

Registered number
04233275
Registered Charity number
1092587

Learning Disability England

Report and Accounts

31 March 2021



POLKADOT & ELLIS
ACCOUNTANTS

incorporating P&W Social Accountants

Learning Disability England

The report of the trustees for the year ended 31st March 2021.

Introduction

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2015.

Learning Disability England's History

Learning Disability England (LDE) is a registered charity (No. 1092587) and a company limited by guarantee (No. 4233275). It has been working in its present form since June 2016.

LDE was formed through the coming together of the Housing and Support Alliance and People First England. Until June 2016, the charity currently known as Learning Disability England operated as The Housing and Support Alliance (H&SA). LDE retains the membership of H&SA. In addition, Learning Disability England now has expanded membership for individuals, user led or self-advocacy or family organisations.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011, and have referred to and taken due regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and consider the charity's activities are for the public benefit.

Learning Disability England's (LDE's) aims and objectives are outlined in our Memorandum and Articles of Association. All our activities aim to further these aims and objectives. These are: the relief of people who are disabled, handicapped (whether physically or mentally) or chronically sick people, their families and carers in particular through the provision of advice, counselling, workshops, training, and advocacy in respect of their housing care or support needs.

Objectives, aims and significant activities

Learning Disability England's aims are to make sure:

1. What is important to people with Learning Disabilities is heard and understood.
2. There is a change in behaviour in service design and delivery that builds on rights.
3. Show how Coproduction and real collaborative working make a difference.
4. We live our values and model the change we want.

Like everyone else Learning Disability England's staff, volunteers and members rapidly changed priorities and working methods in March 2020.

At the start of the pandemic the organisation worked with our members and partners to understand the community's priority needs.

We did this through on line meetings, a special survey of members and contact with member reps of all kinds.

Our members have told us their most urgent needs and priorities they believe we were uniquely placed to offer were:

- Getting reliable, accurate information about government policy and guidance
- Supporting them to understand how to use technology to help them connect with others, access information and share solutions
- Sharing ideas and resources on approaches to their work under the Covid 19 restrictions, for example a workshop on least restrictive, rights-based support for people who want to continue their daily routine despite social distancing and stay at home instructions
- Linking with others who are working on the same things to share resources and minimise duplication or for peer support,
- Getting their voice heard by LDE gathering intelligence on people's experiences and challenges and feeding those into guidance and policy development
- Making sure they, their loved ones or the people they support continue to get good, reliable support
- Informing or directly contributing to coronavirus policy and guidance for people with learning disabilities based on evidence from people's experience or the academic networks linked to LDE
- Keeping going as a small organisation - particularly important for small user-led organisations which have diversified income streams and relied heavily on face to face delivery for their sustainability

We integrated those priorities into the 5 key ways of working we have expanding or flexing them as Coronavirus developed:

1. Informing and supporting our members.
2. Represent their priorities to inform policy and change attitudes.
3. Supporting good practice and finding solutions together.
4. Campaigning and influencing on what matters to people with learning disabilities.
5. Learning and supporting partners through projects and research

Learning Disability England aspires to be an inclusive solution focused organisation that brings together members as a movement for change. The benefits of membership including the opportunities to work with others across England or with different experiences.

Members who wish to be active in campaigning or influencing are often able to gain a place at policy tables through us; and our spokespeople give members a voice in the media and beyond.

Our Achievements and key work 2020-2021

The Trustees are working with the members' Representative Body on accessible information on the difference we have made and feedback from members and partners.

It will be available on the charity's website www.learningdisabilityengland.org.uk.

This year the difference we could make working with people with learning disabilities and their families was significantly helped by some specific grant funding. The flexibility of Esmée Fairburn Foundation and their specific Covid support grant alongside that from Department for Health and Social Care, CAF and DCMS enabled the organisation to extend our work considerably. We are very grateful for that.

Learning Disability England's achievements include:

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Learning Disability England's achievements include:

1. Informing and supporting our members

All members get a weekly online newsletter with information on new ways of working, policies and legal changes, blogs and opinion pieces, and resources shared by members and the wider community.

We sent 42 regular weekly newsletters plus four special focused ones.

More than 2,000 people every week get that newsletter.

Covid response grants allowed us to make the member's newsletter available to anyone who wanted it.

Covid response grants also allowed us to develop and maintain an inclusive Coronavirus information hub.

