

DOWN SYNDROME INTERNATIONAL (DSi)



REPORT OF TRUSTEES (AND DIRECTORS) AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the period from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025



**Report of Trustees and Financial Statements -
March 2025**

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, Retired Dec 2024)
A Graham	(Appointed Dec 24, Treasurer)
V dos Santos	
P Robertson	(Retired Dec 2024)
C Boys	
J Tang	
A L Arellano	
D Warkcup	(Retired December 2024)
J Charchuk	(Served all year, Appointed Dec 2024)

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 2025.

These statements cover the last 12 months, starting from 1 April 2024.

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 2025, we had to get an independent examination of our financial statements.

Objectives and activities

Charity objects

DSi has charitable “objects” set out 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 inform 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), outlining how we will deliver our purpose to 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 serve the purpose for which 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 significant 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 stay focused on our purpose and our goals.



Achievements and performance

Our approaches

All our work this year was guided by our 10-year strategy. This strategy is based on 5 key "approaches", which are the ways we make change happen.

Our 5 approaches are:

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

We group our activities under three main pillars:

1. Knowledge, policy and practice

- We play a leading role globally in developing 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 advise and help our member organisations and others when they need it.

2. Network development

- 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. Global advocacy

- 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 summarises our project activities from April 2024 to March 2025 and shows how we have used our 5 approaches.

1. Knowledge, policy and practice

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 are published on the website listenincluderespect.com in English, Spanish and Arabic.

This year, we published an Arabic version of the guidelines. We also made significant progress on the Chinese, Indonesian, and Portuguese versions.

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

The consultation and technical work will continue next year so we can publish more alternative language versions of the guidelines.



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).

*Relevant approaches: *Developing and sharing evidence of inclusion
*Empowering people with Down syndrome and their families *Building and leading partnerships with important people, groups and organisations*

World Down Syndrome Congress (WDSC)

This was an important year for our global congress. We worked closely with our member organisation, Down Syndrome Australia, to deliver the **World Down Syndrome Congress in Brisbane, in July 2024**. The event was a big success, bringing together over 1,000 delegates. This event is a rare and vital in-person opportunity, bringing our network together to gain knowledge, experience and mutual understanding, establish important connections and support each other's work.



“Coming out of Congress, I felt inspired. I listened to all the people speaking and watched the videos because, like everyone, I want to be included. I want to feel like I am achieving something – like I matter.”

Kez Glenane, Down Syndrome Victoria Advisory Network Member

We also looked to the future and ran the process to select the host for the next congress. We were delighted to announce that our member in Argentina, Asociacion Sindrome de Down de la Republica Argentina (ASDRA), [will host the World Down Syndrome Congress in 2027](#).

*Relevant approaches: *Developing and sharing evidence of inclusion
*Empowering people with Down syndrome and their families *Supporting
Down syndrome organisations to become stronger and more inclusive*

Global health equity consultation

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

A significant focus for us this year was developing and sharing new evidence on health equity. We organised a major global consultation to learn about health equity for people with intellectual disabilities, working in partnership with Humanity & Inclusion. We gathered data through surveys and focus groups from over 750 individuals and 118 organisations.

We are now working with London School of Economics to analyse the data, and [we will publish a global report on health equity in July 2025](#).

We will present preliminary findings to a small group of government, UN and other influential stakeholders at the Global Disability Summit in Berlin, Germany in April 2025.



The World Health Organization global report on health equity for people with disabilities was published in December 2022. That report explains the causes of bad health outcomes and what can be done to improve them.

Our new report is a natural follow up to the WHO report, with more of a focus specifically on people with intellectual disabilities.

The report findings will help the DSi network to advocate for policy change in their countries.

Listen Include Respect Services

This year, working in partnership with Inclusion International, **we delivered several paid consultations**. We supported organisations to prepare and publish resources, ensuring that the resources are accessible for people with intellectual disabilities.

We call these consultations “Listen Include Respect Services” and they use the methods from our global guidelines. The consultations include paid

self-advocate reference groups, providing advice to international organisations, to help them be more inclusive.

This year, we worked with:

- Global Disability Fund (previously UNPRPD) – to help write a guide on meaningful participation of marginalised people with disabilities [link to guide here](#)
- UNICEF (in their role coordinating [Disability Reference Group](#)) – to review a new resource they created about gender-based violence.
- International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC) – to review their website and make it more accessible.



*Relevant approaches: *Developing and sharing evidence of inclusion
*Empowering people with Down syndrome and their families *Building and leading partnerships with important people, groups and organisations*

Advising on global initiatives and membership of IDA

Because we built strong partnerships, delivered successful projects and developed our excellent reputation, we were given opportunities to consult on other important global work this year.

DSi was part of the consultation group for the new [Global Disability Inclusion Report](#), which was published as a key output of the [2025 Global Disability Summit \(GDS\)](#). The preparation of this report was coordinated by UNICEF and International Disability Alliance (IDA).

