

CHILDLIFE

England & Wales · Charity number 1080536

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [03696656](#)

Registered 2000-05-03

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

Contact

Address Childlife
Westmead House
Westmead
Farnborough
GU14 7LP

Phone 01252628072

Email info@childlife.org.uk

Website www.childlife.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE THE RELIEF OF CHILDREN WHO ARE IN NEED IN PARTICULAR BY ENABLING THE MEMBER CHARITIES THE BETTER TO MEET THEIR RESPECTIVE CHARITABLE PURPOSES.

Activities: Childlife helps to improve the lives of children and young people throughout the UK by raising funds for the work of its four member charities. Our partner charities supporting children are Ataxia UK, Acorns Children's Hospice, National Deaf Children's Society and the National Children's Bureau.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies

Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£1,355,314	£1,184,560	£788,253	3
2024-03-31	£1,310,371	£1,082,927	£617,499	2
2023-03-31	£1,291,869	£1,325,321	£390,055	4
2022-03-31	£1,173,918	£1,264,738	£423,507	4
2021-03-31	£997,911	£903,878	£514,327	4

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Christopher Ferris		2025-10-23
Jamie Powrie		2025-10-23
Kaveed Ali		2025-10-23
Susan Jane Millman		2025-01-24

CHILDLIFE

England & Wales - Charity number 1080536

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 03696656 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1080536

Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025
for
Childlife
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Barnes Noble Ltd
Unitec House
2 Albert Place
London
N3 1QB

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

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Childlife (Registered number: 03696656)

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Trustees

B McNaught, Treasurer

Ms C White, Chair

L Walker

S Millman (appointed 24th January 2025)

Other trustees in year

V Elzer (resigned as a trustee on 19th December 2024)

The appointment of Trustees is in accordance with the charity's Articles of Association, whereby each member has the right to appoint and remove a trustee and to appoint and remove an alternate.

None of the Trustees has any beneficial interest in the company.

Childlife provides both a role description and a code of conduct for trustees to ensure that the duties and responsibilities of being a trustee are clearly understood. In addition, it has specialist role descriptions for both the Chair of Trustees and Honorary Treasurer. These are provided to all new trustees as part of their induction information.

New trustees are encouraged to meet with the Chief Executive Officer and staff members and other trustees within the first few months of appointment. Training for trustees is provided if required.

Childlife is run by a very efficient small team of three part time employees (1.8 FTE), who are highly appreciated by the board of trustees. The arrangements for setting the pay and remuneration of all the charity's staff including key management personnel are agreed by the CEO and the trustees. The latest pay review was set in line with cost-of-living increases.

Background

The idea for Childlife, a consortium of children's charities allowing its member charities to fundraise collectively, originated in 1992. Its first donor was recruited in July 1993. Childlife became a company limited by guarantee in 1999 and a registered charity in 2000.

Member charities of Childlife:

Acorns Children's Hospice Ataxia UK

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

National Children's Bureau National Deaf Children's Society

The Board of Trustees, which has four members, one from each member charity, administers the charity and is required to meet quarterly. However, in practice the trustees and the CEO meet most months. A Chief Executive Officer is appointed by the Trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity. To facilitate effective operations, the Chief Executive Officer has delegated authority, within the terms of delegation approved by the Trustees, for operational matters including finance, employment, fundraising and charitable activities.

Donations received by Childlife are distributed annually to these charities and hundreds of thousands of pounds are raised each year to support their important work with children and young people. The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks. The risks are documented on the risk register. The main two risks were;

1) Financial Failure of Key Suppliers (Gather and Ethicall) - We have undertaken due diligence before signing contracts, including credit checks. We also horizon scan to identify supplier issues and potential alternative suppliers. In this year we have also worked with two other agencies Altru, IXL.

2) Loss of Income - The Cost-of-Living Crisis. Ongoing retention work is being carried out with existing donors to mitigate cancelation levels with payment holidays being offered.

Childlife's Board of Trustees is legally required to minimise any risk to the charity. The trustees have developed a risk management strategy, which involves a regular review of the key risks faced by the charity, and the establishment of systems and procedures to address these potential risks and to minimise both the likelihood of these risks occurring and their impact should they materialise.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The objectives of Childlife are; to promote the relief of children who are in need, by enabling the member charities to meet their respective charitable purposes, through the provision of grant payments.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefits when reviewing Childlife's aims and objectives.

Childlife carries out the object of improving the lives of children and young people through the work of its member charities by supporting the member charities in providing a strong income source in the short-, medium- and long-term future, and this has continued to be the focus in 2024/25. To enable Childlife to achieve its aim, it has continued to develop its fundraising programs in payroll giving and in new donor recruitment programs through face-to-face fundraising campaigns. Childlife runs on-going telephone campaigns to upgrade existing regular supporters and re-activate lapsed regular donors.

The surplus of net income in 2024/25, after allowing for promotional and support costs for member charities and governance costs was distributed equally and on an annual basis to its four member charities as grants.

As we carry out fundraising across the UK we are members of both The Chartered Institute of Fundraising and the Fundraiser Regulator. As we are now running a lottery campaign, we also registered with Gamble Aware. We worked with four main external agencies for our recruitment of new donors in 2024/25.

Gather Ltd carried out fundraising to recruit 1028 new Continuous Card Payment Donors. We continued to take one off donations and generate warm leads. Gather recruited 277 new cash donors; only 49 did not opt into future contact.

Altru Ltd carried out fundraising to recruit 654 new Continuous Card Payment Donors. We continued to take one off donations and generate warm leads. Altru recruited 2 new cash donors; all opted into future contact.

IXL Ltd carried out fundraising to recruit 2838 new Continuous Card Payment Donors. We continued to take one off donations and generate warm leads. IXL recruited 49 new cash donors; only 7 did not opt into future contact.

Gather, IXL and Altru are experienced in driving quality alongside good operational practices in line with CIOF and the Fundraiser Regulator guidance. Through a personalized service from these agencies our fundraising with them builds a relationship with the supporter to ensure life-long loyalty to Childlife. They are registered with the Chartered Institute of Fundraising and the Fundraising Regulator.

During the time that we were fundraising with Gather, IXL and Altru there was a regular program of training in place. We did not run any street campaigns so there was not any CIOF mystery shopping.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Childlife is a member of four other consortiums which Payroll Giving Plus Ltd recruits new donors through Payroll Giving. Payroll Giving Plus Ltd organise tax-effective fundraising events and campaigns in companies and organisations across the UK to raise money for our charity consortiums. All fundraisers are employed on a non-commission basis so that they can promote a non-target driven campaign. Payroll Giving Plus Ltd is a member of the Association of Payroll Giving Organizations and the Fundraising Regulator.

Childlife received twenty-four complaints during 2024/2025 regarding its fundraising. All complaints were investigated thoroughly and fairly in keeping with the Fundraising Regulator Code of Practice. Childlife regularly reviews any lessons to be learnt to help with future fundraising activity. None of the complaints were of a nature serious enough to require Trustees to inform the Charity Commission or Fundraising Regulator. There have not been any compliance issues with either Childlife or any other agencies that we have employed in 2024/25.

Childlife has an Ethical Fundraising Policy and a Dealing with Vulnerable donors Policy. We also review the policies that our partner agencies hold on these subjects to make sure they meet our standards.

During recent years, Childlife's community of donors has been in decline and the trustees have made the decision to invest more significantly in fundraising, to re-build the community to a sustainable level, so we can continue to raise vital funds into the future. This period of additional investment in fundraising is to ensure long term viability and will pay back over time. This five-year strategy commenced in 2018 and has been reviewed by the trustees in 2024.

The plan beyond 2024 is now confirmed. After a review of the investment period and the future returns for member charities it was decided to carry on investing, but not at such a high rate as the donor database has now been built up to a more sustainable level.

Childlife has been extremely successful over the years in raising funds for our members. An initial investment of £16,000 per charity was made in 1994, and each member has received total grants of £2,820,492 since then (a ROI of 17528%). Without investment in fundraising this would not have been possible.

Public benefit
Statement on Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

STRATEGIC REPORT
Achievements and performance
Achievements and Performance Review of 2024/25

The beneficiaries of Childlife's work are the children, young people and their families throughout the UK who have received support and advice or will benefit from research undertaken by the four member charities through the grant payment to them from Childlife. In 2024/25 Childlife gave a total of £450,000 to the member charities. This enabled the four member charities to achieve the following:

Acorns Children's Hospice

A parent never imagines their child will be diagnosed with a life limiting or life threatening condition. But when the unimaginable happens, Acorns steps in, helping families cope at every stage of their child's life and beyond, wherever and whenever they need it.

We have three hospices based in Birmingham, Walsall and Worcester. Our support is offered from our hospices and in the community, across the West Midlands and Gloucestershire. Our hospices are happy, colourful environments where children can experience a range of fun and therapeutic activities from arts and crafts sessions to hydrotherapy. Children visit Acorns for short breaks, end-of-life and emergency care.

At Acorns we understand what families are going through. We're here for them through all life ups and downs, sharing fun and laughter in the good times, and standing alongside them in the tough times. Our dedicated teams provide not just highly specialist clinical care for children and young people, but a range of psychosocial services for the whole family, including bereavement support, advocacy, and a number of dedicated support groups for mums, dads, grandparents brothers and sisters.

In the past year, Acorns has cared for more than 780 children and over 1,000 families, including those who have been bereaved. Acorns nurses have provided 1,200 Outreach visits to give care and support to families in their homes and local community. Over 200 siblings received support through Acorns focused groups, individual therapeutic based sessions and bespoke programs.

The ongoing support and kindness of our Childlife supporters helped make this possible. On behalf of the children and families we support, thank you so much.

Christina White, Senior Manager - Individual Giving and Legacies, Acorns Children's Hospice

Ataxia UK

The ataxias are a set of life-limiting neurological conditions that disrupt the messages sent from our brains to our muscles. Not just the muscles we use to move, but those we use to speak, listen and see. Over time, people with ataxia are slowly imprisoned in their own bodies, losing the tools they once had to communicate with loved ones. Over 200 different genetic ataxias have been discovered in the past 30 years, each of which requires a different treatment. Currently, there are no treatments or cures for most of the ataxias available in the UK.

The most common and aggressive form of the condition affecting children and young people is Friedreich's ataxia (FA), which predominantly shows its symptoms during childhood or adolescence. The earlier FA begins to show, the more likely it is that it will progress quickly. It hampers balance, mobility and movement, and causes speech, hearing and vision to deteriorate. It can also be accompanied by heart problems. As a result, children diagnosed with FA usually have a shorter life expectancy than their peers and will spend much of their life in a wheelchair. There is currently one treatment for FA, Omaveloxelone, but, at the moment it isn't available in the UK through the NHS, and this represents our biggest current challenge in the coming year as it is too expensive for people to buy privately.

Ataxia UK is the leading national charity supporting people affected by ataxia, and funding research into finding treatments and cures.

A major part of our work is to support and advise parents of children who have FA, whilst funding research into treatments and a cure. The support we receive from Childlife is essential in achieving this: it enables us to run local support groups, conferences, various online forums and information sessions to reduce families' isolation and help them understand the condition.

In November 2024 we hosted the International Congress for Ataxia Research in London in partnership with other international ataxia patient groups. It was the largest ataxia research conference ever held and was attended by over 600 delegates.

We now have three accredited paediatric clinics run by paediatricians who understand the ataxias in Sheffield, London and Oxford. They will all shortly be sites for trials of Omaveloxelone in children under-16.

In addition to these centres, the Ataxia UK Helpline continues to be the cornerstone of providing assistance and guide those affected by ataxia. In 2024-25 the Helpline received a total of 1596 contacts from 1138 people relating to 2164 issues including:

- o Information about ataxia, health needs, therapies, referrals and diagnosis.
- o Social care needs inc. housing, aids and adaptations.
- o Welfare benefits, grants and finances.

In January 2025 Ataxia UK directly employed its first Specialist Ataxia Nurse to support people affected by ataxia in the Southwest of England. The Specialist Ataxia Nurse will co-ordinate the care of patients and ensure that everyone gets the medical services they need.

Sue Millman, Chief Executive - Ataxia UK

The National Deaf Children's Society

The National Deaf Children's Society is dedicated to creating a world without barriers for deaf children and young people. It is our mission to overcome the social and educational barriers that hold deaf children back.

Thanks to the generosity of Childlife supporters, we have been able to provide life-changing support and invaluable information to deaf children and their families across the UK over the last year. This has included:

Providing vital, timely help and advice via our Helpline service, responding to more than 1,770 calls, 320 live chats, and 710 email interactions. 100% of Helpline users said they were satisfied or very satisfied.

Providing tailored guidance and casework to 1,562 families, with Education Appeals Specialists supporting 253 cases.

Launching the Community Grants programme; with 23 successful applications from NDCS local affiliated groups for projects ranging from sign language classes to spoken language development.

Creating and sharing 186 engagement opportunities with a network of parents, carers, professionals, deaf adults and supporters to help shape and improve our services. The impact of their insight has deepened our understanding of families' experiences and challenges and helped inform our plans.

Running more than 35 different online Information and Advice sessions, attended by 720 people.

Launching a pilot course, First Signs, First Stories to introduce families of deaf children aged 0-2 years to BSL signs through storytelling.

Getting feedback from more than 400 parents and deaf young people about their experience of accessing a Teacher of the Deaf.

Childhood deafness can have a huge impact on language development, communication and social skills, and we know that supporting deaf children during those early years is where we can make the biggest impact and set them up for life. Our goal is to reach more deaf children and young people than ever before, and our ambitious plan is to reach every deaf child, wherever they are and whenever they need us.

Childlife donors help our work in making this a reality. Thank you for your continued support.

Ben McNaught
Deputy Director: Fundraising

National Childrens Bureau

The National Children's Bureau (NCB) has had a successful year delivering impact through our programmes, sector convening and policy work. In this General Election year, we focused on informing political manifestos and policies for children and families, and built a strong working relationship with the newly-elected Government.

We organised a major event in Westminster attended by over 150 individuals, facilitating an exchange of ideas between young people, parents, and a panel representing all main political parties. The event was supported by the Children's Commissioner and members of the Children's Charities Coalition as a culmination of our 'Children at the Table' general election campaign.

Following their election, the new Government pledged to raise the healthiest generation of children ever. Consequently, in November 2024, NCB's Health Policy Influencing Group published a roadmap for government, advocating for children's rights in the forthcoming NHS Ten-Year Plan.

This year marked the 10th anniversary of the Lambeth Early Action Partnership (LEAP), part of The National Lottery Community Fund's A Better Start initiative. Led by NCB from its inception in 2014, LEAP reached over 4,450 under-fours in the area, significantly impacting local development, with 40% of these children more likely to achieve expected developmental milestones by age two and a half.

Amplifying the voices of children, young people, and families remains a core pillar of NCB's mission. The Council for Disabled Children continued this emphasis on participation, organising the annual Youth Voice Matters conference in Manchester, in partnership with KIDS, as part of our Making Participation Work programme. Over 100 children and young people participated, helping design the event alongside our young SEND advisory group, known as FLARE.

Living Assessments, a five-year research collaboration with three groups of Experts by Experience, the University of Cambridge and University of Kent, analysed over 71,000 children's health records. The findings, widely covered in national press, revealed that vulnerable children, despite being more susceptible to mental health issues, are often denied access to NHS Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services. To celebrate the insights produced by Living Assessments, we hosted talks, discussions, and a theatre performance by young people with lived experiences of disability, social care, or insecure immigration status. NCB will use this research to drive policy and practice improvements.

The Early Years Stronger Practice Hubs, coordinated by NCB, have made significant strides this year. The 18 Hubs, two in each region of England, form a key component of the Government's Best Start in Life strategy, enhancing local early years settings by sharing best practices and providing evidence-informed professional development for hundreds of educators.

Our specialist family members also contributed to building brighter futures. The Anti-Bullying Alliance, supported by high-profile patrons like musician Woody from Bastille and Manchester City footballer Ruben Dias, held another successful Anti-Bullying Week, reaching over 7.5 million children and young people across 80% of schools.

The Childhood Bereavement Network conducted its annual Children's Grief Awareness Week with the theme of Building Hope. Participants created face-to-face and virtual spaces to share inspirations and support. Engaging with Government departments and Parliamentary committees, the network championed the needs of bereaved children.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Research in Practice, our newest member, continued its integration into the NCB family, exemplified by launching the Working Together with Parents Network. This network supports practitioners working with parents with learning disabilities and their children, taking over from the University of Bristol.

Our progress is made possible by the contributions of Childlife supporters. Your donations allow us to address the adversities faced by many children and families. We extend our gratitude for your continued generosity, enabling us to build brighter futures.

Lawrence Walker, Head of Development, National Children's Bureau.

Financial review

Financial position

Income in the year was £1,355,315, a slight increase from the previous year from £1,310,371. The main reason for the increase is the large investment in donor recruitment in previous years from 21/22-23/24.

Fundraising expenditure increased £721,695 from £662,654 reflecting the decision to reinvest the previous years underspend on fundraising in this financial year. However there was still an underspend in this financial year on forecast donor recruitment numbers. (see P22 in the accounts)

Expenditure on charitable activities was £462,865 versus the previous year of £420,273 This includes £450,000 of grant payments (2023/24: £410,000)

Reserves policy

It is the policy of Childlife to have free reserves amounting to no less than three months and no more than six months' operating costs. Based on the 2024-25 budget, the required reserve level for the year end was set at £218,296 (low) to £436,592 (high).

The balance of free reserves at 31st March 2025 was £788,254 and as such falls above the required reserves policy. This will be addressed by the trustees in the upcoming financial year, with an additional grant payment to be made and an increase in planned fundraising to make up for this year's shortfall.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Financial review

Impact of External Financial Environment

Since 31 December 2019 many local economies around the globe have been in downturn.

In recent years there has been significant global stressors on economies, such as the pandemic and war in both Ukraine and more recently the Israeli and Palestinian conflict.

Childlife is not currently seeing the effect of this in the form of loss of income, but we are monitoring donor cancellation rates.

This will not significantly impact the entity's financial position. Childlife has determined that these events are non-adjusting subsequent events. Accordingly, the financial position and results of operations as of and for the year ended 31 March 2025 have not been adjusted to reflect their impact.

