

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)**  
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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

<b>Trustees</b>	Caroline Abrahams CBE, Chair (appointed 19 June 2024, elected Chair 25 September 2024) Julian Young, Treasurer James Baker Natalie Baldry (term ended 13 May 2024) Dr Beverley Barnett-Jones MBE (appointed 7 July 2023) Frances Boughton (resigned 26 March 2025) Joseph Corry-Roake (term ended 6 June 2025) Prof Elaine Farmer (term ended 6 June 2025) Janet Kay OBE Dr Nicola Sharp-Jeffs OBE (resigned 25 September 2024) Yvette Stanley Stephanie Wong (appointed 26 March 2025)
<b>Company registered number</b>	04454103
<b>Charity registered number</b>	1093975
<b>Registered office</b>	The Foundry 17 Oval Way London England SE11 5RR
<b>Chief executive officer</b>	Dr Lucy Peake
<b>Bankers</b>	National Westminster Bank 250 Bishopsgate London EC2M 4AA

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**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

The past year has been focussed on further growth and impact, as we have worked with and for kinship carers to transform kinship care by developing and scaling our services and influencing policy and practice. Our strategy is centred on kinship families: they are at the heart of everything we do. Kinship carers are central to our services – providing direction and input to our national Kinship Advice Service, our 1-to-1 Kinship Connected and Kinship Reach programmes, our peer support group network, and our newly developed training and support service. Beyond this, we provide opportunities for kinship carers to have a voice at every level of our charity - and to use their voice to improve support for themselves and others. They become Campaign Champions, provide their honest and candid experiences to help design and refine all our services that help support kinship carers just like them.

### **Changing lives**

Our Advice Service continued to go from strength to strength. We supported 1,996 kinship carers with independent, free and expert advice on issues including legal matters, welfare benefits, family contact, education and housing. We supported more than 500 kinship carers more intensively through our 1-to-1 evidence-based programmes Kinship Connected and Kinship Reach, and our preparatory Kinship Ready workshops. These programmes were commissioned by local authority partners, who invested in supporting kinship carers in their area, and we are grateful for their support for this highly effective approach to supporting kinship families. We were pleased that our pioneering approach was highlighted this year as an example of a Kinship Navigator programme, following an international evidence review for Foundations – What Works Centre for Children and Families. I am personally delighted to have been awarded a prestigious Churchill Fellowship in 2024 which will provide an opportunity for me to research Kinship Navigator programmes in the USA and to bring learnings back to the UK to benefit kinship families.

We launched our new website in September 2024 with a further enhanced Kinship Compass, a unique digital tool helping kinship carers easily find the information, resources and support they need in their area. Over the year, we averaged 10,148 visits per month to this vital resource.

This year, we launched the first national training and support service for all kinship carers in England, funded by the Department for Education (DfE). The design and content of the entire training offer was co-produced with kinship carers, and their insights and feedback continue to help us refine and improve the workshops and roadshows, and our online resources. By 31 March 2025, we had exceeded the target set to provide over 4,000 training experiences for kinship carers in England over the duration of the contract. The DfE has extended the contract for another year, and we are grateful for their ongoing support for this vital service that is supporting and empowering kinship carers so they can provide the best possible care for the children they look after.

We were also delighted to continue to deliver and develop our national Peer Support Service in England, also funded by the Department for Education. Peer support is often cited by kinship carers as one of the most important forms of support, helping them to feel less isolated and supported without judgment. We continued to create new peer support groups, while supporting existing Kinship and independent groups through our new 'hub and spoke' model. By 31 March 2025, we had 140 peer support groups providing support and friendship to kinship carers across England and Wales.

### **Changing the system**

Our relationship with the Department for Education continued to grow, and we were delighted to welcome them to our Kinship Friendly Employer scheme. They joined a growing number of employers who are demonstrating their commitment to supporting kinship carers by offering them paid time off work, like adoptive parents are entitled to. We continue to campaign for statutory kinship care leave to be implemented nationally so that kinship carers are better supported as they balance their caring and working lives while continuing to work with employers across many sectors as they introduce kinship friendly policies to better support their diverse workforces.