The hub included information from members and partners as well as easy read and accessible information on

- Coronavirus restrictions and guidance
- Keeping-in-touch resources and open events
- Tools to support wellbeing, staying healthy and digital inclusion

By November 2020, visits to the Learning Disability England website had grown by 142% compared to the previous 6-month period.

73% of the 92,806-page views were from new visitors.

By March 2021, there had been more than 160,000 new visitors to the website.

The Coronavirus hub pages are the most popular pages on the LDE site. 6 of the top ten pages were consistently covid related.

More people visited the website when changes to Government Guidance were announced - with around 1,455 new visitors on those days.

Learning Disability England shared this information across social media, and we have seen similar increases in engagement there.

We hosted 9 public webinars and 3 for members only on:

- Covid: the law and guidance
- Mental Capacity Act and Covid laws
- Making Annual Health Checks work
- Families planning ahead and for emergencies
- Managing shared household expenses
- The benefits system and basic income
- Developing supported living
- Knowing your rights: visiting during Covid 19
- Understanding the impact of Covid on people with learning disabilities and their families
- Raising the Profile - PMLD Core & Essential Service Standards?
- Living through Covid and lockdown - coping strategies and positive action
- The 2021 Census and accessibility

People with learning disabilities, family members, researchers, barristers, support workers, trainers, and managers led or attended these online sessions.

More than 2,800 people attended those sessions live, and 100s have viewed the recordings since.

2. Representing members' priorities to inform policy and change attitudes

Learning Disability England focuses on what people with Learning Disabilities, family members, paid supporters and all their organisations agree on.

We aim to make sure what is important to people with learning disabilities is heard and understood.

We make sure people with learning disabilities are heard first, but we create a stronger voice by everyone speaking together.

This year, members' priorities were shaped by the Coronavirus pandemic.

Members spoke up about the disproportionate impact on people with learning disabilities and their families.

The areas Learning Disability England focused on were

- People's rights in decision making on treatment and the correct use of Do Not Resuscitate notices
- The impact on people with learning disabilities and their families of Covid 19 guidance generally including reasonable adjustments for exercise and hospital visiting, for example
- Covid guidance on support settings including supported living, community support and residential care
- Risk management and guidance on visiting or meeting people outside support settings
- Accessible information
- The Social Care Taskforce and Covid 19 winter plan

An example of how we worked to influence on issues is having heard concerns about Do Not Resuscitate Notices (DNAR):

Rapid research

Learning Disability England did rapid research with members and partners on what was happening with from members. We published the outcome, so all members and partners had that information too.

Findings informed policy and practice

The research findings were used to inform policy leads and the national Government on what was needed to protect rights and treatment decisions.

Worked in partnership

We also supported other work led by disabled people's organisations. We worked with the British Institute of Human Rights on the DNAR evidence inquiry they led, supporting members to link in.

Spoke up with members on what matters

Learning Disability England fed in member's views to the review of DNAR the Government commissioned and supported members to take action locally or within their work with local governance systems.

Member spokespeople contributed to media pieces and wrote blogs on the impact of not working with people on treatment decisions.

Worked with others to help stop misuse

With Turning Point, a paid supporter organisation member, we created an open-source tool kit and resources to help people with learning disabilities, families members, and direct support workers understand the law, good practice and options on treatment decisions, including DNAR and how to challenge if they think there has been misuse.

Inquiries and consultations

We helped members share what is important to people with learning disabilities, their families and supporters by sending evidence created with members to 3 government consultations or parliamentary inquiries:

- The Life after Covid House of Lords inquiry
- The Disability Strategy
- The Social Care Taskforce Learning Disability and Autism advisory group

We worked with groups of members to feed into the following consultations with what our members said was important :

- The Care Quality Commission strategy consultation
- The Social Care Futures Inquiry
- Mandatory vaccines for residential care workers

More than 500 organisations, groups and individual members were directly involved in feeding back, speaking up or shaping policy.

Learning Disability England was 1 of 3 partners in the Valuing People and Health and Well Being Alliance, 1 of 22 national alliances working in partnership with the health and care system to share its expertise at a national level to improve services for all communities.

We helped NHS England, Public Health England and the Department for Health and Social Care to work with the Voluntary sector and people with learning disabilities and their families on changing health services and policies.

