

Charity number: 1092668
Company number: 04216137

East Sussex Foster Care Association
Directors' report and financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2024

Contents

	Page
Company information	1
Trustee's report	2 - 9
Independent examiners' report	10
Statement of financial activities	11
Balance sheet	12-13
Notes to the financial statements	14-16

Charity number 1092668

Company registration number 4216137

Registered office
Sorrel Drive Resource Centre
29-41 Sorrel Drive
Eastbourne
BN23 8BH

Independent Examiner
Dominic Hill Associates Limited
Archer House
Britland Estate
Northbourne Road
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN22 8PW

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

Structure, governance and management

The charity is an incorporated association governed by its memorandum and articles of association, together with its constitution.

The following persons served as directors/trustees during the year;

Mrs. S Beesley BA (hons) – Chair
Mr. MK Phillips -Treasurer
Mrs. AH D Holder MBE
Mrs. A Leeves
Mrs. S Maylam
Mrs. R Petraitis-Williams BEM
Mrs. C Phillips
Mrs. V Archer
Mrs. E Wells
Mrs. S Turner - (Retired Jan 2024)

Trustees are appointed at the AGM with there being a minimum of three and a maximum of twelve. At the AGM one third of the trustees must stand down, often the longest serving trustees stand down first, but may choose to stand for re-election. All trustees must be members of East Sussex Foster Care Association and members can nominate themselves for election.

Objectives of the charity

The East Sussex Foster Care Association, as outlined in its Memorandum of Association, aims to promote charitable purposes for the community's benefit, primarily within East Sussex. Its key objectives include advancing public education on matters related to substitute care, providing education, training, and support for foster carers and their families, and offering relief to Looked After Children and their carers by providing facilities and services to enhance their well-being.

The Association supports East Sussex Foster Carers and their families in achieving the best outcomes for the children in their care by collaborating with relevant statutory and voluntary agencies. It fulfils this mission by offering various events, advocacy, training, and support for both the families and the children. Membership consists of Foster Carers registered with the East Sussex Local Authority, and the managing group comprises elected Trustees/Directors from within this membership.

Groups we support

Along with looked after children, foster parents and foster families ESFCA is proud to support various groups of young people within the care system across East Sussex including (but not exhaustive).

Young People Who Foster (YPWF) - These include the biological and adopted children of foster families, who share their homes and parents with fostered children. They make numerous sacrifices to support these children and do so with minimal complaints. This group provides them with a voice and an opportunity to share their experiences in a safe environment.

Children in Care Council - The Children in Care Council (CiCC) is a dedicated group of Looked After Children (LAC) from across East Sussex, serving as their collective voice and advocate throughout the county. They represent the interests of these children at significant events, such as the Children and Young Peoples Trust (CYPT) conference, where they engage with organisations supporting youth in East Sussex.

Through Care Service - The Through Care Service (TCS) at East Sussex County Council (ESCC) plays a pivotal role in supporting individuals transitioning from the care system into independent adulthood. Social workers and specialists provide comprehensive support plans for young people aged 16-25. The TCS's responsibilities include creating tailored care plans, offering emotional and practical support, facilitating access to education, employment, and housing resources, and ensuring the well-being and safety of these young adults.

Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children - The TCS also incorporates the Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC) team, which provides specialized care and legal support for vulnerable minors seeking asylum, ensuring their welfare and legal rights are upheld.

Advocacy - Our Trustees are actively involved with other organizations in networking, debating, promoting, and raising the profile of Foster Carers in East Sussex. We lobby government departments and attend meetings and debates to advocate for our members and our Looked After Children (LAC).

Independent allegation advice & Support - We continue to receive annual funding from East Sussex County Council (ESCC), which is held in a restricted fund. This Allegations Fund is used to provide independent support for any of our member foster parents who may be subject to allegations or concerns regarding standards of care. These investigations can be complex and lengthy, often leaving foster families feeling isolated due to the confidentiality required. In conjunction with ESCC fostering services, we have created and supply a specialist Allegation pack that breaks down the process into manageable parts, helping ensure the carer does not become overwhelmed and signposts them to areas of help and support.