The 2024 General Election was an opportunity to continue our engagement with parliamentary candidates in order to improve support for kinship carers, and we were delighted that kinship care featured in the manifestos of the 3 largest parties. We developed a kinship care constituency map and a package of training and



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**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
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resources for our powerful group of Kinship Campaigners, supporting and empowering them to engage with their local parliamentary candidates. Over 90% of MP candidates across England and Wales were contacted by our Kinship Campaigners ahead of the general election. We were proud to welcome the Minister for Children and Families, Janet Daby MP, to meet one of our peer support groups on her first official ministerial visit, a positive indication of the Labour Government's commitment to recognising and supporting all kinship families.

Showing the value and impact of kinship care is so important to evidencing the need for improved support. Our *Raised by Relatives* research into the experiences of Black and Asian kinship carers, undertaken by researchers at Oxford University and supported by the KPMG Foundation, provided vital new insight into the experiences of kinship carers who have previously not been the focus of research. The research reveals a lack of culturally competent support, assumptions made by professionals based on ethnicity, and a prevalence of shame and stigma leading to disengagement from services. Alongside the report launch in February 2025, we welcomed kinship carers, policymakers and sector stakeholders to a dynamic action-planning workshop in April 2025 to develop priorities for translating the research findings into real change for kinship families.

March 2025 saw the culmination of our 3-year *Young Champions* project, funded by BBC Children in Need. This project saw our experienced youth worker supporting children and young people growing up in kinship care in London. During 2024-25, a group of 29 young people aged 11-18 worked together with a production company to create their very own animated film, showcasing their artistic skills, their personal experiences of growing up in a kinship family and positive messages for other children and young people in the same situation. The film was launched at a film screening in London, attended by our incredible Young Champions and their proud families, and featuring a speech by the National Kinship Care Ambassador, Jahnine Davis.

### **Kinship families at the heart of our work**

In the past year, Kinship has consolidated its position as the leading provider of support for kinship families. With the broadest and deepest reach into the kinship community, we have played a key role in enabling kinship carers from across England and Wales to shape the services and policies that influence their lives. With kinship carers' support and involvement, we have built and developed new and existing services, working together to ensure that they are truly meeting their needs. And we have raised awareness and influenced policy and practice, at local and national level, as we work together to shape a kinship care system that is fit for the future.

I am so proud of everyone who has made this year such a success - from our staff providing advice and support for kinship carers, to the volunteers supporting kinship carers through our peer support groups and Someone Like Me programme; from the people and organisations we have partnered with to deliver expert-led training, to all our generous supporters who have made our work possible.

And most importantly to the kinship carers who have shaped everything we do.

*"I've always chased the job, chased the money. Now I'm chasing a cause and that cause is for my kids and kids just like my kids." [kinship carer campaigner and peer support group leader]*

This year, our Kinship Community has grown to include 12,000 kinship carers who are at the heart of our charity. Thank you to all the kinship carers who have so generously given their time, experiences and expertise; we could not – and would not want to – do this without you.

Sincerest thanks,

*Lucy Peake*

.....  
Dr Lucy Peake

Date: 30/09/2025

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**TRUSTEES' REPORT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

The Trustees present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of Grandparents Plus for the year 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025. The annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a directors' report under company law. The Trustees confirm that the annual report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Since the Charity qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the Strategic report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

The Charity trades under the name Kinship.

## **Introduction**

### **About Kinship**

Kinship is the national charity for kinship care in England and Wales. A kinship carer is someone who looks after a child of a relative or friend full-time. Kinship is here for all kinship carers – the grandparents and siblings, the aunts, uncles, and family friends who step up to raise children when their parents can't.

We know how hard life can be for kinship carers, but we've seen the amazing things they're capable of with someone by their side. With the right support, children raised in kinship families flourish.

That's why Kinship is here to support, connect and campaign. To keep kinship families stronger by keeping them together.

### **Our vision and mission**

#### **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.

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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
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**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:

- Provide programmes, training, evidence and policy solutions 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.
- Campaign with kinship carers for change so that their contribution to children's wellbeing and care is valued and understood.
- Advise, inform and support professionals to develop good kinship care practice.

**Our strategic objectives for 2024-25 were:**

- 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.

**Our aims and strategic priorities**

During 2024-25, the Board of Trustees decided to extend our ambitious growth and impact strategy for 2022-25 for another year. Our strategy puts kinship families at the heart of everything we do. We are focused on achieving our goal that every kinship family is able to access the support they need.