We were part of an expert stakeholder group with World Health Organization on their new "[Health Equity for Persons with Disabilities: Guide for Action](#)".

We continued our work [as a full member of 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, as members, DSi ensures that people with Down syndrome and their families are heard and advocate for inclusive projects and programmes.



Relevant approaches: *Developing and sharing evidence of inclusion
*Building and leading partnerships with important people, groups and organisations
*Coordinating advocacy for the human rights of persons with Down syndrome

Providing resources and information on Down syndrome

One important job of DSi is to ensure people with Down syndrome and their families have the information they need to remove the barriers to being full and active participants in society.

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.

This year, we published our "[Self-Advocacy Group Guide](#)", a key resource for supporting our member organisations to set up and run self-advocacy groups. We also published our "[About Down syndrome](#)" pack in Spanish.



*Relevant approaches: *Developing and sharing evidence of inclusion
Supporting Down syndrome organisations to become stronger and more inclusive

2. Network development

Listen Include Respect training with members

In the United Kingdom, we continued our project supporting people with Down syndrome to work as Listen Include Respect consultants for the Down's Syndrome Association.

Having completed their training, the consultants helped to develop a new tool for organisations to measure how inclusive they are. The team also presented their work at the World Down Syndrome Congress in Brisbane.

In early 2025, they facilitated training for a UK Integrated Care Board, which was well received. Participants commented how the practical approaches to inclusion will help them change the way they work.

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

INCLUSIVE PARTICIPATION

WHAT IS INCLUSIVE PARTICIPATION?

Inclusive participation is about everyone being able to take part in the work and activities of an organisation and is something that is at the heart of what the DSA seeks to do. It means everyone's voice is listened to and that decisions are made with people rather than for them.

We include people who have Down's syndrome in all aspects of our work and they tell us what is important to them.

DSA staff working in our Information and Training Team think carefully about how we can best include people who have Down's syndrome of all abilities, even those people who might find expressing their ideas and opinions more difficult. We think creatively about how our activities that involve people who have Down's syndrome can be as accessible as possible.

The Down's Syndrome Association is here to amplify the voices of people who have Down's syndrome by working together.



Down's Syndrome Association
A Registered Charity No. 1047814

DOWN'S SYNDROME ASSOCIATION

"Be my microphone not my voice"
Dave Hingsburger

In early 2025, we also created a new 'Train the Trainer' course on Listen Include Respect, with Inclusion International. We then delivered the first

ever course of its kind in Toronto, Canada, hosted by Community Living Toronto, with organisations from across Canada attending.

We want to see all members of DSi and Inclusion International use the methods of Listen Include Respect in their own organisations and to encourage others they work with, to do the same. This might be other disability organisations, public bodies, governments or companies.

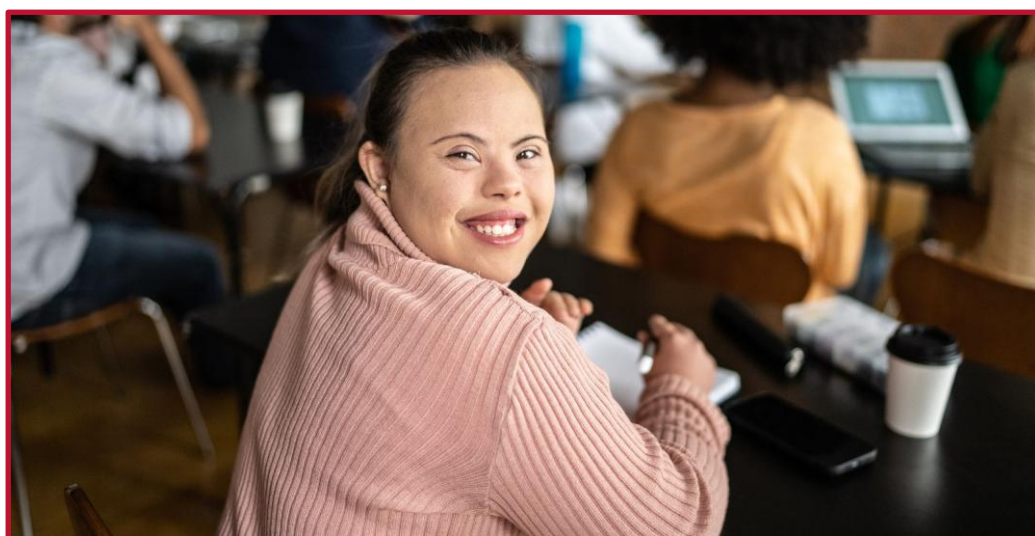
*Relevant approaches: *Developing and sharing evidence of inclusion
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New DSi network groups

To help our members connect and work together, we formed two new network groups this year:

- DSi Self-Advocacy Network Group
- DSi Health Equity Network Group

This work is central to our approach of supporting our member organisations to become stronger and more connected.



Both groups are co-chaired by members and provide a space to share experiences, support each other, and work together on new projects.

