

DOWN SYNDROME INTERNATIONAL (DSi)



REPORT OF TRUSTEES (AND DIRECTORS) AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the period from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024

Reference and administrative information

Company number	04327941
Country of incorporation	United Kingdom
Charity number	1091843
Country of registration	England and Wales

Registered Office

Down Syndrome International
Langdon Down Centre
2A Langdon Park
Teddington
Middlesex
TW11 9PS
United Kingdom

Operational Address

Down Syndrome International
7/9 Chapel Street
Exmouth
Devon
EX8 1HR
United Kingdom

Trustees

The trustees are the members of the DSi board.

They are also the company directors.

The trustees who served during this year were:

B Snedden	(President)
R Faragher	(Vice President)
JP Clarke	(Treasurer)
V dos Santos	
P Robertson	
C Boys	
J Tang	
A L Arellano	
D Warkcup	
J Charchuk	(Co-opted December 2023)

Principal Staff

A Boys (Executive Director)
 (Company Secretary)

Principal Bankers

HSBC
16 King Street
Covent Garden
London
WC2E 8JF

Solicitors

Russell Cooke
2 Putney Hill
London
SW15 6AB

Introduction

In this document, the trustees of DSi are sharing a report and financial statements for the year ending 31 March 2024.

These statements cover the last 12 months, starting from 1 April 2023.

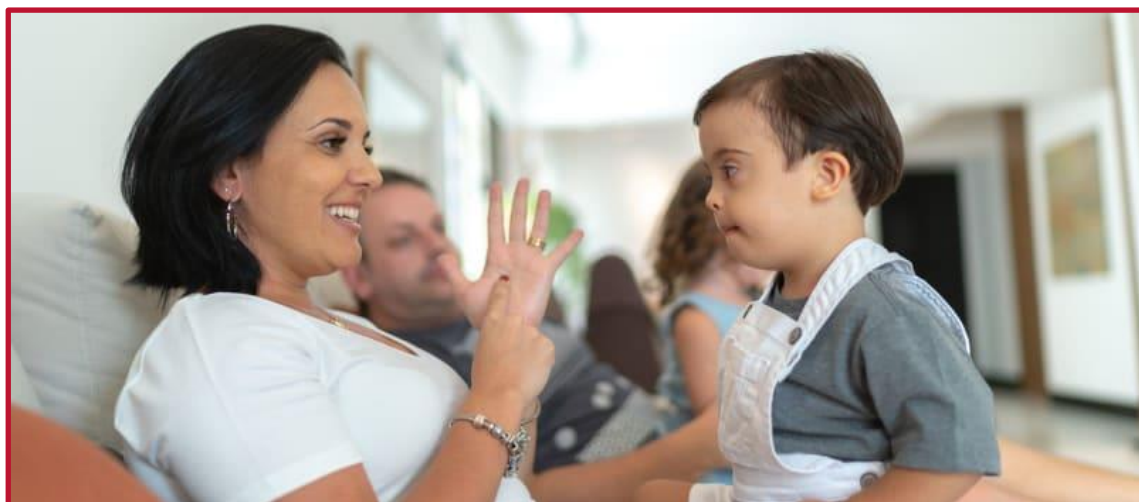
The information in the “Reference and administrative information” section above, is part of this report.

These financial statements follow:

- the rules required by the law (known as statutory requirements).
- the rules of DSi (our articles of association).
- a set of recommended accounting rules for charities (the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP FRS 102).

For a list of our member organisations, please refer to Annex 1.

Because our organisation earned more than £25,000 in the year ending 31 March 2024, we had to get an independent examination of our financial statements.



Objectives and activities

Charity objects

DSi has charity “objects” which are written in our official document (our articles of association). The objects are:

- To promote and protect the physical and mental health of those with Down syndrome through the provision of support and resources to people with Down syndrome, their families and carers, and the professionals who work with them with specific focus on developing countries.
- To undertake any other charitable activities in connection with Down syndrome and other learning disabilities as the trustees shall determine.

These objects tell the Charity Commission of England and Wales what we are trying to achieve and what kinds of activities we do.

The Charity Commission is appointed by the UK government to check we are doing work charities should do and that we are doing it in the right way.

Our vision, purpose, strategy and activities

DSi launched a new strategy in October 2023 after a comprehensive review of the charity and our work, including consultations with all key stakeholders.

To develop our new strategy, we first established:

- **who we are** – we are the global network of people with Down syndrome and their families.
- **our purpose** - together, we speak up for the human rights of all people with Down syndrome around the world.
- **our vision** - a better world where all people with Down syndrome are fully included in society.

We were then able to develop a 10-year strategy (2024-2034), setting out how we can channel our purpose so we can realise our vision.

Critical to the success of our new strategy will be:

- sticking to the **principles** guiding our work;
- putting in place our **foundations** to enable DSi to thrive;
- delivering activities based on our **approaches**.

If we do this, we will achieve our **goal** – for people with Down syndrome and their families around the world to have a say in all laws, policies and other decisions that affect them.

Over time this will lead to:

- communities that respect and include people with Down syndrome;
- laws and policies that protect and promote the human rights of people with Down syndrome;
- systems and services that are accessible and include people with Down syndrome.

In the long term, we know this will realise our vision.

We made sure we followed guidelines from the Charity Commission (on public benefit) when developing our new strategy and we do the same when we make any strategic plans or decisions.

A more detailed explanation of our new strategy can be found on our website.

How our activities help people (how we deliver public benefit)

Our work is all about helping people with Down syndrome to have opportunities to live better lives. We speak up for their human rights so that they will have these opportunities.

We work with our network of member organisations to represent people with Down syndrome and their families, making sure that it is people with Down syndrome themselves who can speak up.

This report describes what we have achieved this year to help people. All our activities deliver public benefit and happen for the purpose DSi was set up.

Who uses and benefits from our services?

DSi is a worldwide organisation with member organisations from more than 120 countries. We are an international organisation of persons with disabilities (OPD).

We work on national, regional, and global projects to improve the lives and the human rights of people with Down syndrome.

There are about 7 million people with Down syndrome worldwide. Since we opened our international office in 2009, we have seen a big increase in demand for our services.

We review our strategy and activities every year. This report looks at what we have achieved and how our work has helped the people we aim to support. It also helps us make sure we stay focused on our purpose and our goals.



Achievements and performance

Our approaches

Following the launch of our new strategy in October 2023, as of April 2024, all of the work we do will be based on 5 approaches:

1. Developing and sharing evidence, stories and examples of inclusion of people with Down syndrome.
2. Empowering people with Down syndrome and their families to speak up for their human rights.
3. Supporting Down syndrome organisations to become stronger and more inclusive.
4. Building and leading partnerships with important people, groups and organisations.
5. Coordinating advocacy for the human rights of persons with Down syndrome.

These new approaches match up broadly to our previous approaches, which are as follows:

1. Policy and practice, information, support and advice

- We play a leading role globally working on new policies, documents and other published information about issues that affect people with Down syndrome.
- We work with our member organisations and partners to make sure accurate information is available.
- We give advice and help to member organisations and others when they need it.

2. Network development and training

- We make our member organisation network stronger by involving member organisations in all our work and improving communication.

- We develop and support networks, alliances and advocacy groups among our member organisations.
- We provided training to help our member organisations and those who represent them.

3. Advocacy and campaigning

- We run worldwide campaigns and events.
- We support local, regional and global activities that fight for the rights of people with Down syndrome.
- We take part in international meetings on disability and human rights to represent the global Down syndrome community.

Key issues

Most of our work involves one or more of these issues that affect a lot of people with Down syndrome:

- the right to an education
- the right to work
- the right to health
- being included in important decision making

The next part of this report will summarise all of our project activities from April 2023 to March 2024.

We will explain our project work using our previous approaches. We will review the best way to explain our work using our new approaches for our next report in March 2025.

1. Policy and practice, information, support and advice

Translating the Listen Include Respect guidelines

The Listen Include Respect guidelines help organisations understand what they need to do to make sure people with intellectual disabilities can take part in their work and are included in decision making.

We developed the guidelines with Inclusion International and they were published last year on the website listenincluderespect.com in English and Spanish.

This year we started work to translate the guidelines into Arabic, Chinese, Indonesian and Portuguese.

Self-advocates took part in consultations to make sure that the translations stay in plain language and are accessible for people with intellectual disabilities.

The consultation work and technical work will continue next year so that we can publish alternative language versions of the guidelines via the website in late 2024.