As a member of the Valuing People Alliance, Learning Disability England supported people with learning disabilities, their families and paid supporters priorities to be included on:

- The Health Inequalities after Covid task and finish group
- Inclusion in service redesign through and after Covid
- Identifying what will stop the premature deaths of people with learning disabilities from minority ethnic groups
- How NHS 111 is working inclusively
- Reasonable adjustments and inclusive practice on vaccine deployment, testing for Covid 19
- The development of work on Social Care across the VCSE Health and Well Being Alliances and with DHSC

3. Supporting good practice and finding solutions together

We aim for there to be a change in behaviour in service design and delivery that builds on rights.

We held our annual conference online over 3 days on March 2021. 'One year on: Staying strong, getting stronger' included 6 formal sessions plus 3 lunchtime catch-ups that more than 850 places taken up overall.

We supported peer support across self-advocate and family members and their organisations, hosting 25 online sessions that focused

- on helping people get online or stay connected other ways
- Supporting wellbeing remotely
- Understanding Covid guidance and implementing it
- Digital inclusion and practically making that happen
- Keeping safe and good mental health

We supported several specific pieces of work or training to help members tackle big challenges. To do this, we worked with partners and brought members together to

- Train as Pass it on Mental Health trainers
- Plan for emergencies as families - tools and strategies
- Share strategies for changing or reopening services like short breaks, or day services

Making sure people with learning disabilities and their families working together can influence policy and practice

We led the Sharing to be Stronger Together, funded by a grant from RTR Trust. We ran online workshops: to facilitate the sharing of good practice across self-advocacy groups in England to contribute to the building of a national self-advocacy movement to reduce social isolation by strengthening self-advocacy.

The 3 workshops focused on

1. Sharing Good Practice in the South West.
2. Sharing Good Practice in including people with severe and profound learning disabilities
3. Sharing Good Practice in supporting people during the pandemic

We helped organisational members of Learning Disability England to:

- Develop Co-production in the organisation
- Train staff to understand self-advocacy, its role and how they can support it

Learning Disability England worked with members to produce the Family Voices report on the key messages from family members during Covid 19, pulling together members' experiences, their organisations and partners to demonstrate the shared experiences to inform policy and service change.

We aim to demonstrate co-production and real collaborative working making a difference.

We worked with members of all kinds to find out more about how choices and getting a home.

Where people live - we worked to find out what is happening through the Big Housing Conversations hosted with Housing LIN.

We wrote a report on what members told us about the Big Housing Conversations in 2020.

There are clear recommendations for better information on the options and how to make them happen, including people with learning disabilities in strategic housing plans,

We are using what we heard to feed into research being led by York University as well as our work with members and partners.

Supported by the DHSC led grant we created a grant programme for user led or community groups that helped them change how they work or keep going through the pandemic. The programme distributed 16 grants of £4688 on average that helped groups develop on line activities, connect people to speak up or have fun as well as deliver Covid safe ways of working that support wellbeing.

4. Campaigning and influencing on what matters to people with learning disabilities to help people get a good life

Learning Disability England supports campaigns led by our members and brings together members and partners to campaign on important issues together.

Learning Disability England is part of the Social Care Future movement; campaigning for what is important for good social care in the future and worked with members to confirm the detail of what matters in their support for the Social Care Future Vision so everyone can use that in their work.

We support a group of spokespeople to represent members because Learning Disability England staff do not speak for people with learning disabilities or other members.

Learning Disability England members spoke up on:

- Housing choices across the country
- Cuts to support packages
- Access to the Covid Vaccination
- The use of DNAR during Covid and the Protect, Respect and Connect Review
- The Coronavirus Bill and disabled people's rights
- Challenging the British Medical Associations ethics guidance on prioritising during Coronavirus

We supported other members' campaigns and got the wider membership involved on:

- Promoting changes to sleep in payments mean people get the support they need, and support staff are paid fairly
- Walk It Like You Talk It employment campaign
- The Right 2 Home campaign and visiting rights resource
- The #WeAreHumanToo campaign
- The fair pay for social care campaign.

5. We aim to live our values and model the change we want

One way we do this is by Learning and Supporting partners through projects or research.

Learning Disability England has an important long-term partnership with the JMS Trust. We host a worker for the Trust and work closely with the Trustees to support the worker to promote the Trust's work on supported living and engage people with Learning Disabilities and their families in the Trust's work in supported living.

Our work with other partners included:

Joining Be Human and signing up to the principles

Hosting the Self Advocacy map developed by Sunderland People First and Sheffield University

Collaborating with People First Self Advocacy and the wider movement to support the Accessible information campaign

Tackling digital inclusion through The Digital Lifeline Project led by Good things Foundation Learning Disability England supported members to get involved in the project, contribute to the shaping the work and understand the impact.