The Self-Advocacy Network Group includes a person with Down syndrome and another organisation representative from each member. They will focus on developing shared tools and resources to support others to establish and run self-advocacy groups.

The Health Equity Network Group includes a representative from member organisations across the world. They will focus on understanding health equity in different countries and what our members are doing to deliver better outcomes.

*Relevant approaches: *Developing and sharing evidence of inclusion
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Coordinating advocacy for the human rights of persons with Down syndrome

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 significant 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 – DSi staff and board

In September 2023, we recruited a permanent staff member with Down syndrome, Emma Bishop, as Inclusion and Advocacy 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 provides valuable insights for our work and will speak at the Global Disability Summit in Berlin in April 2025.

The Clare Milne Trust funds Emma's salary.

In December 2023, Janet Charchuk, joined the DSi board of trustees. She is the first person with Down syndrome to join the board.

This year, Janet has worked with the board, supporting all aspects of DSi's new strategy and helping us make key decisions.

Janet was chosen to be a co-chair of the Civil Society Forum at the Global Disability Summit in Berlin, in April 2025.



More broadly, the DSi staff 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 every stage, 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.

Our Ambassadors have been instrumental in shaping our initiatives and advocating for change at international events, including speaking on our behalf at the United Nations.

The Ambassador Committee shows that an organisation is strongest when its leaders are the very people it is helping.



This year, we have made some changes to the committee. We are transitioning to a new, more formal structure that will allow for both consistent leadership and fresh perspectives.

In the future, our Ambassadors will serve for 3 year terms. This new system will be staggered, so there will always be a mix of experienced and

new Ambassadors on the committee. This ensures a dynamic group while also creating new opportunities for people to join and contribute.

We are also introducing a mentorship system. As ambassadors finish their terms, they will guide new members through their first year, passing on their knowledge and experience.

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Delivering 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.

Since its publication, all of our work has been guided by its principles and approaches, as we strive to achieve our goal.

Working in solidarity and coordination with our global network is the only way we can hope to deliver our goal. We remain fully committed to developing our global network.

A breakdown of the key parts of our strategy can be found on pages 4-5 of this report.

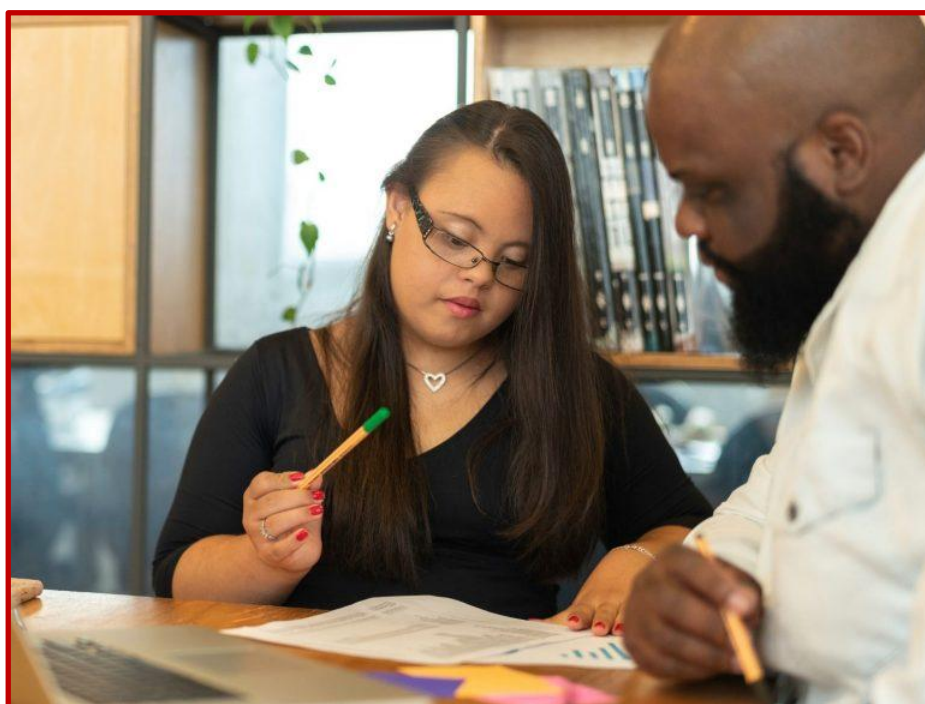
3. Global advocacy

Listen Include Respect advocacy

We continued our advocacy, for organisations to adopt the Listen Include Respect (LIR) guidelines, to include people with intellectual disabilities in their work. Self-advocates promoted the guidelines when speaking at various global events, including [Conference of State Parties \(COSP\)](#) in New York in June 2024. We have an LIR exhibition stand and key meetings planned for [Global Disability Summit](#) in Berlin, in April 2025.

When we do our “Listen Include Respect Services” work (see page 12), we make sure we talk to our project partners about what they can do, beyond the service they have asked us for help with.