Monthly Surgeries - ESFCA offers monthly surgeries where foster parents can present difficult or complex issues that require fast-track resolution from senior managers in Children's and Fostering services. A trustee is also available to attend these meetings, supporting the foster carer in presenting their problem. This approach helps all parties find a way forward or address complaints in a face-to-face and professional manner.

Lobbying - Our trustees and members are actively engaged with other organisations where they network, debate, and promote the profile of foster carers both in East Sussex and nationally. We lobby central and local government departments, attend meetings and debates to advocate for our members, their families, and our Looked After Children (LAC). ESFCA maintains regular contact with East Sussex County Council (ESCC), ESCC Children's Services, and Fostering Services, reporting annually on behalf of fostering families to the ESCC Corporate Parenting Committee.

Our trustees also attend regular meetings with the Fostering Network charity and often participate in their campaigns and research initiatives.

Projects

The following projects run throughout the year and are accessible to foster parents and LAC social worker teams.

Make it Reel Project - East Sussex Foster Care Association has a special pot of money in a restricted fund available to support LAC. The money has been donated from The Reel Poster Company and they would like the money to go directly to benefit LAC where a small amount of money could make a real difference. During 2023 we provided a new racing BMX helmet to one of our looked after children who is an upcoming racer (and talks of a future Olympic rider). Our Patron Dame Jacqueline Wilson joined us to present the Helmet and enjoy a sometime chatting to the family.

Suitcase Initiative - Dignity and self-esteem are fundamental for a looked after child's self-perception. Unfortunately, this can be shattered when they are forced to leave their home with only a bin bag, which strips them of their possessions, and self-worth. Black bags are for rubbish, not children's personal items. ESFCA proudly spearheads an initiative providing suitcases to carers, social workers and assessment teams. Over 200 cases have been distributed, preserving pride for children entering the care system and offering dignity to care leavers (16-25) embarking on their independent journey.

Gift Bag Project – Each year, our friends at the Department of Work & Pensions (DWP) donate backpacks filled with essential gifts to children entering the care system. These thoughtful contributions come from DWP staff, their families, and friends across the country. The backpacks are packed with a variety of items, including toiletries, stationery, books, clothes, toys, and a cuddly companion. These items provide comfort and a sense of ownership during a challenging time in a child's life.

Foster carers, social workers, and family support teams have access to crates of these backpacks, which cater to various ages and genders. Our ESFCA trustees also maintain small collections of backpacks for emergency placements, ensuring every child's unique needs are met.

Carer Welfare and contingency fund – This fund has been set up to help support foster parents during challenging times (i.e. a placement that is breaking down, or a long-term placement moving on). It may be a bunch of flowers, or being taken out for a coffee, cake and a chat. This fund allows us to offer some support at a moment when it is most needed.

Achievements 2023-2024

Easter Egg Donation – April 2023

During the Easter holidays, one of our community partners, Mark Hopgood, dressed as the Easter Bunny and delivered over 30 Easter eggs for us to distribute to the young adults under the care of the Through Care Team.

Bluebell Walk – 11th & 12th April 2023

With the arrival of spring, ESFCA returned to the Arlington Bluebell Walk, completing two duty days running the refreshments in the Bluebell Barn and marshalling the walk itself. Volunteers donated home-baked goods and attended the event to support the association. After costs, the two days raised over £1543.48, including visitor donations and a donation from ticket sales.

Wellbeing – Carers Painting Session – 2nd May 2023

In a joint project between ESFCA and ESCC foster carer training department, we held our first wellbeing day. This project was designed to help foster carers take a few hours' respite and enjoy some time for themselves. In a safe environment where they could chat openly with other foster parents, enjoy a creative activity, and have some light refreshments, the carers were able to relax, recharge, and reflect. This event featured a painting session led by Maureen Wells, a friend of ESFCA, and was held at the Bright Foundation's Theatre and Museum of Toys in Hastings. All costs for this project were shared equally between ESFCA and ESCC.

Bluebell Walk – 8th May 2023

In addition to our duty days in April, we were invited to participate on the extra Bank Holiday created by the King's Coronation. The warm and dry weather brought over 1400 visitors. Once again, our volunteers supported us on the day by baking scones, cakes, and homemade soup. Some volunteers joined as part of King Charles's "Big Help Out" initiative. After costs, we raised £3649.27, including donations and a share of gate sales.