We have been working in partnership on this project with Higher Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Government of Jordan – Arabic), Up for Down's China (Chinese), Instituto Alana and Federacao Brasileira das Associacoes Sindrome de Down (Portuguese) and Indonesia Down Syndrome Care Foundation (YAPESDI - Indonesian).

World Down Syndrome Congress (WDSC)

We have been working with Down Syndrome Australia to help plan the next World Down Syndrome Congress, taking place in Brisbane in July 2024.

The Congress is an event where people and organisations come together to share experiences and best practices.

The Congress happens every few years and we support them to make sure it goes well.



Working as a member of the International Disability Alliance

We continued our work as a full member of the International Disability Alliance (IDA). IDA and its members work together as a global alliance representing persons with disabilities from around the world.

We advocate for disability rights at the United Nations and in international development work.

Within IDA we make sure the voices of people with Down syndrome and their families are heard and push for inclusive projects and programmes.

Consultation for BRIDGE CRPD-SDGs Training

We worked with Inclusion International and International Disability Alliance (IDA) to run a consultation on how to make the BRIDGE CRPD-SDGs training more accessible for people with intellectual disabilities.

BRIDGE CRPD-SDGs is a training programme developed and run by IDA and International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC). It helps advocates with disabilities speak up for their rights.



We ran a survey and a workshop in Kenya in December 2023, with people with intellectual disabilities who had taken part in the BRIDGE CRPD-SDGs training. Then we submitted an accessible report in March 2024, with recommendations for actions to make the training more accessible.

The project was funded by International Disability Alliance (IDA).

Providing resources and information on Down syndrome

One important job of DSI is to make sure people with Down syndrome and their families have the information they need to help with challenges.

People with Down syndrome can have problems with getting good healthcare, doing well in school, getting a job and in other areas of life. The COVID-19 pandemic made many challenges even harder.

We work every year to provide information and support and show people where help is available from our member organisations and others in countries around the world.

This project is partly funded by National Lottery Community Fund.

World Down Syndrome Awards

In 2023, we developed and ran the first “World Down Syndrome Awards”. The World Down Syndrome Awards are given to projects, achievements, or practices that make the lives of people with Down syndrome better – based on the principles of inclusion and human rights.

The first winners were announced in September 2023 and then formally presented with awards at the World Down Syndrome Day Conference in New York in March 2024.

The following projects received an award:

- Students for Inclusion, University of Malaga (Spain).
- "INployable", Canadian Down Syndrome Society (Canada).

- La Casa de Carlota (Spain).
- "Make Your Voice Heard!", Trisomie 21 (France).
- Down Syndrome Advisory Network, Down Syndrome Australia (Australia).



Launch of health equity project and consultation

In late 2023 we developed a new project, working with Humanity & Inclusion, to learn about health equity for people with Down syndrome and intellectual disabilities.

People with disabilities around the world have worse health outcomes than other people. This is not fair. We want better health outcomes for everyone.

The World Health Organization wrote a global report on health equity for people with disabilities, published in December 2022. The report explains what causes bad health outcomes and what can be done to improve outcomes.

Our project will include:

- Raising awareness around the world on the right to health equity.
- Gathering evidence about the health equity of people with Down syndrome around the world.
- Advocating for changes in policy and legislation to promote health equity.



The project was launched at the 13th World Down Syndrome Day Conference at the United Nations in New York in March 2024.

Self-advocates from around the world spoke up about their experience of health equity. Supporters, government and UN officials and NGO representatives also shared knowledge, experience, and good practice.

During the event we launched a global consultation on health equity, including a survey and focus groups. The results will be shared in a report that the DSi network will use to advocate for policy change in their countries.

2. Network development and training

UK Listen Include Respect project

Throughout 2023-24, we continued to work with the Down's Syndrome Association (UK) to train self-advocates with Down syndrome, to become consultants on inclusive organisations.

As of March 2024, the consultants have completed most of their training and will go on to work as consultants for the Down's Syndrome Association. They will consult with UK government departments, as well as international disability and development NGOs. They will train staff to include people with intellectual disabilities in policy making and government consultations.

This training will help the UK government create more inclusive policies that positively impact important areas of people's lives - like education, health, employment, social care and more.

This project is funded by the Down's Syndrome Association.



Including people with Down syndrome

We are committed to ensuring that people with Down syndrome are included in all of the work of DSi and our network.

DSi will only realise our vision if we do this. We want people with Down syndrome to be working and having a big influence at all levels of our organisation. This year we have made excellent progress, in the DSi office, on the DSi board and in the membership network.

- **Including people with Down syndrome – office and board**

Last year, we conducted a review of how inclusive DSi is and we made an action plan of everything we need to do to be more inclusive.

In September 2023, we recruited a permanent staff member with Down syndrome, Emma Bishop, as Programme Officer. Emma is an advocate for the rights of people with disabilities, who has spoken at the UN Conference of State Parties (COSP) on disability.

Emma's salary is funded by the Clare Milne Trust.



In December 2023, Janet Charchuk, who has worked on the DSi Ambassadors committee for a number of years, joined the DSi board of trustees. She is the first person with Down syndrome to join the board.

She helped us review how the meetings are planned and delivered, so they are inclusive for people with Down syndrome.

Janet is now working with the board to support all aspects of DSi's new strategy.



In addition to the appointments of Emma and Janet, our team has been working on a number of initiatives, across all departments, to make sure all of our work involves people with Down syndrome at all stages, so that we know we are working on the right things and that it is accessible.

- **Including people with Down syndrome – membership network**

We have a committee of people with Down syndrome called the DSi Ambassadors. They represent our member organisations in their countries.

There are currently ambassadors from 19 countries.

We meet monthly with the ambassadors to discuss important topics and work on projects.

Some examples from this year included:

- Helping plan the World Down Syndrome Awards.
- Reviewing our new strategy.
- Giving feedback on a new website.
- Recording videos and sharing stories.



Throughout 2023-24, DSi Ambassadors Stuart Campbell from Scotland and Janet Charchuk from Canada (now a board member), participated in the DSi board programme strategy working group.

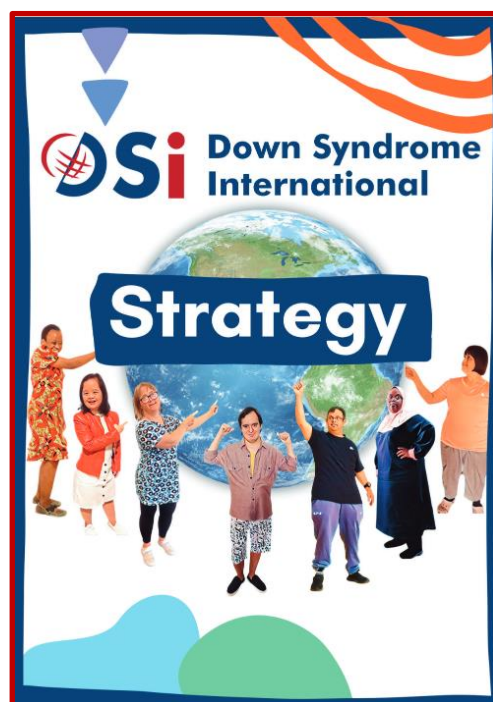
The DSi Ambassadors committee is just one example of the work we do with our network, to ensure inclusion of people with Down syndrome. They play a central role in all of our projects and our new strategy published in October 2023. We will ensure this continues for the next 10 years.

Publishing our new strategy

In October 2023 we published our new 10-year strategy for the organisation. A strategy is a plan for how DSi and our network will make the world better.

To create the strategy we involved:

- our board and our staff;
- people with Down syndrome from the DSi Ambassadors;
- our member organisations;
- organisations we work with such as project partners, donors and other organisations in the disability movement.



The strategy includes:

- **Who we are**
- Our **purpose** – a good way of explaining why we are doing our work.
- The **principles** that guide our work.
- The **foundations** we are putting in place to help us do our work.
- The **approaches** we will use to make change happen.
- Our **goal** for what we want to achieve in 10 years. So that we can contribute to our vision.
- Our **vision** of how we want the world to be in the future.

The strategy is published on our website in Easy Read and videos formats. More information can also be found on pages 4-5 of this report.

Other DSi network activities

- **Advocacy and human rights research with members**

We carried out research with member organisations to understand their current advocacy and human rights work. We will use this information to plan future advocacy work together as a network, and how we can support members with advocacy work in their countries.

- **Webinar for members on UN resolution on easy-to-understand communication**

We ran a joint webinar with Inclusion International to talk to members about how to use the United Nations Resolution on Easy-to-Understand Communication in their advocacy. The Resolution was passed by the UN General Assembly in 2022.