Both DSi and Inclusion International are committed to applying LIR principles in all our projects. We know our members are too. Our networks also speak to partners we work with on every project, about the importance of ensuring people with intellectual disabilities are included.



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Down syndrome

Conference of State Parties (COSP) in New York

We attended the Conference of State Parties (COSP) in June 2024. 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.

Our Programme Director, Nathan Rowe, presented a statement to the Civil Society Forum on the impact of conflict on people with Down syndrome and their families.

Michael Cox, a self-advocate with Down Syndrome Australia, spoke about the rights of persons with disabilities to decent work and sustainable livelihoods.



We also gave a presentation to UN Missions about care and support.

COSP is an excellent opportunity for our network to advocate together and connect with influential decision makers.

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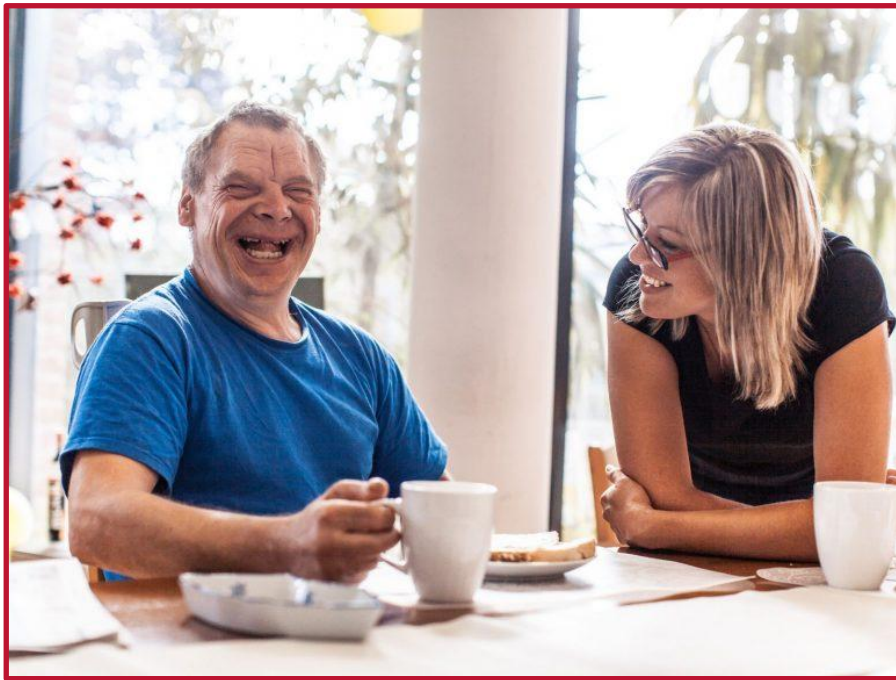
World Down Syndrome Day 2025

- **WDSD and 2025 theme**

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

We run the WDSD website and the WDSD social media pages. We also promote a theme annually. In 2025, this was “[Improve Our Support Systems](#)”. The theme was decided following consultations with our members and ambassadors. We worked with the international community to deliver awareness and advocacy messages.

This year we wanted the world to know that, just like everyone, people with Down syndrome need support to live and be included in the community. Families also need support, as they are often supporting their family member with Down syndrome. We have the right to support that meets our needs and gives us choice, control and dignity. Governments must ensure there is a support system, so people with disabilities are included in the community.



We also partnered with CoorDown on their 2025 video “No Decision Without Us”.

We ran the Lots of Socks campaign too. We asked people worldwide to wear interesting socks on 21st March, to get people talking about WDSD.

We partnered with National Down Syndrome Society (United States) and Down’s Syndrome Association (UK) again this year to assist this global effort.

- **Our WDSD conferences**

The [14th World Down Syndrome Day Conference](#) took place at the United Nations in New York, on Friday 21st March 2025.

This year, we focused on our theme “Improve Our Support Systems”. Self-advocates and other experts spoke up about support systems and what needs improvement.

We called on leaders to make changes so people with Down syndrome and other disabilities are included in the community.

The event was attended by people with Down syndrome, families, organisation and government representatives, and many stakeholders working in the area of care and support.

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



As well as New York, in 2025, [we were able to return to United Nations in Geneva](#), to mark World Down Syndrome Day.

On 20 March, advocates joined a day of general discussion on the rights of persons with disabilities to participate in political and public life. The event was organised by the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), on behalf of the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

On 21 March, attendees enjoyed a tour of the Palais des Nations followed by a special celebration organised by the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG), in collaboration with DSi, European Down Syndrome Association (EDSA) and Association Romande Trisomie 21 (ART 21).

Advocates later joined the afternoon session of the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and took part in conversations about ways to improve support systems for individuals with Down syndrome and their families.



This project is funded by the International Disability Alliance.