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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
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**Achievements and Performance**

**Changing Lives - developing support for kinship families so they can access high quality information, advice and support, wherever they live**

**Highlights:** The past year has seen us scale up our support offer and inter-link our services so kinship carers can get support and information throughout their kinship care journey, whatever their situation and wherever they live. During the past year we:

- Launched our new Department for Education-funded national Kinship Care Training and Support Service for in England, providing 4,313 training experiences from 1 January 2024 to 31 March 2025 to 2,811 unique kinship carers.
- Secured a further year of support from the Department for Education for our national Peer Support Service in England, and developed a new hub and spoke model, improving the network of support available to 140 peer support groups as of March 2025.
- Enhanced our Advice Service through piloting a triage system and investing in specialist roles focussing on education, social work and welfare benefits, helping us to support 1,996 kinship carers with free and independent expert advice.
- Continued to support more than 220 kinship families 1-to-1 through our Kinship Connected and Kinship Reach programmes in partnership with 25 local authorities in England and Wales.
- Launched our new website, including our improved Kinship Compass interactive tool, enabling kinship carers to easily navigate and find out more about the information and support available in their local area, recording 10,148 visitors per month since relaunch.
- Launched a fully updated Kinship Care Guide for England, available digitally from September 2024.

**Kinship Carer Training and Support Service**

Our Training and Support Service for kinship carers across England is the first national service of its kind, built on our insights and learnings from our Kinship Ready model to roll out introductory and advanced training to new and experienced kinship carers across the country. Through 4,313 free training experiences, we helped 2,811 kinship carers to feel more informed and confident about their role and enabled them to make connections with other kinship carers in their area and in similar circumstances.

As with all our services, co-design was at the heart of our work. Building on our service design approach, we worked with TPXImpact to hold Kinship Carer Conversations events in Liverpool, Leeds and London to hear first-hand what training and information would have made a difference when kinship carers first took on the care of one or more children, and what they need to know now. These sessions were integral in developing the taxonomy of all the content, as well as our method of event delivery, and we have continued to fine-tune our offer, based on all the feedback we receive.

This new contract allowed us to build our internal marketing capacity and our team has developed innovative ways to reach more kinship carers. Their work to promote and advertise Kinship fuelled 70% of the attendees to our various training workshops and roadshows.

We ran 41 in-person training workshops and 16 in-person roadshows in 37 towns and cities across England, reaching into communities that have historically been less well-served by existing services.

We ran 191 online workshops and masterclasses to offer choice and to help minimise financial, geographical, time and other barriers for kinship carers.

We were privileged to work with industry partners and subject matter experts to co-deliver training and support. Our partnerships with organisations such as BookTrust, the National Association of Virtual School Heads, Ridley and Hall and Place2Be have helped us to signpost kinship carers to further support during the marketplaces at our roadshows. Every kinship carer who attends a roadshow leaves with a book specially chosen for their kinship child, as well as access to a copy of our updated Kinship Care Guide for England.

Kinship carers have had the opportunity to learn about subjects including trauma and attachment, building

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resilience and wellbeing in their kinship family, improving challenging behaviour and supporting teenagers. We worked with kinship carer attendees to create a film showcasing the impact of attending one of our roadshows.

*"If you're on the fence about attending a kinship carer roadshow event, I would just say do it, You're going to meet new people, you're going to learn new things." [kinship carer and roadshow attendee]*

We are delighted that the Department for Education has extended the programme for another year, during which we will consolidate the training offer and focus on reaching even more under-served kinship families – including informal kinship carers and those from minoritised communities - so that more kinship carers receive the information and support they need and deserve.

### **Peer Support and Someone Like Me**

We were pleased to move into our third year of funding from the Department for Education for our national Peer Support Service. Peer support is often described by kinship carers as the thing that has the greatest impact on their lives – helping them to feel they are not alone and that others understand and relate to their experiences, without fear of judgment or stigma.

*"Being in a safe space and being able to open up to everyone, it's empowering and accepted, knowing I'm not alone on this journey is priceless." [kinship peer support group attendee]*

This year, following consultation with peer support group leaders, we developed a hub and spoke model, with a central hub providing ongoing support, guidance and information to group leaders and the regional spoke teams providing on-the-ground support to recruit, train and support kinship carer volunteers to set-up sustainable new peer support groups.