- **High support needs meeting with members**

We met with member organisations to discuss how our network can better work with people who have higher support needs. We recognise that more work is needed on this topic to ensure that all people with Down syndrome are included in the work of our network.

- **Celebrated 30 years of DSi**

During awareness month in October 2023, we celebrated 30 years since DSi was founded.

In 1993, 3 women from different parts of the world joined together to form Down Syndrome International - with a mission to make the world more inclusive for people with Down syndrome.

Today, we are thousands of people with Down syndrome, their families and representative organisations from every part of the world.

To celebrate, we shared stories about Down Syndrome International and our network.



3. Advocacy and campaigning

Listen Include Respect advocacy

We continued our advocacy for organisations to use the Listen Include Respect Guidelines to include people with intellectual disabilities in their work. Some highlights were:

- Briefing UN disability focal points in the Asia-Pacific region.
- Presenting to different UN agencies as part of a UNPRPD regional workshop.
- Briefing Light for the World staff.
- Participating in Learning Disability England conference.



Conference of State Parties (COSP) in New York

We attended the Conference of State Parties (COSP) in June 2023. The event takes place every year at the UN Headquarters in New York. It is a conference about the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) attended by many important stakeholders.

We joined member organisations from Australia, Brazil, United Kingdom and United States who attended.

Self-advocates representing DSi spoke in many events.

With Inclusion International, we organised a side event on easy-to-understand communication, that was well attended.

It was a great opportunity for our member organisations to advocate together and get to know each other better.



World Down Syndrome Day 2024

- **Bringing WDSO to public attention and 2024 theme**

On 21st of March every year, we bring the global Down syndrome community together for World Down Syndrome Day (WDSO).

We run the WDSO website and the WDSO social media pages. We also promote a theme annually. In 2024, this was “End the Stereotypes”. The theme was decided by consultations with our members and ambassadors.

We worked with the international community to deliver awareness and advocacy messages focused on how stereotypes have a negative impact on the lives of people with Down syndrome and how this must change. We also partnered with CoorDown on their 2024 video “Assume that I can”.

We run the Lots of Socks campaign too. We ask people worldwide to wear interesting socks on 21st March, to get people talking about WDSO.



This year we partnered with National Down Syndrome Society (United States) and Down's Syndrome Association (UK) to assist this global effort.

- **Our WDSO conferences**

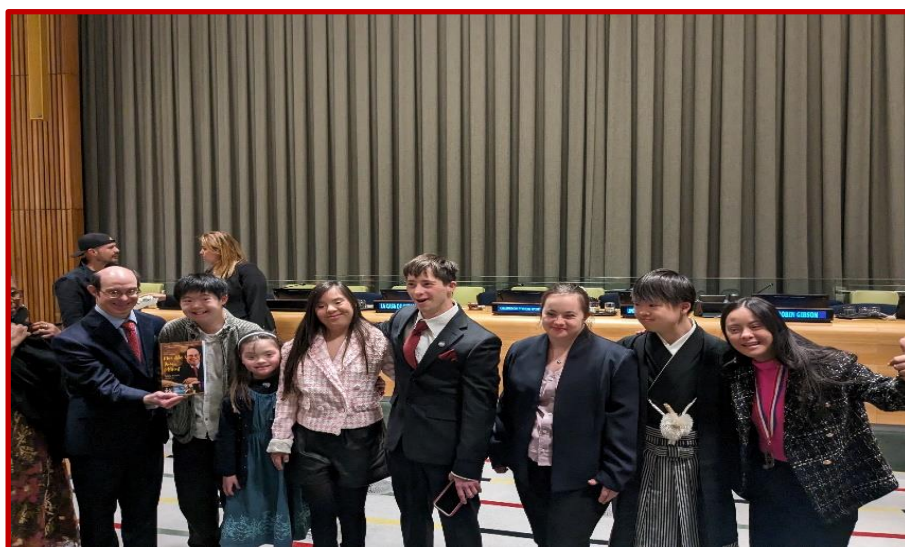
The 13th World Down Syndrome Day Conference, took place over two days in New York.

This year, rather than focus on the WDSO theme (see page 24), we used our event to launch our campaign and project on health equity (see pages 13-14).

The event was attended by people with Down syndrome, families, organisation and government representatives and many health stakeholders.

People with Down syndrome were involved in planning and speaking at the event. We had a diverse range of speakers from around the world.

On the first day, we had group discussions about the issue of health equity at a meeting venue in New York. On the second day, at United Nations Headquarters, speakers shared their experiences and ideas for improving health outcomes for people with Down syndrome.



As well as the WDSO Conference in New York, we took part in some other advocacy events at this time, including:

- A presentation about Down syndrome to staff from EnableIn, LinkedIn's employee resource group for people with disabilities.
- Virtual presentations about the right to health equity as part of World Down Syndrome Day events by DSI members in Nigeria and Trinidad and Tobago.

Unfortunately, we were not able to hold an event at United Nations in Geneva this year. We will look to return next year.

Other advocacy opportunities

- **WHO Guide for Action**

We were part of the World Health Organization's External Consultation Group on the Disability Guide for Action. This group gave feedback on the guide, which will be used to support governments to improve health equity for persons with disabilities.

- **OHCHR – care and support work**

We took part in consultations by the UN Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights (OHCHR) around care and support. This is part of work to push for a disability rights-based approach to care and support.

Our new Programme Officer, Emma Bishop, was interviewed by the UN to celebrate the first International Day of Care and Support.

- **GIZ Living Inclusion Network event**

We presented about including people with intellectual disabilities at a Living Inclusion Network event. The Living Inclusion Network is run by GIZ, the government international development agency of Germany.

- **ICCA Conference**

We went to the International Congress and Convention Association, Middle East Summit in Muscat, Oman.

Chaica, a DSI Ambassador, ran an hour-long workshop with our programme team on why inclusive conferences are important and how to plan them.



Raising funds

To keep DSi running well and helping those who need us, we need money.

We have 2 types of income:

- **Restricted income** – this is money we receive that we have to spend on projects. We agree detailed budgets with the organisations who provide this money.
- **Unrestricted income** – this is money we receive that we can spend on anything, as long as it is for DSi. So, we can spend this on projects if we need to. But we can also spend it on other things that help keep DSi running. Or we can save it (as reserves) to keep DSi financially stable.

Restricted income - April 23 to March 24

This year restricted income went up.

This was because we received a number of grants for new or continuing projects – including Listen Include Respect - IDA Bridge Consultation, Inclusive Organisations Training, Programme Team Funding and World Down Syndrome Day Conference.

By the end of last year, we had spent all the project money we had in the bank. This year we received new project funds and we spent the majority of those funds during the year.

The money we received this year for projects did not include enough to cover all of what it costs us to pay staff to manage the projects. So, we had to use some of our unrestricted income for this – which we designated to projects such as Supporting DSi Network and World Down Syndrome Day.

To meet the growing demand for our work, we need to find more money for projects. This will pay for us to do all of projects, including paying staff to manage them.

We are carefully planning how we can find more money in our financial and fundraising strategies.

Unrestricted income - April 23 to March 24

This year unrestricted income also went up.

Unrestricted income from donations from people and companies went down, as did gifts in kind. But combined income from trusts and foundations, member donors and membership fees went up. Sales of merchandise went up. Income from fundraising events went up significantly.

We are confident that these things will continue to deliver income in future years.

As mentioned in the previous section, currently we need to use some of our unrestricted funds to pay for our projects, which we label as designated funds.

If we can find new restricted funding for projects, this will mean more unrestricted money is available to spend on other important things we need to do.

Importantly this will also help us to save some money as reserves, to keep DSi financially stable.



Financial review

Income

In the 12 months starting from 1 April 2023 (2023-24), DSi's total income was £422,957. This was a lot more than in the 12 months from 1 April 2022 (2022-23), when it was £316,812.

Restricted income went up a lot in 2023-24 compared to 2022-23.

In 2022-23 we already had some of the money in the bank that we needed for projects, plus we did not receive money to use for the following year. But in 2023-24, we received new funds for various projects.

We received money from International Disability Alliance (IDA) to do a consultation on their BRIDGE CRPD-SDGs training.

We also received money from IDA for our World Down Syndrome Day Conference at the United Nations in New York.

We received money from our member organisation the Down's Syndrome Association (DSA) to continue delivering training in the UK on inclusive organisations.

We also received money from DSA to fund our programme team.