- Being part of research

Learning Disability England is the lead voluntary sector partner for England in the UK wide Impact of Coronavirus on people with learning disabilities research led by Manchester Metropolitan and Warwick Universities. PMLD Link was our partner in this work alongside self advocacy and paid support members who helped recruit people to take part.

The Big Housing conversations fed into the Housing and People with Learning Disabilities Research Project led by York University.

- Partnerships on projects

Projects this year were dominated by the urgent issues thrown up by Covid 19 around digital inclusion, social connection and contribution. 2 projects particularly brought together all 3 parts of the membership:

Supporting inclusion and reducing loneliness through the Creating Connections project. Led by SeeAbility the Creating Connections project brought together self advocacy, family led and paid supporter organisations to develop digital inclusion and volunteering. Learning Disability England helped members link in and share learning

Tackling digital inclusion through The Digital Lifeline Project led by Good things Foundation Learning Disability England supported members to get involved in the project, contribute to the shaping the work and understand the impact

LDE worked in partnership with NDTi, Skills for Care and VODG as part of a project to understand how more people can be supported to have an Annual Health Check.

We also collaborated with Gwen Moulster and Health Education England on understanding what is important in learning disability liaison nurse roles. The report is feeding into the nursing review work

Who benefits from our work?

Our membership includes people with learning disabilities, their families and friends and organisations and others who support them. Benefit extends beyond our direct membership as many people can use a broad range of resources via our website, and our campaigning influences policy for everyone with learning disabilities.

By end March 2021 we had over 700 members and a reach of approx. 11,000 people through the newsletter, social media and our direct work. The membership includes 623 individual members and 136 organisational or small group members.

The organisation or group members themselves are connected to many thousand people so our work indirectly benefits them.

In response to Coronavirus in March 2020 we opened much of our work to self-advocates and family members who were interested or needed the support whether they were members or not. More than 2,800 attendees were directly involved in sessions. A crisis grants from DHSC allowed us to extend and continue that until November 2020 including the on line Coronavirus information hub. By March 2021, there had been more than 160,000 new visitors to the website.

Volunteers

LDE benefits from the active participation of the 18 volunteers involved in its governance as Representative Body members or Trustees. In addition, a group of 10 - 15 people from the membership regularly volunteer to represent Learning Disability England at policy or consultation working groups, or through being spokespeople.

Achievements and Performance

Financial Review

The statement of Financial Activities for the year shows a net movement in funds of £57,871 (2020: £1,650).

The total funds carried forward are £116,677 (2020: £58,806).

The trustees have closely monitored financial performance and cash flow throughout the year and at every Board meeting. They have sought to diversify income streams, including successfully obtaining additional grant funding during the year.

The trustees have agreed a policy of seeking to maintain 3 months running costs as reserves plus a contingency fund for unexpected events. The Trustees annually review the policy and actual reserves held

Future Plans

LDE's Representative Body led the development of the work priorities for 2018 - 2020.

After a consultation open to the whole membership the 4 core priorities for the work were agreed as:

1. Funding
2. Housing Choices
3. Making self-advocacy stronger
4. A vision for social care

The Coronavirus pandemic diverted or delayed progress on some of these issues. In April 2021 the Trustees and Representative Body members agreed these priorities would continue into 2021 - 2022 alongside our work on delivering these aims and measure our impact on achieving these:

1. People's Voice. That the voice of people with learning disabilities and families is getting stronger.
2. Building shared action for policy and practice for people with Learning Disabilities (Good Lives 2020). That we are making progress on developing a new national Learning Disability policy/vision for the future.
3. Growing Learning Disability England membership. That more people are joining LDE across all three of our membership 'groups' - (i) self-advocates (ii) families (iii) organisations and friends/workers.
4. Stable Finances. That we have enough money to do the things we want and need to do.
5. People knowing about Learning Disability England (our 'profile'). That we are getting better known and people always think of us as an organisation they should be working with.

Structure Governance and Management

Governing document and charity constitution

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 12th June 2001, amended by special resolution on 28th May 2012, and registered as a charity on 24th June 2002. The organisation changed name on 14th June 2016 (having previously been the Housing and Support Alliance).

The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the charitable company, which is governed under its Articles of Association.