*"[Our national peer support connector] is excellent at listening, asking questions, suggesting manageable solutions and a huge encouragement, it genuinely feels like she is in a partnership with us" [volunteer peer support group leader supported by our hub team]*

During the past year we:

- Audited and re-engaged peer support leaders as we created the new model, supporting 140 peer support groups across England. (last year: 88)
- Supported peer support group leaders with resources on fundraising and campaigning.
- Continued to provide opportunities for group leaders to meet and learn from each other, with 40 groups represented at group leader meets over the year.
- Worked with our Training and Support service partners, BookTrust, to provide 5 training sessions in our peer support groups.

We also continued to support kinship carers through our Someone Like Me service. This free service matches kinship carers with a specially trained kinship carer volunteer who can listen, understand and support the caller. We have 25 dedicated Someone Like Me volunteers (last year: 71) who supported increased uptake from 208 kinship carer callers (last year: 152).

*"It was a pleasure to talk with someone like me, I felt more motivated especially when I told her about going back to work. She lifted my spirits and I would like to talk to her again. Thank you for coming up with such a thoughtful way of support." [kinship carer who used our Someone Like Me service]*

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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

## **Advice**

Our free, expert Advice Service remains the cornerstone of our support offer – it's often the first point of contact for kinship carers who have never spoken to someone about their situation before.

At the beginning of the year, we restructured the team, investing in specialist advice roles focussing on education, social work and welfare benefits. We continue to provide a Welsh-language service for kinship carers in Wales who accounted for 4% of calls. We were also proud to maintain our AQS Quality Mark accreditation. With generous support from the Fidelity Foundation, we began an advice transformation project, working with an external agency, kinship carers and staff members to renew the service so it will better service kinship families now and into the future. This included exploring telephony solutions, making use of AI and other innovative technologies to improve efficiency and accessibility.

The ongoing cost-of-living crisis and financial constraints on local authorities contributed to a high demand for advice. This year we supported 1,996 kinship carers through our Advice Service (last year: 1,897) with priority issues identified as legal advice and legal orders; local authority allowances and benefits; and family relationships and contact. 49% of our cases in 2024/25 required legal support and guidance and we saw an increase of 27% in carers supported in the second half of the year compared to the first. Our support for kinship families through our advice service would not be possible without funding from the City Bridge Trust, Fidelity Foundation, Hadley Trust and the National Lottery Community Fund.

## **Digital and Content**

In September 2024, we launched our new website including an enhanced interactive Kinship Compass, making it even easier for kinship carers to find and navigate the information and support they need for their situation, and in their local area.

We also made the website available in more than 100 languages to improve accessibility and acknowledging the diversity of the kinship carers we support. This year we saw a marked increase in traffic to our website, with 303,886 users over the year (last year: 263,338). Kinship Compass also had an average of 10,148 users per month (last year: 6,448) and since the relaunch, this increased to 19,118 users per month.

Throughout the year, we worked with subject matter experts to improve the resources available on our website as well as improving signposting to local services. Through Kinship Compass, kinship carers can now easily find information on their local food bank, virtual school or legal clinic, as well as peer support groups and in-person training sessions, helping them to feel informed and to access the support they need, wherever they are in their kinship journey.

*"As a kinship carer, this [Kinship Compass] is the one place you need to go for information and support. I have personally found it extremely helpful and a great resource to refer others to who have different situations to me." [kinship carer and peer support group leader]*

Working with kinship carers and subject matter experts we also fully updated the Kinship Care Guide for England, creating a practical companion for all kinship carers, no matter where they are in their journey.

*"If I had this guide at the beginning, it would have been like a bible to me. I would have valued it like that. Online is great but having it in one place, physically is really helpful." [kinship carer who helped to develop the guide]*

## **Kinship Programmes**

We continued to deliver our Kinship Connected, Kinship Reach and Kinship Ready programmes across 26 local authorities in England and Wales. The local authority funding landscape continues to be challenging, but we continue to demonstrate the case for investing in well-supported kinship care, and we are pleased to work with pioneering local authorities who are investing in supporting kinship families as a priority.

Kinship Connected is our flagship, evidence-based programme which supports kinship families through intensive, in-person, 1-to-1 support and staff-led support groups over a 6-month period. This year, we provided support to 198 kinship carers (last year: 332) across 8 local authorities in England (last year: 15), and 30 kinship

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carers (last year: 40) in Wales.