Climbing Mount Snowdon – 28th May 2023

Over the May bank holiday weekend, while many people relaxed and enjoyed the good weather, one of our foster families put on their walking boots and climbed Mount Snowdon, the highest peak in Wales. They raised over £1000 for ESFCA, which will go towards the Carer Welfare and Contingency Fund.

Bright Foundation – Family Festival – 17th & 18th June 2023

Our community partners, The Bright Foundation, held a family festival on the 17th and 18th of June. The weekend featured music, drama, crafting, and outdoor activities for families. They kindly donated a limited number of free family tickets for our members.

Art Session – 24th June 2023

Throughout the year, we offered art sessions run by Maureen Wells, an art teaching consultant and friend of ESFCA. These classes provided children of all ages the chance to spend a couple of hours painting and drawing under Maureen's guidance and support, while giving carers a well-deserved respite. ESFCA funded the art supplies and subsidised the venue hire. Maureen donated her time for free, along with a volunteer trustee or staff member. These lessons were intended to be held once a month, subject to Maureen's and the venue's availability, with class sizes typically ranging from 4 to 11 children.

Toddler Support Group – 29th June 2023

We aimed to hold our Baby & Toddler group at least four times a year (ideally quarterly). Foster carers with LAC under the age of 5 met in a safe and secure environment. The support group was organized and run by trustees, with the entrance fee and first drink (tea, coffee, etc.) paid for by ESFCA.

Family First Nights – July-August 2023

Each summer, ESFCA members had the opportunity to participate in "Family First Nights" and enjoy a trip to a London theatre. Organized by Go Live Theatre Projects, a charity dedicated to making theatre accessible and affordable for families and young people, Family First Nights is an annual summer program that offers families from diverse backgrounds the chance to see live theatre shows for just £8.00 per ticket. ESFCA acted as the referring organization, handling all bookings and payments. The event was subsidized by Go Live Theatre Projects, with a contribution from the attending carers.

Theatre Trip – Dragons & Mythical Beasts – 18th July 2023

We offered a limited number of subsidised tickets to our foster families for an end-of-term performance of Dragons & Mythical Beasts at the Congress Theatre in Eastbourne. Carers paid half price for the tickets, and ESFCA covered the remaining amount. Over ten families participated, with more than 25 children attending.

PGL Day Camps – 7th August 2023

Thanks to funding from Children in Need (the final year of a three-year grant), we were able to run five-day camps at the East Sussex PGL Activity Centre in Windmill Hill. Groups of children, supported by volunteers and social workers, enjoyed activities such as zip lining, aero ball, giant swing, and archery, along with impromptu games of Frisbee golf, basketball, and football. The funding allowed us to run five days over four weeks, with over 80 children attending in August.

Donation from HMD Seal-Less Pumps – August 2023

We were delighted to receive a donation of £900 from local East Sussex company HMD Seal-Less Pumps. One of our foster parents recommended us, and the company reached out with this generous donation as part of their community support efforts.

ESFCA – Get Together – 15th August 2023

We held a summer "Get Together" at Alexander Park in Hastings, inviting our foster families for fun and games. We provided ice creams, teas, coffees, and other soft drinks, allowing the children to play and the carers to chat.

Bright Foundation – Dance & Design Summer Performance Project – 21st August 2023

Our friends at the Bright Foundation (Hastings) held a week-long workshop with a team of amazing artists, developing skills in dance, performance, art, and design. Places were open for children aged 8-11, and the Bright Foundation generously offered three places free of charge to our members, equivalent to £375.

Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC)– 20th September 2023

ESFCA supported the UASC (Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children) with a trip to London. Thirty young adults and UASC team members visited key tourist areas, traveling by river taxi and underground. This trip was a great opportunity for these children to build friendships, have fun, and create a connection with the country they chose to settle in.

Seafront Soapbox Race – 24th September 2023

ESFCA participated in the 3rd Eastbourne Soapbox Race. Volunteers helped marshal the course, keeping roads closed near the finish line and ensuring safe routes for emergency vehicles. This event is a fundraising activity, and the Eastbourne Borough Council Events Team made a donation in gratitude for our support.