LDE's Articles were reviewed and revised in 2016/2017 as Learning Disability England was formed. In February 2020 the Annual General meeting agreed to a change that reduced the number of Trustees required to between 6 - 8.

Organisational structure and decision making

The Board of Trustees hold the overall responsibility for governing the charity but do that in consultation and partnership with the Representative Body, elected by the membership.

The Chief Executive reports to the Trustees of the charitable company who meet at least quarterly. The Board focuses on strategic decision making and delegates the day to day management to the Chief Executive Officer.

The CEO collaborates with the Co-Chairs of the Representative body and Chair and Vice Chair of the Board on decisions affected by organisational policy or strategy and consultation with the wider governance group.

In Autumn 2020 the Trustees and Representative Body commissioned a governance support programme to review what it needs from its governance to make sure that LDE delivers on its values and moves forward as a strong organisation. The programme involved all members of the governance and ran from January to June 2021. The programme confirmed that those involved think the model is right for Learning Disability England. The Trustees and Representative Body members have an action plan to strengthen the model through investing in the support mechanisms and ways of working. There is also specific work happening to learn from the 2020 Rep Body elections to inform the 2022 elections.

LDE had a registered small office base in Faversham until May 2020. During Covid 19 lockdown period the charity was forced to close its office as the landlord changed the use of the building. A new appropriate office base has been secured for later in 2021.

In March 2021 the organisation had 7 staff working equivalent hours to 5 full time staff.

Most of LDE's staff work remotely based at home and before Coronavirus travelled nationally as part of their work. In March 2020 LDE changed how it works like many other organisations. The Trustees have worked with the Representative Body and staff team to regularly review how LDE works safely to deliver our aims through 2020 and beyond. The successful delivery of the annual conference and positive feedback from across all membership voice groups means the organisation is going to maintain some online working.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

In line with our approach to democratic involvement the Representative Body lead the appointment of Trustees in 2018 on behalf of the membership. There have been no Trustee vacancies in the period. The Trustees have a commitment to strengthen the diversity on the board but did not prioritise acting on that during the year due to Covid priorities.

The Representative Body members will usually serve no more than 2 three-year terms. As the first group only started in 2017 the body agreed 6 of the 12 places would be up for election in 2020 and the next 6 places re-elected in 2022.

In February 2020 the election to 6 places on the Representative Body were launched. These completed in June 2020 with 1 person re-elected and 5 new reps joining the group.

Induction and training of new trustees

The new Trustees received a full induction, including meetings with longer standing Trustees, and the CEO, with written and electronic information shared on the organisation, the legal responsibilities and current or recent organisation plans and activities.

As the Board had 6 new members in place and the Representative Body had 5 new members the 2 groups have commissioned a governance development programme.

The purpose of the programme was:

1. To support everyone, understand their role and contribution to LDE
2. To lay the foundations for both groups work effectively, together and with LDE staff
3. To help us take stock of our governance 4 years into Learning Disability England's work
4. To help new members of the governance get to know the organisation and other people within it
5. To support everyone, understand their role and contribution to LDE

Related Parties

Trustees are employed by member organisations which are documented. All trustees give their time freely and no trustee received remuneration in the year. Details of directors' expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in the notes to the accounts.

Risk management

The trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:

- a regular review of the risks the charitable company may face;
- the establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks; and,
- implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charitable company should those risks materialise.

The Risk Register identified a range of risks to manage including

- a reduction of membership levels and resulting financial difficulties, and;
- lack of capacity within a small staff team resulting in an inability to perform all needed functions as key risk.

The Risk Register identified the effect of changes in Government/LA funding priorities due to austerity and now Coronavirus changes in spending and the impact on organisational membership in particular.

The impact of the current economic and political changes is regularly reviewed by the Board to provide a robust response to ensure long term survival of the organisation. A key element in the management of financial risk is the regular review by trustees of the financial position.

