

GRANDPARENTS PLUS trading as KINSHIP
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

Registered charity no 1093975
Company no 4454103

Annual Report and financial statements
31 MARCH 2022

GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

<u>Contents</u>	<u>Page</u>
Officers and professional advisers	1
Report of the trustees	2
Independent auditor's report	21
Statement of financial activities	25
Balance sheet	26
Statement of cash flows	27
Notes to the financial statements	28

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
OFFICERS AND PROFESSIONAL
ADVISERS**

Members of the board

Jayne Harrill, Chair
Julian Young, Honorary Treasurer
James Baker
Natalie Baldry
Frances Boughton (appointed July 2022)
Joseph Corry-Roake (appointed July 2022)
David Eaton (resigned July 2022)
Prof Elaine Farmer
Janet Kay (appointed July 2022)
Dr Nicola Sharp-Jeffs (appointed July 2022)
Yvette Stanley
Shanayd Warren (appointed July 2022,
resigned August 2022)

Chief Executive and Company Secretary

Dr Lucy Peake

Principal address and Registered Office

The Foundry
17 Oval Way
London
SE11 5RR

Auditor

Field Sullivan Limited
9 Hare & Billet Road
Blackheath
London
SE3 0RB

Bankers

Triodos Bank
Deanery Road
Bristol
BS1 5AS

Barclays Bank
Leicester
LE87 2BB

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

The trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with current statutory requirements, the charity's governing instrument, and the Statement of Recommended Practice (revised 2015), Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

Vision statement

A society in which kinship carers and the children they care for are recognised, valued and supported.

Mission statement

To ensure that kinship carers and the children they care for get the support and recognition they need.

Charitable objects

The charitable objects are:

- Object 1 to support kinship carers who are grandparents, family members or friends who care for children when a parent calls for help or when there has been family breakdown or in other difficult circumstances promoting the best interests of the children they care for.
- Object 2 to work with local authorities, children's services, voluntary agencies, social workers and other professionals, and kinship carers to promote better support for all children in kinship care.
- Object 3 to ensure the role of kinship carers and the wider family in caring for children is fully incorporated within legislation, and national and local government policy and practice.
- Object 4 to raise awareness of the contribution kinship carers make to society so that kinship carers are recognised, valued and supported.

Principal activities

Kinship is the only national charity dedicated solely to supporting kinship carers and their families, whatever their situation. Uniquely, we support all kinship carers, including grandparents and all other relatives and friends, and those with all legal orders or none. We want support for every kinship family when they need it, in the way they need it.

We:

- campaign with kinship carers for change so that their contribution to children's wellbeing and care is valued and understood.
- provide evidence, policy solutions, programmes and training so that kinship families receive the services and support they need to help children to thrive.
- advise and support kinship carers by ensuring that they have access to professional advice, information and peer support.
- advise, inform and support professionals to develop good kinship care practice.

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

Our **strategic objectives for 2021-2022** were:

- Raising **awareness**, understanding and recognition of the role of kinship carers in children's lives and in supporting families.
- Campaigning for **change** so the role of kinship carers is promoted and supported by legislation, policy and practice.
- Ensuring that kinship carers and their families are **supported** so they are able to access high quality information, advice and support when they need it.
- Building a **sustainable** future for the charity, diversifying income, building a strong team of staff and volunteers and investing in our infrastructure.

The trustees are aware of their requirements to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

Future Plans

Our new and ambitious growth and impact strategy for 2022-25 puts kinship families at the heart of everything we do. Our new growth and impact strategy focuses on achieving our goal that every kinship family is able to access the support they need.

Our **strategic objectives for 2022-25** are:

- **Changing Lives** – developing **support** for kinship families so they can access high quality information, advice and support, wherever they live.
- **Changing the system** – building **awareness**, understanding and recognition about kinship carers' role in children's lives, and **campaigning for change** so kinship care is promoted and supported by legislation, policy and practice.
- **Strengthening our culture** – being a brave, inclusive and high performing team, striving to be better for each other and the people we serve.
- **Strengthening our operations** – capitalising on our leading position by being ambitious, smart and strategic.

Financial Review

The financial statements reflect the operations of Kinship for the twelve months ended 31 March 2022.

The total income for the year declined by 11% from £2,357,085 in 2021 to £2,101,409 in 2022. 16% (2021: 25%) of the year's income was unrestricted and 84% (2021: 75%) restricted.

The unrestricted income includes a grant of £300,000 from players of the Peoples' Postcode Lottery towards our work during January – December 2022 which we have accounted for in full on receipt of the funds in accordance with Charities SORP.

Total expenditure increased by 5% from £1,809,600 in 2021 to £1,901,897 in 2022. The resulting net income for the year was £199,512 (2021: £547,483).

The net income of £199,512 is made up of a deficit of £173,802 (2021: £70,811 surplus) in unrestricted funds and a surplus of £373,314 (2021: £476,673 surplus) in restricted funds.

The total funds carried forward at 31 March 2022 were £1,477,810 (2021: £1,278,297),

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

being unrestricted funds of £380,989 (2021: £554,791) and restricted funds of £1,096,821 (2021: £723,507).

At 31 March 2022 the charity had cash resources of £1,584,762 (2021: £1,498,654). The trustees continue to make every effort to maintain adequate unrestricted cash reserves to ensure that Kinship is in a position to continue to operate and to serve its beneficiaries.

Fundraising

In 2021/22 we continued to diversify our sources of income. We are extremely grateful to all our funders and supporters for their generous support.

Our funders include:

- Ballinger Charitable Trust
- BBC Children in Need
- City Bridge Trust
- Comic Relief
- Cripplegate Foundation
- Department for Education - VCSE Covid 19
- The Dulverton Trust
- The Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
- Four Acre Trust
- Garfield Weston Foundation
- The Harebell Centenary Fund
- The Headley Trust
- The Mercer's Company, Funded with the support of The Charity of Sir Richard Whittington
- The National Lottery Community Fund – People and Places 3
- Permira Foundation
- Players of the People's Postcode Lottery through Postcode Support Trust
- Sport England Families Fund
- TNLCF – Kinship Compass
- Triangle Trust 1949 Fund

We would like to extend a special thanks to the Players of the People's Postcode Lottery for their generous support since 2017. This has supported our organisational growth and impact, our awareness raising and influencing activities, our vital advice service and helped us to reach and support more kinship carers through our growing community.

We are also grateful to the generous individuals who continue to support our work through donations and by completing challenge events, including the London Marathon, to raise funds for Kinship.

Reserves policy

The charity's reserves policy is to maintain unrestricted reserves to cover approximately six months' unrestricted operating expenditure of £253,250. We closed the year with unrestricted reserves of £380,989 (2021: £554,791).

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

Governance and management

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) serve for three years, after which period they may put themselves forward for re-appointment. The board of trustees keeps the skill requirements of its members under review and may appoint a person as a trustee either to fill a vacancy or as an additional trustee. New trustees may be sought by open advertisement or through a dialogue with existing supporters of the charity. The Articles of Association provide for a minimum of three trustees and a maximum of ten trustees. Newly appointed trustees receive an induction pack and training, which includes the charity's governing document and a briefing document describing the legal status, and role and responsibilities of trustees. They are invited to visit the offices of the charity for further informal briefings by the chief executive. Trustees are invited to staff planning days and encouraged to meet beneficiaries. The board is responsible for setting the strategy and policies of Kinship. The members of the board elect the Chair and appoint the chief executive. The chief executive is responsible to the board of trustees, through the Chair, for the execution of those policies.