Relevant approaches: *Developing and sharing evidence of inclusion
*Empowering people with Down syndrome and their families *Building and leading partnerships with important people, groups and organisations
*Coordinating advocacy for the human rights of persons with Down syndrome

Global Disability Summit

During this year, we prepared for the upcoming Global Disability Summit (GDS), taking place in Berlin, Germany from 1st-3rd April 2025.

The GDS is an event attended by thousands of advocates and decision-makers, that asks countries to do more to include people with disabilities.

Before the GDS, WHO, IDA, Global Disability Fund and International Disability and Development Consortium co-hosted an event on Health equity for persons with disabilities.

This event aimed to plan clear actions to make health systems more inclusive and promote health equity for people with disabilities.

Pearl, our Ambassador for Switzerland, spoke at the meeting about her experience of the healthcare system and the work we are doing to achieve health equity for people with Down syndrome and intellectual disabilities.



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Joining global alliances

To help us advocate for the rights of people with Down syndrome, we joined three new important groups this year:

Global Alliance for Care

This is a community that works together to advocate for care as a right. We worked with them and UN OHCHR to push for care and support systems that enable people with Down syndrome to be included in the community.

Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH)

This is the world's largest global alliance for the health and well-being of women, children, and adolescents. It is hosted by the World Health Organization.

Disability Reference Group (DRG)

The DRG brings together OPDs, NGOs, UN entities, academia, donors and others to strengthen inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action, and ensure no one is left behind in situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies.



*Relevant approaches: *Developing and sharing evidence of inclusion
Building and leading partnerships with important people, groups and organisations

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 must be allocated to specific projects. We agree detailed budgets with the organisations who provide this money.
- **Unrestricted income** – this is money we receive that we can spend 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 24 to March 25

This year restricted income went down.

Last year we received significant funding from International Disability Alliance (IDA) for the Listen Include Respect - IDA Bridge Consultation. That project has now finished. This year we continued to receive funding from IDA for the World Down Syndrome Day Conference and Global Advocacy project, but the total amount from IDA was lower than the previous year. We also received continued funding from the Down's Syndrome Association (DSA) for Inclusive Organisations Training and Programme Team Funding.

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. We used some funds that we had designated in the previous year to support the DSi network. We also designated new unrestricted income to projects such as the World Down Syndrome Day Partnership and World Down Syndrome Congress Consultancy.

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.

Unrestricted income - April 24 to March 25

This year unrestricted income went up.

As mentioned in the previous section, currently we need to use some of our unrestricted funds to pay for our projects. We label this as designated funds, and it is in addition to the income listed below.

Income from general donations (gifts) went up. Of this, income from trusts and foundations went up significantly. This was primarily due to a new 4-year legacy grant from Joffe Charitable Trust (£50,000 per year for 4 years, 2025-2028). Income from membership fees also went up. Donations from individual people and companies went down.

We generate income from trading (merchandise sales). This year, sales increased slightly due to an improved marketing strategy.

We also receive gifts in kind (donated services). This is where people or organisations provide us with free things, but because those things have a value, we include them as income (and also as expenditure). This year gifts in kind went down to £13,796 (2023-24: £37,119). This is because we received a smaller in-kind grant for Google Ads.

We did not receive any income from fundraising events this year (2023-24: £25,258).

We also received unrestricted income of £17,308 from Listen Include Respect consultancy services, we provided to various government, multilateral and international development donors.

Financial review

Income

In the 12 months starting from 1 April 2024 (2024-25), DSi's total income was £389,077. This was less than in the 12 months from 1 April 2023 (2023-24), when it was £422,957.

Restricted income went down in 2024-25 following completion of the Listen Include Respect - IDA Bridge Consultation.

We received money again from IDA for our World Down Syndrome Day Conference in New York and, in addition this year, for our global advocacy work, including Global Disability Summit.

We received money from 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 increased slightly. Although individual donations and gifts in kind were lower and we did not hold a fundraising event like last year, this was offset by the new grant from the Joffe Charitable Trust, income from Listen Include Respect Services and increased merchandise sales.

We also received money from member organisation National Down Syndrome Society (United States) to support our WDSD partnership.

Expenditure (costs)

In the 12 months starting from 1 April 2024 (2024-25), DSi's total costs were £372,241. This was less than in the 12 months from 1 April 2023 (2023-24), when it was £397,585.

Staff costs increased in line with inflation and to bring staff salaries up to market levels. Travel costs increased as the DSi board met in person for the first time since 2019.

Direct spending on project activities reduced. This was partly because we completed project work in 2023-24. But also, because most of our project work is delivered by our staff team, and the cost of doing the projects is included in the "Staff costs" rather than "Project activities".

Advertising, marketing and publicity costs reduced, because we received a smaller in-kind grant for Google Ads, and therefore had less to spend.

Otherwise, we saw similar levels of spending on other things, and we made some cost savings.

We have a stable base in terms of staff numbers and projects that we will do with our current staff. This has helped us keep costs consistent.

Overall

When we subtract our costs from our income, we arrive at 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 2024 (2024-25), we had a surplus of £16,836. This compares to the 12 months from 1 April 2023 (2023-24), when we had a surplus of £25,372.