Reference and Administrative Details

Registered Company number

4233275 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1092587

Principal and Registered office

c/o Anthony Collins Solicitors
Edmund Street
Birmingham
B3 2ES

Trustees

Sarah Maguire (Co Chair)
Deborah Neill
Jan Walmsley
Jodie Williams (Co chair)
Paula Braynion
Lisa Hopkins
Liz Tilly

Key Personnel

Chief Executive - Samantha Clark

Independent examiner

R B Welch FCA
Chartered Accountant
P&W Social Accountants
10 Newent Road
Birmingham
B31 2ED

Bankers

Cater Allen Private Bank
2 Triton Square
Regents Place
London
NW1 3AN

Solicitors

Anthony Collins
134 Edmund Street
Birmingham
B3 2ES

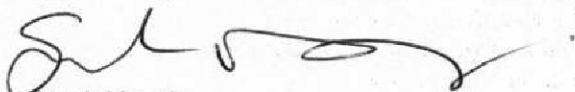
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Learning Disability England for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 18th October and signed on its behalf by:



Sarah Maguire
Director and Trustee

Independent Examiners' Report to the Trustees of Learning Disability England

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention to indicate that:

- accounting records have not been kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006;
- the accounts do not accord with such records;
- where accounts are prepared on an accruals basis, whether they fail; or to comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006, or are not consistent with the Charities SORP (FRS102)
- any matter which the examiner believes should be drawn to the attention of the reader to gain a proper understanding of the accounts.



R B Welch FCA
Chartered Accountant
P&W Social Accountants
10 Newent Road
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B31 2ED

18th October 2021

Learning Disability England
Statement of Financial Activities
incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account
1 April 2020 to 30 March 2021

	Notes	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2021 £	Current year Total Funds 2021 £
Income & Endowments				
Donations	2	6,610	-	6,610
Income from charitable activities	2	185,549	224,168	409,717
Other income	2	12	-	12
Total income		<u>192,171</u>	<u>224,168</u>	<u>416,339</u>
Expenditure				
Expenditure on charitable activities	3	133,865	224,603	358,468
Total expenditure		<u>133,865</u>	<u>224,603</u>	<u>358,468</u>
Net (expenditure) / income for the year		58,306	(435)	57,871
Transfers between funds	11	(435)	435	-
Net (expenditure) / income after transfers		<u>57,871</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>57,871</u>
Net movement in funds		<u>57,871</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>57,871</u>
Reconciliation of funds:-				
Total funds brought forward		58,806	-	58,806
Total funds carried forward		<u>116,677</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>116,677</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year.

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Learning Disability England
Comparative Statement of Financial Activities
incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account
1 April 2019 to 30 March 2020

	Notes	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2020 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2020 £
Income & Endowments				
Donations	2	5,385	11,285	16,670
Income from charitable activities	2	148,219	45,955	194,174
Total income		153,604	57,240	210,844
Expenditure				
Expenditure on charitable activities	3	151,954	57,240	209,194
Total expenditure		151,954	57,240	209,194
Net (expenditure) / income for the year		1,650	-	1,650
Transfers between funds	11	-	-	-
Net (expenditure) / income after transfers		1,650	-	1,650
Net movement in funds		1,650	-	1,650
Reconciliation of funds:-				
Total funds brought forward		57,156	-	57,156
Total funds carried forward		58,806	-	58,806

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year.

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Learning Disability England

Registered number:

04233275

Balance Sheet

as at 31 March 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	8	-	759
Current assets			
Debtors	9	81,919	112,029
Cash at bank and in hand		245,978	133,712
		327,897	245,741
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(211,220)	(187,694)
Net current assets		116,677	58,047
Net Assets		116,677	58,806
The funds of the charity			
Unrestricted funds	11	116,677	58,806
Total funds		116,677	58,806

The Trustees are satisfied that the charitable company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

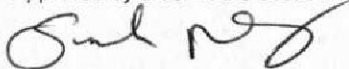
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime. The income and expenditure account has not been delivered to the Registrar of Companies.

These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small entities.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 18th October 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



Sarah Maguire
Trustee

**Learning Disability England
Notes to the Accounts
Statement of Financial Activities**

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The reporting currency is £ Sterling.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulative depreciation and any accumulative impairment losses. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset evenly over its expected useful life, as follows:

Plant & equipment	over 4 years
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Creditors

Short term creditors are measured at transaction price (which is usually the transaction price).

Grant income is deferred if it relates to specific expenditure which has not yet been incurred. This expenditure will be a condition of the grant.

Debtors

Debtors are measured at their recoverable amount at the balance sheet date.

Financial Instruments

The charity has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. They are recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Income

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

Donations are accounted for on a receivable basis.

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 income is 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.

Expenditure

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

Costs allocated to charitable activities include the direct costs of providing services and running projects.

Learning Disability England
Notes to the Accounts
Statement of Financial Activities

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Pensions

Employees of the charity are entitled to join a defined contribution scheme. The pension costs represent amounts payable by the charity during the period.