Members of the board of trustees

The trustees who held office during the year are shown on page 1. There were four board meetings during the year and a trustee away day. In addition, the finance sub-committee meets quarterly, chaired by the Treasurer.

Staff and volunteers

The trustees wish to thank the skilled and committed staff and volunteers who are dedicated to ensuring that kinship carers are recognised, valued and supported. We are proud to work with kinship carers who are members of staff, trustees and advisory group members, and who also make up a growing group of volunteers who help deliver our advice service and programmes, influencing and awareness raising activities. They are transforming support for kinship families and we could not do what we do without them.

Our Kinship Care Advisory Group is made up of kinship carers from across England and Wales. Co-chaired by Natalie Baldry, a kinship carer and trustee, and our chief executive, the group is a key part of our commitment to ensuring that kinship carer voices are heard and shape our work at every level.

Remuneration of key personnel

The pay of the chief executive and senior leadership team is reviewed annually and may be increased in accordance with average earnings to reflect a cost-of-living adjustment.

Risk management and internal controls

The trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring that the charity has appropriate systems of control, both financial and operational.

The Finance Committee meets regularly and reviews the major financial and operational risks facing the charity. It monitors the implementation of any changes necessary to ensure that, as far as is reasonable, controls are in place to protect the charity, its members, its staff, the general

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

public and other stakeholders. Julian Young, the Treasurer, chaired the committee during 2021/22.

Kinship has a formal risk management process in place through which a trustee who leads on risk, the chief executive and the senior leadership team, identify the major risks to which the charity may be exposed. The identified risks are assessed and ranked based on the likelihood and impact, culminating in a risk control document which is updated on a regular basis. All significant risks, together with current mitigation actions, are reviewed quarterly by the trustees. The trustees are satisfied that systems have been developed and are in place to mitigate identified risks to an acceptable level.

The systems of internal control are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss. They include:

- An annual budget approved by the board.
- Regular consideration by the board of financial results, variance from budgets and non-financial performance indicators.
- Delegation of authority and operating procedures.

The principal risks and uncertainties identified by the trustees are as follows:

Risk identified	Action taken to mitigate the risk
Inflation and its impact on our beneficiaries, our people and our operations	Ongoing review of beneficiary needs and our services, focus on income generation and financial planning, annual cost of living salary review
Over reliance on project funding	Fundraising and business development strategies to diversify income, digital innovation and the roll out of new digital offerings.
Reduction in funding from major donors	Fundraising and business development strategies to diversify income
Data loss	Data Protection Policy and IT systems and processes reviewed regularly; new CRM system implemented with training for staff
The need to continuously adapt and evolve the way the charity offers advice and support for kinship carers.	Ongoing review of beneficiaries needs drawing on services insight, user feedback, and external agency input
External factors including societal and environmental changes that could impact delivery of services	Regularly review agreed deliverables, monitor effective completion of commissioned and other services, assess external factors and ensure business as usual measures are incorporated

The Trustees review the risk register quarterly and discuss any emerging risks and consider their potential impact on the charity.

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

Statement of trustees' responsibilities in respect of the trustees' report and financial statements

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report 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 net movement in funds, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing these 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 judgments 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 charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

In so far as the trustees are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the auditor is unaware. The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

Chief Executive's report

Kinship emerged from the COVID-19 crisis stronger and more determined to build back better to provide kinship families with the support they desperately need. We have continued to work with kinship carers to advocate boldly for more recognition and support for kinship families, and this year, with the investment by the government in England in a national peer support service for kinship carers, and the focus on kinship care by the Independent Review of Children's Social Care, we are encouraged that kinship carers are being heard and that positive change is coming. We described the final report of the Review as marking a pivotal moment for kinship care and we are determined to build on this through our campaigns, and by scaling services across England and Wales, until every kinship family is able to access the support they need.

I am incredibly proud to work with so many kinship carers to deliver positive change and

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

celebrate Kinship's achievements in delivering our ambitious strategic objectives. Working alongside kinship carers we make change happen. Whether that's developing and co-producing crucial new services for kinship carers, or campaigning for change by lobbying local authorities and Westminster Government to improve the kinship care system.

Looking back over 2021-22, I am very proud of Kinship's response to the pandemic and the difference we made to so many kinship carers and their families. Our staff united to support as many kinship families as we could through a significant expansion of advice, intensive one-to-one support and online and telephone peer support. We received a high commendation for the COVID-19 Frontline Team of the Year award at the Third Sector Awards, which was a great recognition of the achievements of our advice service and programmes colleagues.

This year, building on ten years' experience of working with kinship carers to develop peer support groups, we were delighted to win the contract to deliver a new national Kinship Peer-to-Peer Support Service in England, funded by the Department for Education (DfE). Kinship carers told us they wanted more support, more access to expert advice and information and more opportunities to connect with each other. We are making sure that where there is little, or no support, we're helping kinship carers to build new peer support groups. We plan to set up 100 new groups by December 2022. The response from kinship carers has been phenomenal and huge thanks to each and every one of the kinship carers who has come forward to volunteer with us to set up a new group. We are building real momentum and I am absolutely delighted that the DfE has extended our contract for a second year. We're also developing plans in Wales and we look forward to working with kinship carers and local partners to develop a strong network of peer support groups across the nations.

Additionally, with support from the National Lottery, we have developed *Kinship Compass*, realising our vision for a new digital information hub co-designed by kinship carers to enable kinship carers to find advice, information and support at every stage of their journey.

Kinship care has been heard by the Independent Review of Children's Social Care and our recommendations to urgently provide kinship carers with the financial, emotional and practical support they need were included in its final report. With incredible support from our funders Comic Relief and Triangle Trust 1949 Fund, we will continue to put pressure on the Government to develop a kinship care system that is fit for the future, and we will campaign alongside kinship carers until they receive the recognition and support they need.

We have continued to raise our profile and awareness in the media through key celebratory events such as Kinship Care Week and our annual national surveys of kinship carers. These have highlighted the postcode lottery nature of financial allowances. It is unacceptable that one third of kinship carers surveyed are under such financial strain that they are concerned they may not be able to continue to care for their children.

Our new Kinship Campaigners project provided training and support for groups of trailblazing kinship campaigners in Middlesbrough and Newcastle to create positive change. Their campaigning has helped create a blueprint for our national campaign which we are launching this Autumn.

Over the year, our committed Board and staff team have come together to develop an ambitious

GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

new growth and impact plan for 2022-25, a set of new values and a new equality, diversity and inclusion action framework.

I am excited that in the coming year, supported by the KPMG Foundation, we will work with an academic partner to undertake ground-breaking new research into the experiences of Black, Asian and minority ethnic kinship carers. This was noted as a research gap in the Care Review and we will use learning not only for our organisation, but to further understanding and catalyse change across the sector.