*"Kinship have been a lifeline for me and our family. Before I found them, I was struggling from day to day, Kinship not only help, but they work alongside us, going to meetings with schools and so on, to support and speak up for us. This has helped tremendously." [Kinship Connected kinship carer]*

Kinship Reach provides kinship carers with remote support with a specialist family worker, as well as access to regular virtual support groups over a 3-month period. This year, we were able to expand the programme to support 15 local authorities across England (last year: 7) and provide 1-to-1 support online to 208 kinship carers (last year: 187).

*"I met [Kinship Family Worker] when I gained guardianship of my grandson. She encouraged me to join the Kinship meetings and although I was hesitant at first, once I joined, it was a really positive experience for me. They understood me. We need professionals like this; it was incredibly helpful for my mental health." [Kinship Reach kinship carer]*

Our Kinship Ready programme provides preparatory workshops for prospective or current special guardians and has been broadly incorporated into our national Training and Support Service. We continue to deliver this programme in partnership with one local authority in England, through which we supported 78 kinship carers (last year: 138).

### **Grants**

Through generous funding from the Ballinger Charitable Trust, we have continued to work with kinship carers across the North-East of England, to procure grants on their behalf and support them to apply for grants themselves. In London, Islington Giving also funded a small grants programme for local kinship carers. Alongside this funded support, Kinship Family Workers in commissioned areas also support grant applications to local funds as part of their 1-to-1 support.

Kinship care often begins at a time of crisis with little to no time to prepare. Through these grants, we help to support kinship carers to buy beds, white goods, school uniforms and after-school activities. We supported 66 kinship carers (last year: 125) to directly access grant funding totalling £37,000 (last year: £56,505), which helps to alleviate the financial burden many carers face.

### **Kinship Minds**

We continued to embed our Kinship Minds therapeutic approach across our charity, funded by the Prudence Trust. This programme has both an internal and an external focus. The objective of the programme is to support kinship carers to recognise the early signs of mental health issues in their kinship children and to feel confident in supporting them. Staff have been trained to feel more confident and empowered to support the kinship carers they work with through our direct delivery teams.

Externally, we delivered 3 kinship carer workshops to 32 carers on Anxiety, Calm Box Regulation and Managing Anger as well as creating new content for the Kinship Care Guide for England. We also created resources on our website to help kinship carers facilitate conversations on these topics with the young people in their care.

### **Young Champions**

This was the final year of our Young Champions project, funded by BBC Children in Need, which worked with kinship-experienced young people aged 11-18 years old in north London over 3 years. During 2024-25, our Youth Project Worker established a weekly after-school club where a group of 29 young people worked with a production company to co-create an animated film about their experiences. This amazing was written, drawn, story-boarded and narrated by our Young Champions and was launched in March 2025 at a film screening in London, attended by the National Kinship Ambassador, Jahnine Davis, and the young peoples' proud families.

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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
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**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**

**Highlights:**

During the past year, we:

- Developed a General Election campaigning toolkit and welcomed Janet Daby MP on her first visit as Minister for Children and Families.
- Hosted a parliamentary reception in October 2024 with 57 MPs in attendance and a speech from the Secretary of State for Education, Bridget Phillipson MP.
- Grew our community to 12,722 kinship carers who receive information on how we can support them and ways they can get involved in our work.
- Celebrated another empowering Kinship Care Week, where we asked kinship carers to tell us about their experiences and featured their voices in our [#ThisIsKinshipCare](#) film.
- Worked with the Centre for Care at the University of Sheffield on research showing that kinship carers contribute £4.3 billion annually to the economy and launched it with a trolley march to Westminster showing that kinship carers 'can't pay with love'.
- Launched our *Forgotten* report showing insights from our 2023 annual survey on the lack of support for kinship children's education and mental health.

**Policy and Public Affairs**

The 2024 General Election was a key focus this year and a real opportunity to ensure kinship care remains high on the political agenda. We were delighted that kinship care featured in the manifestos of the 3 largest parties and that the incoming Minister for Children and Families, Janet Daby MP, chose Kinship as her first visit, showing dedication to improving the support for kinship families.

This year, there were 350 actions (last year: 108) taken by national level politicians to further the kinship care agenda. Kinship or the #ValueOurLove campaign received 22 mentions in Hansard (last year: 14), as well as several mentions in Select and Bill Committees. We also provided oral evidence to the Education Select Committee's children's social care inquiry.