Taxation

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

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted general funds may be used in accordance with the charity's objects at the discretion of the trustees. Designated funds are amounts set aside by the trustees out of unrestricted general funds for specific future purposes or projects.

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

Learning Disability England
Notes to the Accounts
Statement of Financial Activities

2 Income

1 April 2020 to 30 March 2021

	Current year Unrestricted 2021	Current year Restricted 2021	Current year Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£
Donations			
Donations	6,610	-	6,610
Total Donations	<u>6,610</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,610</u>
Charitable Activities			
Advice, conferences and workshops	27,683	-	27,683
Membership Subscriptions	79,566	-	79,566
Grant Income	78,300	224,168	302,468
Total Income from Charitable Activities	<u>185,549</u>	<u>224,168</u>	<u>409,717</u>
Other Income			
Bank Interest	12	-	12
Total Other Income	<u>12</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12</u>
Total Income	<u>192,171</u>	<u>224,168</u>	<u>416,339</u>

Prior Year Income

1 April 2019 to 30 March 2020

	Prior year Unrestricted 2020	Prior year Restricted 2020	Prior year Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£
Donations			
Donations	5,385	-	5,385
Total Donations	<u>5,385</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,385</u>
Charitable Activities			
Advice, conferences and workshops	78,467	45,955	124,422
Membership Subscriptions	69,752	-	69,752
Grant Income	-	11,285	11,285
Total Income from Charitable Activities	<u>148,219</u>	<u>57,240</u>	<u>205,459</u>
Total Income	<u>153,604</u>	<u>57,240</u>	<u>210,844</u>

Learning Disability England
Notes to the Accounts
Statement of Financial Activities

3 Expenditure on charitable activities

	2021 £	2020 £
Direct expenditure (note 4)	337,501	200,719
Support expenditure (note 5)	20,967	8,475
Total	<u>358,468</u>	<u>209,194</u>

4 Direct expenditure on charitable activities

	2021 £	2020 £
Staff costs (note 7)	177,640	136,029
Conference costs excluding room hire	400	20,000
External project delivery and resource costs	151,695	35,454
Insurance	5,130	2,348
Marketing and advertising	110	942
Professional fees	2,382	3,668
Room hire	144	2,278
Direct expenditure	<u>337,501</u>	<u>200,719</u>

Due to the pandemic, the conference was held online in 2021.

5 Support expenditure on charitable activities

	2021 £	2020 £
Administrative overheads	322	227
Premises expenses	338	3,620
Software	2,010	931
Telephone costs	1,148	1,123
Web & CRM development & hosting	11,440	897
Depreciation	759	759
	<u>16,017</u>	<u>7,557</u>
Examination fee	950	900
Governance, training & review	4,000	-
Trustee's expenses (note 6)	-	18
	<u>4,950</u>	<u>918</u>
Support expenditure	<u>20,967</u>	<u>8,475</u>

6 Trustees' Remuneration and Benefits

Neither the trustees nor any persons connected with them received remuneration for any for their services. Where claimed, expenses for travel and subsistence are reimbursed. The amount claimed during the period was £Nil (2020: £18 to one Trustee).

Learning Disability England
Notes to the Accounts
Statement of Financial Activities

7 Staff Costs

	2021 £	2020 £
Salary Costs	146,409	99,024
Tax and National Insurance	23,489	30,451
Pension Costs	6,962	6,020
Other Costs including Training & Welfare	780	534
Total salaries, wages and related costs	177,640	136,029

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

	2021 £	2020 £
Full time equivalents	6.5	5

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

8 Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and Equipment £
Cost	
At 1 April 2020	5,168
Additions during the year	-
At 31st March 2021	<u>5,168</u>
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2020	4,409
Charge for the year	759
At 31st March 2021	<u>5,168</u>
Net book value	
At 1 April 2020	<u>759</u>
At 31st March 2021	<u>-</u>

9 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	81,470	111,145
Prepayments and accrued income	449	449
Other debtors	-	435
Total debtors	81,919	112,029

10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade Creditors	360	4,244
Accruals	1,275	1,275
Deferred Income	53,234	46,091
Grant & Project Balances	154,879	134,084
Other Creditors	1,472	2,000
Total creditors	211,220	187,694

Learning Disability England
Notes to the Accounts
Statement of Financial Activities

10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (continued)

Within grant & project balances are amounts received with preconditions attached. These amounts are released into income when the preconditions are met.