Our dedicated and passionate staff continue to drive the charity's ongoing commitment to improve kinship care in England and Wales, which improves the lives of thousands of kinship carers and their families. Our whole staff team contributed to our new strategy and developed our new values. Kinship families are at the heart of everything we do and our values demonstrate that we are inspired by kinship carers **to be bold** and fight for what is right with focus and determination. We know that we are **stronger together** and value collaboration to drive impact. We **step up** and take responsibility for changing lives and the system and we **put people first** by caring about each other, so people feel they belong and can thrive.

Over the next 12 months we will drive through our ambitious plans to secure the support and recognition kinship carers need and deserve and we will not stop until we have achieved this goal. Thank you to all our kinship families for everything you do to create change and to all our inspirational volunteers who support families and each other. We couldn't have achieved what we have done so far without our kinship carers, staff, funders, charity and local authority partners. You make our work possible and I am privileged to work alongside you.

Sincerest thanks.



Dr Lucy Peake, Chief Executive

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

Trustees annual report

Our strategic objectives for 2021/22 were:

- Raising awareness, understanding and recognition of the role of kinship carers in children's lives and in supporting families.
- Campaigning for change so the role of kinship carers is promoted and supported by legislation, policy and practice.
- Ensuring that kinship carers and their families are supported so they are able to access high quality information, advice and support when they need it.
- Building a sustainable future for the charity, diversifying income, building a strong team of staff and volunteers and investing in our infrastructure.

Everything we do is focused on achieving our goal that every kinship family will be able to access the support they need. In line with our strategic objectives, we have focused on the following priorities during 2021-22:

- Understanding and responding to the specific needs of kinship families during the Covid-19 pandemic, including extending and developing advice and support services to meet their needs.
- Delivering high quality, evidence-based and impactful support programmes in new regions in England and into Wales.
- Developing a sustainable network of kinship carer-led peer support groups, including virtual peer support and piloting new regional forums for support group leaders.
- Developing a new digital information hub to enable potential and current kinship carers to find sources of advice, information and support.
- Growing our vibrant kinship care community, connecting kinship carers with each other and with us for support and to influence change.
- Raising awareness about kinship care, including through high profile media coverage and leading the national awareness campaign, Kinship Care Week.
- Investing in our policy, practice and research capacity and collaborating with kinship carers, local authorities, charity partners, academics and others to improve kinship care policy and practice.
- Undertaking a whole organisation review of our approach to diversity and tackling racism, including addressing the lack of ethnic diversity on our Board and senior team.
- Further work on our brand and positioning to help us reach our beneficiaries and achieve our objectives.

Strategic Objective 1 – Raising awareness, understanding and recognition of the role of kinship carers in children's lives and in supporting families.

We were proud to stand alongside so many kinship carers to raise awareness of the crucial role they play in keeping families together and the support they so desperately need, helping to put kinship care in the spotlight like never before. We secured unprecedented levels of media attention during the year which we could not have achieved without kinship carers' support and expertise. Highlights included high profile media coverage leading the sector to promote the national awareness campaign - Kinship Care Week, the publication of our annual surveys of kinship carers, and being selected as one of Comic Relief's featured Red Nose Day charities. Kinship carers were central to all these key pieces of awareness-raising work.

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

Throughout the year we secured our highest ever level of media coverage - a total of 43 pieces - 20 national, 10 regional and 13 sector pieces compared to a total of 28 pieces last year. Our social media followers also grew, as we extended our reach to more kinship carers, supporters and those interested in the issues. Our Facebook followers grew to 5,335 from 4,650 at the start of the year, an increase of 15%; Instagram grew to 456 from 189 up by 140%; LinkedIn grew to 454 from 286 up by 37%; and Twitter up to 7,176 from 6,834 up by 5%.

The investment in developing the website attracted a total number of 306,630 users (not unique visitors) compared to 242,793 in 2020/21.

Key media coverage included:

In June 2021 we launched our annual financial allowances survey which was covered exclusively by BBC News with a piece featuring a kinship carer talking about the impact of inconsistent allowances on her family and an interview with our chief executive. The story ran on BBC online, and across 13 regional BBC programmes. It was also published by sector media.

In July 2021 ITV Love Your Garden with Alan Titchmarsh featured one of our project workers who is a kinship carer. Kinship nominated by Kinship for a garden make-over for her tireless work supporting and campaigning for kinship carers. The programme led to a spike in enquiries for advice.

In October 2021, for the fourth year in a row, Kinship led national Kinship Care Week, working with Kinship Carers Liverpool and other members of the Kinship Care Alliance, local authorities and the wider sector to thank and celebrate kinship families, raise awareness of the challenges they face, and call for more and consistent support. Due to the pandemic a digital campaign was developed. Video messages, images and notes were submitted by kinship families and shared externally through a dedicated Kinship Care Week website, as well as on social media. We also created downloadable social media toolkits for organisations to use to promote and support #KinshipCareWeek.

In the run up to Kinship Care Week, we published our annual State of the Nation Survey which secured media coverage and strengthened our messaging during Kinship Care Week. Between 01/09/2021 – 09/11/2021 we secured 8 national pieces of coverage (print and broadcast), regional radio interviews and 5 sector press articles.

Kinship Care Week was supported by Will Quince MP, Minister for Children and Families, who visited a North London support group and we hosted a webinar with Josh MacAlister, Chair of the Independent Review of Children's Social Care.

We were delighted to be selected as one of Comic Relief's featured Red Nose Day charities. Kinship appeared in a three-minute appeal film, featuring one of our campaigning kinship carers and her family, for Olympic Gold medalist Tom Daley's 'Hell of a Homecoming' documentary, which was broadcast to primetime audiences on BBC1 and BBC2 on 14 March 2022. This film played a significant role in raising awareness of kinship carers and Kinship and highlighted the need for greater support. Off the back of the documentary, between 01/03/2022 - 24/06/2022, Kinship secured 7 national pieces of coverage, 2 pieces of regional broadcast coverage and 4 sector press articles.

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

In March 2022, we were a finalist for the Charity Film Awards in the £500k-£5m category for our short film '*Something to be proud of*': <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-IDYP3lrnvE>.

At the end of March 2021, we changed our name from Grandparents Plus to Kinship to fully identify who we are and who we represent so we can fight for the rights of every kinship carer and reach and support more people who desperately need us in a time of crisis. The launch of our name change was well received by staff and external audiences, across all platforms. During our name change week, our top performing Facebook post asking people to join our Kinship Community reached 5,492 people (mostly kinship carers) with 686 post clicks – our highest ever.

In order to support our strategic objectives to raise awareness of kinship care and secure policy, practice and legislative change, we recruited to a new communications and external affairs directorate led by co-directors of communications and external affairs who joined in October 2021. Their high performing team is continuing to build on the increased interest and attention in kinship care, driving forward our awareness and influencing work, strengthening Kinship's positioning as the leading kinship care charity, as well as improving our engagement with kinship carers. Having commissioned research from Britain Thinks into how best to talk about kinship care and make the case for it within the public sphere, findings are being used across the organisation's communications and fundraising activity.

Strategic Objective 2 - Campaigning for change so that the role of kinship carers is promoted and supported by legislation, policy and practice.