Unrestricted income in 2023-24 also went up compared to 2022-23.

Although unrestricted income from donations from people and companies went down, as did gifts in kind, all other types of unrestricted income increased.

Expenditure (costs)

In the 12 months starting from 1 April 2023 (2023-24), DSi's total costs were £397,585. This was slightly less than in the 12 months from 1 April 2022 (2022-23), when it was £402,758.

Staff costs, cost of merchandise and office operational costs increased by varying, but small, amounts. Fundraising/marketing remained at a similar level. Project costs/grant making reduced.

We now have a stable base in terms of our staff numbers and a maximum number of projects that we will sign up to each year, with our current staff. This has helped us keep costs consistent.

Overall

When we subtract our costs from our income, we achieve an overall financial position for the year. This might be a surplus (if we had more income than costs) or a deficit (if we had more costs than income).

In the 12 months starting from 1 April 2023 (2023-24), we had a surplus of £25,372. This compares to the 12 months from 1 April 2022 (2022-23), when we had a deficit of £85,946.

We also have some money saved (total funds) that we carry over from previous years. We carried over £25,543 from 2022-23.

When we add this year's surplus to total funds we carried over from last year, this leaves us with total funds on 31 March 2024 of £50,915.

Some of our funds (£5,523) are restricted. If we subtract this from total funds, this leaves us with total unrestricted funds of £45,392.

We have a policy (reserves policy) which requires DSi to keep a certain amount of unrestricted funds saved (called "free reserves"). At the end of this year, we have less free reserves than we should have.

So, we really need to manage our finances carefully and we need very good financial and fundraising strategies to help us become more financially stable.

Reserves policy and going concern

We have a policy (reserves policy) which requires DSi to keep a certain amount of unrestricted funds saved (called “free reserves”).

The policy says that we should keep between 3 and 6 months of our annual costs in reserve.

Based on our 2023-24 costs (£397,585), 3 months reserves would be £99,396 and 6 months would be £198,792.

At this level the trustees agree that if our income dropped suddenly, we would still be able to continue doing our work.

The trustees also agree that if income did drop suddenly, we would think very carefully about how to replace that income or reduce our costs.

Our free reserves for 2023-24 are £45,392. This means we have just over 1 month of costs in reserve, compared to the minimum of 3 months required by our policy.

We do have something in our accounts called gifts in kind. This is where people or organisations provide us with free things, but because those things have a value, we include them both as income and costs. We would still be able to do our work without these things.

This year the gifts in kind were £37,119. This makes DSi’s costs look a bit bigger than they really are. If you take this out of our costs, this shows we have slightly more costs in reserve. But still only 1.5 months of costs, significantly less than the 3 months minimum required.

DSi also has an overdraft agreement with creditor the Down’s Syndrome Association (DSA). DSA pays staff for DSi and DSi repays DSA every quarter. DSA allows an overdraft facility to DSi, up to a maximum of £35,000, to help DSi if we cannot repay DSA when it asks for the quarterly repayment.

Starting in 2024/25 we have agreed with DSA that we will repay staff costs on a monthly basis.

Risk Management

We look carefully at risks to DSi. We have a policy for risk and also a risk management plan.

We decide which risks are most important and we take any action we can to reduce the risks that could have a negative impact on DSi. Some of the most important risk areas are:

Funding: We don't have money saved (reserves). A sudden loss of funding could mean we run out money and have to stop what we do. So, we focus on trying to get new funding and long-term funding from different people and organisations.

Leadership: It is important we have good leaders to take us forward and keep everyone at DSi happy. Our leaders will change as time passes. We need to make sure when that happens, our new leaders will be just as good. So, we plan for what will happen when leadership changes.

Staff: It is important that our staff feel happy to work for us and believe that they are important to DSi's success. So, we treat them well, we ask them how they are doing, we ask them what they think about DSi and we listen to what they tell us.

Project activities: We need to do our project work well. We need to do what we say we will do. Our projects need to be completed on time and at the same cost we agreed. We also need to make a big impact. So, we make sure we check how we are doing, we ask others how we are doing and we always try to do things better.

Operational systems: We have a small staff team and we have a lot of different things we need to do to keep DSi running well and following the law. So, we use software and we have systems to help us do all of these things in the right way, as quickly and as cheaply as we can.

Reputation: It is really important that everyone we work with believes DSi is a good organisation and trusts us. So, we make sure all of our work is relevant to people and makes an impact. We also make sure we are run really well. We listen to what people tell us and we always try to make good decisions.

Plans for the future

Activities we have planned for next year starting 1 April 2024 include:

Policy and practice, information, support and advice

- We will organise launch webinars for the Arabic, Chinese, Indonesian and Portuguese translations of the Listen Include Respect Guidelines.
- With Down Syndrome Australia, we will deliver the World Down Syndrome Congress in Brisbane. Board members, staff and Ambassadors will participate in the conference in July 2024.
- We will continue our important work as a member of the International Disability Alliance, making sure the voices of people with Down syndrome and their families are represented internationally.
- We will run our global health equity consultation, including gathering data from surveys for individuals and organisations and focus group discussions. We will then analyse and publish the data, ready for our network to use it to advocate for health equity around the world.
- We will work with the UN Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to produce a guidance note on meaningful participation of marginalised and under-represented persons with disabilities in UNPRPD programming.
- We will form reference groups of self-advocates to offer consultancy services. The first group will help develop an inclusive tool for sharing important global disability information for 'Fundacion Saraki'. The second group will review a UNICEF resource on gender-based violence.

Network development and training

- We will work with our Ambassadors and member organisations to restructure the Ambassador committee and open up opportunities for new self-advocates to join the team.
- The UK Listen Include Respect team will complete their training and begin providing consultancy services. They will also present at the World Down Syndrome Congress.
- We will develop a Listen Include Respect 'Train the Trainer' course. The first trial of this will be in person, in Canada.
- We will continue to develop our network of self-advocate groups. We will form a working group that will develop resources on starting and running self-advocacy groups.
- We will launch a new Health Equity Network Group for DSi member organisations. This group will be a space for members to share experiences, support each other and work together on projects and advocacy around health equity.

Advocacy and campaigning

- Self-advocates will continue to advocate for inclusive organisations when speaking at events, by promoting the use of the Listen Include Respect guidelines.
- In June 2024 we will attend the Conference of State Parties (COSP).
- We will organise activities for World Down Syndrome Day 2025. This will include deciding on a theme and an advocacy campaign,

organising our UN conferences in New York and Geneva, running the website and social media pages and running the Lots of Socks awareness campaign.

- We will continue our involvement with the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), pushing for rights-based care and support systems that enable people with Down syndrome to be included in the community.

Raising funds

- We will try to find more funds for our projects from different types of organisations who make project grants. So that we do not have to use money we want to keep in reserves.
- We will try to increase funds we get from donations, events and sales so that we can save more and improve our reserves position.
- We will look for new ways to raise money and grow our organisation. But make we are financially safe so we can keep doing what we do.



Structure, governance, and management

DSi is a company (a charitable company limited by guarantee) and is also a registered charity.

We became a company on 23 November 2001 and we became a charity on 1 May 2002.

DSi was started by a legal document called our Articles of Association.

This document has information about what our purpose is, what we need to do and what we cannot do.

We also have a Code of Governance. This guidance document helps our trustees know what their responsibilities are and how we all need to behave.

The Code of Governance also has a guide on how trustees come on to the board and how they leave the board.

All of the trustees are volunteers and receive no benefits from DSi.

Any expenses trustees reclaim from the charity are very small and can be seen in note 7 of the accounts.



Members and trustees

Charity members and other members

Our legal document (Articles of Association) says that we have members (who we can call the “charity members”) who have a vote at all important meetings, like the annual general meeting.

The charity members are all individual people and they are different from our member organisations.

The charity members are also the trustees. When you become a trustee of DSi you also become a charity member. When you are no longer a trustee, you are no longer a charity member.

We are also able to have other types of members, but our legal document is clear that these members are not charity members and so they do not have a vote at important meetings.

We have 2 other types of members at the moment:

- Representative members – for organisations only.
- Affiliate members – for organisations only.

Appointment of trustees

The board of trustees manages the business of the charity.

We currently have 10 trustees.

All trustees are elected by the charity members and we can have between 5 and 21 trustees.

Each time we have an annual general meeting (AGM), one third of the trustees must retire. To make it fair this happens on a rotation system. So, each trustee gets 3 years before they retire.

When trustees retire, they have the option to seek re-election. If they do this, then the other trustees decide by vote if they will re-elect each person.