We also have some money saved (total funds) that we carry over from previous years. We carried over £50,915 from 2023-24.

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 2025 of £67,751.

Some of our funds (£6,654) are restricted. If we subtract this from total funds, this leaves us with total unrestricted funds of £61,097.

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 need to develop strong financial and fundraising strategies to 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 2024-25 costs (£372,241), 3 months reserves would be £93,060 and 6 months would be £186,121.

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 2024-25 are £61,097. This means we have approximately 2 months of costs in reserve. While this is still below the minimum of 3 months required by our policy, our reserves position is improving.

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 £13,796. 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.

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.

During 2024/25 we repaid DSA for our 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 next year

Activities we have planned for next year starting 1 April 2025 include:

Knowledge, policy and practice

- We will complete and publish Chinese, Indonesian and Portuguese translations of the Listen Include Respect Guidelines.
- We will work with ASDRA, our member in Argentina, on the initial stages of planning for the 2027 World Down Syndrome Congress. We will also ask our members to submit bids for the 2030 WDSC.
- We will launch our major global report on health equity, in English, and then in other languages. We will continue to work closely with our partner Humanity & Inclusion on next steps and will connect with high level stakeholders about our report, including the Global Action on Disability Network (GLAD) network, a group of global disability movement donors and key stakeholders.
- We will review the long-term strategy for the Listen Include Respect Services work we do, with our partner Inclusion International.
- We will continue our work as a member of the International Disability Alliance (IDA), making sure the voices of people with Down syndrome and their families are represented internationally.
- We will review the issue of work and employment for people with Down syndrome, to understand the barriers people face when trying to get a job.

Network development

- We will support the UK Listen Include Respect team to provide consultancy services in the final year of this project.
- Our new Self-Advocacy Network Group, co-chaired by our members in New Zealand and South Africa, will carry out a "mapping exercise" to find self-advocacy groups across our global network.
- Our new Health Equity Network Group will continue to meet online, co-chaired by our members from Georgia and United States. They will focus on some specific health areas. They will also create an online library of resources.
- We will welcome 8 new self-advocates to our DSi Ambassadors Committee, representing our member organisations. We will provide them with induction training to help them represent our global network, with outgoing Ambassadors providing mentor support.
- Our staff team will go to China to deliver training on self-advocacy, with our member organisation Up for Downs China.
- We will select five member organisations from Africa to take part in a pilot training on health equity advocacy, based on a training curriculum we will develop using our global report on health equity. This is a new project funded by Government of Finland.

Global Advocacy

- Self-advocates will continue to advocate for inclusive organisations when speaking at events, by promoting the use of the Listen Include Respect guidelines. We will be at the 2025 Global Disability Summit.

- We will organise activities for World Down Syndrome Day 2026. 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.
- Staff, board members and member organisations will be at the 2025 Global Disability Summit, working on various projects and activities and networking to develop partnerships. DSi board member Janet Charchuk will co-chair the event's Civil Society Forum.
- We will be starting a new project supporting IDA and WHO, running webinars and producing advocacy materials to help people understand health equity.
- As part of the foundation committee, we will attend the inaugural meeting of the WHO Disability Health Equity Initiative in Geneva. We will co-chair one its four workstreams, which aims to build leadership on health equity among persons with disabilities.

Raising funds

- We will try to find more funds for our projects from different types of organisations that make project grants. So that we do not have to use money we want to keep in reserves.
- We will try to increase the 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 sure 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 registered as a company on 23 November 2001, and as a charity on 1 May 2002.

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

This document provides 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 minimal 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 (known as 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.

A list of our representative and affiliate members can be found on our website here ds-int.org/network-member-organisations.

Appointment of trustees

The board of trustees manages the business of the charity.

We currently have 8 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 basis. 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 election at the AGM.

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 cause a trustee to act in a way that is not in DSI's best interests.

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 resources, and we have a funding agreement.

We receive membership organisation fees, and we work on projects with many member organisations throughout the world. A list of our member organisations can be found on our website here ds-int.org/network-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 usually 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 evaluate the executive director's performance and determine the executive director's annual salary.

They assess the executive director's performance against established targets. Additionally, they consider the compensation necessary to retain the most qualified candidate for the position.

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 ensure we have complied with 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 safeguard DSi's financial assets. So, they must try to prevent financial crimes such as 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 2025 was 8 (2024: 10).

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 9 December 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Bridget Snedden ONZM
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 2025

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 **31/03/2025**.