Our vibrant Kinship Community which keeps carers feeling connected with Kinship and with other kinship carers, through opportunities to come together, to campaign, to read news stories about kinship care and keep up to date with what we are doing, is thriving and expanding. Over the past year the Community has grown by 33% from 8,500 to 11,345 members.

Our annual State of the Nation Survey which focused on recovery post-covid, as well as on the financial impact of being a kinship carer, received the highest ever number of responses - over 1,600.

Our inaugural survey of financial allowances was completed by over 1,900 kinship carers looking after over 2,800 children, making it the largest ever survey of kinship carers in the UK. The evidence from this survey bolstered our call for all kinship carers to receive a financial allowance on par with the national minimum fostering allowance. We plan to repeat the survey annually as we step up our campaign for fair financial allowances.

We were delighted to receive significant funding from Comic Relief and the Triangle Trust 1949 Fund to enable us to start to develop high profile awareness and influencing campaigns, mobilising kinship carers and other supporters to demonstrate the strength of feeling for urgent reform of kinship care policy to the key decision makers.

In the North-East, we launched a one-year project in July 2021 to develop, train and deliver local carer campaigning groups in Middlesbrough and Newcastle to create positive local change. The trailblazing campaigners successfully lobbied MPs, Mayors and local authorities in the area to commit to raising awareness around kinship care, providing better training for social workers and

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

ensuring they have access to improved information and support. Achievements included:

- Commitment from Newcastle Council to develop a kinship care webpage and newsletter, training for social workers and improved support for kinship carers.
- Commitment from the Middlesbrough Mayor and Stockton Council's director of children's services to raise awareness and understanding, and improve information about kinship care.
- Commitment from Teesside University to include kinship care in social worker training, building on our previous partnership with Northumbria University.

In Wales we launched our first e-campaign during the Senedd Election 2021 asking kinship carers and the public to email local candidates to pledge support for our Kinship Care Manifesto 2021 for Wales. The campaign secured pledges from 15 candidates.

In the second half of the year, we started to develop Kinship's England and Wales three-year campaign, which is due to launch in October 2022. The campaign aims to build on the momentum created by the Independent Review of Children's Social Care in England to ensure that a reform programme of the scale recommended by the Review is implemented across England and Wales. Working closely with kinship carers through a new campaign steering group, the early stages of the campaign development involved deciding which policy areas the campaign will focus on, commissioning research into how to message and position these to ensure they resonate with target audiences and identifying the most effective mechanisms for bringing about the changes we want to see. We have also begun to lay the foundations for the campaign in our external communications and public affairs activities, highlighting key policy calls in response to external developments such as the Independent Review of Children's Social Care.

We invested in our policy, practice and research capacity and collaborated with kinship carers, local authorities, charity partners, academics and others to improve kinship care policy and practice.

Our political engagement and influencing work significantly increased this year. We developed relationships with a number of key ministers and Parliamentarians, who have taken part in our events and mentioned our work in debates. We also submitted evidence to a number of consultations and inquiries, including the Work and Pensions Select Committee inquiry about child poverty, the Commission on Young Lives, and the Education Select Committee's inquiry into children's homes.

Most significantly, we ensured our recommendations and kinship carers' voices were heard and included in the Independent Review of Children's Social Care's report.

We worked very closely with the Review team throughout the year to share our organisational expertise and insights, and to support meaningful dialogue with kinship carers across England. This included sharing evidence from our annual surveys and services, developing a theory of change around the provision of financial allowances for kinship carers, and facilitating programme visits and events for the Review team to learn directly from those with significant personal and professional experience of kinship care. One of the members of our kinship carer advisory group was the only kinship carer representative on the Care Review's Experts by Experience group which facilitated consultation with carers and contributed evidence and expertise. Following our work, we were delighted to see the Review's final report make a strong

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

case for recognising and supporting kinship care when published in May 2022. Many of the recommendations made represented significant campaign wins for Kinship, including the provision of financial allowances, kinship care leave and improved peer support for kinship carers.

In March 2022 we published *Out of the Shadows: a vision for kinship care in England* which set out our vision for a radically reformed kinship care system in England ahead of the final report of the Independent Review of Children's Social Care. Based on our years of expertise, and developed in consultation with kinship carers, it highlighted the financial, practical and emotional support urgently needed for the kinship families of today and articulated the long-term changes required to create a future fit for the kinship families of tomorrow. To mark the launch, we hosted a roundtable event in Westminster with key parliamentary and sector allies, as well as Review Chair, Josh MacAlister.

Our chief executive continued to contribute to the Adoption and Special Guardianship Leadership Board (ASGLB) and chaired its new Special Guardianship Task Group. During the year the Task Group's work included hosting an online roundtable for local authorities to drive improvements in the provision of financial allowances for special guardians. This included a presentation of a deep dive study undertaken by our policy and practice advisor for the ASGLB (published in July 2022). Kinship was also represented on regional boards in London, the South East and the East Midlands.

We played a key role in establishing the ASGLB's Special Guardian Reference Group on which two of our project workers sit. We're also delighted that one has also been invited to be the special guardian representative on the national ASGLB.

We published the first research report on the views and experiences of social work practitioners working in kinship care, which was conducted by Joan Hunt, Honorary Professor, Cardiff School of Law and Politics.

Kinship secured funding from BBC Children in Need for a ground-breaking new project to bring together a group of kinship care-experienced Young Champions to raise awareness and accelerate policy, practice and legislative change in kinship care. We hired a Senior Youth Participation Worker who began to develop the project and recruit the young people in north London.

Our Development Manager in Wales was invited to represent Kinship on the Welsh Government Technical Group on the National Minimum Allowance Review.

Our Professionals' Network for practitioners interested in kinship care to share and develop best practice, now meets four times a year and has grown by 40% to 1,204 in the last year.

We also launched a new Researchers' Network chaired by Professor Elaine Farmer, Kinship Trustee, which has already grown to 66 members.

Strategic Objective 3 - Ensuring that kinship carers and their families are supported so they can access high quality information, advice and support when they need it.

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

Supporting kinship families during the pandemic

During 2021/22, Kinship worked tirelessly to support as many kinship carers as possible as we emerged from the COVID-19 crisis. Kinship carers who were already struggling and feeling isolated, needed additional ongoing support. Our research reflects that kinship carers are more likely to be older, have a chronic health condition or disability, be single, unemployed, poorly housed, socially isolated, live in poverty, and raising children with physical or mental health issues when compared to other groups tasked with raising children.

During the pandemic and up until April 2022, we worked in collaboration with local authorities and regional adoption agencies to deliver our *Kinship Response* service which advised and supported special guardians, with funding through the Adoption Support Fund (ASF) COVID-19 fund. A review of the scheme for the DfE found over a third of the 23,000 families supported were those raising children under a Special Guardianship Order. The review acknowledged the positive impact of Kinship's services, in particular one-to-one and peer support for special guardians. We welcomed the report's findings that showed there could be benefit in making reforms to the core ASF that would better meet the needs of kinship families and increase access to support.

We also extended advice and support services to kinship carers across England and Wales during the pandemic. Funding from the DfE in England and National Lottery Wales enabled Kinship to support all kinship carers regardless of legal status, including informal kinship carers and their children who are often the most vulnerable, invisible to local authority services, and less likely to access other services. We provided advice and information either by phone or online, one-to-one remote support from a project worker for complex cases, virtual peer support groups, and our phone-based *Someone Like Me* service offering peer support from an experienced kinship carer volunteer.