The trustees can also vote to bring in new trustees at other times of year for a specific reason. If they do this, the new trustee will be in their post until the next AGM. Then they can seek re-election alongside the other trustees who are retiring.

Recruitment of trustees

A policy on how to recruit trustees can be found in our Code of Governance.

The trustees must be open and honest in any search for new people.

Trustees must be aware of the legal rules on who can and cannot be a trustee.

Trustees should consider whether any candidates might have “conflicts of interest”. This is something that might make a trustee act in a certain way that is not in the best interests of DSi.

The trustees should look for people with the right skills to join, especially if there are skills that the current board does not have. But this is not the only thing to consider.

As a priority, we should ask our representative member organisations first if they have candidates to consider. Then we should ask our affiliate member organisations. After this we can look wider.

The trustees need to make sure that:

- 55% of the board are people with Down syndrome or family members.
- There is a maximum of 2 people from any country.
- There is at least 1 person from Europe, North America, South America, Africa, Asia and Australia (continent).

- At least 25% of the board are from “developing economies” (defined by International Monetary Fund’s World Economic Outlook Report, April 2015).

Induction of new trustees

All trustees must understand the charity’s purpose and aims and their duties and responsibilities.

They are then able to explain this to new trustees.

The trustees must make sure that they, rather than staff, have overall responsibility for inducing new trustees.

The board should provide all new trustees with induction material, such as governing documents, annual reports, meeting minutes, strategy and management documents.

This allows new trustees to understand their charitable purposes, financial position and current issues.



Related parties and connected organisations

DSi works with many Down syndrome, disability and international development organisations worldwide.

We have a close working relationship with the Down's Syndrome Association (DSA) in United Kingdom. We share a registered office with DSA in Teddington. We also share some resources and we have a funding agreement.

We receive membership organisation fees and we work on projects with many member organisations throughout the world. See Annex 1 for a list of our member organisations.

At the regional level, we support the work of European Down Syndrome Association, African Down Syndrome Network, Federación Iberoamericana de Síndrome de Down (Latin America) and Asia Pacific Down Syndrome Federation.

DSi is in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (UN).

DSi is a member of International Disability Alliance (IDA)

We also work with Inclusion International on projects.

Remuneration (pay) policy

We pay our staff fairly to get the best people for the job while using our money wisely.

We decide on what to pay people by looking at what other people in similar charity roles get (on average) and we set our salaries at the same level.

All DSi staff get a pay rise every year based on changes to the cost of living where they live. In the UK (where most of our staff live) this is normally a 3% increase.

DSi will go ahead with these pay rises unless we cannot for financial reasons.

Any changes to this method of giving pay rises must be agreed by the trustees.

Some staff may get a higher pay rise if there are reasons for it. This must be agreed by the trustees.

Pay rises start from the start of the financial year, which is 1 April.

The trustees look at how well the executive director is doing and decide what to pay that person specifically each year.

They will look at how the executive director is doing based on performance targets they have set for the person. They will also think about what they need to pay to keep the best person for the job.

Fundraising

We make sure all the fundraising we do follows the rules and regulations charities must follow.

We always talk to our supporters in a fair and honest way.

We protect people who support us by keeping their information secure. We do not put pressure on people to give us money. We ask people if we can contact them.

We do all of our own fundraising. No one has ever complained about us.

The trustees reviewing fundraising activities regularly.



Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

The trustees (who are also the company directors of DSi) are responsible for writing this trustees' annual report and the financial statements.

The trustees make sure we have followed the law and accounting standards in the UK (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) when writing this report.

Company law requires the trustees to write financial statements for each financial year which:

- give a true and fair view of DSi's financial position.
- provide details of the money coming in and how that money was spent, over the year (accounting period).

When writing this report, the trustees have to:

- choose good accounting methods and use them in all of the report.
- use the methods in the charity accounting standards (SORP).
- make sensible decisions.
- say whether we have used UK accounting standards and give details where we have not.
- write the financial statements based on the idea that DSi will continue to operate, unless we are not going to.

The trustees have to keep good accounting records that:

- can show accurately our financial position at any time.
- can show we comply with the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees must also keep the financial assets of DSi safe. So, they must try to prevent financial crimes like fraud and other bad behaviour. To the best of the trustees' knowledge:

- there is no audit information that our auditor does not know about.
- we have taken all steps we need to make sure we know about all audit information and the auditor does too.

The trustees are responsible for keeping all company and financial information on our website up to date and true.

Laws in the United Kingdom on financial statements might be different to laws in other countries.

Members of the charity (charity members) guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up.

The total number of such guarantees on 31 March 2024 was 10 (2023: 9).

The trustees are members of the charity, but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.



Independent examiner

DSi as a company has taken advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the report above.

The following person was appointed to carry out an independent examination of these accounts:

Mr Luke Burns
Fellow Member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)
65 Bulmershe Road, Reading, RG1 5RH, UK.

Trustee approval

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on 24 October 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Bridget Snedden
President
Board of Trustees



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the
trustees/directors/
members of**

Down Syndrome International

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 March 2024

Charity no.:

1091843

Company no.:

04327941

Set out on pages

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended **31/03/2024**.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity's trustees of the Company (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited for this year under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination, I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act).

**Independent
examiner's statement**

The company's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA).

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:  Date: 29/11/24

Name: Luke Burns

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)

Address: 65 Bulmershe Road
Reading
RG1 5RH

Section B Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

No material matters to note

Annex 1: Member organisations

Member organisations in Africa

Botswana

Representative Organisation

Down's Syndrome Association of Botswana

Cameroon

Representative Organisation

Aidrikings Foundation

Congo

Affiliate Organisation

Lenire Asbl

Eritrea

Affiliate Organisation

National Association of Intellectual/Developmental Disability in Eritrea (NAIDDE)

Eswatini

Affiliate Organisation

Down Syndrome Eswatini

Ethiopia

Affiliate Organisation

Ethiopian National Association on Intellectual Disabilities

Ghana

Representative Organisation

Robb Foundation

Affiliate Organisation

Inclusion Ghana

Kenya

Representative Organisation

Down Syndrome Society of Kenya

Liberia

Affiliate Organisation

My Heart's Appeal Inc

Libya

Representative Organisation

Libyan Down Syndrome Association

Madagascar

Representative Organisation

Down Syndrome Madagascar

Mauritius

Representative Organisation

Down Syndrome Association

Mauritius

Morocco

Representative Organisation

Association Marocaine de Soutien et d'Aide aux Personnes Trisomiques (AMSAT)

Nigeria

Representative Organisation

Down Syndrome Foundation Nigeria

Affiliate Organisations

Larger Than I Developmental Foundation

Moyinoluwa Rainbow Foundation

Rwanda

Representative Organisation

Rwanda Down Syndrome Organisation (RDSO)

South Africa

Representative Organisation

Down Syndrome South Africa

Tanzania

Representative Organisation

Pearl of People with Down Syndrome Foundation

Affiliate Organisation

Elimisha

Morogoro Saving the Poor Organization

Togo

Representative Organisation

APAPE - Down Syndrome Togo

Tunisia

Affiliate Organisation

AMED (Association Mon Enfant Est Different)

Uganda

Representative Organisation

The Uganda Down Syndrome Association (TUDSA)

Affiliate Organisation

Inclusion Uganda

Angel's Center for Children with Special Needs

EmbraceKulture

Rowan's Down Syndrome Awareness Centre

Zimbabwe

Representative Organisation

Zimbabwe Down Syndrome Association

Member organisations in Asia Pacific

Australia

Representative Organisation

Down Syndrome Australia

Affiliate Organisation

e.motion 21

Bangladesh

Representative Organisation

Down Syndrome Society of Bangladesh

Affiliate Organisation

Bangladesh Down Syndrome Association

Bangladesh Protibandhi Kallyan
Somity

Bhutan

Affiliate Organisation

Ability Bhutan Society

China

Representative Organisation

Macau Down Syndrome Association

Up for Downs China

Affiliate Organisation

Shanghai Hope Star Public Welfare
Development Center

Hong Kong, S.A.R, China

Representative Organisation

Hong Kong Down Syndrome
Association

India

Representative Organisation

Down Syndrome Federation of India

Affiliate Organisation

ALAN T21 Welfare Trust

Indonesia

Representative Organisation

Indonesia Down Syndrome Care
Foundation (YAPESDI)

Affiliate Organisation

Ikatan Sindroma Down Indonesia
(ISDI)

Japan

Representative Organisation

Japan Down Syndrome Society
(JDS)

Affiliate Organisation

DSIJ

Malaysia

Affiliate Organisation

Kiwanis Down Syndrome
Foundation

Maldives

Representative Organisation

Beautiful Eyes Down Syndrome
Association

Mongolia

Representative Organisation

Down Syndrome Association
Mongolia (DSAM)

Myanmar

Representative Organisation

Myanmar Down Syndrome
Association

Nepal

Representative Organisation

Down's Syndrome Association of
Nepal (DSAN)

Down Syndrome Society Nepal

Affiliate Organisation

Down Syndrome Support Health
Association Nepal

New Zealand

Representative Organisation

New Zealand Down Syndrome
Association

Pakistan

Representative Organisation

Karachi Down Syndrome Program

Pakistan Down Syndrome
Association (PDSA)

Philippines

Affiliate Organisation

Down Syndrome Association of the
Philippines, Inc.