Beachy Head 10k & Ultramarathon – 21st October 2023

Eastbourne Borough Council's "Visit Eastbourne" team invited us once again to marshal the Beachy Head 10K & Ultra Marathon in October, and a dedicated team of our volunteers braved the unpredictable weather to take on the challenge. Our volunteers cheered on the runners, kept everyone safe, and ensured they stayed on course to reach the finish line. In return, ESFCA received a donation to support future projects, helping us continue to make a positive impact in our community.

Bright Foundation – Puppet Performance & Workshop – 26th October 2023

The Bright Foundation held puppet shows followed by puppet workshops during the October Half Term. Children watched and participated in a performance by the Longnose Puppet Theatre, followed by a workshop where they created and learned how to perform with their puppets. The Bright Foundation once again donated a limited number of places for our members.

Annual General Meeting – 13th November 2023

We held our Annual General Meeting on Monday, 13th November, where we celebrated the year 2022-23. Susanne Beesley (Chair – ESFCA) and Michael Kim Phillips (Treasurer) spoke, giving an overview of ESFCA and fostering in general. Attendees included trustees, member foster parents, social workers, fostering service management, ESCC Councillors, and our Patron Dame Jacqueline Wilson.

More Radio – Toy Appeal - December 2023

Every Christmas, More Radio collects toys and gifts for underprivileged children living in Sussex. ESFCA is honoured to be among the charities and organizations that More Radio supports, helping to ensure these toys reach the neediest children. The donated toys and gifts were used at our children's Christmas party, distributed to children coming into care during December and January, and given to the children of young adults under the care of the Through Care Team. A small number were also kept for children coming into care throughout the year.

Asda Foundation – Donation – December 2023

We successfully bid for a grant from the Asda Foundation and received £400 towards our Children's Christmas Party.

Christmas Party – 3rd December 2023

Sunday, the 3rd of December, was party time once again for our children and foster parents. The afternoon featured a disco, party games, and a visit from Father Christmas, who delivered an early present for each child attending. Members of the Eastbourne & Lewes Soroptimist's kindly donated their time and gifts for the children to give their carers at Christmas. The party was funded by ESFCA, including a £400 donation from the Asda Foundation, covering costs for food and entertainment. The venue was donated by the Kings Centre, and we are truly thankful for their continued support.

Carol Concert – 4th December 2023

For the second year, our friends, the Widows & Sons Masonic Bikers Association, joined Masonic lodges across Sussex to hold a Christmas Carol Service at St Saviours Church in Eastbourne. The concert was held in aid of ESFCA and WOLO (We Only Live Once – a local charity). We received a donation of £300.

Ashdown Day School – Father Christmas Appearance – 6th December 2023

Through our friend Mark Hopgood, we provided a father Christmas appearance for the Ashdown Day Nursery festive party, receiving a donation of £120 for helping the nursery and ensuring the young children could meet Santa Claus.

Pantomime – Beauty & the Beast – 6th January 2024

Our first event of 2024 was the annual trip to the pantomime, this year featuring Beauty & the Beast. This festive trip to the Devonshire Park Theatre is always a highlight of our calendar, with over 40 foster families joining us for the Saturday morning performance. Each year, ESFCA subsidises the tickets, allowing carers to pay half price to attend.

Hall & Woodhouse – Community Chest Donation – 12th January 2024

During the summer of 2023, we placed a bid with the Hall & Woodhouse Community Chest Fund, a local Sussex-based brewery, to start the “My Things Matter” project. This initiative aims to provide storage boxes, suitcases, and gift bags to children coming into care, enabling them to move their belongings with dignity. We were successful and received £2500.

PGL Reunion – Jump Party – 14th January 2024

Due to an underspend on our PGL day camps during August, our community partners, Children in Need, agreed to create three reunion events, bringing the children who attended back together for a few hours of fun. The events were held at Urban Jump Trampoline Park in Heathfield, where the children enjoyed two hours of trampolining fun and a lunch.