Our programmes teams in England and Wales won a high commendation for the COVID-19 Frontline Team of the Year award at the Third Sector Awards ceremony in September 2021, a great recognition of their achievements.

Delivering high quality programmes in England and Wales

Partnering with local authorities in order to increase support for kinship families has been a key focus for the programmes team with 35 local authorities commissioning our services over the last year. We were delighted to extend into new areas, including in Wales where we continued to deliver the services launched during the pandemic in Rhondda Cynon Taff (RCT) and Merthyr Tydfil. We secured our first commissioned service in Wales for 2022/23 in RCT.

Kinship Connected

Kinship Connected helped 17 local authorities improve outcomes for special guardians and other kinship carers through intensive one-to-one support and peer support groups. The programme helps kinship carers build resilience and develop long-term supportive networks which result in a more stable environment in which the children in their care can thrive. Our experienced project workers provide one-to-one family support, offering guidance to help kinship carers find the support they need. Some of our community peer support groups returned to meeting in person, but most continued to run online following the pandemic. Kinship carers told us how invaluable the support was. Without the steady, independent, ongoing guidance, support and motivation from project workers, which was particularly needed during turbulent times, many carers would

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

have struggled, and support groups would have found it difficult to keep going.

In England we provided one-to-one support to 346 carers and held 613 support groups for over 3,500 carers. In Wales we supported 81 families with one-to-one support and held 91 peer support groups for 675 carers. We supported 427 carers in England and Wales with one-to-one support through Kinship Connected, compared to 300 in 2020/21 and we held 704 peer support groups for 4,200 carers.

Kinship Ready

Many kinship carers are granted a Special Guardianship Order for the child in their care. We know from experience and our research that before and just after the order is granted can be the most challenging time for special guardians. We also know that the right support during this period can have a positive impact for the family. *Kinship Ready* offers preparatory workshops for any prospective or current special guardian. It provides kinship carers with an opportunity to meet other special guardians. We delivered the Kinship Ready workshops in nine local authorities in 2021/22 and held 23 (2021: 16) workshops for 151 (2021: 127) carers.

Kinship Response (now Kinship Reach)

Our Kinship Response programme helped special guardians and other kinship carers with the challenges of raising relatives' children during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. Support offered included access to our advice service, virtual support groups, and support with digital skills and technology to help keep people connected during difficult times.

Kinship Response relaunched as Kinship Reach (a name chosen by kinship carers in Wales) in April 2022 and offers support over a period of three months. The feedback obtained shows the carers felt supported at a time when there was no other place to turn to for help.

- 910 special guardians received one-to-one tailored support across England
- 60 support groups were attended by 545 kinship carers and 157 carers were supported by one-to-one support

"I felt supported at a time when there was no place to turn for help. Thank you so much for being there for me" – kinship carer.

Kinship Active

Our Sport England-funded programme, Kinship Active, which was delivered in Middlesbrough and Redcar and Cleveland, was extended to March 2022 due to the pandemic. Kinship Active provided a supportive environment with virtual support groups and online activities which allowed kinship families to get more active together. Families had access to project worker support, free or low-cost local activities, and a peer support network. Our partner, Middlesbrough Football Club Foundation, led online weekly motivational chats and competitions that supported kinship carers to live a more active lifestyle using household objects as equipment. Healthy eating and migraine advice sessions were just some of the themed Facebook 'lives' that the team produced. A special 'walk to Lapland' activity gave kinship carers a goal to complete together, with them making over 5,438,957 virtual steps from Teesside to Lapland in time for Christmas. Key learnings from the programme have been incorporated into our *Kinship Connected* programme.

During the year, we ran 118 peer support groups attended by 497 carers (not unique attendees). In 20/21 49 carers and 162 children/young people attended activities.

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

We continued to build our evidence-base and partnered with Ecorys and What Works Centre for Children's Social Care, on a one-year project to scope a pilot randomised controlled trial of Kinship Connected, which will look at the impact of the programme on children's mental health. If this is successful, we hope to secure funding to measure the outcomes of our services directly on children.

We co-hosted a visit of the Care Review team with Walsall Council where they met kinship carers, our project worker and Walsall's team. We were delighted to see our *Kinship Connected* programme included in the final Care Review report.

Someone Like Me

Our peer-to-peer telephone support service, Someone Like Me, provided one-to-one support to over 221 kinship carers. The service matches kinship carers with volunteers who are experienced kinship carers who have been specially trained to listen and provide emotional support. We supported 27 trained kinship carer volunteers to provide a listening ear and a shared experience for kinship carers who were really struggling.

"Volunteering with Someone Like Me has made me feel part of the wider community of kinship carers as we are often isolated and 'hidden' within society. On the calls, carers find we understand the multitude of complex emotions, frustrations and relationships involved and there is often mutual support and appreciation for our individual kinship carer journeys" - Julia, kinship carer.

Advice Service

Our advice team helped 3,174 carers, an increase of 7% on last year (2,966).

Of these, 65% of enquiries were online; 28% by phone and 7% internal referrals. The top three issues were: benefits, legal orders, and support.

We obtained 150 grants for carers which totalled £49k. This dropped from £185k in the previous year due to reduced availability of grants from charity partners. We are grateful to those who continued to support kinship families.

We obtained 57 holiday grants totalling £22,000. Thanks to Family Holiday Charity for supporting kinship families to have a break.

"Thank you so much for our holiday in Berwick, there is only one word to describe our experience 'fantastic'. Thank you so much, everyone was so helpful, our girls absolutely loved everything. You are a wonderful organisation."

The team identified £1.8m unclaimed benefits, an increase of 180% from £639,286 in 2020/21.

With funding from National Lottery Wales, we hired a Welsh-speaking advice worker to provide support in the Welsh language and on any legislation specific to Wales.

Peer Support Service

In November 2021 the Department for Education (DfE) awarded a £1 million contract to Kinship for the development and delivery of a game-changing Peer-to-Peer Support Service for kinship

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

carers across England. This contract builds on our experience of developing peer support groups with kinship carers since 2012.

Kinship carers responded positively to the opportunity to train as support group leaders and to set up new groups in poorly served areas. The goal is to set up 100 new groups by December 2022, as well as to build the capacity of existing groups by offering an online hub of resources, training, masterclasses, free advice workshops and an online peer-to-peer chat service.

"Without the group and the project worker, I would have had a nervous breakdown. It's given me so many resources that were such a help to me. I am so grateful for this group because there was just nothing else." – Maria, kinship carer.

Kinship Compass – a new digital information hub

We have worked with kinship carers and digital agency TPXImpact to develop *Kinship Compass*, a new digital information hub to enable potential and current kinship carers to find advice, information and support, funded by the National Lottery Digital Fund. As part of the new Peer Support Service, funded by the Department for Education, we are developing peer support group content which is searchable by postcode. Our vision for Kinship Compass is a digital one-stop-shop, co-designed by kinship carers, through which kinship carers at every stage of their journey can access information, expert advice and peer support. It will launch later in 2022.