The duration and impact of the Russian Ukrainian war and the Israeli and Palestinian conflict remains unclear currently, it is not possible to reliably estimate the duration and severity of these consequences, as well as their impact on the financial position and results of Childlife for future periods.

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

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 examination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

Disclosure of information to auditor

In so far as the trustees are aware at the time of approving our trustees' annual report:

- o there is no relevant information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing their report, of which the auditor is unaware, and
- o the trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken individually as a trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Childlife (Registered number: 03696656)

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Related parties

The board of trustees, which has four members, one from each member charity, administers the Charity and meets quarterly. Each trustee is an employee of one of the member charities. Grants of £112,500 each (2024: £102,500 each) were payable to the four member charities during the financial year. The Charity was controlled by four member charities throughout the financial year. Names of member charities are Acorns Children's Hospice, Ataxia UK, National Children's Bureau, and National Deaf Children's Society.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

03696656 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1080536

Registered office

Westmead House
Westmead
Farnborough
Hampshire
GU14 7LP

Trustees

B Mcnaught
Ms S J Millman (appointed 24.1.25)
L Walker
C Wilson (appointed 19.6.25)
MS C White (resigned 19.5.25)

Company Secretary

Ms A Rimington

Auditors

Barnes Noble Ltd
Unitec House
2 Albert Place
London
N3 1QB

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Childlife for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES - continued

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 of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to 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 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 auditors are unaware;
and
- 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 auditors are aware of that information.

AUDITORS

The auditors, Barnes Noble Ltd, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Report of the trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 11 July 2025 and signed on the board's behalf by:



Ms S J Millman - Trustee

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Childlife (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Statement of Financial Position, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company'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 trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- the charitable company has not kept adequate accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditors under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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 a Report of the Independent Auditors 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.

o Using our general commercial and sector experience and through discussions with the directors and management, we identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements as well as those arising from management's own assessment of the risks that irregularities may occur either as a result of fraud or error.

o We examined the company and regulatory and legal correspondence and discussed with the directors and management any known or suspected instances of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.

o We communicated identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

o In addressing the risk of management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries. We also challenged assumptions and judgements made by management in their significant accounting estimates and judgements.

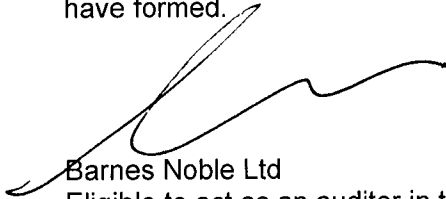
There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentation, or through collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Trustees of
Childlife

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' 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 trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Barnes Noble Ltd

Eligible to act as an auditor in terms of Section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

Unitec House

2 Albert Place

London

N3 1QB

11 July 2025

Childlife

Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	31.3.25 Unrestricted fund £	31.3.24 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	2	1,341,462	1,304,724
Investment income	3	<u>13,852</u>	<u>5,647</u>
Total		<u>1,355,314</u>	<u>1,310,371</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds			
Raising donations and legacies	4	<u>721,695</u>	<u>662,654</u>
		721,695	662,654
Charitable activities	5		
Grants payable - institutions		450,000	410,000
Governance costs		<u>12,865</u>	<u>10,273</u>
Total		<u>1,184,560</u>	<u>1,082,927</u>
NET INCOME		170,754	227,444
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		<u>617,499</u>	<u>390,055</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>788,253</u></u>	<u><u>617,499</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Statement of Financial Position
31 March 2025

	Notes	31.3.25 Unrestricted fund £	31.3.24 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS			
Intangible assets	12	1,669	5,674
Tangible assets	13	<u>4,233</u>	<u>4,033</u>
		5,902	9,707
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	14	76,151	37,882
Cash at bank		<u>782,216</u>	<u>790,837</u>
		858,367	828,719
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(76,016)	(220,927)
		<u>782,351</u>	<u>607,792</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
		<u>788,253</u>	<u>617,499</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			
		<u>788,253</u>	<u>617,499</u>
NET ASSETS			
		<u>788,253</u>	<u>617,499</u>
FUNDS	16		
Unrestricted funds:			
General fund		<u>788,253</u>	<u>617,499</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>788,253</u>	<u>617,499</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The members have not deposited notice, pursuant to Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006 requiring an audit of these financial statements.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The notes form part of these financial statements

Childlife (Registered number: 03696656)

Statement of Financial Position - continued
31 March 2025

These financial statements have been audited under the requirements of Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 11 July 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S J. Millman', written in a cursive style.

S J Millman - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Childlife

Statement of Cash Flows
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1 8	(6,761)	341,669
		<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities		<u>(6,761)</u>	<u>341,670</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of intangible fixed assets		-	(8,010)
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		<u>(1,860)</u>	<u>(495)</u>
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(1,860)</u>	<u>(8,505)</u>
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(8,621)	333,165
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>790,837</u>	<u>457,672</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u><u>782,216</u></u>	<u><u>790,837</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on cost
Computer equipment	- 25% on cost

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.3.25 Unrestricted funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
Donations	<u>1,341,462</u>	<u>1,304,724</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.3.25 Unrestricted funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
Bank Interest Received	<u>13,852</u>	<u>5,647</u>

4. RAISING DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.3.25 Unrestricted funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
Staff costs	94,578	89,558
Rates and water	6,716	5,749
Insurance	1,499	1,424
Telephone	651	1,311
Postage and stationery	3,632	10,212
Sundries	337	361
Fundraising costs	545,936	467,350
Other fundraising costs	1,623	19,237
Computer software and maintena	10,029	12,356
Bank charges	47,595	45,002
Trade subscriptions	1,956	1,610
Travel and subsistence	176	120
Advertising	3,607	1,798
Legal and professional fees	<u>3,360</u>	<u>6,566</u>
	<u>721,695</u>	<u>662,654</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Grant funding of activities (see note 6) £	Support costs (see note 7) £	Totals £
Grants payable - institutions	450,000	-	450,000
Governance costs	-	12,865	12,865
	<u>450,000</u>	<u>12,865</u>	<u>462,865</u>

6. GRANTS PAYABLE

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Grants payable - institutions	<u>450,000</u>	<u>410,000</u>

The total grants paid to institutions during the year was as follows:

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Grant Funding of activities	<u>450,000</u>	<u>410,000</u>

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Other £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Governance costs	<u>5,665</u>	<u>7,200</u>	<u>12,865</u>

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Audit-related assurance services	7,200	6,054
Depreciation - owned assets	1,660	4,247
Development costs amortisation	<u>4,005</u>	<u>2,837</u>

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

10. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Wages and salaries	82,805	78,580
Social security costs	7,661	7,078
Other pension costs	<u>4,112</u>	<u>3,900</u>
	<u>94,578</u>	<u>89,558</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31.3.25	31.3.24
Cost of raising income	2	2
Charitable activities	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	
Donations and legacies	1,304,724
Investment income	<u>5,647</u>
Total	<u>1,310,371</u>
EXPENDITURE ON	
Raising funds	
Raising donations and legacies	<u>662,654</u>
	662,654
Charitable activities	
Grants payable - institutions	410,000
Governance costs	10,273

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricte fund £
Total	<u>1,082,927</u>
NET INCOME	227,444
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS	
Total funds brought forward	390,055
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u><u>617,499</u></u>

12. INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Developm costs £
COST	
At 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025	<u>29,366</u>
AMORTISATION	
At 1 April 2024	23,692
Charge for year	<u>4,005</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>27,697</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2025	<u>1,669</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u><u>5,674</u></u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

13. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2024	2,864	26,151	29,015
Additions	<u>-</u>	<u>1,860</u>	<u>1,860</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>2,864</u>	<u>28,011</u>	<u>30,875</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2024	2,864	22,118	24,982
Charge for year	<u>-</u>	<u>1,660</u>	<u>1,660</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>2,864</u>	<u>23,778</u>	<u>26,642</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>4,233</u>	<u>4,233</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>4,033</u>	<u>4,033</u>

14. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Other debtors	63,705	27,210
Prepayments	<u>12,446</u>	<u>10,672</u>
	<u>76,151</u>	<u>37,882</u>

15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Trade creditors	56,761	23,078
Social security and other taxes	2,701	2,648
Accrued expenses	<u>16,554</u>	<u>195,201</u>
	<u>76,016</u>	<u>220,927</u>

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	617,499	170,754	788,253
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>617,499</u>	<u>170,754</u>	<u>788,253</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	1,355,314	(1,184,560)	170,754
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,355,314</u>	<u>(1,184,560)</u>	<u>170,754</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	390,055	227,444	617,499
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>390,055</u>	<u>227,444</u>	<u>617,499</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	1,310,371	(1,082,927)	227,444
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,310,371</u>	<u>(1,082,927)</u>	<u>227,444</u>

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	390,055	398,198	788,253
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>390,055</u>	<u>398,198</u>	<u>788,253</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	2,665,685	(2,267,487)	398,198
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>2,665,685</u>	<u>(2,267,487)</u>	<u>398,198</u>

17. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2025.

18. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	170,754	227,444
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	5,665	4,219
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(38,269)	3,770
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	<u>(144,911)</u>	<u>106,236</u>
Net cash (used in)/provided by operations	<u>(6,761)</u>	<u>341,669</u>

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

19. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.24 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.25 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank	<u>790,837</u>	<u>(8,621)</u>	<u>782,216</u>
	<u>790,837</u>	<u>(8,621)</u>	<u>782,216</u>
Total	<u>790,837</u>	<u>(8,621)</u>	<u>782,216</u>

CHILDLIFE

England & Wales - Charity number 1080536

Accounts

Company registration number: 03696656

Charity registration number: 1080536

Childlife

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

DSK Partners LLP
D S House
306 High Street
Croydon
Surrey
CR0 1NG

Childlife

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Childlife

Reference and Administrative Details

Chairman	Ms C White, Appointed as chair 15th November 2021
Trustees	B McNaught, Treasurer Ms C White, Appointed as chair 15th November 2021 L Walker V Elzer, Appointed 16th Jan 2024
Secretary	Ms A Rimington
Charity Registration Number	1080536
Company Registration Number	03696656
Registered Office	The charity is incorporated in England & Wales. Westmead House Westmead Farnborough Hants GU14 7LP
Auditor	DSK Partners LLP Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales D S House 306 High Street Croydon Surrey CR0 1NG

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Trustees

B McNaught, Treasurer

Ms C White, Chair

L Walker

V Elzer (appointed 16th January 2024)

Other trustees in year

D J Beacon (resigned as a trustee on 09th September 2023)

The appointment of Trustees is in accordance with the charity's Articles of Association, whereby each member has the right to appoint and remove a trustee and to appoint and remove an alternate.

None of the Trustees has any beneficial interest in the company.

Childlife provides both a role description and a code of conduct for trustees to ensure that the duties and responsibilities of being a trustee are clearly understood. In addition, it has specialist role descriptions for both the Chair of Trustees and Honorary Treasurer. These are provided to all new trustees as part of their induction information.

New trustees are encouraged to meet with the Chief Executive Officer and staff members and other trustees within the first few months of appointment. Training for trustees is provided if required.

Childlife is run by a very efficient small team of three part time employees (1.8 FTE), who are highly appreciated by the board of trustees. The arrangements for setting the pay and remuneration of all the charity's staff including key management personnel are agreed by the CEO and the trustees. The latest pay review was set in line with cost-of-living increases.

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Background

The idea for Childlife, a consortium of children's charities allowing its member charities to fundraise collectively, originated in 1992. Its first donor was recruited in July 1993. Childlife became a company limited by guarantee in 1999 and a registered charity in 2000.

Member charities of Childlife:

Acorns Children's Hospice

Ataxia UK

National Children's Bureau

National Deaf Children's Society

The Board of Trustees, which has four members, one from each member charity, administers the charity is required to meet quarterly. However, in practice the trustees and the CEO meet most months. A Chief Executive Officer is appointed by the Trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity. To facilitate effective operations, the Chief Executive Officer has delegated authority, within the terms of delegation approved by the Trustees, for operational matters including finance, employment, fundraising and charitable activities.

Donations received by Childlife are distributed annually to these charities and hundreds of thousands of pounds are raised each year to support their important work with children and young people. The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks. The risks are documented on the risk register. The main two risks were;

- 1) Financial Failure of Key Suppliers (Gather and Ethical) - We have undertaken due diligence before signing contracts, including credit checks. We also horizon scan to identify supplier issues and potential alternative suppliers. In this year we have also worked with two other agencies Altru, Gilcore.
- 2) Loss of Income - The Cost-of-Living Crisis. Ongoing retention work is being carried out with existing donors to mitigate cancellation levels with payment holidays being offered.

Childlife's Board of Trustees is legally required to minimise any risk to the charity. The trustees have developed a risk management strategy, which involves a regular review of the key risks faced by the charity, and the establishment of systems and procedures to address these potential risks and to minimise both the likelihood of these risks occurring and their impact should they materialise.

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Objectives and Activities

Objectives and aims

The objectives of Childlife are; to promote the relief of children who are in need, by enabling the member charities to meet their respective charitable purposes, through the provision of grant payments.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefits when reviewing Childlife's aims and objectives.

Childlife carries out the object of improving the lives of children and young people through the work of its member charities by supporting the member charities in providing a strong income source in the short-, medium- and long-term future, and this has continued to be the focus in 2023/24. To enable Childlife to achieve its aim, it has continued to develop its fundraising programs in payroll giving and in new donor recruitment programs through face-to-face fundraising campaigns. Childlife normally runs on-going telephone campaigns to upgrade existing regular supporters and re-activate lapsed regular donors. However, it was decided in 2023/24 not to run these telephone campaigns until the rate of inflation lowered.

The surplus of net income in 2023/24, after allowing for promotional and support costs for member charities and governance costs was distributed equally and on an annual basis to its four member charities as grants.

As we carry out fundraising across the UK we are members of both The Chartered Institute of Fundraising and the Fundraiser Regulator. As we are now running a lottery campaign, we also registered with Gamble Aware. We worked with four main external agencies for our recruitment of new donors in 2023/24.

Gather Ltd carried out fundraising to recruit 697 new direct debit donors for Childlife. Gather also recruited 1999 new Continuous Card Payment Donors. We continued to take one off donations and generate warm leads. Gather recruited 245 new cash donors; only 17 did not opt into future contact.

Altru Ltd carried out fundraising to recruit 304 new direct debit donors for Childlife. Altru also recruited 1046 new Continuous Card Payment Donors. No one off donors were recruited.

Gather and Altru are experienced in driving quality alongside good operational practices in line with CIOF and the Fundraiser Regulator guidance. Through a personalized service from these agencies our fundraising with them builds a relationship with the supporter to ensure life-long loyalty to Childlife. They are registered with the Chartered Institute of Fundraising and the Fundraising Regulator.

During the time that we were fundraising with Gather and Altru there was a regular program of training in place. We did not run any street campaigns so there was not any CIOF mystery shopping.

Childlife is a member of four other consortiums which Payroll Giving Plus Ltd recruits new donors through Payroll Giving. Payroll Giving Plus Ltd organise tax-effective fundraising events and campaigns in companies and organisations across the UK to raise money for our charity consortiums. All fundraisers are employed on a non-commission basis so that they can promote a non-target driven campaign. Payroll Giving Plus Ltd is a member of the Association of Payroll Giving Organisations and the Fundraising Regulator.

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Childlife received fifty-one complaints during 2023/2024 regarding its fundraising. All complaints were investigated thoroughly and fairly in keeping with the Fundraising Regulator Code of Practice. Childlife regularly reviews any lessons to be learnt to help with future fundraising activity. None of the complaints were of a nature serious enough to require Trustees to inform the Charity Commission or Fundraising Regulator. There have not been any compliance issues with either Childlife or any other agencies that we have employed in 2023/24.

Childlife has an Ethical Fundraising Policy and a Dealing with Vulnerable donors Policy. We also review the policies that our partner agencies hold on these subjects to make sure they meet our standards.

During recent years, Childlife's community of donors has been in decline and the trustees have made the decision to invest more significantly in fundraising, to re-build the community to a sustainable level, so we can continue to raise vital funds into the future. This period of additional investment in fundraising is to ensure long term viability and will pay back over time. This five-year strategy commenced in 2018 and has been reviewed by the trustees in 2024. The plan beyond 2024 is now confirmed. After a review of the investment period and the future returns for member charities it was decided to carry on investing, but not at such a high rate as the donor database has now been built up to a more sustainable level.

Childlife has been extremely successful over the years in raising funds for our members. An initial investment of £16,000 per charity was made in 1994, and each member has received total grants of £2,707,992 since then (a ROI of 16825%). Without investment in fundraising this would not have been possible.

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Achievements and Performance Review of 2023/24

The beneficiaries of Childlife's work are the children, young people and their families throughout the UK who have received support and advice or will benefit from research undertaken by the four member charities through the grant payment to them from Childlife. In 2023/24 Childlife gave a total of £410,000 to the member charities. This enabled the four member charities to achieve the following:

Acorns Children's Hospice

Acorns Children's Hospice provides care, support, fun and laughter for children and their families across the West Midlands.

We have three children's hospices:

Acorns in Birmingham (located in Selly Oak) opened in 1988

Acorns in the Black Country (located in Walsall) opened in 2000.

Acorns for the Three Counties (located in Worcester) opened in 2005.

The hospices are purpose-built with specially decorated bedrooms designed to cater for children and young people from birth to 18 years of age. They are designed to be a homely environment to help children enjoy their stay and make the most of every day.

On-site hospice facilities include hydrotherapy pools and spas, multisensory rooms, complementary therapy rooms, and play and activity areas with up-to-date IT equipment and games. The hospices have landscaped gardens, designed to provide a safe and secure environment for children and families to have fun, reflect and enjoy the outdoors. There are designated areas for older children and teenagers ensure privacy and a managed level of independence. Alongside separate on-site accommodation for families allows them to stay with their child if they wish.

The hospices have 'special bedrooms' in a separate area within the building where children can stay after they have died. The 'special bedroom' can be personalised by families and are a place where they can pay final respects and make precious memories before their child's funeral.

In the past year, Acorns supported 732 children and 945 families from across the West Midlands and Gloucestershire, including those who have been bereaved:

268 children and 359 families at Acorns in Birmingham

230 children and 271 families at Acorns in the Black Country

235 children and 315 families at Acorns for the Three Counties

Acorns has supported 1,945 individual family members, including children, brothers and sisters, parents, carers and grandparents. This is an increase of 388 on the previous year.