Singapore

Representative Organisation

Down Syndrome Association
Singapore

South Korea

Representative Organisation

Korea Down Syndrome Society

Sri Lanka

Representative Organisation

Jinendhi Resource Centre for Down
Syndrome

Affiliate Organisation

Jinendhi Resource Centre for Down
Syndrome

Kosala Dullewa Foundation for
Children with Special Needs

Soulink Lanka

Taiwan

Affiliate Organisation

Down Syndrome Foundation ROC

Vietnam

Affiliate Organisation

My Future

Member organisations in Central Asia

Armenia

Representative Organisation

Sun Children

Georgia

Representative Organisation

Georgian Down Syndrome
Association

Kazakhstan

Affiliate Organisation

Solnechnyi Mir

Kyrgyzstan

Representative Organisation

Public Fund of Parents of Children
with Down syndrome "Sunterra"

Affiliate Organisation

Luch Dobra (The Ray of Kindness)

Russia

Representative Organisation

Downside Up

Affiliate Organisation

Regional public organization "Time
of Changes"

Tajikistan

Representative Organisation

Nazari Digar

Affiliate Organisation

Public Organisation of Parents of
Children with Down Syndrome
"SiDa"

Public Organisation Open Hearts

Turkey

Representative Organisation

Down Turkiye Down Sendromu
Derneği

Ukraine

Representative Organisation

Ukrainian Charitable Organization
"Down Syndrome"

Uzbekistan

Representative Organisation

Downside Sport Uzbekistan

Member organisations in Europe

Regional

Affiliate Organisation

European Down Syndrome
Association (EDSA)

Albania

Representative Organisation

Down Syndrome Albania
Foundation

Jonathan Center

Austria

Representative Organisation

Down-Syndrom Österreich

Belgium

Representative Organisation

Down Syndrome Foundation
Belgium

Affiliate Organisation

APEM T21

Downsyndroom Vlaanderen

Inclusion ASBL

Bosnia & Herzegovina

Representative Organisation

Udruzenje Zivot Sa Down
Syndromom

Bulgaria

Representative Organisations

Association of the Parents of
Children with Down Syndrome

Life with Down Syndrome

Croatia

Representative Organisation

Croatian Down Syndrome
Association

Cyprus

Representative Organisation

Pan Cyprian Down Syndrome
Association

Denmark

Representative Organisation

Landsforeningen Downs Syndrom

Estonia

Representative Organisation

Downi Sundroomi Uhing / Down
Syndrome Association Estonia

France

Representative Organisation

Trisomie 21 France

Germany

Representative Organisation

Deutsches Down-Syndrom
InfoCenter

Gibraltar

Representative Organisation

Down's Syndrome Support Group
Gibraltar (DSSGG)

Greece

Representative Organisation

Down Syndrome Association of
Greece

Hungary

Affiliate Organisation

Down Egyesület

Ireland

Representative Organisation

Down Syndrome Ireland

Affiliate Organisation

The Down Syndrome Centre
(Ireland)

Italy

Representative Organisation

Associazione Italiana Persone
Down

Affiliate Organisation

Coordinamento Nazionale
Associazioni delle Persone con
Sindrome de Down (CoorDown)

Kosova

Representative Organisation

Down Syndrome Kosova

Lithuania

Representative Organisation

Down Syndrome Lithuania

Macedonia

Affiliate Organisation

Trisomija 21 - Skopje

Malta

Representative Organisation

Down Syndrome Association Malta

Malta

Affiliate Organisation

Inspire

Netherlands

Affiliate Organisation

Stichting Down Syndroom (SDS)

Norway

Representative Organisation

Norsk Nettverk for Down Syndrom
(NNDS)

Poland

Affiliate Organisations

Ja Tez

Jeden Swiat

Legnickie Stowarzyszenie Rodzin i
Przyjaciol Dzieci z Zespolem Downa
Otworz Serce

Zakatek 21 Society of Parents and
Friends of Children with Down
Syndrome

Zespoldowna.info

Portugal

Affiliate Organisation

Pais21

Romania

Affiliate Organisation

Asociatia Down Bucuresti

Asociatia Ioana-Maria

European Centre for the Rights of
Children with Disabilities

Russia

Representative Organisation

Downside Up

Affiliate Organisation

Regional public organization "Time
of Changes"

Slovakia

Representative Organisation

Spolocnost' Downovho Syndromu
na Slovensku

Spain

Representative Organisation

Down Espana

Affiliate Organisation

ASNIMO

Sweden

Representative Organisation

Svenska Downforeningen

Switzerland

Representative Organisation

Insieme 21

Avventuno

Affiliate Organisation

Light for Sight Foundation

Turkey

Representative Organisation

Down Turkiye Down Sendromu
Derneği

Ukraine

Representative Organisation

Ukrainian Charitable Organization
"Down Syndrome"

United Kingdom

Representative Organisation

Down's Syndrome Association (UK)

Down's Syndrome Scotland

Affiliate Organisation

Cheshire Down's Syndrome Support
Group

Down Syndrome Extra 21

Down Syndrome Medical Interest
Group UK and Ireland (DSMIG-UK)

Down Syndrome Research
Foundation UK

Down's Heart Group

Sports Union for Athletes with Down
Syndrome (SU-DS)

Member organisations in Middle East

Bahrain

Affiliate Organisation

Maan Centre for Special Education

Iran

Representative Organisation

Aseman Nili Down Syndrome
Association

Affiliate Organisation

Down Syndrome Association of
Gilan

Iraq

Representative Organisation

Down Syndrome Association of Iraq
(Hiba Centre for Down Syndrome)

Israel

Representative Organisation

Yated Down Syndrome Parents
Association

Jordan

Representative Organisation

Jasmine Association for Children
with Down Syndrome

Lebanon

Representative Organisation

Lebanese Down Syndrome
Association

Affiliate Organisation

National Rehabilitation and
Development Center (NRDC)

Oman

Representative Organisation

Oman Down Syndrome Association

Palestinian Territory

Representative Organisation

Al-Raheem (Down Syndrome
Friends) Association

Affiliate Organisation

Right to Live Society

Qatar

Representative Organisation

HOPE Qatar Center for children with
special needs

Affiliate Organisation

Qatar Institute for Speech and
Hearing

Saudi Arabia

Affiliate Organisation

Werathah

Help Center

Gester

Sudan

Affiliate Organisation

Skill Up Training Center

Syria

Affiliate Organisation

White Hearts

United Arab Emirates

Representative Organisation

Emirates Down Syndrome
Association

Yemen

Representative Organisation

Yemeni Down Syndrome Society
(YDSS)

**Member organisations in North
America**

Bahamas

Representative Organisation

The Bahamas Down Syndrome
Association and Center

Bermuda

Representative Organisation

Bermuda Down Syndrome Support
Group

Canada

Representative Organisation

Canadian Down Syndrome Society

Affiliate Organisation

Down Syndrome Resource
Foundation

T21 Association Ouest Africaine

Dominican Republic

Representative Organisation

Asociacion Dominicana de
Sindrome de Down

Grenada

Representative Organisation

Grenada Down Syndrome
Association

Jamaica

Representative Organisation

Jamaica Down's Syndrome
Foundation

Trinidad and Tobago

Representative Organisation

Down Syndrome Family Network

United States

Representative Organisation

National Down Syndrome Society
(NDSS)

Affiliate Organisation

Alexander's Angels, Inc.