Crazy Fun Sensory Music & Fun – 17th February 2024

This was our first event exclusively for children with Special Educational Needs (SEN). The aim was to offer a range of activities that would assist them in their growth and development of social skills in a safe and nurturing environment. Future events are planned for 2024-25.

Easter Eggs – Through Care Team – 25th March 2024

We ended the year as we started it, by supplying over 50 Easter eggs for the young adults under the care of the Through Care Team. These eggs were given to the young adults living in supported lodgings or on their own, funded by ESFCA.

Financial review

This charity, like many charities, is used to the need for change in order to navigate the demands of an economy under stress, the cost-of-living crisis, the environment post Covid and environmental problems and human problems of the world, from which the members of this charity and those we serve, are by no means immune. Change, however, is not ad hoc process. The charity can, through careful review and planning, manage its way through the difficulties and come out capable of delivering the vital support and service that it renders, year in and year out.

That careful planning and review began in 2023 and will reach its finalisation in 2024. First it is essential to acknowledge the considerable benefit the Coronation Holiday in May contributed to the income of ESFCA through the opportunity it gave us to operate an additional day managing the restaurant and facilities at the Bluebell Wood at Bates Green Farm in Arlington. This gave us an extra day and greatly increased our income at the start of the year. The contribution by the Bluebell Wood was greatly appreciated as it is every year. However, even an extra day requires change and commitment and our members and volunteers rose to this challenge (as, indeed, they have throughout the year) and the hugely popular event ran like a well-oiled machine.

Change management requires the charity and its trustees and patrons to thoroughly review the core purpose and scope of the charity from time to time and the adaptation of its purpose and scope to suit the needs of the time. This process began with a complete review of our Aims and Values as an organisation and will culminate in the creation of a business plan for the future incorporating a new budgetary approach to all aspects of the financial management of the organisation. So alongside the normal work and meetings of the charity in 2023/4, special meetings were held to look at ESFCA's Future needs, a process entitled "Future's Thinking". It is true to say that during this process, no stone has been left unturned in our desire to clearly identify the future needs of our membership, partners and those we directly serve. We have also looked with interest at alternative storage arrangements and alternatives for office space and the potential for a home of our own.

The adaptability and commitment of the trustees and advisors to tackle this task has matched the same approach and commitment shown this year in fundraising events, activities, celebratory events, outreach and support of all kinds and discussions about foster care in general which has had a national dimension expressed in the local and national media.

Organisations funding our projects have also been prepared to adapt to our changing needs and we continue to benefit from the yearly support of East Sussex County Council for administrative support, advocacy support and membership fees. Their continued presence and contribution and monthly trustee meetings allows the thorough exchange of views and this dialogue is an essential element of adapting to a changing world. We have also seen an increase in joint projects with local supporters to facilitate awards and recognition for worthy recipients in the world of foster care.

Within the accounts we continue to show a healthy balance in the business account month in and out, and a strong use of funds to support activities, events and functions. We have maintained around £40 000 in a reserve account to cover contingencies and this has remained untouched.

The 2023 to 2024 has been a year of transition and this will lay a foundation for going forward into the years ahead with confidence in our ability to deliver for the foster care community at large.

Kim Phillips
Treasurer
ESFCA

Chairperson's Review

Dear All,

As we reflect on the past year, I want to express my deepest thanks to our foster parents and their families, our esteemed patrons Dame Jacqueline Wilson DBE FRSL & Jayne Torvill OBE, friends of ESFCA and our community partners, for their steadfast support of the East Sussex Foster Care Association (ESFCA). Their dedication continues to make a real difference in the lives of looked after children, and our fostering community across East Sussex.

I particularly want to thank our trustees Kim Phillips (treasurer), Ann Holder MBE (founder trustee), Sandra Maylam, Ru Petraitis-Williams BEM, Anja Leeves, Christine Phillips, Veronica Archer & Emily Wells who despite their own busy lives, continue to step up and ensure the association runs smoothly and continues on its mission of "building brighter futures" for our children in care, their foster parents and families, and the invaluable role their own children play.