At Acorns we provide care 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to children and families who need us most. Over the past year we've achieved so much thanks to the kindness and generosity of our Childlife supporters. On behalf of the children and families we support, thank you so much.

Christina White, Senior Manager - Individual Giving and Legacies, Acorns Children's Hospice

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Ataxia UK

The ataxias are a set of life-limiting neurological conditions that disrupt the messages sent from our brains to our muscles. Not just the muscles we use to move, but those we use to speak, listen and see. Over time, people with ataxia are slowly imprisoned in their own bodies, losing the tools they once had to communicate with loved ones. Over 200 different genetic ataxias have been discovered in the past 30 years, each of which requires a different treatment. Currently, no treatments or cures for most of the ataxias have been found. Ataxia UK is the leading national charity which supports those affected ataxia and funds research into finding treatments and cures.

The most common and aggressive form of the condition is Friedreich's ataxia (FA), which predominantly shows its symptoms during childhood or early puberty. The earlier FA begins to show, the likelihood is the faster it progresses. It hampers a child/young person's balance, mobility and movement, before causing speech, hearing and vision to deteriorate and, eventually, weakens the heart. As a result, children diagnosed with FA usually have a shorter life expectancy than their peers and will spend much of their life in a wheelchair.

As with the other ataxias, there is no cure for FA.

A major part of our work is to support and advise parents of children who have FA, whilst funding research into treatments and a cure. The support we receive from Childlife is essential in achieving this: it enables us to run local support groups, conferences, various online forums and information sessions to reduce families' isolation and help them understand the condition.

Some key highlights from FY 2023-24

After a successful International congress for ataxia research in late 2022, Ataxia UK is again partnering with two other ataxia charities to organise and host the next congress in November 2024 in London. This is the 'go-to' ataxia conference for researchers worldwide, where we anticipate around 500 delegates will attend, share the latest research developments and importantly will network and set up new collaborations to advance ataxia research.

Just over a year ago we were delighted as we had the first drug approved for the treatment of Friedreich's ataxia. For now the approval is only for people aged 16 years and over and for people living in the US (approval Feb 2023) and EU countries (approval 2024).

Ataxia UK has been working hard to encourage and support Biogen (who have the license for Skyclarys) to seek approval in the UK and we are hopeful this will happen soon. There are also plans for a trial testing the drug in children to start this summer, so that we can hopefully get to the point of having an approved drug for those over 16 years old too.

Ataxia UK is following other exciting developments with trials starting testing gene therapy in people with FA, and a therapy targeting genes affected in people with SCA1 and SCA3 starting soon at the Ataxia UK accredited Ataxia centre in London.

In addition to these centres, the Ataxia UK Helpline continues to be the cornerstone of providing assistance and guide those affected by ataxia. In 2023-24 the Helpline received a total of 1350 contacts to the Helpline, which supported 996 individuals with 1645 issues including:

- Information about ataxia, health needs, therapies, referrals and diagnosis.
- Social care needs inc. housing, aids and adaptations.
- Welfare benefits, grants and finances.

The Helpline also welcomed 4 new volunteers to Helpline but said goodbye to 2 volunteers.

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

To make Ataxia UK's services available to as many people in the community as possible, we've also held the first-ever hybrid conference in late October 2023 in East Midlands. This event saw 120 people attend in person, with some hundred more joining the live stream across the weekend. Building on the success of this event, Ataxia UK will also be delivering a travelling Roadshow in Cardiff, Edinburgh & Belfast to bring the services and information most needed to those affected by ataxia.

Viktor Elzer, Senior Brand & Communications Manager - Ataxia UK

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

The National Deaf Children's Society

The National Deaf Children's Society is dedicated to creating a world without barriers for deaf children and young people. It is our mission to overcome the social and educational barriers that hold deaf children back.

Thanks to the generosity of Childlife supporters, we have been able to provide life-changing support and invaluable information to deaf children and their families across the UK over the last year. This has included:

- providing vital, timely help and advice via our Helpline service, with more than 3,800 calls, emails and live chat messages responded to
- supporting families with tailored guidance and casework, with 1,200 active cases managed
- reaching over 100 people through 7 events specifically tailored to provide support to families new to hearing loss
- running 20 online Happy Hands Baby and Toddler online sessions, attended by over 300 people
- providing an additional 20 online family courses covering topics such as selecting schools, understanding the educational support system, and exploring Deaf identity
- delivering Family Sign Language training to 600 people, enabling parents and their deaf children to gain invaluable communication skills
- developing and launching the MyNDCS app which provides tailored information and resources based on where a family lives and the age of the child

Childhood deafness can have a huge impact on language development, communication and social skills, and we know that supporting deaf children during those early years is where we can make the biggest impact and set them up for life. Our goal is to reach more deaf children and young people than ever before, and our ambitious plan is to reach every deaf child, wherever they are and whenever they need us.

Childlife donors help our work in making this a reality. Thank you for your continued support.

Ben McNaught
Deputy Director: Fundraising

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

National Childrens Bureau

As NCB celebrated its 60th birthday, we continued to work towards our vision for every child to thrive. We have taken an evidence-informed approach, united people and organisations, and combined cutting-edge research with the voices of babies, children and young people to drive positive change in society.

This year was incredibly busy as we witnessed increasing levels of need due to the cost-of-living crisis and issues in public funding which still disproportionately target acute services rather than early-intervention and prevention which we know are proven to lead to better and more enduring outcomes.

We continued to advocate for our stakeholders through our policy and influencing programme. We joined forces with four other leading children's charities (Action for Children, Barnardo's, NSPCC, The Children's Society) to launch the Children at the Table campaign ahead of the upcoming general election. The campaign published a policy report in November and had its public launch in Parliament in January, where children and young people talked about what mattered to them most to over 40 Parliamentarians. The campaign has gathered the support of 175+ sector organisations and 26,000 members of the public (and counting).

As co-chairs of the Children and Young People's Health Policy Influencing Group, we undertook the first study of local NHS plans on addressing the needs of babies, children, and young people.

We also continued to carry out vital research to inform our work on issues such as children's social care, youth justice, health, early years, and bereavement support among others, working in partnership with academic and sector experts.

Our programmes also had significant impact in amplifying children's voices and supporting outcomes including improved wellbeing, connection and collaboration.

- The Council for Disabled Children (CDC) brought together 110 disabled children and young people and children and young people with special educational needs (SEN) from across England for the sixth annual Youth Voice Matters conference; and CDC's FLARE, a diverse group of disabled children and young people with SEN, was awarded the Children's Achievement category at the 2023 Children and Young People Now Awards.

- The Early Childhood Unit delivered evidence-informed best practice support and professional development for early years practitioners via 18 Stronger Practice Hubs nationally reaching over 7266 childcare settings across England through their extensive networks.

- The Anti-Bullying Alliance ran another successful Anti-Bullying Week in November, reaching 7.5 million children with 80% of schools taking part, and 296 schools were awarded with a United Against Bullying Award to support whole school approaches to preventing bullying.

- Our Social Care team launched a major new trauma-informed programme in partnership with LEAP Confronting Conflict offering training and support to help social work teams, working with young people in foster care, and their foster carers understand and use trauma-informed practices.

- We were proud to launch a new Children and Young People's Advisory Board in December to shape the Government's implementation of the children's social care strategy 'Stable Homes, Built on Love'. This work will ensure that the voices of children and young people are taken into account, and crucially, hold politicians themselves to account. "I've been able to listen to lived experience and stories of other young people who have gone through similar circumstances. It's helped me feel like I'm no longer alone." - Children and Young People's Social Care Advisory Board member

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

- After securing changes to the eligibility criteria for bereavement benefits last year, allowing unmarried cohabiting parents and carers to claim them, the Childhood Bereavement Network continued to campaign for awareness of the change, appearing regularly in the media to highlight the issue.

- In February, we welcomed Research in Practice into the NCB family. This new collaboration will enable us to deliver more impact in future years, developing practice and policy within social care, safeguarding, youth justice, special educational needs and disability (SEND) and health.

- And finally, in March we launched an exciting new 5-year strategy called Building Brighter Future which sets out our priorities and strengthens and extends the good work achieved under our last five-year strategy.

It is through the generous contributions from Childlife supporters that NCB is able to deliver its mission to build a better childhood for every child. A massive thank you to everyone who have given so generously.

Lawrence Walker, Head of Development, National Children's Bureau.

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Statement on Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Financial Review

Income in the year was £1,310,371, a slight increase from the previous year from £1,291,869. The main reason for the increase is the large investment in donor recruitment in previous years 21/22 and 22/23.

Expenditure on raising funds decreased to £662,654 from £914,890 reflecting the fundraising suppliers fulfilling their contracts to recruit requested donor levels. (see P34 in the accounts)

Expenditure on charitable activities was £420,273 versus the previous year of £410,431 This includes £410,000 of grant payments (2022/23: £400,000)

Reserves Policy

It is the policy of Childlife to have free reserves amounting to no less than three months and no more than six months' operating costs. Based on the 2023-24 budget, the required reserve level for the year end was set at £168,118 (low) to £336,236 (high). The free reserves balance at 31st March 2024 was £617,499 and as such falls above the required reserves policy. This will be addressed by the trustees in the upcoming financial year.

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Impact of External Financial Environment

Since 31 December 2019 many local economies around the globe have been in downturn.

In recent years there has been significant global stressors on economies, such as the pandemic and war in both Ukraine and more recently the Israeli and Palestinian conflict.

Childlife is not currently seeing the effect of this in the form of loss of income, but we are monitoring donor cancellation rates.

This will not significantly impact the entity's financial position. Childlife has determined that these events are non-adjusting subsequent events. Accordingly, the financial position and results of operations as of and for the year ended 31 March 2024 have not been adjusted to reflect their impact.

The duration and impact of the Russian Ukrainian war and the Israeli and Palestinian conflict. remains unclear currently, it is not possible to reliably estimate the duration and severity of these consequences, as well as their impact on the financial position and results of Childlife for future periods.

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

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 examination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Disclosure of information to auditor

In so far as the trustees are aware at the time of approving our trustees' annual report:

- there is no relevant information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing their report, of which the auditor is unaware, and
- the trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken individually as a trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 17 July 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Ms C White
Chairman and Trustee

Childlife

Statement of Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Childlife for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that can 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 hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 17 July 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Ms C White
Chairman and trustee

Childlife

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Childlife

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Childlife (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024, which comprise the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees 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 its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charity's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

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

Childlife

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Childlife

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Trustees' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report.

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of trustees' responsibilities (set out on page 15), the trustees 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 charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

Childlife

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Childlife

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The key laws and regulations we have considered in this context included the Companies Act 2006, pension and tax legislation. In addition, we have considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the company's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- o Using our general commercial and sector experience and through discussions with the directors and management, we identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements as well as those arising from management's own assessment of the risks that irregularities may occur either as a result of fraud or error.

- o We examined the company's regulatory and legal correspondence and discussed with the directors and management any known or suspected instances of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.

- o We communicated identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

- o In addressing the risk of management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries. We also challenged assumptions and judgements made by management in their significant accounting estimates and judgements.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentation, or through collusion.

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.

Childlife

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Childlife

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees 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 its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



.....
Romit Basu FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of DSK Partners LLP, Statutory Auditor

D S House
306 High Street
Croydon
Surrey
CR0 1NG

17 July 2024

Childlife

Statement of Comprehensive Income for the Year Ended 31 March 2024 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	3	1,304,724	1,288,327
Investment income	4	5,647	3,542
Total income		1,310,371	1,291,869
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	5	(662,654)	(914,890)
Charitable activities	6	(410,000)	(400,000)
Governance costs		(10,273)	(10,431)
Total expenditure		(1,082,927)	(1,325,321)
Net income/(expenditure)		227,444	(33,452)
Net movement in funds		227,444	(33,452)
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		390,055	423,507
Total funds carried forward	16	617,499	390,055

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2023 is shown in note 16.

The notes on pages 23 to 34 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Childlife

(Registration number: 03696656) Statement of Financial Position as at 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Intangible assets	12	5,674	500
Tangible assets	13	<u>4,032</u>	<u>4,921</u>
		<u>9,706</u>	<u>5,421</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	14	37,883	41,651
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>790,837</u>	<u>457,672</u>
		828,720	499,323
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	15	<u>(220,927)</u>	<u>(114,689)</u>
Net current assets		<u>607,793</u>	<u>384,634</u>
Net assets		<u>617,499</u>	<u>390,055</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>617,499</u>	<u>390,055</u>
Total funds	16	<u>617,499</u>	<u>390,055</u>

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

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

The financial statements on pages 20 to 34 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 17 July 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



.....
Ms C White
Chairman and Trustee

The notes on pages 23 to 34 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Childlife

Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash income/(expenditure)		227,444	(33,452)
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Depreciation	5	1,383	447
Amortisation	5	2,836	4,421
Investment income	4	(5,647)	(3,542)
		226,016	(32,126)
Working capital adjustments			
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	14	3,768	(14,250)
Increase in creditors	15	106,238	60,150
		336,022	13,774
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest receivable and similar income	4	5,647	3,542
Purchase of intangible fixed assets	12	(8,010)	-
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	13	(494)	(5,368)
		(2,857)	(1,826)
Net cash flows from investing activities		(2,857)	(1,826)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		333,165	11,948
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		457,672	445,724
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March		790,837	457,672
Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net funds			
Increase in cash		333,165	11,948
Net funds at 1 April 2023		457,672	445,724
Net funds at 31 March 2024		790,837	457,672

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The notes on pages 23 to 34 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England & Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

Westmead House
Westmead
Farnborough
Hants
GU14 7LP

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the trustees on 17 July 2024.

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

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)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Childlife meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Currency

The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is also the functional currency of the company and rounded to the nearest pound.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Income and endowments

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Voluntary income is received by way of donations and is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable or received. The majority of the donations are received in the form of payroll giving, standing orders and direct debits. The nature of these forms of donation is that they can be cancelled at any time by the donor. In most cases they are therefore recognised upon receipt unless there is a certainty about the amounts receivable and about the period to which they are attributable. Income from gift aid tax recoverable is recognised in the same accounting period that the related donations are recognised.

The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included.

Deferred income

Any income received by the charity in advance of the due date upon which it becomes receivable is deferred until that due date. Such amounts are not material and arise only incidentally.

Investment income

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred. Expenditure includes attributable VAT.

Raising funds

The costs of raising voluntary income includes amounts paid by Childlife during the financial year to third parties to recruit new committed givers for the charity and to undertake various telephone fundraising campaigns. Donors to Childlife choose to donate via payroll giving, via the gift aid scheme or via home money boxes. It is the charity's policy to expense these costs in the period in which they are incurred.

Promotion and Support of Member Charities

This includes the costs of promotion and support to the member charities and the costs of grants payable. The surplus of net income after allowing for promotional and support costs for member charities and governance costs is distributed equally and on a quarterly basis to its four member charities. A fifth payment may be made annually to the member charities, subject to approval by the trustees, based on surplus reserves determined from the annual financial statements. It is the charity's policy to include fifth payment grants in the period to which they relate.

Grant expenditure

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Grant provisions

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Governance costs

Governance costs reflect central operating costs excluding direct and apportioned support costs of raising funds and charitable activities.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Costs which are directly attributable to a charitable activity or to the costs of raising funds are allocated directly to those activity cost categories. Items of expenditure which contribute directly to the output of more than one activity cost category are apportioned on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis. Depreciation is attributed in accordance with the same principles. Support costs which are shared between activities are apportioned on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis to the activity cost categories being supported.

The basis of apportionment of actual staff costs is by the estimated time spent by individual members of staff on different activity cost categories. Most other support costs are apportioned in the same proportion as the staff costs unless there are specific reasons to apply different proportions of the cost to different activity cost categories.

Expenditure is classified under principal categories of charitable and other expenditure rather than the type of expense, in order to provide more useful information to users of the account. Charitable activities comprise direct expenditure including direct staff costs attributable to the activity. Support costs have been allocated to activities based on the average staff time spent. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with the management of the Charity's assets, organisational administration and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is conveyed to the recipient except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attached have been fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year-end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

Consortia

Donations to Childlife as a result of Smile a Minute and Friends at Work and Together for Change consortia are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities within donations. Expenditure on the recruitment and administration of donors for the consortia is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities within fundraising costs.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Intangible assets

Intangible assets are stated in the Balance Sheet at cost less accumulated amortisation and impairment. They are amortised on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Amortisation

Amortisation is provided on intangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Amortisation method and rate
Website costs	50% straight line

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Computer equipment	25% straight line
Fixture and fittings	25% straight line

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period of the relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in interest payable and similar charges.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the charity has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date.

Foreign exchange

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are reported at the rates of exchange prevailing at that date.

The results of overseas operations are translated at the average rates of exchange during the period and their balance sheets at the rates ruling at the balance sheet date. Exchange differences arising on translation of the opening net assets and results of overseas operations are reported in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity (attributed to non-controlling interests as appropriate).

Other exchange differences are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they arise except for:

- 1) exchange differences on transactions entered into to hedge certain foreign currency risks (see above);
- 2) exchange differences arising on gains or losses on non-monetary items which are recognised in other comprehensive income; and
- 3) in the case of the consolidated financial statements, exchange differences on monetary items receivable from or payable to a foreign operation for which settlement is neither planned nor likely to occur (therefore forming part of the net investment in the foreign operation), which are recognised in other comprehensive income and reported under equity.

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Financial instruments

Classification

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the charity after deducting all of its liabilities.

Recognition and measurement

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

Investments

Investments in non-convertible preference shares and non-puttable ordinary or preference shares (where shares are publicly traded or their fair value is reliably measurable) are measured at fair value through profit or loss. Where fair value cannot be measured reliably, investments are measured at cost less impairment.

Investments in subsidiaries and associates are measured at cost less impairment. For investments in subsidiaries acquired for consideration including the issue of shares qualifying for merger relief, cost is measured by reference to the nominal value of the shares issued plus fair value of other consideration. Any premium is ignored.