LuMind IDSC Foundation

National Down Syndrome Congress
(NDSC)

San Diego Down Syndrome
Organisation

Down Syndrome Affiliates in Action

Member organisations in South and Central America

Argentina

Representative Organisation

Asociacion Sindrome de Down de la
Republica Argentina (ASDRA)

Brazil

Representative Organisation

Federacao Brasileira das
Associacoes Sindrome de Down

Affiliate Organisation

Instituto Alana

MetaSocial Institute

Movimento Down

Chile

Representative Organisation

Fundacion down 21 Chile

Affiliate Organisation

Pro Inclusion Rayos de Sol

Colombia

Representative Organisation

Fundacion Sindrome de Down del Caribe (Fundown Caribe)

Costa Rica

Representative Organisation

Fundacion El Futuro es de Todos

El Salvador

Representative Organisation

Fundacion Club de Amigos Especiales a Distancia de El Salvador (FUNCAEDES)

Guatemala

Representative Organisation

Asociacion Guatemalteca para el Sindrome de Down

Affiliate Organisation

Fundacion Margarita Tejada Para Sindrome Down

Honduras

Representative Organisation

Integrar, Fundacion Sindrome de Down, Honduras

Affiliate Organisation

Centro de Educacion Activa

Mexico

Representative Organisation

Fundacion John Langdon Down

Affiliate Organisation

Comunidad Educativa Incluyente

Taller de Expresion y Desarrollo Integral A.C. (TEDI)

Trisomia 21 A.C.

Nicaragua

Affiliate Organisation

Fundacion 21 Sindrome de Down Nicaragua

Panama

Affiliate Organisation

Fundacion Down Panama

SD Padres en Accion

Paraguay

Affiliate Organisation

Asociacion de Padres de Personas con Sindrome de Down de Itapua

Fundacion Saraki

Peru

Representative Organisation

Sociedad Peruana de Sindrome Down (SPSD)

Affiliate Organisation

Asociacion Proyecto Yannick

Venezuela

Representative Organisation

Asociacion Venezolana para el Sindrome de Down (AVESID)

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

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023/24 total £	2022/23 total £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	2	118,447	-	118,447	169,520
Charitable activities					
1. Policy and practice, information, advice and support	3	22,985	69,819	92,804	21,522
2. Network development and training	3	-	58,100	58,100	38,098
3. Advocacy and campaigning	3	16,000	37,790	53,790	16,398
Other trading activities	4	99,816	-	99,816	71,273
Total income		257,248	165,709	422,957	316,812
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	139,766	-	139,766	140,347
Charitable activities					
1. Policy and practice, information, advice and support	5	22,666	69,819	92,486	78,811
2. Network development and training	5	21,905	52,577	74,483	85,128
3. Advocacy and campaigning	5	53,060	37,790	90,850	98,473
Total expenditure		237,398	160,187	397,585	402,758
Net income/(expenditure) for the year		19,850	5,523	25,372	(85,946)
Net movement in funds		19,850	5,523	25,372	(85,946)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		25,543	-	25,543	111,489
Total funds carried forward		45,392	5,523	50,915	25,543

All the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 11.

Balance Sheet			
As of 31 March 2024			
	Note	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Fixed assets:			
Tangible assets		-	-
Investments		-	-
Total fixed assets:		-	-
Current assets:			
Stock			
Debtors		29,829	16,836
Accrued Gift Aid		1,048	2,402
Other current debtors		5,291	6,279
Cash at bank and in hand		43,432	60,745
Total current assets:		79,600	86,261
Liabilities:			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		25,258	53,726
Accrued expenses		3,427	6,993
Net current assets (liabilities):		50,915	25,543
Total net assets (liabilities):		50,915	25,543
Funds:	11		
Restricted income funds		5,523	-
Unrestricted income funds		45,392	25,543
Total funds:		50,915	25,543

- The company was entitled to exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.
- The member organisations have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.
- These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

Approved by the trustees on 3 December 2024 and signed on their behalf by*:



Bridget Snedden – President, Board of Trustees

* This is also the signature of a director authenticating accounts being sent to Companies House.

Consolidated statement of cash flows			
For the year ended 31 March 2024			
	Note	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash used in operating activities		(13,525)	(633)
Cash flows from investing activities:		-	
Net cash used in investing activities		-	-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(13,525)	(633)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		60,745	61,377
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		47,220	60,745

**Down Syndrome International
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2024**

1. Accounting policies

a) Statutory information

Down Syndrome International is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in England. The registered office address is Langdon Down Centre, 2a Langdon Park, Teddington, Middlesex TW11 9PS. The principal place of business is 7/9 Chapel Street, Exmouth, Devon, EX8 1HR.

b) Basis of preparation

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

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

c) Public benefit entity

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

d) Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

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

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

e) Income

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

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

Income generated from the supply of goods or services is included in the statement of financial activities in the period in which the supply is made.

Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the statement of financial activities when received.

Revenue grants are credited to the statement of financial activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier.

Where unconditional entitlement to grants receivable is dependent upon fulfilment of conditions within the charity's control, the incoming resources are recognised when there is sufficient evidence that conditions will be met. Where there is uncertainty as to whether the charity can meet such conditions, the incoming resource is deferred.

Member organisation income is included in full in the statement of financial activities when received.

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

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

f) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

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

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

g) Interest receivable

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

h) Fund accounting

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

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

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

i) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

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

Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds relate to the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering services and campaigning undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

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

j) Allocation of support costs

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

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

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

- | | |
|--|-----|
| • Cost of raising funds | 10% |
| • Policy and practice, information, support and advice | 30% |
| • Network development and training | 30% |
| • Advocacy and campaigning | 30% |

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

k) Operating leases

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

l) Tangible fixed assets

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

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

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| • Leasehold improvements | 5 years |
| • Fixtures and fittings | 5 years |
| • Computer equipment | 3 years |

m) Listed investments

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. Any change in fair value will be recognised in the statement of financial activities and any excess of fair value over the historic cost of the investments will be shown as a fair value reserve in the balance sheet. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and shown in the heading "Net gains/(losses) on investments" in the statement of financial activities. The charity does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments. Investments in subsidiaries are at cost.

n) Stocks

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

o) Debtors

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

p) Short term deposits

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

q) Cash at bank and in hand

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

r) Creditors and provisions

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

s) Financial instruments

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

t) Pensions

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

2. Income from donations and legacies				
For the year ended 31 March 2024				
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023/24 total funds £	2022/23 total funds £
Gifts	81,328	-	81,328	122,542
Legacies	-	-	-	-
Donated services	37,119	-	37,119	46,978
Total income from donations and legacies	118,447	-	118,447	169,520

3. Income from charitable activities				
For the year ended 31 March 2024				
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023/24 total funds £	2022/23 total funds £
International Disability Alliance (Listen Include Respect - IDA Bridge Consultation)	0	42,844	42,844	0
Instituto Alana (Listen Include Respect - Translations)	0	1,975	1,975	0
Down's Syndrome Association UK (Programme Team Funding)	0	25,000	25,000	0
National Lottery Community Fund (Supporting DSI Network)	20,000	0	20,000	0
Down Syndrome Australia (World Down Syndrome Congress Consultancy)	2,985	0	2,985	0
SightSavers via Inclusion International (Inclusive Participation Guidelines)	0	0	0	20,000
International Disability Alliance (Programme Team Funding)	0	0	0	3,521
International Disability Alliance (Inclusive Participation Guidelines)	0	0	0	(1,998)
Sub-total for Policy and Practice, Information, Support and Advice	22,985	69,819	92,804	21,523
The Clare Milne Trust (Inclusive Organisations - DSI Staff Member with Down Syndrome)	0	7,100	7,100	0
Down's Syndrome Association UK (Programme Team Funding)	0	25,000	25,000	0
International Disability Alliance (Programme Team Funding)	0	0	0	3,521
Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation via International Disability Alliance (NORAD Project)	0	0	0	11,577
W F Southall Trust (Rwanda Capacity Development)	0	0	0	3,000
Down's Syndrome Association UK (Inclusive Orgs Training)	0	26,000	26,000	20,000
Sub-total for Network Development and Training	0	58,100	58,100	38,098
Down's Syndrome Association UK (Programme Team Funding)	0	25,000	25,000	0
National Down Syndrome Society United States (World Down Syndrome Day Partnership)	16,000	0	16,000	0
International Disability Alliance (World Down Syndrome Day Conference)	0	12,000	12,000	0
International Disability Alliance (Programme Team Funding)	0	0	0	3,521
Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation via International Disability Alliance (NORAD Project)	0	0	0	10,747
Instituto Alano (World Down Syndrome Day Conference)	0	0	0	1,350
Mission Japan to UN (World Down Syndrome Day Conference)	0	790	790	780
Sub-total for Advocacy and Campaigning	16,000	37,790	53,790	16,398
Total income from charitable activities	38,985	165,709	204,694	76,018