This January saw Sam Turner step down as a trustee and I would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation to Sam's contributions over the year, and we look forward to seeing her at our future events.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank our community partners for their continued collaboration. Your support throughout the year has been essential in helping us deliver services, raise awareness, and create opportunities for the children and families we serve. It is a privilege to work alongside so many compassionate and driven individuals and organisations.

ESFCA continues to consider the two significant challenges that have yet again this year impacted the foster community: the ongoing shortage of foster parents and the ongoing cost-of-living crisis. The foster parent shortage remains a critical issue not just in East Sussex but across the country putting a strain on local authorities and their resources.

Throughout this year, ESFCA has continued to Lobby and advocate on our foster parents behalf to address issues as they arise from this growing crisis, we have also continued to offer advice, and advocacy support along with the offer of a monthly surgery between the foster parent and managers from the local authority, to discuss concerns, ask questions, and receive guidance – often accompanied by a ESFCA trustee if requested. These surgeries have been proven to be a crucial resource for our members, ensuring their voices are heard and their needs are addressed.

The cost-of-living crisis has placed immense pressure on the charity sector, significantly impacting both operational costs and funding streams. Rising energy prices, increased demand for services, and inflationary pressures have driven up the cost of running charity programs. The double burden of increased costs and reduced income has forced charities to adapt quickly, often cutting back on projects or exploring alternative funding sources, all while trying to meet the needs of the communities they serve.

In response to these challenges, we are incredible grateful to Kim Phillips (ESFCA Treasurer) for his foresight and leadership. Kim, with the support of the trustees and friends of ESFCA has been instrumental in driving a review process that will help us develop a robust business plan. The plan aims to ensure the long-term sustainability of the ESFCA, safeguarding our ability to support our looked after children, foster parents and their families for years to come.

In closing, I want to again thank each of you for your continued support. Whether you are a trustee, a foster parent, a patron, community partner, or a friend of the association, your contributions – both big and small – are what enable us to continue our vital work. Together, we will navigate these challenges and continue to build brighter futures for our looked after children and the families that support them.



Kind regards,
Susanne Beesley - Chair of ESFCA

East Sussex Foster Care Association

Independent examiner's report to the trustees on the unaudited financial statements of East Sussex Foster Care Association.

I report on the accounts of East Sussex Foster Care Association for the year ended 31 March 2024 set out on pages 2 to 19.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and independent examiner

The charity's trustees (who are also the directors of the company for purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act), and that an independent examination is needed. I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the 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 Act
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 you as 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:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep proper accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Peter D Hill FCA

On Behalf Of

Dominic Hill Associates Limited

Archer House

Britland Estate

Northbourne Road

Eastbourne

East Sussex

BN22 8PW

Peter D Hill

East Sussex Foster Care Association

Statement of financial activities (incorporating the income and expenditure account)
For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Incoming Resources					
Donations		4,512	-	4,512	14,696
Core funding		20,000	-	20,000	20,000
Advocacy support		-	4,968	4,968	1,913
Apprentice scheme grant		-	-	-	6,000
Membership		-	1,155	1,155	-
Fundraising		8,118	-	8,118	3,733
Christmas events		738	-	738	896
Keep it reel		-	-	-	75
Jamies farm		-	-	-	430
PGL		-	-	-	735
Theatre visits & pantomime		1,676	-	1,676	1,490
Event contributions		589	-	589	459
Interest		482	-	482	87
Total incoming resources		36,115	6,123	42,238	50,514
Resources expended					
Insurance		612	-	612	579
General running expenses		8,734	-	8,734	4,307
Pantomime		3,108	-	3,108	3,330
PGL		-	7,946	7,946	6,351
Through care team		2,280	-	2,280	2,692
Keep it reel		-	134	134	-
Jamies farm		-	-	-	6,789
Events and projects		2,064	-	2,064	2,118
Fundraising		454	-	454	704
Intuitive Horse		-	-	-	480
Advocacy support		-	5,318	5,318	4,563
Salaries & pensions		18,872	-	18,872	19,816
Christmas events		1,019	-	1,019	1,017
Accountancy fees		1,990	-	1,990	1,905
Total outgoing resources		39,133	13,399	52,531	54,651
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year/ Net income/(expenditure) for the year		(3,018)	(7,276)	(10,293)	(4,137)
Transfers		5,370	(5,370)	-	-
Total funds brought forward		72,605	19,202	91,807	95,944
Total resources		74,957	6,556	81,514	91,807