Derivative financial instruments

The charity uses derivative financial instruments to reduce exposure to foreign exchange risk and interest rate movements. The charity does not hold or issue derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

Derivatives are initially recognised at fair value at the date a derivative contract is entered into and are subsequently remeasured to their fair value at each reporting date. The resulting gain or loss is recognised in statement of financial activities immediately unless the derivative is designated and effective as a hedging instrument, in which event the timing of the recognition in statement of financial activities depends on the nature of the hedge relationship.

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Fair value measurement

The best evidence of fair value is a quoted price for an identical asset in an active market. When quoted prices are unavailable, the price of a recent transaction for an identical asset provides evidence of fair value as long as there has not been a significant change in economic circumstances or a significant lapse of time since the transaction took place. If the market is not active and recent transactions of an identical asset on their own are not a good estimate of fair value, the fair value is estimated by using a valuation technique.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Donations and legacies;		
Donations from individuals	1,304,724	1,304,724
Total for 2024	1,304,724	1,304,724
Total for 2023	1,288,327	1,288,327

4 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Interest receivable and similar income;		
Interest receivable on bank deposits	5,647	5,647
Total for 2024	5,647	5,647
Total for 2023	3,542	3,542

5 Expenditure on raising funds

	Direct costs £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Costs of generating donations and legacies	662,654	662,654	914,890

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Grant funding of activity £	Total expenditure £
Grant Funding of activities	410,000	410,000
Total for 2023	<u>400,000</u>	<u>400,000</u>

7 Analysis of governance and support costs

Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Audit fees		
Audit of the financial statements	6,054	6,054
Depreciation, amortisation and other similar costs	4,219	4,219
Total for 2024	<u>10,273</u>	<u>10,273</u>
Total for 2023	<u>10,431</u>	<u>10,431</u>

8 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses from the charity during the year.

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

9 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	78,580	67,226
Social security costs	7,078	6,763
Pension costs	3,900	3,667
	<u>89,558</u>	<u>77,656</u>

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2024 No	2023 No
Cost of raising income	2	2
Charitable activities	1	1
	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

10 Auditors' remuneration

	2024 £	2023 £
Audit of the financial statements	<u>6,054</u>	<u>4,800</u>

11 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

12 Intangible fixed assets

	Computer software	Total
	£	£
Cost		
At 1 April 2023	21,356	21,356
Additions	8,010	8,010
	29,366	29,366
At 31 March 2024	29,366	29,366
Amortisation		
At 1 April 2023	20,856	20,856
Charge for the year	2,836	2,836
	23,692	23,692
At 31 March 2024	23,692	23,692
Net book value		
At 31 March 2024	5,674	5,674
At 31 March 2023	500	500

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and equipment	Total
	£	£
Cost		
At 1 April 2023	28,520	28,520
Additions	494	494
	29,014	29,014
At 31 March 2024	29,014	29,014
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2023	23,599	23,599
Charge for the year	1,383	1,383
	24,982	24,982
At 31 March 2024	24,982	24,982
Net book value		
At 31 March 2024	4,032	4,032
At 31 March 2023	4,921	4,921

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

14 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Prepayments	10,671	12,691
Other debtors	27,212	28,960
	37,883	41,651

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	23,078	72,395
Other creditors	2,648	3,586
Accruals	195,201	38,708
	220,927	114,689

16 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	390,055	1,310,371	(1,082,927)	617,499
	390,055	1,310,371	(1,082,927)	617,499
	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	423,507	1,291,869	(1,325,321)	390,055
	423,507	1,291,869	(1,325,321)	390,055

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

17 Related party transactions

The board of trustees, which has four members, one from each member charity, administers the Charity and meets quarterly. Each trustee is an employee of one of the member charities. Grants of £102,500 each (2023: £100,000 each) were payable to the four member charities during the financial year. The Charity was controlled by four member charities throughout the financial year. Names of member charities are Acorns Children's Hospice, Ataxia UK, National Children's Bureau, and National Deaf Children's Society.

Childlife

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income and Endowments from:		
Donations and legacies (analysed below)	1,304,724	1,288,327
Investment income (analysed below)	5,647	3,542
	<u>1,310,371</u>	<u>1,291,869</u>
Expenditure on:		
Raising funds (analysed below)	(662,654)	(914,890)
Charitable activities (analysed below)	(410,000)	(400,000)
Governance costs	(10,273)	(10,431)
	<u>(1,082,927)</u>	<u>(1,325,321)</u>
Total expenditure	<u>(1,082,927)</u>	<u>(1,325,321)</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	<u>227,444</u>	<u>(33,452)</u>
Net movement in funds	227,444	(33,452)
Reconciliation of funds		
Total funds brought forward	<u>390,055</u>	<u>423,507</u>
Total funds carried forward	<u>617,499</u>	<u>390,055</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements.

Childlife

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<i>Donations and legacies</i>		
Appeals and donations	1,304,724	1,288,327
	<u>1,304,724</u>	<u>1,288,327</u>
<i>Investment income</i>		
Interest on cash deposits	5,647	3,542
	<u>5,647</u>	<u>3,542</u>
<i>Raising funds</i>		
Fundraising costs	(467,350)	(765,628)
Other fundraising costs	(19,237)	(1,080)
Wages and salaries	(78,580)	(67,226)
Staff NIC (Employers)	(7,078)	(6,763)
Staff pensions (Other) - pension scheme 1	(3,900)	(3,667)
Rates	(5,749)	(4,772)
Insurance	(1,424)	(928)
Telephone and fax	(1,311)	(1,015)
Computer software and maintenance costs	(12,356)	(10,076)
Printing, postage and stationery	(10,212)	(7,899)
Trade subscriptions	(1,610)	(189)
Sundry expenses	(360)	(223)
Travel and subsistence	(120)	(111)
Advertising	(1,798)	(54)
Legal and professional fees	(6,566)	(1,642)
Bank charges	(45,003)	(43,617)
	<u>(662,654)</u>	<u>(914,890)</u>
<i>Charitable activities</i>		
Grants payable - institutions	(410,000)	(400,000)
	<u>(410,000)</u>	<u>(400,000)</u>
<i>Governance Cost</i>		
Fundraising Cost	-	(763)
The audit of the charity's annual accounts	(6,054)	(4,800)
Depreciation of office equipment	(4,219)	(4,868)
	<u>(10,273)</u>	<u>(10,431)</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements.

CHILDLIFE

England & Wales - Charity number 1080536

Accounts

Company registration number: 03696656

Charity registration number: 1080536

Childlife

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

DSK Partners LLP
D S House
306 High Street
Croydon
Surrey
CR0 1NG

Childlife

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Childlife

Reference and Administrative Details

Chairman	Ms C White, Appointed as chair 15th November 2021
Trustees	B McNaught, Treasurer Ms C White, Appointed as chair 15th November 2021 D J Beacon Lawrence Walker
Secretary	Ms A Rimington
Charity Registration Number	1080536
Company Registration Number	03696656
Registered Office	The charity is incorporated in England & Wales. Westmead House Westmead Farnborough Hants GU14 7LP
Auditor	DSK Partners LLP Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales D S House 306 High Street Croydon Surrey CR0 1NG

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Trustees

B McNaught, Treasurer

Ms C White, Chair

D J Beacon

L Walker (appointed 09th March 2023)

Other trustees in year

Ms C Mcstravick (resigned as a trustee on 04th November 22)

The appointment of Trustees is in accordance with the charity's Articles of Association, whereby each member has the right to appoint and remove a trustee and to appoint and remove an alternate.

None of the Trustees has any beneficial interest in the company.

Childlife provides both a role description and a code of conduct for trustees to ensure that the duties and responsibilities of being a trustee are clearly understood. In addition, it has specialist role descriptions for both the Chair of Trustees and Honorary Treasurer. These are provided to all new trustees as part of their induction information.

New trustees are encouraged to meet with the Chief Executive Officer and staff members and other trustees within the first few months of appointment. Training for trustees is provided if required.

The arrangements for setting the pay and remuneration of all the charity's staff including key management personnel are agreed by the CEO and the trustees.

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Background

The idea for Childlife, a consortium of children's charities allowing its member charities to fundraise collectively, originated in 1992. Its first donor was recruited in July 1993. Childlife became a company limited by guarantee in 1999 and a registered charity in 2000.

Member charities of Childlife:

Acorns Children's Hospice

Ataxia UK

National Children's Bureau

National Deaf Children's Society

The Board of Trustees, which has four members, one from each member charity, administers the charity and normally meets quarterly. In the past year there have been more frequent meetings due to the ever changing situation with the pandemic, with the trustees meeting most months. A Chief Executive Officer is appointed by the Trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity. To facilitate effective operations, the Chief Executive Officer has delegated authority, within the terms of delegation approved by the Trustees, for operational matters including finance, employment, fundraising and charitable activities.

Donations received by Childlife are distributed annually to these charities and hundreds of thousands of pounds are raised each year to support their important work with children and young people. The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks. The risks are documented on the risk register. The main two risks were;

- 1) Financial Failure of Key Suppliers (Gather and Ethical) - We have undertaken due diligence before signing contracts, including credit checks. We also horizon scan to identify supplier issues and potential alternative suppliers. In this year we have also worked with two other agencies Altru, Gilcore.
- 2) Loss of Income - The Cost-of-Living Crisis. Ongoing retention work is being carried out with existing donors to mitigate cancellation levels with payment holidays being offered.
- 3) Childlife's Board of Trustees is legally required to minimise any risk to the charity. The trustees have developed a risk management strategy, which involves a regular review of the key risks faced by the charity, and the establishment of systems and procedures to address these potential risks and to minimise both the likelihood of these risks occurring and their impact should they materialise.

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Objectives and Activities

Objectives and aims

The objectives of Childlife are; to promote the relief of children who are in need, by enabling the member charities to meet their respective charitable purposes, through the provision of grant payments.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefits when reviewing Childlife's aims and objectives.

Childlife carries out the object of improving the lives of children and young people through the work of its member charities by supporting the member charities in providing a strong income source in the short-, medium- and long-term future, and this has continued to be the focus in 2022/23. To enable Childlife to achieve its aim, it has continued to develop its fundraising programs in payroll giving and in new donor recruitment programs through face-to-face fundraising campaigns as well as on-going telephone campaigns to upgrade existing regular supporters and re-activate lapsed regular donors. The surplus of net income in 2022/23, after allowing for promotional and support costs for member charities and governance costs was distributed equally and on an annual basis to its four member charities as grants.

As we carry out fundraising across the UK we are members of both The Chartered Institute of Fundraising and the Fundraiser Regulator. As we are now running a lottery campaign, we also registered with Gamble Aware. We worked with four main external agencies for our recruitment of new donors in 2022/23.

Gather ltd carried out fundraising to recruit 1314 new direct debit donors for Childlife. Gather also recruited 1300 new Continuous Card Payment Donors. We continued to take one off donations and generate warm leads. Gather recruited 123 new cash donors; only 18 did not opt into future contact.

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Altru Ltd carried out fundraising to recruit 1699 new direct debit donors for Childlife. Altru also recruited 1653 new Continuous Card Payment Donors. No one off donors were recruited.

Gilcore Ltd carried out fundraising to recruit 357 new Continuous Card Payment donors for Childlife. No one off donors were recruited.

Gather, Altru and Gilcore are experienced in driving quality alongside good operational practices in line with CIOF and the Fundraiser Regulator guidance. Through a personalized service from these agencies our fundraising with them builds a relationship with the supporter to ensure life-long loyalty to Childlife. They are registered with the Chartered Institute of Fundraising and the Fundraising Regulator.

During the time that we were fundraising with Gather, Altru and Gilcore there was a regular program of training in place. We did not run any street campaigns so there was not any CIOF mystery shopping.

Childlife is a member of four other consortiums which Payroll Giving Plus Ltd recruits new donors through Payroll Giving. Payroll Giving Plus Ltd organise tax-effective fundraising events and campaigns in companies and organisations across the UK to raise money for our charity consortiums. All fundraisers are employed on a non-commission basis so that they can promote a non-target driven campaign. Payroll Giving Plus Ltd is a member of the Association of Payroll Giving Organisations and the Fundraising Regulator.

Childlife received ninety-five complaints during 2022/2023 regarding its fundraising. All complaints were investigated thoroughly and fairly in keeping with the Fundraising Regulator Code of Practice. Childlife regularly reviews any lessons to be learnt to help with future fundraising activity. None of the complaints were of a nature serious enough to require Trustees to inform the Charity Commission or Fundraising Regulator. There have not been any compliance issues with either Childlife or any other agencies that we have employed in 2022/23.

Childlife has an Ethical Fundraising Policy and a Dealing with Vulnerable donors Policy. We also review the policies that our partner agencies hold on these subjects to make sure they meet our standards.

During recent years, Childlife's community of donors has been in decline and the trustees have made the decision to invest more significantly in fundraising, to re-build the community to a sustainable level, so we can continue to raise vital funds into the future. This period of additional investment in fundraising is to ensure long term viability and will pay back over time. This five-year strategy commenced in 2018 and will be reviewed by the trustees in 2024. The plan beyond 2024 is yet to be confirmed as it will depend on a review of the investment period and the future returns for member charities.

Childlife has been extremely successful over the years in raising funds for our members. An initial investment of £16,000 per charity was made in 1994, and each member has received total grants of £2,605,492 since then (a ROI of 16184%). Without investment in fundraising this would not have been possible.

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Achievements and Performance Review of 2022/23

The beneficiaries of Childlife's work are the children, young people and their families throughout the UK who have received support and advice or will benefit from research undertaken by the four member charities through the grant payment to them from Childlife. In 2022/23 Childlife gave a total of £400,000 to the member charities. This enabled the four member charities to achieve the following:

Acorns Children's Hospice

Acorns Children's Hospice provides care, support, fun and laughter for children and their families across the West Midlands.

A parent never imagines their child will be diagnosed with a life limiting or life-threatening condition. But when the unimaginable happens, Acorns steps in, helping families cope at every stage of their child's life and beyond, wherever and whenever they need it. Our dedicated teams provide specialist palliative care for babies, children and young people, and support for their families. This support is offered from our three children's hospices, based in Birmingham, Walsall and Worcester, and in the community.

The babies, children and young people that we care for at Acorns have been diagnosed with a life limiting or life-threatening condition and not yet reached their 18th birthday. We accept referrals from children in one of four medical categories, as set by Together for Short Lives, the national charity for our sector.

Category 1: Life threatening conditions for which curative treatment may be feasible but can fail.

Category 2: Conditions where premature death is inevitable.

Category 3: Progressive conditions without curative treatment options.

Category 4: Irreversible but non-progressive conditions causing severe disability, leading to susceptibility to health complications and likelihood of premature death.

At Acorns we provide care 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to children and families who need us most. Over the past year we've achieved so much thanks to the generosity of our supporters

- Acorns has supported 757 children and 973 families, including those who have been bereaved.
- Our Acorns Family Services team provided 15,139 instances of vital emotional and practical support to family members, including one-on-one therapeutic work, bereavement support, group work and advocacy.
- An Outreach team of Nurses and Clinical Support Workers provide care to families within their home. In the past year, Acorns conducted 1,048 Outreach visits to families.
- Our Sibling Workers have supported over 200 siblings at Acorns in the past year, through focused groups, individual therapeutic based sessions, and bespoke programmes.
- We have completed the refurbishment of our Black Country Hospice and have forged wonderful partnerships within the community to ensure families continue to receive the care and support they need whilst the work takes place.
- Acorns made history as the first hospice in Britain to win the UNICEF Rights Respecting gold award, recognising our commitment to the United Nation's Rights of the Child.

Childlife supporters are helping to make all this possible with their ongoing support and dedication. On behalf of the children and families we support, thank you so much.

Christina White, Senior Manager - Individual Giving and Legacies, Acorns Children's Hospice

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Ataxia UK

The ataxias are a set of life-limiting neurological conditions that disrupt the messages sent from our brains to our muscles. Not just the muscles we use to move, but those we use to speak, listen and see. Over time, people with ataxia are slowly imprisoned in their own bodies, losing the tools they once had to communicate with loved ones. Over 200 different genetic ataxias have been discovered in the past 30 years, each of which requires a different treatment. Currently, no treatments or cures for most of the ataxias have been found. Ataxia UK is the leading national charity which supports those affected ataxia and funds research into finding treatments and cures.

The most common and aggressive form of the condition is Friedreich's ataxia (FA), which predominantly shows its symptoms during childhood or early puberty. The earlier FA begins to show, the likelihood is the faster it progresses. It hampers a child/young person's balance, mobility and movement, before causing speech, hearing and vision to deteriorate and, eventually, weakens the heart. As a result, children diagnosed with FA usually have a shorter life expectancy than their peers and will spend much of their life in a wheelchair.

As with the other ataxias, there is no cure for FA.

A major part of our work is to support and advise parents of children who have FA, whilst funding research into treatments and a cure. The support we receive from Childlife is essential in achieving this: it enables us to run local support groups, conferences, various online forums and information sessions to reduce families' isolation and help them understand the condition.

Some key highlights from FY 2022-23

The financial year 2022-23 ended on an absolute high with the approval of Skyclarys by the FDA in February 2023, marking a major milestone for the ataxia community and Ataxia UK as Skyclarys is the first drug licensed for the treatment of Friedreich's Ataxia (FA). This approval offers new hope to those living with FA and represents a significant step forward in the search for effective treatments.

Although the approval of Skyclarys in the US is cause for celebration, the struggle for access to this treatment in the UK is ongoing. At present, there has been no application for approval in the UK, but we are hopeful that this is only a matter of time. Moreover, the pace of ataxia research is speeding up, with a number of trials underway or pending in various ataxias, so we hope there may be other good news to report in the coming year.

Ataxia UK is committed to doing everything it can to support the approval of Skyclarys and any other prospective treatments for ataxias. We know it's hard to be patient when it feels treatments are around the corner, but we hope that patience will be rewarded before too long. In the meanwhile, Ataxia UK will do everything it can to support the approval of Skyclarys and any other prospective treatments for the ataxias.

Other highlights:

EFACTS: The European Friedreich's ataxia Consortium for Translational Studies (EFACTS) is a study originally funded by the European Commission that is gathering vital information about the progression of Friedreich's ataxia (FA). Ataxia UK has supported the project over the years, and data from this study has resulted in useful publications and is also being used to plan clinical trials.