We held a parliamentary reception in October 2024, which was attended by 57 MPs with speeches from Bridget Phillipson MP, Secretary of State for Education, and our #ValueOurLove campaigner, Poppy, who was brought up in kinship care and shone a light on the often-forgotten voices of kinship children.

*"I wish someone had helped me understand my emotions and everything that happened to me when I was a kid. Children growing up in kinship care feel we're treated differently and unfairly – we're forgotten." [Poppy, kinship campaigner]*

In August 2024, we released our *Forgotten* report which highlighted the lack of support for kinship children's education and mental health. This report found that 31% have diagnosed or suspected social, emotional or mental health needs, and yet only 54% of kinship children are receiving adequate support within an education setting.

Our *Out of Order* report, launched in September 2024, explored how the inadequate hierarchy of financial support was putting the stability of children in kinship care at risk and made the case for introducing parity of support with foster carers.

During Kinship Care Week in October 2024, we released our *Make or Break* report analysing the findings from our annual survey of 1,342 kinship carers (last year: 1,657) across England and Wales. This report found that 4 in 10 kinship carers are registered disabled, and 36% were also unpaid carers for another family member. Kinship carers are also four times more likely than the general public to have had a bill they were unable to pay in the last month. All of our research helps us evidence the very real need to better support kinship families.



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## **Campaigns**

Our #ValueOurLove campaign continued to attract widespread support and secure impact. Throughout the year 13,530 digital campaign actions were taken. We continued to work with our kinship carer Campaigns Steering Group of 17 members to inform all aspects of our campaign goals and activities.

During the General Election campaign, we held webinars and launched a digital campaign for our supporters to engage with MP candidates - 1,448 supporters sent more than 6,600 emails to candidates, reaching 90% of constituencies in England and Wales.

The commitment of the new UK Government was clear when it committed £44 million to a financial allowances trial in up to 10 local authority areas in England in the Autumn Budget in October. That month, the government published new kinship care statutory guidance for local authorities in England, including a reaffirmed requirement, through a 'kinship local offer', for local authorities to provide visible, accessible and up-to-date information for kinship carers on the support available to them, something we have long campaigned for and taken action to improve at local and national level.

In February we launched a new phase of the campaign across multiple channels to influence the Government's Spending Review. We held a campaign stunt in Westminster, supporting over 30 kinship carers to attend pushing empty shopping trolleys to symbolise their unmet needs accompanied by a strong message to the Chancellor - 'We can't pay with love'. This was combined with an undercover film of a kinship carer trying to 'pay with love' in shops, which secured more than 21,000 views on social media. The activity secured significant media coverage, including Sky News, LBC, BBC Breakfast, BBC Radio 4, BBC 5 Live, Independent, iNews, Big Issue and PA. 2,870 campaign emails were sent to the Chancellor of the Exchequer Rachel Reeves MP.

*"I was there today as a kinship carer, and it felt amazing...It made me feel part of a family that has had to stand up and defend their own family, It was a truly uplifting and inspiring event. Thank you for putting together a flawless and memorable event. It meant so much to me." [kinship carer campaigner]*

In Wales, we launched a new campaign action to ask kinship carers to respond to a Welsh Government consultation on their new Mental Health Strategy.

In March 2024, we launched our online Campaigns Champions hub, funded by Comic Relief, to engage and empower kinship carers and other supporters to use their voice to lobby their local MPs and other stakeholders to improve kinship care support. We now have 84 Champions (last year: 80) who have learnt about storytelling, harnessing local media and how to build an effective campaign. They also have access to 1-to-1 support including preparation meetings with local statistics and data, ahead of engaging with MPs, local authorities and other organisations they may be influencing.

*"Being involved in the campaign has really given me, me back. I'd got to a point where you are constantly fighting or being slapped down or ignored. I felt so worthless, I got so negative about everything. Now I'm thinking I am worthy and worthy of having a point of view. It's still about fighting for what we deserve, but doing it as part of a group, you hear others' stories, it makes you look at things differently." [kinship carer Campaign Champion]*

Through our local campaigning, we secured 5 local commitments (last year: 8) and 13,530 campaign actions (last year: 8,574) were taken by kinship carers and their supporters. We were delighted to receive funding from the Monday Charitable Trust towards our influencing work over the next 3 years, helping us to continue mobilising kinship carers to call for change for themselves and families just like them.