East Sussex Foster Care Association

Balance sheet

As at 31 March 2024

	Notes	£	2024	£	2023	£
Fixed assets						
Tangible assets				-		-
Current assets						
Cash at bank and in hand			83,503		93,487	
Debtors & prepayments	2		-		18	
			<u>83,503</u>		<u>93,505</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	3		(1,990)		(1,698)	
				<u>81,513</u>		<u>91,807</u>
Net Assets			<u>81,513</u>		<u>91,807</u>	
Funds						
Unrestricted funds	4		74,957		72,605	
Restricted funds	5		6,556		19,202	
Total Funds	6		<u>81,514</u>		<u>91,807</u>	

East Sussex Foster Care Association

Balance sheet (continued)

Directors statements required by the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2024

In approving these financial statements as trustees of the company we hereby confirm:

(a) that for the year stated above the company was entitled to the exemption conferred by section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 ;

(b) that no notice has been deposited at the registered office of the company pursuant to section 476 of the Companies Act 2006 requesting that an audit be conducted for the year ended 31 March 2024.

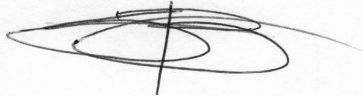
(c) that we acknowledge our responsibilities for:

(1) ensuring that the company keeps proper accounting records which comply with section 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006, and

(2) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its profit or loss for the year then ended in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395, and which otherwise comply with the provisions of the Companies Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with the provisions of Section 1A 'Small Entities' of Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The 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 financial statements were approved by the board on 9/12/2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Mrs S Beesley
Director and chair of trustees

East Sussex Foster Care Association

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year and the preceding year.

1.1. Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the provisions of Section 1A 'Small Entities' of 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.

1.2. Going concern

The trustees are of the view that the charity is a going concern and will continue for the foreseeable future.

1.3. Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included.

Grants and incoming resources from charitable activities are recognised in full in the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are receivable.

Income from investments is included in the year in which it is receivable.

1.3. Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT, which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

1.4. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Expenditure on individual items of office and computer equipment costing less than £5,000 is written off in the period in which the expenditure incurred.

1.5. Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity. Restricted funds are specifically for particular areas and projects undertaken by the charity.

1.6. Average number of employees

The average number of employees during the year was 1. There are also a number of volunteer support workers.

East Sussex Foster Care Association

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

2. Debtors and Prepayments

	2024 £	2023 £
PAYE debtor	-	18
	<u>-</u>	<u>18</u>

3. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Accountancy	1,632	1,593
Pension	98	105
PAYE creditor	152	-
Other creditor	108	-
	<u>1,990</u>	<u>1,698</u>

4. Unrestricted funds

	Balance at 01-Apr-23 £	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Balance at 31-Mar-24
General fund	72,605	16,115	8,925	(4,838)	74,957
Designated fund	-	20,000	30,209	10,209	-
	<u>72,605</u>	<u>36,115</u>	<u>39,133</u>	<u>5,370</u>	<u>74,957</u>

East Sussex Foster Care Association

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

5. Restricted funds

	Balance at 01-Apr-23 £	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Balance at 31-Mar-24
Advocacy support	5,438	4,968	5,318	-	5,088
CiN PGL events	1,317	-	7,946	6,630	-
Apprenticeship scheme	12,000	-	-	(12,000)	-
Keep it Reel	447	-	134	-	313
Membership	-	1,155	-	-	1,155
	<u>19,202</u>	<u>6,123</u>	<u>13,399</u>	<u>(5,370)</u>	<u>6,556</u>

6. Analysis of net assets by fund

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Current assets	76,947	6,556	83,503	93,505
Current liabilities	(1,990)	-	(1,990)	(1,698)
	<u>74,957</u>	<u>6,556</u>	<u>81,513</u>	<u>91,807</u>

7. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions other than expenditure reimbursement made to trustees. These payments were supported by documentary evidence such as receipts, and approved for payment by a third party.