuseum.org.uk



www.langdondowncentre.org.uk



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