Strategic Objective 4 – Building a sustainable future for the charity, diversifying income, building a strong team of staff and volunteers and investing in our infrastructure.

Building a strong staff team

During the last year, staff were actively supported to work flexibly to help them balance work and caring responsibilities. We created and refined new ways to bring staff together online, including regular all staff meetings to keep everyone up-to-date, informal 'staff kitchens' and 'walk and talks', and themed after-work events. We increased our focus on supporting staff wellbeing and promoted our confidential Employee Assistance programme. Our virtual away-days started a series of Wellbeing Wednesdays where all staff took an afternoon off at the same time. We are working on other initiatives to improve staff wellbeing, including Mental Health First Aid training.

Our staff team grew from 50 to 59. We recruited to the new communications and external affairs directorate as well as to the 18-strong peer support team. We also invested in new finance, fundraising, governance and executive team support and volunteering roles.

Volunteers played an integral role in our work. Our *Someone Like Me* volunteers provided telephone support to fellow kinship carers, while our grants volunteers completed funding applications and helped secure furniture, white goods and much more for kinship carers in need.

Our Kinship Care Champion volunteers helped raise awareness and campaigned for greater support for vulnerable carers, and our support group leader volunteers ran online groups for carers, providing vital connection and guidance during the pandemic.

An Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Action Framework

In November 2021, our Board and leadership team set a clear intention to become an anti-racist charity and approved an Equality Diversity and Inclusion Action Framework for moving towards

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

that goal. Our action framework was developed with the involvement of our whole staff group during a six-month learning and development process supported by a consultant from The Inclusive Village. The consultant inspired, challenged and supported our staff and Board to explore barriers and enablers for anti-racism change. The framework acts as a living compass, guiding us on the long-term anti-racism change journey, and will be reviewed and updated by our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Working Group, leadership team and Board periodically to ensure it continues to be relevant, delivering objectives of anti-racism change. Importantly, it has been embedded into our strategic plan for 2022-25, as well as our organisational values.

As part of the framework, Trustees set targets to increase diversity on the Board, and during 2022 we will recruit for more trustees with kinship care experience, as well as greater ethnic diversity. We also reviewed our recruitment processes, and we are now working purposefully with specialist agencies to ensure diverse shortlists for senior roles.

The next phase of our work will focus on understanding and responding to the needs of kinship families. This will include working to understand more about how racism affects the families we exist to support and ensuring that our services are as inclusive as possible.

Supported by the KPMG Foundation, we plan to work with an academic partner to undertake ground-breaking and vital research about the experiences of kinship carers from Black, Asian and minority ethnic backgrounds. This work will address a notable research gap and findings will inform the design and delivery of our own work as well as influencing the sector.

Investing in our infrastructure

As highlighted above we developed a new digital information hub, *Kinship Compass*, to enable potential and current kinship carers to find sources of advice, information and support.

We invested in Salesforce which is used by all programmes, advice and fundraising staff to monitor cases, advice stats, impact, and fundraising pipelines. The plan is for this to be rolled out to all staff and integrated with other systems so we can better communicate with our stakeholders and monitor their engagement.

Our plans for 2022/23

Kinship families are at the heart of everything we do and our new growth and impact strategy for 2022/25 is focused on achieving our goal that every kinship family is able to access the support they need.

Our strategic objectives 2022-25

- **Changing Lives** – developing **support** for kinship families so they can access high quality information, advice and support wherever they live
- **Changing the System** – building **awareness**, understanding and recognition about kinship carers' role in children's lives. Campaigning for **change** so kinship care is promoted and supported by legislation, policy and practice.
- **Strengthening our Culture** – we're a brave, inclusive and high performing team striving to be better for each other and the people we serve
- **Strengthening our Systems** – we're capitalising on our leading position by being ambitious, smart and strategic

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

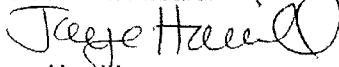
During 2022/23 we will:

1. Deliver high quality, evidence-based support programmes in England and Wales that make a difference for kinship carers.
2. Develop and deliver a peer support service in England and increase the number of sustainable kinship carer-led peer support groups across England and Wales.
3. Develop our advice service and launch a new digital information hub to enable potential and current kinship carers to find advice, information and support when they need it.
4. Grow our kinship care community to connect kinship carers with each other and with us for support and to influence change.
5. Develop an organisation-wide approach to participation so that kinship carers and young people are well-supported to influence our work.
6. Raise awareness about kinship care, including through high profile media coverage and leading the national awareness campaign Kinship Care Week.
7. Develop and launch a new high-profile campaign, with meaningful kinship carer participation and stakeholder engagement that delivers impact.
8. Contribute to the development of kinship care policy, practice and research, collaborating with kinship carers, policy makers, local authorities, charity partners and academics to increase understanding and drive positive change.
9. Focus on delivering our EDI action plan, including addressing the lack of ethnic diversity on our Board and senior team, commissioning new research and reviewing and developing our services to ensure they meet the needs of all kinship families.
10. Invest in our infrastructure to ensure systems and processes support our people to work efficiently and effectively.
11. Invest in our people, embedding our values, developing our leadership and management capacity and skills, supporting teams and staff to adapt post-pandemic, and supporting staff wellbeing.
12. Have a relentless focus on learning, horizon scanning and collaborating to innovate and income generate to support further growth and impact and deliver real change for kinship families.

Small companies' provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

By order of the board.


Jayne Harrill
Chair

Dated: 11 November 2022

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF GRANDPARENTS PLUS

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Grandparents Plus (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise Statement of financial activities, balance sheet, cash flow statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF GRANDPARENTS PLUS

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for company law purposes, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report.

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 19, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF GRANDPARENTS PLUS

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Discussions were held with the directors with a view to identifying those laws and regulations that could be expected to have a material impact on the financial statements.

The following laws and regulations were identified as being of significance to the entity:

- Those laws and regulations considered to have a direct effect on the financial statements include UK financial reporting standards and Company Law and Charity Law.
- It is considered that there are no laws and regulations for which non-compliance may be fundamental to the operating aspects of the business.

Audit procedures undertaken in response to the potential risks relating to irregularities (which include fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations) comprised of: inquiries of management and those charged with governance as to whether the entity complies with such laws and regulations; enquiries with the same concerning any actual or potential litigation or claims; inspection of relevant legal correspondence; review of board minutes; testing the appropriateness of entries in the nominal ledger, including journal entries; reviewing transactions around the end of the reporting period; and the performance of analytical procedures to identify unexpected movements in account balances which may be indicative of fraud.

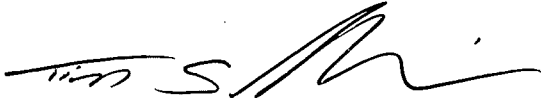
No instances of material non-compliance were identified. However, the likelihood of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is limited by the inherent difficulty in detecting irregularities, the effectiveness of the entity's controls, and the nature, timing and extent of the audit procedures performed. Irregularities that result from fraud might be inherently more difficult to detect than irregularities that result from error. As explained above, there is an unavoidable risk that material misstatements may not be detected, even though the audit has been planned and performed in accordance with ISAs (UK).