FA Global Clinical Consortium: During the year, efforts have progressed in combining the efforts of EFACTS with the other well-established natural history study in Friedreich ataxia, FACOMS. The investigators of both FACOMS and EFACTS see the need to combine efforts into a single global consortium with a unified natural history and clinical research infrastructure. The new FA Global Clinical Consortium and a harmonized global study protocol has now been established, and Ataxia UK has a patient group representative on this Consortium.

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

During the past year, Ataxia UK has made significant strides in improving care and support for individuals with ataxia, particularly in the paediatric population. Two new paediatric ataxia centres were established, one at the London Ataxia Centre and the other at the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford. The London Ataxia Centre launched its Paediatric Ataxia Clinic, which provides a new service for children with ataxia to receive care at a centre of excellence. Led by Professor Paola Giunti, the clinic team also includes Dr Shpresa Pula and Katarina Manso. The clinic leads a large translational research programme, primarily focused on the genetic basis of ataxias, particularly Friedreich's ataxia, and accepts referrals for children aged 8-18. Ataxia UK has provided part-funding for the Ataxia Specialist nurse to support the clinic. The John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford was accredited by Ataxia UK as a Specialist Ataxia Centre, where people with ataxia can receive the best quality of care from ataxia experts. The Oxford Ataxia Centre offers a specialised service for both adults and children with ataxia, with a team consisting of two adult neurologists, a clinical geneticist, and a paediatric neurologist.

Scientific research into treatment and cures and the support made available to those affected by ataxia whilst we wait for a cure, is sustained by Childlife supporters. On behalf of everyone affected by ataxia and us at all at Ataxia UK, Thank you.

Dan Beacon, Head of Fundraising and Communications, Ataxia UK

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

The National Deaf Children's Society

The National Deaf Children's Society is dedicated to creating a world without barriers for deaf children and young people. It is our mission to overcome the social and educational barriers that hold deaf children back.

Thanks to the generosity of Childlife supporters, we have been able to provide life-changing support and invaluable information to deaf children and their families across the UK over the last year. This has included:

- providing vital, timely help and advice via our Helpline service, with more than 4,000 calls, emails and live chat messages responded to
- delivering 15 face to face family events which 273 people attended. This included 7 events specifically tailored to provide support to families new to hearing loss
- holding an additional 58 online events, attended by 876 people, covering themes such as education, emotional health and wellbeing, and understanding childhood deafness
- delivering Family Sign Language training online and in person to 552 people, enabling parents and their deaf children to gain invaluable communication skills
- reaching an estimated 4,675 people through our network of 85 affiliated local deaf children's societies
- running a program of online training reaching more than 3,000 professionals to help increase awareness and understanding of childhood deafness issues
- providing expert information to 604 professionals involved in supporting deaf children in early years settings through our Bright Start series of online webinars.

Childhood deafness can have a huge impact on language development, communication and social skills, and we know that supporting deaf children during those early years is where we can make the biggest impact and set them up for life. Our goal is to reach more deaf children and young people than ever before, and our new five year strategy sets out our ambitious plan to reach every deaf child, wherever they are and whenever they need us.

Childlife donors will help us make this happen. Thank you for your continued support.

Ben McNaught
Deputy Director: Fundraising

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

National Childrens Bureau

As the National Children's Bureau (NCB) celebrates its 60th year in 2023, we continue to bring people and organisations together to drive change in society and deliver a better childhood across the UK.

This year there were a number of important milestones for NCB centered around our core purpose to amplify the voices of children and young people and deliver lasting change for future generations.

We played a leading role in the reforms to the children's social care system, delivered training and CPD to Special Educational Needs and Education (SEND) practitioners through our umbrella body the Council for Disabled Children, and helped to deliver a new pilot scheme to train thousands of staff on how to support children and young people who are struggling with their mental health.

We placed the voices and lived experiences of babies, children, young people and families at the heart of service delivery, research and policy. This included facilitating a meeting between care-experienced young people and the Secretary of State for Education, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, and the Children's Commissioner for England. We also brought together more than 100 children and young people with SEND to enable them to participate in decision-making at local and national levels.

NCB's specialist family members also played a key role in paving the way for a better childhood. Our Anti-Bullying Alliance extended their services into Northern Ireland where they will continue to help stop bullying and create safer environments in which children and young people can live, grow, play and learn.

Our Lambeth Early Action Partnership in south London hosted a series of 'Warm Hubs' during the winter months, supporting families struggling with the cost-of-living-crisis with a hot meal and the chance to engage in activities with their babies whilst accessing services and support from local providers.

One of our most notable moments from the last year was a once-in-a-generation policy win for our Childhood Bereavement Network who secured a major change to bereavement benefits after a 10-year-long campaign. As a result of their tireless campaigning, around 21,000 families who were previously denied support because the parents weren't married or in a civil partnership will now be able to make retrospective claims and around 1,800 more grieving families will be able to access support each year.

It is through your donations that we can continue to tackle the multi-faceted challenges faced by children and families. Your support makes a real difference to children, young people and families, so thank you for your generosity, which means the world to us.

Lawrence Walker, Head of Development, National Children's Bureau.

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Statement on Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Financial Review

Income in the year was £1,291,869, a slight increase from the previous year from £1,173,918. The main reason for the increase is the large investment in donor recruitment in previous years 20/21 and 21/22.

Expenditure on raising funds decreased to £914,890 from £935,028 reflecting the fundraising suppliers fulfilling their contracts to recruit requested donor levels. (see P30 in the accounts)

Expenditure on charitable activities was £410,431 versus the previous year of £329,710 This includes £400,000 of grant payments (2021/22: £320,000)

Reserves Policy

It is the policy of Childlife to have free reserves amounting to no less than three months and no more than six months' operating costs. Based on the 2022-23 budget, the required reserve level for the year end was set at £168,118 (low) to £336,236 (high). The free reserves balance at 31st March 2023 was £390,055 and as such falls just above the required reserves policy. This will be addressed by the trustees in the upcoming financial year.

Statement of Responsibilities

Trustees Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements

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

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and 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 hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Impact of External Financial Environment

Since 31 December 2019 many local economies around the globe have been in downturn.

After covid 19 restrictions have been lifted, energy prices and inflation have soared, affecting many households in the UK. The Russian Ukrainian conflict is putting further stress on this situation and average bills have more than doubled, and inflation rates have sharply risen.

Childlife is not currently seeing the effect of this in the form of loss of income, although cancellation rates are starting to return to pre pandemic levels.

This will not significantly impact the entity's financial position. Childlife has determined that these events are non-adjusting subsequent events. Accordingly, the financial position and results of operations as of and for the year ended 31 March 2023 have not been adjusted to reflect their impact. The duration and impact of the Russian Ukrainian Conflict, the fuel crisis and the conflict, as well as the effectiveness of government and central bank responses, remains unclear at this time. It is not possible to reliably estimate the duration and severity of these consequences, as well as their impact on the financial position and results of Childlife for future periods.

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

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 examination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Disclosure of information to auditor

In so far as the trustees are aware at the time of approving our trustees' annual report:

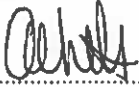
- there is no relevant information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing their report, of which the auditor is unaware, and
- the trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken individually as a trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 28 July 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Ms C White
Chairman and Trustee

Childlife

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Childlife

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Childlife (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2023, which comprise the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees 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 its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charity's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

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

Childlife

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Childlife

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matter 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 for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees. .

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities (set out on page 11), the trustees 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 charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

Childlife

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Childlife

We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The key laws and regulations we have considered in this context included the Companies Act 2006, pension and tax legislation. In addition, we have considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the company's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- o Using our general commercial and sector experience and through discussions with the directors and management, we identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements as well as those arising from management's own assessment of the risks that irregularities may occur either as a result of fraud or error.
- o We examined the company's regulatory and legal correspondence and discussed with the directors and management any known or suspected instances of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- o We communicated identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.
- o In addressing the risk of management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries. We also challenged assumptions and judgements made by management in their significant accounting estimates and judgements.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentation, or through collusion.

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.

Childlife

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Childlife

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the charity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the charity to express an opinion on the financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the charity audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



.....
Romit Basu FCA (Partner)
For and on behalf of DSK Partners LLP,
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
D S House
306 High Street
Croydon
Surrey
CR0 1NG

28 July 2023

Childlife

Statement of Comprehensive Income for the Year Ended 31 March 2023 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	2	1,288,327	1,173,690
Investment income	3	<u>3,542</u>	<u>228</u>
Total income		<u>1,291,869</u>	<u>1,173,918</u>
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	4	(914,890)	(935,028)
Charitable activities	5	(400,000)	(320,000)
Governance costs		<u>(10,431)</u>	<u>(9,710)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(1,325,321)</u>	<u>(1,264,738)</u>
Net expenditure		<u>(33,452)</u>	<u>(90,820)</u>
Net movement in funds		(33,452)	(90,820)
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		<u>423,507</u>	<u>514,327</u>
Total funds carried forward	12	<u>390,055</u>	<u>423,507</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2022 is shown in note 12.

The notes on pages 21 to 28 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Childlife

(Registration number: 03696656) Statement of Financial Position as at 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Intangible assets	8	500	4,921
Tangible assets	9	<u>4,921</u>	<u>-</u>
		<u>5,421</u>	<u>4,921</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	10	41,651	27,401
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>457,672</u>	<u>445,724</u>
		499,323	473,125
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(114,689)</u>	<u>(54,539)</u>
Net current assets		<u>384,634</u>	<u>418,586</u>
Net assets		<u>390,055</u>	<u>423,507</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>390,055</u>	<u>423,507</u>
Total funds	12	<u>390,055</u>	<u>423,507</u>

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

(a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and

(b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

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

The financial statements on pages 18 to 28 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 28 July 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



.....
Ms C White
Chairman and Trustee

The notes on pages 21 to 28 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Childlife

Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash expenditure		(33,452)	(90,820)
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Depreciation	4	447	540
Amortisation	4	4,421	3,480
Investment income	3	<u>(3,542)</u>	<u>(228)</u>
		(32,126)	(87,028)
Working capital adjustments			
Increase in debtors	10	(14,250)	(1,755)
Increase in creditors	11	<u>60,150</u>	<u>1,270</u>
Net cash flows from operating activities		<u>13,774</u>	<u>(87,513)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest receivable and similar income	3	3,542	228
Purchase of intangible fixed assets	8	-	(6,001)
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	9	<u>(5,368)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net cash flows from investing activities		<u>(1,826)</u>	<u>(5,773)</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		11,948	(93,286)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		<u>445,724</u>	<u>539,010</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March		<u>457,672</u>	<u>445,724</u>
Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net funds			
Increase/(decrease) in cash		11,948	(93,286)
Net funds at 1 April 2022		<u>445,724</u>	<u>539,010</u>
Net funds at 31 March 2023		<u>457,672</u>	<u>445,724</u>

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The notes on pages 21 to 28 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance

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)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Childlife meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Currency

The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is also the functional currency of the company and rounded to the nearest pound.

Income and endowments

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Voluntary income is received by way of donations and is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable or received. The majority of the donations are received in the form of payroll giving, standing orders and direct debits. The nature of these forms of donation is that they can be cancelled at any time by the donor. In most cases they are therefore recognised upon receipt unless there is a certainty about the amounts receivable and about the period to which they are attributable. Income from gift aid tax recoverable is recognised in the same accounting period that the related donations are recognised.

The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included.

Deferred income

Any income received by the charity in advance of the due date upon which it becomes receivable is deferred until that due date. Such amounts are not material and arise only incidentally.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred. Expenditure includes attributable VAT.

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Raising funds

The costs of raising voluntary income includes amounts paid by Childlife during the financial year to third parties to recruit new committed givers for the charity and to undertake various telephone fundraising campaigns. Donors to Childlife choose to donate via payroll giving, via the gift aid scheme or via home money boxes. It is the charity's policy to expense these costs in the period in which they are incurred.

PROMOTION AND SUPPORT OF MEMBER CHARITIES

This includes the costs of promotion and support to the member charities and the costs of grants payable. The surplus of net income after allowing for promotional and support costs for member charities and governance costs is distributed equally and on a quarterly basis to its four member charities. A fifth payment may be made annually to the member charities, subject to approval by the trustees, based on surplus reserves determined from the annual financial statements. It is the charity's policy to include fifth payment grants in the period to which they relate.

Grant expenditure

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Going concern

Childlife has not been affected in the form of loss of income from the impact of COVID-19 during the year and it has benefited from savings in costs and therefore this will not significantly impact the entity's financial position.

Childlife has determined that these events are non-adjusting subsequent events. Accordingly, the financial position and results of operations as of and for the year ended 31 March 2022 have not been adjusted to reflect their impact. It is not possible to reliably estimate the duration and severity of the consequences of COVID-19, as well as their impact on the financial position and results of the Company for future periods.

Grant provisions

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

Governance costs

Governance costs reflect central operating costs excluding direct and apportioned support costs of raising funds and charitable activities.

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Costs which are directly attributable to a charitable activity or to the costs of raising funds are allocated directly to those activity cost categories. Items of expenditure which contribute directly to the output of more than one activity cost category are apportioned on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis. Depreciation is attributed in accordance with the same principles. Support costs which are shared between activities are apportioned on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis to the activity cost categories being supported.

The basis of apportionment of actual staff costs is by the estimated time spent by individual members of staff on different activity cost categories. Most other support costs are apportioned in the same proportion as the staff costs unless there are specific reasons to apply different proportions of the cost to different activity cost categories.

Expenditure is classified under principal categories of charitable and other expenditure rather than the type of expense, in order to provide more useful information to users of the account. Charitable activities comprise direct expenditure including direct staff costs attributable to the activity. Support costs have been allocated to activities based on the average staff time spent. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with the management of the Charity's assets, organisational administration and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is conveyed to the recipient except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attached have been fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year-end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

Consortia

Donations to Childlife as a result of Smile a Minute and Friends at Work and Together for Change consortia are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities within donations. Expenditure on the recruitment and administration of donors for the consortia is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities within fundraising costs.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets held for the entity's own use are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives at the following rates

Computer Equipment - 25% straight line

Fixture & Fittings - 25% straight line

Website costs - 50% straight line

Assets held under finance leases are depreciated in the same way as owned assets.

At each statement of financial position date, the entity reviews the carrying amount of its tangible fixed assets to determine whether there is any indication that any items have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication

exists, the recoverable amount of an asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss, if any. Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of the asset, the entity estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Donations and legacies;		
Donations from individuals	1,288,327	1,173,690
	1,288,327	1,173,690

3 Investment income

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Interest receivable and similar income;		
Interest receivable on bank deposits	3,542	228

4 Expenditure on raising funds

a) Other costs of generating donations and legacies

	Direct costs £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Expenditure on raising funds	914,890	914,890	935,028

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

		Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Grant funding of activities	Note	400,000	320,000

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

6 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses from the charity during the year.

7 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	<u>155,314</u>	<u>161,452</u>

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2023 No	2022 No
Cost of raising income	3	3
Charitable activities	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

8 Intangible fixed assets

	Computer software £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2022	21,356	21,356
At 31 March 2023	21,356	21,356
Amortisation		
At 1 April 2022	16,435	16,435
Charge for the year	4,421	4,421
At 31 March 2023	20,856	20,856
Net book value		
At 31 March 2023	500	500
At 31 March 2022	4,921	4,921

9 Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and fixtures £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2022	23,152	23,152
Additions	5,368	5,368
At 31 March 2023	28,520	28,520
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2022	23,152	23,152
Charge for the year	447	447
At 31 March 2023	23,599	23,599
Net book value		
At 31 March 2023	4,921	4,921
At 31 March 2022	-	-

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

10 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Prepayments	12,691	5,517
Other debtors	28,960	21,884
	41,651	27,401

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	72,395	32,431
Other taxation and social security	-	1
Other creditors	3,586	7,655
Accruals	38,708	14,452
	114,689	54,539

12 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	423,507	1,291,869	(1,325,321)	390,055
	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	514,327	1,173,918	(1,264,738)	423,507

13 Related party transactions

The board of trustees, which has four members, one from each member charity, administers the Charity and meets quarterly. Each trustee is an employee of one of the member charities. Grants of £100,000 each (2022: £80,000 each) were payable to the four member charities during the financial year. The Charity was controlled by four member charities throughout the financial year.

Childlife

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income and Endowments from:		
Donations and legacies (analysed below)	1,288,327	1,173,690
Investment income (analysed below)	<u>3,542</u>	<u>228</u>
Total income	<u>1,291,869</u>	<u>1,173,918</u>
Expenditure on:		
Raising funds (analysed below)	(914,890)	(935,028)
Charitable activities (analysed below)	(400,000)	(320,000)
Governance costs	<u>(10,431)</u>	<u>(9,710)</u>
Total expenditure	<u>(1,325,321)</u>	<u>(1,264,738)</u>
Net expenditure	<u>(33,452)</u>	<u>(90,820)</u>
Net movement in funds	(33,452)	(90,820)
Reconciliation of funds		
Total funds brought forward	<u>423,507</u>	<u>514,327</u>
Total funds carried forward	<u>390,055</u>	<u>423,507</u>

Childlife

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<i>Donations and legacies</i>		
Appeals and donations	1,288,327	1,173,690
	<u>1,288,327</u>	<u>1,173,690</u>
<i>Investment income</i>		
Interest on cash deposits	3,542	228
	<u>3,542</u>	<u>228</u>
<i>Raising funds</i>		
Fundraising costs	(766,390)	(782,224)
Other fundraising costs	(1,080)	(1,811)
Wages and salaries	(67,226)	(71,016)
Rates	(4,772)	(5,463)
Insurance	(928)	(913)
Telephone and fax	(1,015)	(1,008)
Computer software and maintenance costs	(10,076)	(34,263)
Printing, postage and stationery	(7,899)	(2,147)
Trade subscriptions	(189)	(1,284)
Sundry expenses	(223)	(1,898)
Travel and subsistence	(111)	(53)
Advertising	(54)	(980)
Auditors' remuneration - non audit work	(4,800)	(9,600)
Legal and professional fees	(1,642)	(1,689)
Bank charges	(43,617)	(16,659)
Depreciation of office equipment	(4,868)	(4,020)
	<u>(914,890)</u>	<u>(935,028)</u>
<i>Charitable activities</i>		
Grants payable - institutions	(400,000)	(320,000)
	<u>(400,000)</u>	<u>(320,000)</u>
<i>Governance costs</i>		
Wages and salaries	(10,431)	(9,710)
	<u>(10,431)</u>	<u>(9,710)</u>

CHILDLIFE

England & Wales - Charity number 1080536

Accounts

Company registration number: 03696656

Charity registration number: 1080536

Childlife

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

DSK Partners LLP
75 Park Lane
Croydon
Surrey
CR9 1XS

Childlife

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Childlife

Reference and Administrative Details

Chairman	Ms C White, Appointed as chair 15th November 2021
Trustees	B McNaught, Treasurer Ms C White, Appointed as chair 15th November 2021 D J Beacon Ms C Mcstravick, Appointed as on 08th October 2021
Secretary	Ms A Rimington
Charity Registration Number	1080536
Company Registration Number	03696656
Registered Office	The charity is incorporated in England & Wales. Westmead House Westmead Farnborough Hants GU14 7LP
Auditor	DSK Partners LLP Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales 75 Park Lane Croydon Surrey CR9 1XS

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Trustees

B McNaught, Treasurer

Ms C White, Fundraising Manager

D J Beacon

Ms C Mcstravick (appointed 8th October 2021)

Other trustees in year

Ms A Hassall (resigned as chair and as a trustee on 16th September 21)

The appointment of Trustees is in accordance with the charity's Articles of Association, whereby each member has the right to appoint and remove a trustee and to appoint and remove an alternate.