**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 The 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:

21/11/25

Name:

Mr Luke Burns

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)

Address:

1 Century Drive

Reading

RG7 1PE

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

Consolidated statement of financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account)					
For the year ended 31 March 2025					
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024/25 total funds £	2023/24 total funds £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	2	135,721	-	135,721	118,447
Charitable activities					
1. Knowledge, Policy and Practice	3	24,033	25,000	49,033	92,804
2. Network Development	3	-	59,500	59,500	58,100
3. Global Advocacy	3	22,127	44,981	67,108	53,790
Other trading activities	4	77,715	-	77,715	99,816
Total income		259,596	129,481	389,077	422,957
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	103,872	-	103,872	139,766
Charitable activities					
1. Knowledge, Policy and Practice	5	65,143	27,943	93,086	92,486
2. Network Development	5	21,051	59,500	80,551	74,483
3. Global Advocacy	5	53,824	40,908	94,732	90,850
Total expenditure		243,891	128,350	372,241	397,585
Net income/(expenditure) for the year		15,705	1,131	16,836	25,372
Net movement in funds		15,705	1,131	16,836	25,372
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		45,392	5,523	50,915	25,543
Total funds carried forward		61,097	6,654	67,751	50,915
All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 11 to the financial statements.					

Balance sheet			
As at 31 March 2025			
	Note	2024/25 £	2023/24 £
Fixed assets:			
Tangible assets		-	-
Investments		-	-
Total fixed assets:		-	-
Current assets:			
Stock			
Debtors		34,506	29,829
Accrued Gift Aid		1,041	1,048
Other current debtors		-	5,291
Prepaid items		12,971	
Cash at bank and in hand		64,613	43,432
Total current assets:		113,130	79,600
Liabilities:			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		47,076	25,258
Accrued expenses		(1,697)	3,427
Net current assets (liabilities):		45,379	50,915
Total net assets (liabilities):		67,751	50,915
Funds:	11		
Restricted income funds		6,654	5,523
Unrestricted income funds		61,097	45,392
Total funds:		67,751	50,915

- 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 9 December 2025 and signed on their behalf by*:



Bridget Snedden ONZM – 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 2025			
	Note	2024/25 £	2023/24 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash used in operating activities		30,364	(13,525)
Cash flows from investing activities:		-	-
Net cash used in investing activities		-	-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		30,364	(13,525)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		47,220	60,745
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		77,584	47,220

**Down Syndrome International
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2025**

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 - 2nd edition effective 1 January 2019) - (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% |
| • Knowledge, Policy and Practice | 30% |
| • Network Development | 30% |
| • Global Advocacy | 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 2025				
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024/25 total funds £	2023/24 total funds £
Gifts	121,925	-	121,925	81,328
Legacies	-	-	-	-
Donated services	13,796	-	13,796	37,119
Total income from donations and legacies	135,721	-	135,721	118,447

3. Income from charitable activities				
For the year ended 31 March 2025				
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024/25 total funds £	2023/24 total funds £
International Disability Alliance (Listen Include Respect - IDA Bridge Consultation)	-	-	-	42,844
Government, Multilateral and Development Donors* (Listen Include Respect - Services)	17,308	-	17,308	1,975
Down's Syndrome Association UK (Programme Team Funding)	-	25,000	25,000	25,000
National Lottery Community Fund (Supporting DSi Network)	-	-	-	20,000
Down Syndrome Australia (World Down Syndrome Congress Consultancy)	6,725	-	6,725	2,985
Sub-total for Knowledge, Policy and Practice	24,033	25,000	49,033	92,804
The Clare Milne Trust (Inclusive Organisations - DSi Staff Member with Down Syndrome)	-	-	-	7,100
Down's Syndrome Association UK (Programme Team Funding)	-	25,000	25,000	25,000
Down's Syndrome Association UK (Inclusive Organisations Training)	-	34,500	34,500	26,000
Sub-total for Network Development	-	59,500	59,500	58,100
Down's Syndrome Association UK (Programme Team Funding)	-	25,000	25,000	25,000
National Down Syndrome Society United States (World Down Syndrome Day Partnership)	20,000	-	20,000	16,000
International Disability Alliance (World Down Syndrome Day Conference)	-	-	-	12,000
International Disability Alliance (World Down Syndrome Day Conference + Global Advocacy)	-	19,981	19,981	-
Instituto Alano (World Down Syndrome Day Conference)	1,400	-	1,400	-
Permanent Mission of Japan to UN (World Down Syndrome Day Conference)	727	-	727	790
Sub-total for Global Advocacy	22,127	44,981	67,108	53,790
Total income from charitable activities	46,160	129,481	175,641	204,694

*UN DESA, Government of Jordan, UNICEF, Global Disability Fund, Community Living Toronto, IDDC, BMZ

4. Income from other trading activities				
For the year ended 31 March 2025				
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024/25 total funds £	2023/24 total funds £
Fundraising events	-	-	-	25,258
Trading	77,715	-	77,715	74,558
Total income from other trading activities	77,715	-	77,715	99,816