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF GRANDPARENTS PLUS



Tim Sullivan (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Field Sullivan Limited, Statutory Auditor
9 Hare & Billet Road
Blackheath
SE3 0RB

Dated: 11/11/22

GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
Charity No: 1093975 Company No: 04454103
Statement of Financial Activities
Income and expenditure account
For the year to 31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
INCOME					See note 17 for detail
Donations, grants and legacies:	2				
General		332,113	-	332,113	593,239
Advice Service and other restricted funded services		-	489,441	489,441	373,402
Kinship Care Support Services		-	461,828	461,828	326,274
Service Development		-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	3				
Kinship Care Support Services		-	817,442	817,442	1,062,740
Investment income		706	-	706	1,428
TOTAL INCOME		332,819	1,768,711	2,101,531	2,357,084
EXPENDITURE					
Raising funds	4	87,107	-	87,107	76,729
Charitable activities	5	419,327	1,395,397	1,814,724	1,732,872
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		506,433	1,395,397	1,901,830	1,809,601
Net Income/(expenditure) for the year	8	(173,614)	373,314	199,699	547,483
Transfer between funds	15	-	-	-	-
Net Income/(expenditure) for the year		(173,614)	373,314	199,699	547,483
Fund balances at 1 April 2021		554,791	723,507	1,278,297	730,814
Fund balances as at 31 March 2022	15	381,177	1,096,821	1,477,997	1,278,297

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

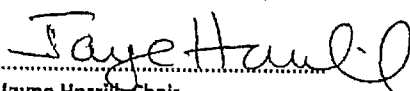
GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
BALANCE SHEET
As at 31 March 2022
Company number: 04454103

		2022		2021
		£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS				
Tangible fixed assets	12		34,282	29,327
CURRENT ASSETS				
Trade debtors and grants receivable	13	258,114		81,558
Prepayments and sundry debtors	13	4,205		6,002
Cash at bank and in hand		1,584,883		1,498,654
		<u>1,847,202</u>		<u>1,586,214</u>
CREDITORS: due within one year	14	<u>(403,487)</u>		<u>(337,244)</u>
Net current assets			1,443,715	1,248,970
Net assets	16		<u>1,477,997</u>	<u>1,278,297</u>
FUNDS				
Restricted funds			1,096,821	723,507
Unrestricted funds			381,177	554,791
TOTAL FUNDS	15		<u>1,477,997</u>	<u>1,278,297</u>

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

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime and with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

The Board of Directors approved the financial statements on 30 September 2022 and duly authorised the Chairman to sign on its behalf:


Jayne Harrill, Chair

The notes on pages 26 to 38 form part of these financial statements

GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
For the year ended 31 March 2022
Company number: 04454103

	2022 £	2021 £
Net cash generated/(used) in operating activities	108,644	856,883
<i>Cash flows from investing activities</i>		
Purchase of fixed assets	(22,415)	(29,842)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	<u>86,229</u>	<u>827,041</u>
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	1,498,654	671,613
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	<u>1,584,883</u>	<u>1,498,654</u>
 Reconciliation of net movement of funds to net cash used in operating activities		
Net movement in funds	199,699	547,483
Depreciation	17,460	15,785
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(174,759)	156,985
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	66,244	136,630
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>108,644</u>	<u>856,883</u>

The notes on pages 26 to 38 form part of these financial statements

GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year to 31 March 2022

1. Accounting policies

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 2019)-(Charities SORP(FRS 102)), and the Companies Act 2006.

Statutory information

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee with no share capital, domiciled in England and Wales, registration number 04454103.

In the event of the charity being wound up the liability in respect of the guarantee is restricted to £10 per member of the company.

The address of the registered office is The Foundry, 17 Oval Way, London, SE11 5RR.

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the board on 22 September 2022.

The charity meets the definition of a public entity under FRS 102.

The presentation currency is £ sterling.

The following principal accounting policies have been applied:

Going concern

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

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the periods in which the estimate is revised where revisions affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revisions affects both current and future periods.

Income and endowments

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

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year to 31 March 2022

1. Accounting policies (Cont'd)

Deferred income

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which, it has been received. Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Support costs

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

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £500 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation and amortisation

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

Fixtures, fittings and office equipment 25% straight line

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due in respect of charitable services performed in the normal course of operations. They are recognised initially at the transaction price and are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less a provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is evidence the charity will not be able to collect all the amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

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

GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year to 31 March 2022

1. Accounting policies (Cont'd)

Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods and services that have been provided in the normal course of operations. They are classified as current liabilities in the absence of an unconditional right to defer settlement into a period more than 12 months after the accounting date. They are recognised initially at the transaction price and are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Fund accounting

Restricted and unrestricted funds are separately disclosed, as set out in note 16.

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

Restricted funds are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Statutory grants which are given as contributions towards the charity's core services are treated as unrestricted.

Financial instruments

Classification

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

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

Recognition and measurement

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

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

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

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

GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year to 31 March 2022

2. Donations, grants and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted - Other funds	Restricted - Kinship Care support service	2022 Total Funds	2021 Total Funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Grants and donations (see below)	319,203	489,441	461,828	1,270,472	1,215,916
Publications	1,276	-	-	1,276	82
Individual fundraising	7,573	-	-	7,573	61,901
Membership fees	-	-	-	-	5,692
Sundry income	4,061	-	-	4,061	9,324
	332,113	489,441	461,828	1,283,382	1,292,915

Analysis of voluntary grants, trust fundraising and donations

Players of the People's Postcode Lottery through Postcode Support Trust(1)	300,000	-	-	300,000	300,000
The Mercers' Company, Supported by The Charity of Sir Richard Whittington	-	19,833	-	19,833	10,000
Sport England Families Fund	-	2,975	113,030	116,005	69,444
The Dulverton Trust	-	-	-	-	30,000
The Headley Trust	-	25,000	-	25,000	25,000
Cripplegate Foundation	-	1,000	19,000	20,000	20,215
TNLCF - Kinship Compass	-	149,733	-	149,733	198,356
The Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	-	60,750	-	60,750	90,000
Supported by City Bridge Trust, the funding arm of The City of London Corporation's Charity, Bridge House Estates (1035628)	-	41,000	-	41,000	40,000
Newcastle Fund	-	-	-	-	27,392
Department for Education - VCSE Covid-19	-	-	262,823	262,823	147,753
The National Lottery Community Fund - People and Places 3	-	10,731	46,975	57,706	41,220
The Harebell Centenary Fund	10,000	-	-	10,000	10,000
Ballinger Charitable Trust	-	-	20,000	20,000	20,000
Triangle Trust	-	48,000	-	48,000	-
Kickstart Scheme	-	13,129	-	13,129	-
BBC Children in Need	-	10,085	-	10,085	-
Comic Relief	-	83,500	-	83,500	-
Four Acre Trust	-	6,250	-	6,250	-
Other trust grants	13,320	3,500	-	16,820	7,500
Other grants, donations	-	4,117	13,955	9,838	179,036
	319,203	489,441	461,828	1,270,472	1,215,916

(1) The grant was received for activities during the period January – December 2021 and the funds are designated to cover activities across the charity

GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year to 31 March 2022

3. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Support service Services	-	817,442	817,442	1,062,740
	-	817,442	817,442	1,062,740

4. Costs of raising funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Staff costs	85,354	-	85,354	65,363
Other costs	1,753	-	1,753	11,366
	87,107	-	87,107	76,729

5. Resources expended

	Staff costs £	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	Total 2022 £	2021 £
Advice Service	154,677	-	37,633	192,310	221,550
Kinship Care Support Services	930,019	-	273,068	1,203,087	1,064,193
Core	248,394	-	170,933	419,327	447,129
Total charitable expenditure	1,333,090	-	481,634	1,814,724	1,732,872
Costs of generating charitable income	85,354	-	1,753	87,107	76,729
Total resources expended	1,418,444	-	483,387	1,901,830	1,809,601

Details of staff costs are given in note 7.

GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year to 31 March 2022

6. Support costs

	Other charitable			
	Total	Activities	Core	
	2022	2022	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Other staff costs	15,016	-	15,016	1,104
Premises costs	50,368	-	50,368	42,442
Postage	1,520	-	1,520	507
Telecommunications	2,866	-	2,866	3,049
Office equipment maintenance	25,539	-	25,539	1,155
General administration costs	9,004	-	9,004	144
Professional costs	58,512	-	58,512	32,453
Marketing	3,401	-	3,401	1,853
Other costs	4,707	-	4,707	41,363
	170,933	-	170,933	124,070

7. Staff numbers and costs

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	1,269,301	1,179,325
Social security costs	116,404	106,559
Pension costs	30,442	29,995
	1,416,147	1,315,879
Staff costs split:		
Charitable activities (note 5)	1,084,696	927,457
Core (note 5)	248,394	323,059
Costs of generating funds (note 4)	85,354	65,363
	1,418,444	1,315,879
The average number of employees during the year was:	2022	2021
Direct activities	50	47
	50	47

Two employees received remuneration of more than £60,000 (2021: 2).

A majority of staff are employed on a part-time basis

Key management personnel

During the year the charity made the following transactions with key management personnel:

The Chief Executive Officer received remuneration of £78,454 (2021: £76,729)

GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year to 31 March 2022

8. Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Depreciation	17,460	15,785
Audit fees	6,000	5,000

9. Trustees remuneration and expenses

During the year no trustees received any remuneration (2021: £nil).

No Trustees (2021: 3) received reimbursements of expenses amounting £nil (2021: £803).

10. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

11. Indemnity insurance

During the year £3,785 (2021:£1,333) indemnity insurance was paid to protect the charity from loss arising from the neglect or defaults of its trustees, employees or agents, and to indemnify the Trustees and other officers against the consequences of neglect or default on their part.

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures, fittings and office equipment
Cost	
At 1 April 2021	61,939
Additions	22,415
At 31 March 2022	<u><u>84,354</u></u>
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2021	32,612
Charge for year	17,460
At 31 March 2022	<u><u>50,072</u></u>
Net book values	
At 31 March 2022	<u><u>34,282</u></u>
At 31 March 2021	<u><u>29,327</u></u>

GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year to 31 March 2022

13. Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Due within one year:		
Grant debtors	41,123	81,347
Accrued income	216,991	211
Other debtors and prepayments	4,205	6,002
	<u>262,319</u>	<u>87,560</u>

14. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade creditors	41,714	11,523
Social Security and Other taxes	46,980	38,788
Accruals	7,833	10,598
Deferred grant income	306,960	276,335
	<u>403,487</u>	<u>337,244</u>

Deferred grant income represents income relating to the next year received in the current year. Income of £306,960 which related to 2022/23 has been deferred and deferred income of £276,335 from last year has been released as it related to the current year.

15. Movement in funds

	At 1 April 2021	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfer between reserves	At 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	<u>554,791</u>	<u>332,819</u>	<u>(506,433)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>381,177</u>
Restricted funds					
Kinship care support services	487,805	1,279,270	(1,203,087)	-	563,988
Advice Service and other restricted funded services	235,702	489,441	(192,310)	-	532,833
Total restricted funds	<u>723,507</u>	<u>1,768,711</u>	<u>(1,395,397)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,096,821</u>
Total funds	<u>1,278,297</u>	<u>2,101,530</u>	<u>(1,901,830)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,477,997</u>

GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year to 31 March 2022

Notes on the restricted grant funding

- a.) Our commissioned services including Kinship Connected, Kinship Ready and the delivery of Kinship Response throughout the pandemic, have funded these programmes. Funding from Sport England Families Fund has supported the Kinship Active programme in the North East. Emergency Covid funding from the Department for Education helped to provide essential support to all kinship carers through our advice service, project workers and Someone Like Me service. The National Lottery Community Fund funded the development and running of a national support project for kinship carers in Wales.
- b.) The City Bridge Trust continues to fund the work of our advice and information service in London.

15. Movement in funds - Prior year

	At 1 April 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfer between reserves £	At 31 March 2021 £
Unrestricted funds	483,980	594,668	(523,857)	-	554,791
Restricted funds					
Kinship care support services	162,441	1,389,014	(1,064,193)	543	487,805
Relative Experience	(13,625)	-	-	13,625	-
Advice Service and other restricted funded services	83,850	373,402	(221,550)	-	235,702
Policy and Research	-	-	-	-	-
Service Development	14,168	-	-	(14,168)	-
Total restricted funds	246,834	1,762,416	(1,285,743)	-	723,507
Total funds	730,814	2,357,084	(1,809,600)	-	1,278,297

The transfer of funds relates to costs absorbed into Kinship Care Support Service of which Relative Experience was a project and the movement of remaining funds from Service Development.

16. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total Funds £
2022			
Tangible Fixed Assets	34,282	-	34,282
Cash	1,154,927	429,835	1,584,762
Other net current liabilities	(92,322)	(48,846)	(141,168)
	1,096,887	380,989	1,477,876
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total Funds £
2021			
Tangible Fixed Assets	29,327	-	29,327
Cash	580,158	918,496	1,498,654
Other net current assets	(54,695)	(194,989)	(249,684)
	554,790	723,507	1,278,297

GRANDPARENTS PLUS T/A KINSHIP
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year to 31 March 2022

17. Comparative numbers for the Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £
Income			
Donations, grants and legacies:			
General	593,239	-	593,239
Advice Service and other restricted funded services	-	373,402	373,402
Kinship Care Support Services	-	326,274	326,274
Charitable activities			
Kinship Care Support Services	-	1,062,740	1,062,740
Investment income	1,428	-	1,428
TOTAL INCOME	<u>594,668</u>	<u>1,762,416</u>	<u>2,357,085</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Raising funds	76,729	-	76,729
Charitable activities	447,129	1,285,743	1,732,872
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>523,857</u>	<u>1,285,743</u>	<u>1,809,600</u>
Net Income/(expenditure) for the year	70,811	476,673	547,483
Transfers between funds	-	-	-
	<u>70,811</u>	<u>476,673</u>	<u>547,483</u>
Fund balances at 1 April 2020	483,980	246,834	730,814
Fund balances as at 31 March 2021	<u>554,791</u>	<u>723,507</u>	<u>1,278,297</u>

18. Covid-19

The impact of the pandemic has been discussed throughout the Chief Executive's report and the Trustee's report.