None of the Trustees has any beneficial interest in the company.

Childlife provides both a role description and a code of conduct for trustees to ensure that the duties and responsibilities of being a trustee are clearly understood. In addition, it has specialist role descriptions for both the Chair of Trustees and Honorary Treasurer. These are provided to all new trustees as part of their induction information.

New trustees are encouraged to meet with the Chief Executive Officer and staff members and other trustees within the first few months of appointment. Training for trustees is provided if required.

The arrangements for setting the pay and remuneration of all the charity's staff including key management personnel are agreed by the CEO and the trustees.

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Background

The idea for Childlife, a consortium of children's charities allowing its member charities to fundraise collectively, originated in 1992. Its first donor was recruited in July 1993. Childlife became a company limited by guarantee in 1999 and a registered charity in 2000.

Member charities of Childlife:

Acorns Children's Hospice

Ataxia UK

National Children's Bureau

National Deaf Children's Society

The Board of Trustees, which has four members, one from each member charity, administers the charity and normally meets quarterly. In the past year there have been more frequent meetings due to the ever changing situation with the pandemic, with the trustees meeting most months. A Chief Executive Officer is appointed by the Trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity. To facilitate effective operations, the Chief Executive Officer has delegated authority, within the terms of delegation approved by the Trustees, for operational matters including finance, employment, fundraising and charitable activities.

Donations received by Childlife are distributed annually to these charities and hundreds of thousands of pounds are raised each year to support their important work with children and young people. The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks. The risks are documented on the risk register. The main two risks were;

1) Financial Failure of Key Suppliers (PFS and Ethical) - We have undertaken due diligence before signing contracts, including credit checks. We also horizon scan to identify supplier issues and potential alternative suppliers. In this year we have also worked with two other agencies Altru, Gilcore.

2) Loss of Income - The ongoing effects of covid 19 are still being felt, Retention work was carried out with existing donors to mitigate cancellation levels with payment holidays being offered. With regard to fundraising and Covid-19, Government policy was strictly adhered to with advice from public health England incorporated into internal policy and risk assessments. Additional measures such as the wearing of face shields were added in on top of the government requirements to ensure safety and give public confidence while fundraising.

Childlife's Board of Trustees is legally required to minimise any risk to the charity. The trustees have developed a risk management strategy, which involves a regular review of the key risks faced by the charity, and the establishment of systems and procedures to address these potential risks and to minimise both the likelihood of these risks occurring and their impact should they materialise

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Objectives and Activities

Objectives and aims

The objects of Childlife are; to promote the relief of children who are in need, by enabling the member charities to meet their respective charitable purposes, through the provision of grant payments.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing Childlife's aims and objectives.

Childlife carries out the object of improving the lives of children and young people through the work of its member charities by supporting the member charities in providing a strong income source in the short, medium and long term future, and this has continued to be the focus in 2021/22. To enable Childlife to achieve its aim, it has continued to develop its fundraising programs in payroll giving and in new donor recruitment programs through face-to-face fundraising campaigns as well as on-going telephone campaigns to upgrade existing regular supporters and re-activate lapsed regular donors. The surplus of net income in 2021/22, after allowing for promotional and support costs for member charities and governance costs was distributed equally and on an annual basis to its four member charities as grants.

As we carry out fundraising across the UK we are members of both The Chartered Institute of Fundraising and the Fundraiser Regulator. As we now run a lottery campaign we also registered with Gamble Aware. We worked with four main external agencies for our recruitment of new donors in 2021/22.

PFS ltd carried out fundraising to recruit 2100 new direct debit donors for Childlife. We continued to take one one off donations and generate warm leads. PFS recruited 106 new cash donors; only 14 did not opt in to future contact.

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Altru Ltd carried out fundraising to recruit 1773 new direct debit donors for Childlife. Altru also recruited 1467 new Continuous Card Payment Donors. No one off donors were recruited.

Gilcore Ltd carried out fundraising to recruit 423 new direct debit donors for Childlife. No one off donors were recruited.

PFS, Altru and Gilcore are experienced in driving quality alongside good operational practices in line with CIOF and the Fundraiser Regulator guidance. Through a personalized service from these agencies our fundraising with them builds a relationship with the supporter to ensure life-long loyalty to Childlife. There are registered with the Chartered Institute of Fundraising and the Fundraising Regulator.

During the time that we were fundraising with PFS, Altru and Gilcore, due to Covid restrictions, the CEO was unable to carry out shadowing with the door to door fundraisers. There was a regular program of training in place. We did not run any street campaigns so there was not any CIOF mystery shopping.

Childlife is a member of four other consortiums which STC Ltd recruits new donors through Payroll Giving. STC Ltd organise tax effective fundraising events and campaigns in companies and organisations across the UK to raise money for our charity consortiums. All fundraisers are employed on a non-commission basis so that they can promote a non-target driven campaign. STC Ltd is a member of the Association of Payroll Giving Organisations and the Fundraising Regulator. Due to COVID-19 very limited payroll fundraising took place in the year.

Childlife received thirtyone complaints during 2021/2022 regarding its fundraising. All complaints were investigated thoroughly and fairly in keeping with the Code of Fundraising Practice. Childlife regularly reviews any lessons to be learnt to help with future fundraising activity. None of the complaints were of a nature serious enough to require Trustees to inform the Charity Commission or Fundraising Regulator. There have not been any compliance issues with either Childlife or any other agencies that we have employed in 2021/22.

Childlife has an Ethical Fundraising Policy and a Dealing with Vulnerable donors Policy. We also review the policies that our partner agencies hold on these subjects to make sure they meet our standards.

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Achievements and Performance

Review of 2021/22

The beneficiaries of Childlife's work are the children, young people and their families throughout the UK who have received support and advice or will benefit from research undertaken by the four member charities through the grant payment to them from Childlife. In 2021/22 Childlife gave a total of £320,000 to the member charities. This enabled the four member charities to achieve the following:

Acorns Children's Hospice

Acorns Children's Hospice provides care, support, fun and laughter for children and their families across the West Midlands.

A parent never imagines their child will be diagnosed with a life limiting or life threatening condition. But when the unimaginable happens, Acorns steps in, helping families cope at every stage of their child's life and beyond, wherever and whenever they need it. Our dedicated teams provide specialist palliative care for babies, children and young people, and support for their families. This support is offered from our three children's hospices, based in Birmingham, Walsall and Worcester, and in the community.

The babies, children and young people that we care for at Acorns have been diagnosed with a life limiting or life threatening condition and not yet reached their 18th birthday. We accept referrals from children in one of four medical categories, as set by Together for Short Lives, the national charity for our sector.

Category 1: Life threatening conditions for which curative treatment may be feasible but can fail.

Category 2: Conditions where premature death is inevitable.

Category 3: Progressive conditions without curative treatment options.

Category 4: Irreversible but non-progressive conditions causing severe disability, leading to susceptibility to health complications and likelihood of premature death.

At Acorns we provide care 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to children and families who need us most. We rely heavily on the generosity and donations from the general public to do this, as around 60% or £6 million of the money needed to run our care services comes from the local community.

Over the past year, Acorns has supported 704 children and 940 families, including those who have been bereaved. Childlife supporters make this possible with their ongoing support and dedication.

On behalf of the children and families we support, thank you so much.

Christina White, Senior Manager - Individual Giving and Legacies, Acorns Children's Hospice

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Ataxia UK

The ataxias are a set of life-limiting neurological conditions that disrupts the messages sent from our brains to our muscles. Not just the muscles we use to move, but those we use to speak, listen and see. Over time, people with ataxia are slowly imprisoned in their own bodies, losing the tools they once had to communicate with loved ones. Over 200 different genetic ataxias have been discovered in the past 30 years, each of which requires a different treatment. Currently, no treatments or cures for most of the ataxias have been found. Ataxia UK is the leading national charity which supports those affected ataxia and funds research into finding treatments and cures.

The most common and aggressive form of the condition is Friedreich's ataxia (FA), which predominantly shows its symptoms during childhood or early puberty. The earlier FA begins to show, the likelihood is the faster it progresses. It hampers a child/young person's balance, mobility and movement, before causing speech, hearing and vision to deteriorate and, eventually, weakens the heart. As a result, children diagnosed with FA usually have a shorter life expectancy than their peers and will spend much of their life in a wheelchair.

As with the other ataxias, there is no cure for FA.

A major part of our work is to support and advise parents of children who have FA, whilst funding research into treatments and a cure. The support we receive from Childlife is essential in achieving this: it enables us to run local support groups, conferences, various online forums and information sessions to reduce families' isolation and help them understand the condition.

Financial year 2021-22 continued provide new challenges following a turbulent previous year including another challenging year for fundraising. Despite this we continue to strive towards a cure and treatment for the ataxia's and until these are found, supporting everyone affected.

Some key highlights from FY 2021-22

- Supporting the approval and distribution of treatments for Friedreich's ataxia
 - o At the moment, the drug that is closest to potential approval is a drug from the company Reata pharmaceuticals. Ataxia UK is following the work of Reata pharmaceuticals closely as they try and get approval for their drug Omaveloxolone, which would be the first drug for Friedreich's ataxia. We invited a representative of Reata to the Euro-ataxia research conference we organised in June followed by a discussion. During the year we welcomed Reata's submission of a new drug application to the US Federal Drugs Agency (FDA). We eagerly await the decision of the FDA and are seeking a meeting to encourage the company to seek approval in the UK using the UK NHS Early Access to Medicines Scheme.
- Awarded a research grant to Prof Richard Festenstein (Imperial College London, UK) 'Generation and characterization of a cardiomyocyte model for Friedreich's ataxia to reveal the molecular mechanism of heart failure in patients'
- Friedreich's ataxia Global Registry
 - o Ataxia UK and FARA are the lead organisations facilitating the FA Global Registry. Ataxia UK has helped recruit participants by ensuring every new Friend of Ataxia UK affected by FA is given an information flyer about the registry, and a webinar we produced explaining how to register is on the Ataxia UK website. There has been a substantial increase in participants in the last year from around 1000 to around 1400.
- Ataxia Children's Centre - Sheffield Children's Hospital
 - o The Sheffield Children's Centre, staffed by ataxia specialist paediatric neurologist, Dr Santosh Mordekar, supported by an Ataxia nurse, funded by Ataxia UK, continues to receive referrals and see children with a range of ataxias.
- Launch of a second Paediatric Ataxia Centre
 - o There have been delays in the launch, but progress has been made.
- Advocacy Service

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

- The Advocacy Service provides 1-2-1 support to people in the ataxia community with a range of issues. Successful outcomes include improvements in financial circumstances, faster diagnosis and access to specialist neurology, access to appropriate housing, and support in school for children affected by ataxia.
- Recruitment of Participants to Research Studies
 - o Having a database of people with ataxia puts Ataxia UK in a unique position to support research via the recruitment of volunteers to participate. During the year we have supported a number of projects with the following child specific projects:
 - o Natural history study in Friedreich's ataxia (London UCL/UCLH)
 - o Friedreich's Ataxia Global Patient Registry
 - o Friedreich's Ataxia app

Scientific research into treatment and cures and the support made available to those affected by ataxia whilst we wait for a cure, is sustained by Childlife supporters. On behalf of everyone affected by ataxia and us at all at Ataxia UK, Thank you.

Dan Beacon, Head of Fundraising and Communications, Ataxia UK

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

The National Deaf Children's Society

The National Deaf Children's Society is dedicated to creating a world without barriers for deaf children and young people.

We work to overcome the social and educational barriers that hold deaf children back, by:

- helping families give the best possible support to their deaf child every step of the way
- ensuring the needs of deaf children and young people come first
- giving expert unbiased support to help deaf children and their parents make informed choices about their lives
- positively challenging unfairness, and influencing key decision makers to make deaf children and young people a political priority.

Thanks to the generosity of Childlife supporters, we have been able to provide life-changing support and invaluable information to deaf children and their families across the UK over the last year. This has included:

- delivering Family Sign Language training to 200 people, enabling parents and their deaf children to gain invaluable communication skills
- providing vital, timely help and advice via our Helpline service, with more than 3,000 calls, emails and live chat messages answered
- welcoming around 3,900 new members, and providing relevant and tailored information for free to our members through our quarterly Families magazine, monthly e-newsletters, blogs and online content
- running 60 events for families, ranging from newly diagnosed days, to getting your child ready for school, to raising a deaf child, offering more than 1,000 families practical skills and emotional support
- providing parent to parent support via our new 'Your Community' site
- giving deaf children and young people the opportunity to trial equipment through our technology test drive service
- delivering 17 outreach visits across the UK to schools, local group events and an audiology event for young people transitioning to adult services. A range of workshops were delivered to 211 deaf children and young people, 329 hearing children, 25 families and 94 professionals
- delivering 171 digital workshops for a range of educational settings. 603 deaf young people attended workshops such as Deaf Identity, Emotional Health & Wellbeing, Online Safety, and Technology, while 2,529 of their hearing friends received deaf awareness information to help improve communication and inclusion within their class
- providing seven accessibility in the workplace training sessions for 94 attendees, and two sessions for larger organisations reaching another 253 professionals, to help increase deaf awareness of employers
- delivering an online conference for professionals focussing on employment, with over 170 delegates attending
- providing a programme of online training reaching almost 2,000 professionals to help increase awareness and understanding of childhood deafness issues.

Childlife supporters are helping to make this possible. Thank you.

Ben McNaught
Deputy Director: Fundraising

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

National Children's Bureau

Through our leadership role in the sector, NCB made a far-reaching and demonstrable impact on children's lives through our policy, public affairs and campaigning activity.

Based closely on evidence of need, we led the development of a cross-sector vision for the three-year Spending Review, uniting over 150 organisations in a series of campaign actions calling on government to #BuildBackChildhood and put #ChildrenAtTheHeart of their long-term spending plans in England. This significantly influenced the Treasury decision to invest over £500m in additional services for children and families this year.

Again, taking the lead in the children's sector, NCB delivered a programme of work to put children's needs at the heart of new NHS structures in England, securing a number of amendments to primary legislation included in the Health and Care Act and embedding a new appreciation within Whitehall of the benefits of integrating services for children.

The incredibly busy policy agenda has proved challenging, with NCB also playing a key role in providing evidence based on the views of those with lived experience to the Independent Review of Children's Social Care, the Leadsom Review, the SEND Review, and the development of Family Hubs.

Our research highlights this year included publishing our report on the Impact of Covid-19 on children with SEND which attracted significant attention from the media and NI Assembly. We also delivered our third annual evaluation report on embedding Trauma Informed Practice across the workforce in Northern Ireland. We completed our fieldwork evaluating the work of four projects in England that support care leavers with insecure immigration status and we continued to ensure that young people and families inform the research work of our academic partners.

We continue to put the voices of children and young people at the heart of everything we do. Rose, one of our young Trustees, had her say at an event with the Treasury to influence spending decisions. She was amazed to hear people in positions of power really listening to her opinions:

“All of the young people, including myself, were free and allowed to speak up and say what was REALLY bothering us, there was no backlash, counter-arguments or negative questioning. The panel was very receptive to what we had to say, and genuinely wanted to understand.”

It is through your donations that people like Rose can be heard. You are helping us to transform childhood.

Ms Celine Mcstravick, Director of External Affairs, National Children's Bureau

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Statement on Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Financial Review

Income in the year was £1,173,918 a slight increase from the previous year from £997,911. The main reason for the increase is the large investment in donor recruitment in 20/21.

Expenditure on raising funds increased to £935,028 from £640,809 reflecting the fundraising suppliers fulfilling their contracts to recruit requested donor levels.

Expenditure on charitable activities was £320,000 versus the previous year of £250,000 reflecting the increase in support costs. This included £320,000 of grant payments (2020/21: £250,000)

Reserves Policy

It is the policy of Childlife to have free reserves amounting to no less than three months and no more than six months operating costs. Based on the 2021-22 budget, the required reserve level for the year end was set at £211,160 (low) to £422,320 (high). The free reserves balance at 31st March 2021 was £423,507 and as such falls just above the required reserves policy. This will be addressed by the trustees in the upcoming financial year.

Statement of Responsibilities

Trustees Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements

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

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and 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 hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Covid-19/Energy Crisis and Russian Ukrainian Conflict

Since 31 December 2019, the spread of COVID-19 has severely impacted many local economies around the globe.

With economies now opening back up after covid 19 restrictions have been lifted, energy prices have soared, affecting many households in the UK. The Russian Ukrainian conflict is putting further stress on this situation and average bills have more than doubled.

Childlife is not currently seeing the affect of this in the form of loss of income, although cancelation rates are starting to return to pre pandemic levels.

This will not significantly impact the entity's financial position. Childlife has determined that these events are non-adjusting subsequent events. Accordingly, the financial position and results of operations as of and for the year ended 31 March 2022 have not been adjusted to reflect their impact. The duration and impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the fuel crisis and the conflict, as well as the effectiveness of government and central bank responses, remains unclear at this time, It is not possible to reliably estimate the duration and severity of these consequences, as well as their impact on the financial position and results of Childlife for future periods.