5. Analysis of expenditure		Charitable activities						
For the year ended 31 March 2025								
	Cost of Raising Funds £	Knowledge, Policy and Practice £	Network Development £	Global Advocacy £	Governance Costs £	Support Costs £	2024/25 Total £	2023/24 Total £
Staff costs (Note 7)	53,722	49,081	49,081	49,081	24,827	14,551	240,342	227,249
Fundraising Costs	42,491	-	-	-	-	-	42,491	44,011
Advertising, marketing and publicity	-	4,533	4,533	4,533	-	-	13,600	41,489
Spending on projects and activities	-	16,350	3,816	17,996	-	-	38,161	50,158
Office running costs and equipment	-	-	-	-	-	11,309	11,309	12,112
Consultants and professional fees	-	-	-	-	119	550	669	1,534
Rent, insurance and maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	12,595	12,595	11,616
Travel, meetings and conferences	-	142	142	142	6,643	-	7,070	1,867
Management, communications, finance, data and storage operational Systems	-	-	-	-	-	6,004	6,004	7,548
Sub-total	96,212	70,106	57,572	71,753	31,589	45,008	372,241	397,585
Support costs	4,501	13,503	13,503	13,503		45,008		
Governance costs	3,159	9,477	9,477	9,477	31,589			
Total expenditure	103,872	93,086	80,551	94,732			372,241	

6. Grant making		
For the year ended 31 March 2025		
	2024/25 total funds £	2023/24 total funds £
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
Total grant making	-	-

7. Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration/expenses and cost of key management personnel		
For the year ended 31 March 2025		
	2024/25 total funds £	2023/24 total funds £
Salaries and wages	206,911	196,369
Social security costs	19,594	18,191
Employer's contribution to defined pension schemes	11,867	10,694
Total staff costs	238,372	225,254

1 employee earned more than £60,000 during the year (2023/24: 1). The total employee benefits including pension contributions and employer's national insurance of the key management personnel were £140,339.36 (2023/24: £134,991.45).

The charity trustees were neither paid nor received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2023/24: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2023/24: £nil).

Trustees' expenses represent the payment or reimbursement of travel, accommodation and subsistence costs totalling £8,056 (2023/24: £1,185) incurred by 7 persons (2023/24: 3) 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 2025		
	2024/25 No.	2023/24 No.
Raising funds	1	1
Charitable activities	3	3
Support	3	3
Governance	1	1
Total staff numbers	8	8

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:		
For the year ended 31 March 2025		
	2024/25 total funds £	2023/24 total funds £
Donations and grants	30,000	40,000
Membership fee	300	300
Income to fund Inclusive Participation Training UK	34,500	26,000
Income to fund Programme Team	75,000	75,000
Merchandise	14,550	15,498
Total	154,350	156,798

DSi made the following payments to DSA during the year:		
For the year ended 31 March 2025		
	2024/25 total funds £	2023/24 total funds £
Merchandise	-	1,090
Total	-	1,090

DSi received £28,125 funds (2023/24: £20,960) from 3 (2023/24: 3) other member organisations in 2024/25 - £6,725 (2023/24: £2,985) from Down Syndrome Australia, £20,000 (2023/24: £16,000) from National Down Syndrome Society and £1,400 (2023/24: £1,975) from Instituto Alana.

DSi received grants of £19,981 (2023/24: £54,844) from International Disability Alliance (IDA) in 2024/25 for the World Down Syndrome Day Conference and Global Advocacy project. 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 2025					
	At the start of the year £	Incoming resources and gains £	Outgoing resources and funds £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds:					
Programme Team Funding	-	75,000	75,000	-	-
Inclusive Organisations Training	-	34,500	34,500	-	-
Inclusive Organisations - DSi Staff Member with Down Syndrome	5,523	-	2,943	-	2,580
World Down Syndrome Day Conference and Global Advocacy	-	19,981	15,908		4,074
Total restricted funds	5,523	129,481	128,350	-	6,654
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds:					
Supporting DSi Network	10,000	-	10,000	-	-
World Down Syndrome Day Partnership	-	20,000	20,000	-	-
World Down Syndrome Congress Consultancy	-	6,725	6,725	-	-
Total designated funds	10,000	26,725	36,725	-	-
General funds	35,392	232,871	207,166	-	61,097
Total unrestricted funds	45,392	259,596	243,891	-	61,097
Total funds	50,915	389,077	372,241	-	67,751

Purpose of restricted funds

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.

Inclusive Organisations Training

Working with the Down's Syndrome Association (DSA) to train self-advocates with Down syndrome in the UK to become consultants on inclusive organisations.

Inclusive Organisations - DSi Staff Member with Down Syndrome

Funding to support the employment of a permanent staff member with Down syndrome, Emma Bishop, as Inclusion and Advocacy Officer. Emma is an advocate for the rights of people with disabilities.

World Down Syndrome Day Conference and Global Advocacy

Funding from International Disability Alliance (IDA) to support the WDSD Conference in New York and our global advocacy work.

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 and running the Lots of Socks campaign.

World Down Syndrome Congress Consultancy

Working with Down Syndrome Australia to help plan and deliver the World Down Syndrome Congress, which took place in Brisbane in July 2024.

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.