This includes restricted funds of:

Esmee Fairburn: £39,215
Standard Community Awareness: £22,600
SW Connections: £14,740
NHS People in Hospital: £8,639
RTR Trust: £1,000

11 Fund Balances

At 31 March 2021, funds are analysed as follows:

	At 1 April 2020 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31 March 2021 £
Restricted Funds				
Esmee Fairburn	-	-	-	-
DHSC Covid 19 Support Grant	-	(435)	435	-
CAF DCMS Resilience fund	-	-	-	-
RTR Trust	-	-	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	-	-	-
Total Restricted Funds	-	-	-	-
Unrestricted Funds	58,806	58,306	435	117,112
Total Charity Funds	58,806	58,306	-	117,112

Net movements included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Restricted funds			
Esmee Fairburn	74,000	(74,000)	-
DHSC Covid 19 Support Grant	125,427	(125,862)	(435)
CAF DCMS Resilience fund	10,137	(10,137)	-
RTR Trust	3,280	(3,280)	-
Health and Wellbeing Alliance	9,250	(9,250)	-
Other restricted funds	2,074	(2,074)	-
	224,168	(224,603)	(435)
Unrestricted funds	192,171	(133,865)	58,306
	416,339	(358,468)	57,871

Learning Disability England
Notes to the Accounts
Statement of Financial Activities

11 Fund Balances (continued)

At 31 March 2020, funds were analysed as follows:

	At 1 April 2019 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31 March 2020 £
Restricted Funds				
NESTA	-	-	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	-	-	-
Total Restricted Funds	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Unrestricted Funds	57,156	1,650	-	58,806
Total Charity Funds	<u>57,156</u>	<u>1,650</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>58,806</u>

Net movements included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Restricted funds			
Health and Wellbeing Alliance	13,200	(13,200)	-
NESTA	32,000	(32,000)	-
Other restricted funds	12,040	(12,040)	-
	<u>57,240</u>	<u>(57,240)</u>	<u>-</u>
Unrestricted funds	153,604	(151,954)	1,650
	<u>210,844</u>	<u>(209,194)</u>	<u>1,650</u>

**Learning Disability England
Notes to the Accounts
Statement of Financial Activities**

11 Fund Balances (continued)

Restricted Funds

Esmee Fairburn

Grant to support some of organisational core costs, to help ensure that the needs and wishes of learning disabled people are accurately represented in policy and decision making at national and local level. In addition Esme Fairburn granted LDE an unrestricted Covid response and support grant.

DHSC Covid 19 Support Grant

Grant funding to increase availability of support to people in England during COVID-19 2020/21 through providing Information and resources, supporting practice and operational change in response to Covid 19, and delivering a small grants programme aimed at reducing isolation and building resilience in local groups and their members.

CAF DCMS Resilience fund

Grant to maintain the extended information hub, dissemination, training and peer support activities for people with learning disabilities, their families and paid supporters that Covid 19 necessitated.

RTR Trust

Grant to Learning Disability England for the Sharing to be Stronger Together project that brought together self advocacy groups across England to share examples of self advocacy making a difference and contribute to the building of a national self-advocacy movement.

Health and Wellbeing Alliance

This grant which is provided by The Department of Health and Social Care for the purpose of supporting the Health and Wellbeing Programme through facilitating integrated working between voluntary and statutory providers. BILD is the lead organisation on this project and is responsible for liaising and reporting to the funders.

NESTA

The grant was part of a Nesta programme to support emerging social movements to grow their influence and impact on health and care by offering tailored funding, movement-building opportunities and connection to a community of social movement peers.

Other restricted funds

Donations from Trusts are classed as restricted to the purpose as determined by the donor.

Unrestricted funds

These funds are held for the objectives of the charity, and to provide free reserves for future activities, and, subject to charity legislation are free from all restrictions on their use.

12 Ultimate Controlling Party

The charity is wholly under the control of the board of Trustees.

Learning Disability England
Notes to the Accounts
Statement of Financial Activities

13 Status of the Charitable Company

The charitable company, 04233275, is limited by guarantee and does not have share capital. The registered office is 134 C/O Anthony Collins Solicitors, Edmund Street, Birmingham, England, B3 2ES. Its principal activities are the relief of people who are disabled, handicapped (whether physically or mentally) or chronically sick people, their families and carers in particular through the provision of advice, counselling, workshops, training, and advocacy in respect of their housing care or support needs.

The liability of members is limited but is not exceed £1 per member.