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

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 examination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Disclosure of information to auditor

In so far as the trustees are aware at the time of approving our trustees' annual report:

- there is no relevant information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing their report, of which the auditor is unaware, and
- the trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken individually as a trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 15 July 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'C. Kelly', is written over the text of the trustees' approval.

Childlife

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Childlife

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Childlife (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2022, which comprise the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees 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 its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charity's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

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

Childlife

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Childlife

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion 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 for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees. .

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities (set out on page 11), the trustees 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 charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

Childlife

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Childlife

We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The key laws and regulations we have considered in this context included the Companies Act 2006, pension and tax legislation. In addition, we have considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the company's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- o Using our general commercial and sector experience and through discussions with the directors and management, we identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements as well as those arising from management's own assessment of the risks that irregularities may occur either as a result of fraud or error.
- o We examined the company's regulatory and legal correspondence and discussed with the directors and management any known or suspected instances of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- o We communicated identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.
- o In addressing the risk of management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries. We also challenged assumptions and judgements made by management in their significant accounting estimates and judgements.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentation, or through collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

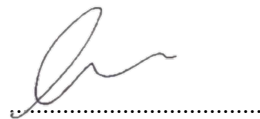
Childlife

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Childlife

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the charity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the charity to express an opinion on the financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the charity audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



.....
Romit Basu FCA (Partner)
For and on behalf of DSK Partners LLP,
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
75 Park Lane
Croydon
Surrey
CR9 1XS

15 July 2022

Childlife

Statement of Comprehensive Income for the Year Ended 31 March 2022 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	2	1,173,690	996,352
Investment income	3	228	1,559
Total income		1,173,918	997,911
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	4	(935,028)	(640,809)
Charitable activities	5	(320,000)	(250,000)
Governance costs		(9,710)	(13,069)
Total expenditure		(1,264,738)	(903,878)
Net (expenditure)/income		(90,820)	94,033
Net movement in funds		(90,820)	94,033
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		514,327	420,294
Total funds carried forward	13	423,507	514,327

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2021 is shown in note 13.

The notes on pages 21 to 28 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Childlife

(Registration number: 03696656) Statement of Financial Position as at 31 March 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Intangible assets	9	4,921	2,400
Tangible assets	10	-	540
		<u>4,921</u>	<u>2,940</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	11	27,401	25,646
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>445,724</u>	<u>539,010</u>
		473,125	564,656
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	<u>(54,539)</u>	<u>(53,269)</u>
Net current assets		<u>418,586</u>	<u>511,387</u>
Net assets		<u>423,507</u>	<u>514,327</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>423,507</u>	<u>514,327</u>
Total funds	13	<u>423,507</u>	<u>514,327</u>

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

(a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and

(b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

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

The financial statements on pages 18 to 28 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 15 July 2022 and signed on their behalf by:



The notes on pages 21 to 28 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Childlife

Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash (expenditure)/income		(90,820)	94,033
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Depreciation	4, 6	540	540
Amortisation	4, 6	3,480	-
Investment income	3	(228)	(1,559)
		<u>(87,028)</u>	<u>93,014</u>
Working capital adjustments			
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	11	(1,755)	17,809
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	12	1,270	(22,020)
Net cash flows from operating activities		<u>(87,513)</u>	<u>88,803</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest receivable and similar income	3	228	1,559
Purchase of intangible fixed assets	9	(6,001)	(2,400)
Net cash flows from investing activities		<u>(5,773)</u>	<u>(841)</u>
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents		(93,286)	87,962
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		<u>539,010</u>	<u>451,048</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March		<u><u>445,724</u></u>	<u><u>539,010</u></u>
Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net funds			
(Decrease)/increase in cash		(93,286)	87,962
Net funds at 1 April 2021		<u>539,010</u>	<u>451,048</u>
Net funds at 31 March 2022		<u><u>445,724</u></u>	<u><u>539,010</u></u>

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The notes on pages 21 to 28 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance

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)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Childlife meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Currency

The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is also the functional currency of the company and rounded to the nearest pound.

Income and endowments

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Voluntary income is received by way of donations and is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable or received. The majority of the donations are received in the form of payroll giving, standing orders and direct debits. The nature of these forms of donation is that they can be cancelled at any time by the donor. In most cases they are therefore recognised upon receipt unless there is a certainty about the amounts receivable and about the period to which they are attributable. Income from gift aid tax recoverable is recognised in the same accounting period that the related donations are recognised.

The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included.

Deferred income

Any income received by the charity in advance of the due date upon which it becomes receivable is deferred until that due date. Such amounts are not material and arise only incidentally.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred. Expenditure includes attributable VAT.

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Raising funds

The costs of raising voluntary income includes amounts paid by Childlife during the financial year to third parties to recruit new committed givers for the charity and to undertake various telephone fundraising campaigns. Donors to Childlife choose to donate via payroll giving, via the gift aid scheme or via home money boxes. It is the charity's policy to expense these costs in the period in which they are incurred.

PROMOTION AND SUPPORT OF MEMBER CHARITIES

This includes the costs of promotion and support to the member charities and the costs of grants payable. The surplus of net income after allowing for promotional and support costs for member charities and governance costs is distributed equally and on a quarterly basis to its four member charities. A fifth payment may be made annually to the member charities, subject to approval by the trustees, based on surplus reserves determined from the annual financial statements. It is the charity's policy to include fifth payment grants in the period to which they relate.

Grant expenditure

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Going concern

Childlife has not been affected in the form of loss of income from the impact of COVID-19 during the year and it has benefited from savings in costs and therefore this will not significantly impact the entity's financial position.

Childlife has determined that these events are non-adjusting subsequent events. Accordingly, the financial position and results of operations as of and for the year ended 31 March 2022 have not been adjusted to reflect their impact. It is not possible to reliably estimate the duration and severity of the consequences of COVID-19, as well as their impact on the financial position and results of the Company for future periods.

Grant provisions

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

Governance costs

Governance costs reflect central operating costs excluding direct and apportioned support costs of raising funds and charitable activities.

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Costs which are directly attributable to a charitable activity or to the costs of raising funds are allocated directly to those activity cost categories. Items of expenditure which contribute directly to the output of more than one activity cost category are apportioned on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis. Depreciation is attributed in accordance with the same principles. Support costs which are shared between activities are apportioned on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis to the activity cost categories being supported.

The basis of apportionment of actual staff costs is by the estimated time spent by individual members of staff on different activity cost categories. Most other support costs are apportioned in the same proportion as the staff costs unless there are specific reasons to apply different proportions of the cost to different activity cost categories.

Expenditure is classified under principal categories of charitable and other expenditure rather than the type of expense, in order to provide more useful information to users of the account. Charitable activities comprise direct expenditure including direct staff costs attributable to the activity. Support costs have been allocated to activities based on the average staff time spent. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with the management of the Charity's assets, organisational administration and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is conveyed to the recipient except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attached have been fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year-end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

Consortia

Donations to Childlife as a result of Smile a Minute and Friends at Work and Together for Change consortia are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities within donations. Expenditure on the recruitment and administration of donors for the consortia is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities within fundraising costs.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets held for the entity's own use are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives at the following rates

Computer Equipment - 25% straight line

Fixture & Fittings - 25% straight line

Website costs - 50% straight line

Assets held under finance leases are depreciated in the same way as owned assets.

At each statement of financial position date, the entity reviews the carrying amount of its tangible fixed assets to determine whether there is any indication that any items have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of an asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss, if any. Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of the asset, the entity estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Donations and legacies;		
Donations from individuals	1,173,690	996,352
	1,173,690	996,352

3 Investment income

	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Interest receivable and similar income;		
Interest receivable on bank deposits	228	1,559
	228	1,559

4 Expenditure on raising funds

a) Costs of generating donations and legacies

	Note	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Other direct costs of generating voluntary income		1,811	400
		1,811	400

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Note	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Grant funding of activities		320,000	250,000
		320,000	250,000

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

6 Other expenditure

Note	Total 2022 £
	-

7 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses from the charity during the year.

8 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	161,452	155,954

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2022 No	2021 No
Cost of raising income	3	3
Charitable activities	1	1
	4	4

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

9 Intangible fixed assets

	Computer software £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2021	15,354	15,354
Additions	6,001	6,001
At 31 March 2022	<u>21,355</u>	<u>21,355</u>
Amortisation		
At 1 April 2021	12,954	12,954
Charge for the year	3,480	3,480
At 31 March 2022	<u>16,434</u>	<u>16,434</u>
Net book value		
At 31 March 2022	<u>4,921</u>	<u>4,921</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>2,400</u>	<u>2,400</u>

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and fixtures £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2021	<u>23,152</u>	<u>23,152</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>23,152</u>	<u>23,152</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2021	22,612	22,612
Charge for the year	540	540
At 31 March 2022	<u>23,152</u>	<u>23,152</u>
Net book value		
At 31 March 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>540</u>	<u>540</u>

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

11 Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Prepayments	5,517	9,056
Other debtors	21,884	16,590
	27,401	25,646

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	32,431	38,033
Other taxation and social security	1	-
Other creditors	7,655	2,499
Accruals	14,452	12,737
	54,539	53,269

13 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	514,327	1,173,918	(1,264,738)	423,507
	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	420,294	997,911	(903,878)	514,327

14 Related party transactions

The board of trustees, which has four members, one from each member charity, administers the Charity and meets quarterly. Each trustee is an employee of one of the member charities. Grants of £80,000 each (2021: £62,500 each) were payable to the four member charities during the financial year. The Charity was controlled by four member charities throughout the financial year.

CHILDLIFE

England & Wales - Charity number 1080536

Accounts

Company registration number: 03696656

Charity registration number: 1080536

Childlife

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

DSK Partners LLP
75 Park Lane
Croydon
Surrey
CR9 1XS

Childlife

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Childlife

Reference and Administrative Details

Chairman	Ms A Hassall
Trustees	B McNaught, Treasurer Ms C White, Fundraising Manager D J Beacon Ms A Hassall
Secretary	Ms A Rimington
Principal Office	Westmead House Westmead Farnborough Hants GU14 7LP
Company Registration Number	03696656
Charity Registration Number	1080536
Auditor	DSK Partners LLP Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales 75 Park Lane Croydon Surrey CR9 1XS

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Trustees

B McNaught, Treasurer

Ms C White, Fundraising Manager

D J Beacon

Ms A Hassall

The appointment of Trustees is in accordance with the charity's Articles of Association, whereby each member has the right to appoint and remove a trustee and to appoint and remove an alternate.

None of the Trustees has any beneficial interest in the company.

Childlife provides both a role description and a code of conduct for trustees to ensure that the duties and responsibilities of being a trustee are clearly understood. In addition, it has specialist role descriptions for both the Chair of Trustees and Honorary Treasurer. These are provided to all new trustees as part of their induction information.

New trustees are encouraged to meet with the Chief Executive Officer and staff members and other trustees within the first few months of appointment. Training for trustees is provided if required.

The arrangements for setting the pay and remuneration of all the charity's staff including key management personnel are agreed by the CEO and the trustees.

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Background

The idea for Childlife, a consortium of children's charities allowing its member charities to fundraise collectively, originated in 1992. Its first donor was recruited in July 1993. Childlife became a company limited by guarantee in 1999 and a registered charity in 2000.

Member charities of Childlife:

Acorns Children's Hospice

Ataxia UK

National Children's Bureau

National Deaf Children's Society

The Board of Trustees, which has four members, one from each member charity, administers the charity and normally meets quarterly. In the past year there have been more frequent meetings due to the ever changing situation with the pandemic, with the trustees meeting most months. A Chief Executive Officer is appointed by the Trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity. To facilitate effective operations, the Chief Executive Officer has delegated authority, within the terms of delegation approved by the Trustees, for operational matters including finance, employment, fundraising and charitable activities.

Donations received by Childlife are distributed annually to these charities and hundreds of thousands of pounds are raised each year to support their important work with children and young people. The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks. The risks are documented on the risk register. The main two risks are;

1) Financial Failure of Key Suppliers (PFS and Ethical) - We have undertaken due diligence before signing contracts, including credit checks. We also horizon scan to identify supplier issues and potential alternative suppliers. In this year we have also worked with two other agencies Altru, LPS.

2) Impact of COVID-19. This has been broken down into a separate register, as there are many aspects, loss of income and public and fundraiser safety while fundraising being the most critical. Retention work was carried out with existing donors to mitigate cancellation levels with payment holidays being offered and alternative methods of fundraising investigated, and a digital lead generation campaign was completed at the end of the year. Government policy is strictly adhered to with advice from public health England incorporated into internal policy and risk assessments. Additional measures such as the wearing of face shields were added in on top of the government requirements to ensure safety and give public confidence while fundraising.

Childlife's Board of Trustees is legally required to minimise any risk to the charity. The trustees have developed a risk management strategy, which involves a regular review of the key risks faced by the charity, and the establishment of systems and procedures to address these potential risks and to minimise both the likelihood of these risks occurring and their impact should they materialise

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Objectives and Activities

Objectives and aims

The objects of Childlife are; to promote the relief of children who are in need, by enabling the member charities to meet their respective charitable purposes, through the provision of grant payments.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing Childlife's aims and objectives.

Childlife carries out the object of improving the lives of children and young people through the work of its member charities by supporting the member charities in providing a strong income source in the short, medium and long term future, and this has continued to be the focus in 2020/21. To enable Childlife to achieve its aim, it has continued to develop its fundraising programs in payroll giving and in new donor recruitment programs through face-to-face fundraising campaigns as well as on-going telephone campaigns to upgrade existing regular supporters and re-activate lapsed regular donors. The surplus of net income in 2020/21, after allowing for promotional and support costs for member charities and governance costs was distributed equally and on an annual basis to its four member charities as grants.

As we carry out fundraising across the UK we are members of both The Institute of Fundraising and the Fundraiser Regulator. As we now run a lottery campaign we also registered with Gamble Aware. We worked with four main external agencies for our recruitment of new donors in 2020/21. Fundraising was on off throughout the year as lockdowns took place, some agencies were more successful than others in being able to respond rapidly to changing situations.

PFS Ltd carried out fundraising to recruit 2100 new direct debit donors for Childlife. We continued to take one off donations and generate warm leads. PFS recruited 106 new cash donors; only 14 did not opt in to future contact.

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Altru Ltd carried out fundraising to recruit 1237 new direct debit donors for Childlife. We continued to take one off donations and generate warm leads. Altru recruited 4 new cash donors; only 2 did not opt in to future contact.

Both PFS and Altru are experienced in driving quality alongside good operational practices in line with CIOF and the Fundraiser Regulator guidance. Through a personalized service from Altru, our fundraising through them builds a relationship with the supporter to ensure life-long loyalty to Childlife. There are registered with the Chartered Institute of Fundraising and the Fundraising Regulator.

During the time that we were fundraising with PFS and Altru, due to Covid restrictions, the CEO was unable to carry out shadowing with the door to door fundraisers. There was a regular program of training in place. We did not run any street campaigns so there was not any CIOF mystery shopping.

We had budget scheduled in with LPS, they were unable to react as quickly to be able to set up face to face fundraising in the periods where this could happen, so we allocated this budget to be for telephone fundraising with them from purchased lead lists. The calling was slow to start and did not manage to get any momentum, we recruited 102 donors and decided to halt the campaign. LPS is a member of the CIOF and the Fundraising Regulator. Training was completed with all the telephone fundraisers and the CEO regularly listened to calls from the campaign to check quality.

A test campaign for digital lead generation & phone conversion was run with Goodbytes and Ethicall at the end of the year. This generated 2266 email leads and 1112 telephone leads. After two weeks of calling only 22 conversions were made so the campaign was bought to a close. Training was completed with all the telephone fundraisers and the CEO regularly listened to calls from the campaign to check quality.

Childlife is a member of four other consortiums which STC Ltd recruits new donors through Payroll Giving. STC Ltd organise tax effective fundraising events and campaigns in companies and organisations across the UK to raise money for our charity consortiums. All fundraisers are employed on a non-commission basis so that they can promote a non-target driven campaign. STC Ltd is a member of the Association of Payroll Giving Organisations and the Fundraising Regulator. Due to COVID-19 no payroll fundraising took place in the year.

Childlife received thirty four complaints during 2020/2021 regarding its fundraising. All complaints were investigated thoroughly and fairly in keeping with the Code of Fundraising Practice. Childlife regularly reviews any lessons to be learnt to help with future fundraising activity. None of the complaints were of a nature serious enough to require Trustees to inform the Charity Commission or Fundraising Regulator. There have not been any compliance issues with either Childlife or any other agencies that we have employed in 2020-21.

Childlife has an Ethical Fundraising Policy and a Dealing with Vulnerable donors Policy. We also review the policies that our partner agencies hold on these subjects to make sure they meet our standards.

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Achievements and Performance Review of 2020/21

The beneficiaries of Childlife's work are the children, young people and their families throughout the UK who have received support and advice or will benefit from research undertaken by the four member charities through the grant payment to them from Childlife. In 2020/21 Childlife gave a total of £250,000 to the member charities. This enabled the four member charities to achieve the following:

Acorns Children's Hospice

Acorns Children's Hospice is the UK's largest children's hospice charity, measured by the number of children and families we support. We provide care, support, fun and laughter for children with life limiting or life threatening conditions and their families across the West Midlands. Our reputation for excellence and high clinical standards is recognised nationally and this is reflected in our ratings with the Care Quality Commission.

We run three hospices; Acorns in Birmingham (located in Selly Oak), Acorns in the Black Country (located in Walsall) and Acorns for the Three Counties (located in Worcester). Our hospices are purpose built with 10 specially decorated bedrooms designed to cater for children and young people from birth to 18 years of age. They are designed to be a home-from-home environment to help children enjoy their stay and make the most of every day. On-site hospice facilities include hydrotherapy pools and spas, multisensory rooms, complementary therapies, play and activity areas with landscaped gardens.

Over the past year, the Coronavirus pandemic has changed the world beyond recognition. Here at Acorns, we have responded to ensure that no family faces this crisis alone.