4. Income from other trading activities				
For the year ended 31 March 2024				
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023/24 total funds £	2022/23 total funds £
Fundraising events	25,258	-	25,258	-
Trading	74,558	-	74,558	71,273
Total income from other trading activities	99,816	-	99,816	71,273

5. Analysis of expenditure		Charitable activities						
	Cost of Raising Funds £	Policy and Practice, Information, Support, Advice £	Network Development Training £	Advocacy Campaigning £	Governance Costs £	Support Costs £	2023/24 Total £	2022/23 Total £
Staff costs (Note 7)	51,189	44,610	46,187	44,610	24,783	15,869	227,249	225,361
Cost of operating online shop	42,452	-	-	-	-	-	42,452	36,408
Fundraising event and other fundraising costs	1,559	-	-	-	-	-	1,559	848
Advertising, marketing and publicity	37,101	1,463	1,463	1,463	-	-	41,489	52,630
Grant making for projects and activities	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	20,328
Spending on projects and activities	-	23,791	4,211	22,156	-	-	50,158	37,359
Office running costs and equipment	-	-	-	-	-	12,112	12,112	9,212
Consultants and professional fees	-	-	-	-	48	1,486	1,534	573
Rent, insurance and maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	11,616	11,616	10,071
Travel, meetings and conferences	-	227	227	227	1,185	-	1,867	2,881
Management, communications, finance, data and storage operational Systems	-	-	-	-	-	7,548	7,548	7,088
Sub-total	132,301	70,092	52,089	68,456	26,016	48,632	397,585	402,758
Support costs	4,863	14,590	14,590	14,590	-	48,632		
Governance costs	2,602	7,805	7,805	7,805	26,016			
Total expenditure	139,766	92,486	74,483	90,850			397,585	

6. Grant making		
For the year ended 31 March 2024		
	2023/24 total funds £	2022/23 total funds £
Rwanda Down Syndrome Organisation	-	2,455
Down Syndrome Society of Kenya	-	6,730
Down Syndrome Foundation Nigeria	-	6,310
Inclusion Uganda	-	4,833
Total grant making	-	20,328

7. Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration/expenses and cost of key management personnel		
For the year ended 31 March 2024		
	2023/24 total funds £	2022/23 total funds £
Salaries and wages	196,369	197,747
Social security costs	18,191	18,839
Employer's contribution to defined pension schemes	10,694	5,625
Total staff costs	225,254	222,210

1 employee earned more than £60,000 during the year (2022/23: 1). The total employee benefits including pension contributions and employer's national insurance of the key management personnel were £134,991.45 (2022/23: £128,652.33).

The charity trustees were neither paid nor received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2022/23: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2022/23: £nil).

Trustees' expenses represent the payment or reimbursement of travel, accommodation and subsistence costs totalling £1,184.66 (2022/23: £0) incurred by 3 persons (2022/23: 0) relating to participation in project activities and governance meetings.

8. Staff numbers - average numbers of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the year		
For the year ended 31 March 2024		
	2023/24 No.	2022/23 No.
Raising funds	1	1
Charitable activities	3	6
Support	3	3
Governance	1	1
Total staff numbers	8	11

9. Related party transactions

There are no donations from or to related parties which are outside the normal course of business.

Membership fee transactions have taken place during the year with many member organisations of Down Syndrome International. Organisation Membership requires a fee and in exchange basic support and advice is provided, member organisations participate as partners or stakeholders in our activities and we promote our member organisations' work. The maximum annual fee charged for Organisation Membership is £300.

Some DSI member organisations purchase merchandise from our shop related to World Down Syndrome Day for sale or distribution in their own countries. DSI also makes grants to certain member organisations, as set out in note 6 of these notes to the accounts.

The Down's Syndrome Association (DSA) is a member of DSI. DSI uses office space at DSA's headquarters. The Chief Executive of DSA, Carol Boys, is a trustee of Down Syndrome International. DSI's Executive Director, Andrew Boys, is Carol's son. DSA is the payroll agency for DSI.

General donations and restricted grants are given by DSA to DSI to support our work. Donations for certain events and activities organised together are shared equally.

DSA made the following payments to DSi during the year:	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Donations and grants	40,000	42,500
Membership fee	300	300
Income to fund Inclusive Participation Training UK	26,000	20,000
Income to fund Programme Team	75,000	0
Merchandise	15,498	10,962
Total	156,798	73,762

DSi made the following payments to DSA during the year:	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Merchandise	1,090	1,906
Total	1,090	1,906

DSi received £20,960 funds (2022/23: £2,350) from 3 (2022/23: 2) other member organisations in 2023/24 - £2,985 from Down Syndrome Australia, £16,000 from National Down Syndrome Society and £1,975 (2022/23: £1,350) from Instituto Alana.

DSi received grants of £54,844 (2022/23: £30,889) from International Disability Alliance (IDA) in 2023/24 for various projects. DSi is a member of IDA.

10. Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax. All its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

11. Movement in funds (current year)					
For the year ended 31 March 2024					
	At the start of the year £	Incoming resources and gains £	Outgoing resources and funds £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds:					
Listen Include Respect - IDA Bridge Consultation	-	42,844	42,844	-	-
Listen Include Respect - Translations	-	1,975	1,975	-	-
Inclusive Organisations Training	-	26,000	26,000	-	-
Inclusive Organisations - DSI Staff Member with Down Syndrome	-	7,100	1,577	-	5,523
Programme Team Funding	-	75,000	75,000	-	-
World Down Syndrome Day Conference	-	12,790	12,790	-	-
Total restricted funds	-	165,709	160,187	-	5,523
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds:					
Supporting DSI Network	-	20,000	10,000	-	10,000
World Down Syndrome Day Partnership	-	16,000	16,000	-	-
World Down Syndrome Congress Consultancy	-	2,985	2,985	-	-
Total designated funds	-	38,985	28,985	-	10,000
General funds	25,543	218,263	208,413	-	35,393
Total unrestricted funds	25,543	257,248	237,398	-	45,393
Total funds	25,543	422,957	397,585	-	50,915

Purpose of restricted funds

Listen Include Respect - IDA Bridge Consultation

Consultation on how to make the BRIDGE CRPD-SDGs training more accessible for people with intellectual disabilities. BRIDGE CRPD-SDGs is a training programme developed and run by IDA and International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC). It helps advocates with disabilities speak up for their rights. Survey, workshop and report completed.

Listen Include Respect - Translations

Translating the Listen Include Respect guidelines into Portuguese. Self-advocates took part in consultations to make sure that the translations stayed in plain language and were accessible for people with intellectual disabilities.

Inclusive Organisations Training

Working with the Down's Syndrome Association to train self-advocates with Down syndrome in the UK to become consultants on inclusive organisations. Training completed and they will go on to work as consultants for the Down's Syndrome Association, consulting with UK government departments, as well as international disability and development NGOs, training staff to include people with intellectual disabilities in policy making and government consultations.

Inclusive Organisations - DSI Staff Member with Down Syndrome

Recruited a permanent staff member with Down syndrome, Emma Bishop, as Programme Officer. Emma is an advocate for the rights of people with disabilities, who has spoken at the UN Conference of State Parties (COSP) on disability.

Programme Team Funding

Funding for the salaries of our programme team, to enable much of our work on crucial projects and the development and delivery of our strategy.

World Down Syndrome Day Conference

13th World Down Syndrome Day Conference, which took place over two days in New York. Launch of campaign and project on health equity. Event attended by people with Down syndrome, families, organisation and government representatives and many health stakeholders. People with Down syndrome involved in planning and speaking at the event.

Purpose of designated funds

Supporting DSI Network

Developing and signposting to resources and information to help people with Down syndrome and their families get support. Putting people in contact with our member organisations to get the support they need at the local level.

World Down Syndrome Day Partnership

Working with National Down Syndrome Society and the Down's Syndrome Association to bring WDSD to public attention. Running WDSD website and social media pages. Promoting theme "End the Stereotypes". Delivering awareness and advocacy messages. Partnering with CoorDown on their 2024 video "Assume that I can". Running Lots of Socks campaign.

World Down Syndrome Congress Consultancy

Working with Down Syndrome Australia to help plan the next World Down Syndrome Congress, taking place in Brisbane in July 2024. The Congress is an event where people and organisations come together to share experiences and best practices.

12. Legal status of the charity

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