We have offered care and support to over 700 children and their families. Our Outreach teams made more than 160 visits to children most at need. We have delivered 4,320 bags of essential goods and supplies to families shielding at home. Our Family Team Workers have provided over 8,000 hours of support, including phone or video calls.

It costs £27,000 a day to run all of Acorns services. 60% of our funding, around £6 million a year, comes from the generosity of the general public. Without the committed support and dedication of Childlife supporters, Acorns would not be able to take care of local children and their families when they need us most

On behalf of the children and families we support, thank you so much.

Christina White, Senior Manager - Individual Giving and Legacies, Acorns Children's Hospice

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Ataxia UK

The ataxias are a set of life-limiting neurological conditions that disrupts the messages sent from our brains to our muscles. Not just the muscles we use to move, but those we use to speak, listen and see. Over time, people with ataxia are slowly imprisoned in their own bodies, losing the tools they once had to communicate with loved ones. Over 200 different genetic ataxias have been discovered in the past 30 years, each of which requires a different treatment. Currently, no treatments or cures for most of the ataxias have been found. Ataxia UK is the leading national charity which supports those affected ataxia and funds research into finding treatments and cures.

The most common and aggressive form of the condition is Friedreich's ataxia (FA), which predominantly shows its symptoms during childhood or early puberty. The earlier FA begins to show, the likelihood is the faster it progresses. It hampers a child/young person's balance, mobility and movement, before causing speech, hearing and vision to deteriorate and, eventually, weakens the heart. As a result, children diagnosed with FA usually have a shorter life expectancy than their peers and will spend much of their life in a wheelchair.

As with the other ataxias, there is no cure for FA.

A major part of our work is to support and advise parents of children who have FA, whilst funding research into treatments and a cure. The support we receive from Childlife is essential in achieving this: it enables us to run local support groups, conferences, various online forums and information sessions to reduce families' isolation and help them understand the condition.

As for most of us, 2020-21 has been a turbulent year for Ataxia UK and we have had to adapt to difficult and unprecedented circumstances. The pandemic has impacted our work across the board but we have adapted and continued to support the ataxia community. One significant different was to our Annual Conference which for the first time ever was held virtually. We had 120 "screens" attending the conference, and provided Doctors Q&A's and specific research updates for FA and other ataxias. This virtual service provision also extended into providing information to the community and throughout the year we ran Covid-19 focused webinars and updates providing specific advice and support to those affected by ataxia. Unfortunately, the "formal" opening of the first Ataxia Specialist Centre for children at the Sheffield Children's Hospital NHS Foundation Trust was postponed due to Covid-19 but the centre remained open to Provide specialist expertise in the diagnosis and management of the ataxias in children. We are continuing to make progress with opening a second Ataxia Specialist Centre for children in London.

Whilst the pandemic affected and slowed scientific research across the world, we were able to award grants to two projects focused on FA this year;

- Etravirine as a potential therapeutic for Friedreich's ataxia - if successful further research can be carried out and explored as potential treatments for FA
- Development of a selective high throughput screening assay for the discovery of compounds replacing frataxin in FA (the missing protein in FA patients) - They aim to develop drugs that would replace the frataxin protein or enhance the activity of residual frataxin in the cells of FA patients. In future work, any compounds that are identified will be further tested and modified to improve their efficiency. These researchers hope that eventually these compounds could be tested as treatments for FA.

Scientific research into treatment and cures and the support made available to those affected by ataxia whilst we wait for a cure, is sustained by Childlife supporters. On behalf of everyone affected by ataxia and us at all at Ataxia UK, Thank you.

Dan Beacon, Head of Fundraising and Communications, Ataxia UK

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

The National Deaf Children's Society

The National Deaf Children's Society is dedicated to creating a world without barriers for deaf children and young people.

We work to overcome the social and educational barriers that hold deaf children back, by:

- helping families give the best possible support to their deaf child every step of the way
- ensuring the needs of deaf children and young people come first
- giving expert unbiased support to help deaf children and their parents make informed choices about their lives
- positively challenging unfairness, and influencing key decision makers to make deaf children and young people a political priority.

The Covid-19 pandemic meant that face to face delivery of our services was not possible over the course of the year. By pivoting and adapting our work we were able to continue to respond to the needs of deaf children and provide vital support and advice. This included:

- delivering over 100 family online events via webinar, reaching over 2,100 parents of deaf children.
- adapting our Family Sign Language training for online delivery, reaching over 200 people with our online courses and with nearly 30,000 views of our new Family Sign Language online videos.
- answering over 3,200 calls, emails and live chat messages via our Helpline.
- influencing the Government to ensure deaf children and young people are considered in pandemic response work, including campaigning for the use of clear face masks and online learning which is accessible.
- launching Your Community - a place for parents to find online support from other parents.
- introducing a new pen pals programme which helped more than 200 deaf young people stay connected during the pandemic.

Childlife supporters help to make this possible. Thank you.

Ben McNaught, Deputy Director: Fundraising, National Deaf Children's Society

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

National Children's Bureau

The National Children's Bureau brings people together to bring about the best for the UK's children and young people. We strengthen the ecosystem of support and services that exists to help them grow up safe, secure and happy.

For the past year, we have been working flat out to help keep this ecosystem alive, providing training and support to over 60,000 practitioners and nearly 10,000 parents. The demand for our services has risen significantly as the children's sector workforce turned to us for practical resources, training and access to evidence and research. We couldn't do this without your support.

With increased pressure on families already struggling to cope and chronic strain on services already reeling from a decade of cuts, we have worked proactively with partners and policymakers to identify gaps and unmet needs and find solutions to protect our children's welfare.

From conducting researching on the impact of the pandemic on babies to shaping support for vulnerable young people unable to access vital services, we have brought every inch of our policy and practice expertise to bear on stopping childhoods from being disrupted and life chances from being derailed.

Alongside this, we've continued to work in every region of the UK to deliver changes that make childhood better, driving improvements to the services children count on and developing the skills and knowledge of the children's workforce.

Taking the voices of children and young people to the heart of Government has long been a central feature of our work, and this year we seamlessly shifted to online collaboration working with 1,300 young people giving this part of our work a whole new dimension.

As Young NCB member Bethan put it, after giving evidence at the Education Select Committee:

"My living room became the House of Commons! The feeling after being able to speak to these MPs for over an hour was indescribable.

"In a year where I should have had the most certainty and power over my life; I've had to choose university courses based on unis I've never seen apart from via a screen; I've had to study and do tests online and battle internet issues or distractions from across my house.

"That zoom call gave me hope for the future."

There were several moments during the year when children and young people entered the House of Commons, Stormont or other places of influence, direct from their living rooms or bedrooms, from meetings with Minister Ford to presenting evidence to the All Party Parliamentary Group for Children about their experience of the pandemic, as part of our Children at the Heart campaign. Through this campaign, we brought together 150 partner organisations in England and 50 organisations in Northern Ireland to raise their voices with children and young people to call for children to be at the heart of Government decision-making, both in response to the pandemic and beyond.

Together we are setting out a bold, new vision of childhood.

Your donations transform our capacity to achieve this vision. Thank you for your support.

Annamarie Hassall MBE, Director of Practice and Programmes, National Children's Bureau

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Statement on Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Financial Review

Income in the year was £997,911 a slight increase from the previous year from £952,621. The main reason for the increase is the large investment in donor recruitment in 19/20.

Expenditure on raising funds increased to £579,277 from £472,221 reflecting the fundraising suppliers fulfilling their contracts to recruit requested donor levels.

Expenditure on charitable activities was £263,069 versus the previous year of £262,298 reflecting the increase in support costs. This included £250,000 of grant payments (2020: £250,000)

Reserves Policy

It is the policy of Childlife to have free reserves amounting to no less than three months and no more than six months operating costs. Based on the 2020-21 budget, the required reserve level for the year end was set at £180,031 (low) to £360,062 (high). The free reserves balance at 31st March 2021 was £514,670 and as such falls above the required reserves policy. The trustees will be considering their options on what to do to address this excess of reserves over the next financial year.

Trustees Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements

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

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and 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 hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Covid-19

Since 31 December 2019, the spread of COVID-19 has severely impacted many local economies around the globe. In many countries, businesses are being forced to cease or limit operations for long or indefinite periods of time. In the UK this began on 23rd March 2020. Measures taken to contain the spread of the virus, including travel bans, quarantines, social distancing, and closures of non-essential services have triggered significant disruptions to businesses worldwide, resulting in an economic slowdown. Governments and central banks have responded with monetary and fiscal interventions to stabilise economic condition.

Childlife was not affected in the form of loss of income, as cancellation rates were very low on existing donors, we also benefited from savings in costs. We were not able to recruit the amount of new donors that we had planned and there was no recruitment at all for payroll, therefore there will need to be an additional drive for recruitment in the next financial year to ensure long term income. This will not significantly impact the entity's financial position. Childlife has determined that these events are non-adjusting subsequent events. Accordingly, the financial position and results of operations as of and for the year ended 31 March 2021 have not been adjusted to reflect their impact. The duration and impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the effectiveness of government and central bank responses, remains unclear at this time, although the current road map in the UK seems to be stable. It is not possible to reliably estimate the duration and severity of these consequences, as well as their impact on the financial position and results of Childlife for future periods.

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

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.

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Childlife

Report of the Trustees

Disclosure of information to auditor

In so far as the trustees are aware at the time of approving our trustees' annual report:

- there is no relevant information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing their report, of which the auditor is unaware, and
 - the trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken individually as a trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.
- The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on13/08/2021..... and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Ms A Hassall
Chairman and Trustee

Childlife

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Childlife

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Childlife (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2021, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees 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 its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of its results for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charity's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

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

Childlife

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Childlife

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion 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 Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities (set out on page 10), the trustees 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 charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Childlife

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Childlife

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the charity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the charity to express an opinion on the financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the charity audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



.....
Romit Basu FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of DSK Partners LLP,
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
75 Park Lane
Croydon
Surrey
CR9 1XS

Date: 22/09/2021.....

Childlife

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2021 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	2	996,352	951,017
Investment income	3	1,559	1,354
Other income		-	250
Total income		997,911	952,621
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	4	(579,277)	(472,221)
Charitable activities	5	(263,069)	(262,298)
Other expenditure	6	(56,891)	(50,947)
Governance costs		(4,641)	(4,974)
Total expenditure		(903,878)	(790,440)
Net income		94,033	162,181
Net movement in funds		94,033	162,181
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		420,294	258,113
Total funds carried forward	13	514,327	420,294

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2020 is shown in note 13.

Childlife

(Registration number: 03696656) Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets			
Intangible assets	9	2,400	-
Tangible assets	10	<u>540</u>	<u>1,080</u>
		<u>2,940</u>	<u>1,080</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	11	25,646	43,455
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>539,010</u>	<u>451,048</u>
		564,656	494,503
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	<u>(53,269)</u>	<u>(75,289)</u>
Net current assets		<u>511,387</u>	<u>419,214</u>
Net assets		<u>514,327</u>	<u>420,294</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>514,327</u>	<u>420,294</u>
Total funds	13	<u>514,327</u>	<u>420,294</u>

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

(a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and

(b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

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

The financial statements on pages 16 to 26 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 13/08/2021 and signed on their behalf by:



.....
Ms A Hassall
Chairman and Trustee

Childlife

Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash income		94,033	162,181
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Depreciation	4, 6	540	540
Investment income	3	<u>(1,559)</u>	<u>(1,354)</u>
		93,014	161,367
Working capital adjustments			
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	11	17,809	(15,152)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	12	<u>(22,020)</u>	<u>53,463</u>
Net cash flows from operating activities		<u>88,803</u>	<u>199,678</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest receivable and similar income	3	1,559	1,354
Purchase of intangible fixed assets	9	<u>(2,400)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net cash flows from investing activities		<u>(841)</u>	<u>1,354</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		87,962	201,032
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		<u>451,048</u>	<u>250,016</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March		<u><u>539,010</u></u>	<u><u>451,048</u></u>
Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net funds			
Increase in cash		87,962	201,032
Net funds at 1 April 2020		<u>451,048</u>	<u>250,016</u>
Net funds at 31 March 2021		<u><u>539,010</u></u>	<u><u>451,048</u></u>

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). They also comply with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

Childlife meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Currency

The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is also the functional currency of the company and rounded to the nearest pound.

Income and endowments

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Voluntary income is received by way of donations and is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable or received. The majority of the donations are received in the form of payroll giving, standing orders and direct debits. The nature of these forms of donation is that they can be cancelled at any time by the donor. In most cases they are therefore recognised upon receipt unless there is a certainty about the amounts receivable and about the period to which they are attributable. Income from gift aid tax recoverable is recognised in the same accounting period that the related donations are recognised.

The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included.

Deferred income

Any income received by the charity in advance of the due date upon which it becomes receivable is deferred until that due date. Such amounts are not material and arise only incidentally.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred. Expenditure includes attributable VAT.

Raising funds

The costs of raising voluntary income includes amounts paid by Childlife during the financial year to third parties to recruit new committed givers for the charity and to undertake various telephone fundraising campaigns. Donors to Childlife choose to donate via payroll giving, via the gift aid scheme or via home money boxes. It is the charity's policy to expense these costs in the period in which they are incurred.

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

PROMOTION AND SUPPORT OF MEMBER CHARITIES

This includes the costs of promotion and support to the member charities and the costs of grants payable. The surplus of net income after allowing for promotional and support costs for member charities and governance costs is distributed equally and on a quarterly basis to its four member charities. A fifth payment may be made annually to the member charities, subject to approval by the trustees, based on surplus reserves determined from the annual financial statements. It is the charity's policy to include fifth payment grants in the period to which they relate.

Grant expenditure

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Going concern

Childlife has not been affected in the form of loss of income from the impact of COVID-19 during the year and it has benefited from savings in costs and therefore this will not significantly impact the entity's financial position.

Childlife has determined that these events are non-adjusting subsequent events. Accordingly, the financial position and results of operations as of and for the year ended 31 March 2021 have not been adjusted to reflect their impact. It is not possible to reliably estimate the duration and severity of the consequences of COVID-19, as well as their impact on the financial position and results of the Company for future periods.

Grant provisions

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

Governance costs

Governance costs reflect central operating costs excluding direct and apportioned support costs of raising funds and charitable activities.

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Costs which are directly attributable to a charitable activity or to the costs of raising funds are allocated directly to those activity cost categories. Items of expenditure which contribute directly to the output of more than one activity cost category are apportioned on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis. Depreciation is attributed in accordance with the same principles. Support costs which are shared between activities are apportioned on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis to the activity cost categories being supported.

The basis of apportionment of actual staff costs is by the estimated time spent by individual members of staff on different activity cost categories. Most other support costs are apportioned in the same proportion as the staff costs unless there are specific reasons to apply different proportions of the cost to different activity cost categories.

Expenditure is classified under principal categories of charitable and other expenditure rather than the type of expense, in order to provide more useful information to users of the account. Charitable activities comprise direct

expenditure including direct staff costs attributable to the activity. Support costs have been allocated to activities based on the average staff time spent. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with the management of the Charity's assets, organisational administration and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is conveyed to the recipient except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attached have been fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year-end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

Consortia

Donations to Childlife as a result of Smile a Minute and Friends at Work and Together for Change consortia are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities within donations. Expenditure on the recruitment and administration of donors for the consortia is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities within fundraising costs.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets held for the entity's own use are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives at the following rates

Computer Equipment - 25% straight line

Fixture & Fittings - 25% straight line

Website costs - 50% straight line

Assets held under finance leases are depreciated in the same way as owned assets.

At each statement of financial position date, the entity reviews the carrying amount of its tangible fixed assets to determine whether there is any indication that any items have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication

exists, the recoverable amount of an asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss, if any. Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of the asset, the entity estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees's discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Donations and legacies;		
Donations from individuals	996,352	951,017
	996,352	951,017

3 Investment income

	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Interest receivable and similar income;		
Interest receivable on bank deposits	1,559	1,354
	1,559	1,354

4 Expenditure on raising funds

a) Costs of generating donations and legacies

	Note	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Donations		513,969	407,610
Other direct costs of generating voluntary income		400	46
		514,369	407,656

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Note	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Grant funding of activities		250,000	250,000
Allocated support costs		13,069	12,298
		263,069	262,298

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

6 Other expenditure

	Note	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Depreciation, amortisation and other similar costs		540	540
Allocated support costs		<u>56,351</u>	<u>50,407</u>
		<u>56,891</u>	<u>50,947</u>

7 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses from the charity during the year.

8 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	<u>77,977</u>	<u>76,863</u>

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2021 No	2020 No
Cost of raising income	3	3
Charitable activities	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

9 Intangible fixed assets

	Computer software £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2020	12,954	12,954
Additions	<u>2,400</u>	<u>2,400</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>15,354</u>	<u>15,354</u>
Amortisation		
At 1 April 2020	<u>12,954</u>	<u>12,954</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>12,954</u>	<u>12,954</u>
Net book value		
At 31 March 2021	<u><u>2,400</u></u>	<u><u>2,400</u></u>
At 31 March 2020	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and fixtures £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2020	<u>2,864</u>	<u>20,288</u>	<u>23,152</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>2,864</u>	<u>20,288</u>	<u>23,152</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2020	2,864	19,208	22,072
Charge for the year	<u>-</u>	<u>540</u>	<u>540</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>2,864</u>	<u>19,748</u>	<u>22,612</u>
Net book value			
At 31 March 2021	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>540</u></u>	<u><u>540</u></u>
At 31 March 2020	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>1,080</u></u>	<u><u>1,080</u></u>

Childlife

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

11 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Prepayments	9,056	13,990
Other debtors	16,590	29,465
	25,646	43,455

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade creditors	38,033	36,859
Other taxation and social security	-	1,428
Other creditors	2,499	3,407
Accruals	12,737	33,595
	53,269	75,289

13 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	(420,294)	(997,911)	903,878	(514,327)

Unrestricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2019 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2020 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	(258,113)	(952,621)	790,440	(420,294)

14 Related party transactions

The board of trustees, which has four members, one from each member charity, administers the Charity and meets quarterly. Each trustee is an employee of one of the member charities. Grants of £62,500 each (2020: £62,500 each) were payable to the four member charities during the financial year. At the year end £20,000 (2020: £20,000 each) was payable to each of the four member charities. The charity was controlled by the four member charities throughout the financial year.