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**Kinship Care Week**

We worked hard within Kinship and the wider sector to deliver another successful Kinship Care Week in October 2024. Kinship held just under 30 kinship carer events across England and Wales including afternoon teas in Cardiff and Newcastle hosted by our programmes and peer support teams. This included welcoming the Minister for Children and Families, Janet Daby MP and newly appointed National Kinship Care Ambassador, Jahnine Davis to a local peer support group in London.

We created a new animation, #ThisIsKinshipCare, featuring the voices and experiences of kinship carers and raised the profile of Kinship Care Week – and kinship care – through engagement with presenter Davina McCall, musician Professor Green, actor Brian Cox, and Emmerdale actor and Kinship Ambassador, Jay Kontzle, all of whom were raised in kinship care. There were also 85 Kinship Care Week media pieces across regional, sector and national media, including on the Guardian Online, The Mirror, ITV Wales and BBC Look North.

**Kinship Community**

Our Kinship Community grew by 36% to 12,722 kinship carers (last year: 10,906). Our Community enables kinship carers to connect with each other and with Kinship. We keep members of our community informed on how we can support them, report launches and events, changes to policy and practice, and opportunities to get involved in our work and have their voice heard.

**Media**

We achieved 234 pieces (last year: 236) of national media and 401 pieces (last year: 399) of regional and sector media. We continued to grow our social media presence through targeted engagement with celebrities raised in kinship care, local authorities and MPs, as well as raising our profile among kinship carers. This resulted in a 24% growth rate across all our social media platforms and increased awareness of kinship care:

- Facebook: 9,408 followers (last year: 7,232) – 30% increase
- Instagram: 3,629 followers (last year: 2,558) – 42% increase
- LinkedIn: 3,189 followers (last year: 1,553) – 105% increase
- X: 7,930 followers (last year: 8,087) – 2% decrease

Our policy, campaigns and communications work would not be possible without funding from Comic Relief, the Monday Charitable Trust and the Triangle Trust 1949 Fund, for which we are incredibly grateful.

**Brand refresh**

In September 2024, alongside the launch of our new website, we launched our refreshed brand strategy and guidelines to strengthen our narrative and visual identity, including a new strapline to accompany the logo. We also commissioned and rolled out a new set of real-life photography of kinship families and front-line staff.

**Kinship Friendly Employers**

Our Kinship Friendly Employers scheme has continued to go from strength-to-strength and over the year we engaged with 67 employers from a variety of sectors. To date, we now have 8 Gold standard Kinship Friendly Employers, including Lloyds Banking Group, the Department for Education and Berg Kaprow Lewis LLP, who are committed to providing paid kinship care leave on a par with their maternity and adoption leave, as well as flexibility to enable their kinship carer employees to remain in work alongside their kinship caring role.

**Research and Practice**

Working with our research partners from the Rees Centre at the University of Oxford, we were delighted to launch early findings from our ground-breaking *Raised by Relatives* research into the experiences of Black and Asian kinship carers with a webinar in October 2024. This was followed by a launch of the full report ahead of an action-planning workshop in April 2025, where we brought together research participants, kinship carers,

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policymakers and other sector stakeholders to discuss the report recommendations and how these could be translated into action to improve support for kinship carers from Black and Asian communities.

We worked with the Centre for Care at the University of Sheffield on research showing the 'value of kinship care' and that, through keeping thousands of children out of the care system, kinship carers are contributing £4.3 billion annually to the economy. We launched the report in February 2025, ahead of the Government's Spending Review, with a march in Westminster showing that kinship carers 'can't pay with love'. Our #ValueOurLove campaign went on to win a Purpose Award in June 2025.

Our Kinship Care Professionals Network continued to grow to 2,629 (last year: 2,182). Our Kinship Care Researchers' Network also went from strength to strength, reaching 101 members (last year: 90) and featuring presentations during the year from researchers in England, Scotland and the United States on subjects including the perspectives of social workers, family dynamics and what matters to children living in kinship care.

**Strengthening our culture – being a brave, inclusive and high performing team, striving to be better for each other and the people we serve**

**Staff team**

Our staff team grew to 86 (last year: 83) including recruitment in our Corporate Services, Development, Research and Practice, and Training teams. This year, kinship carers made up 24% of our staff team and 18% of our trustee board and since April 2025, we have recruited a sibling kinship carer to our Board.

Through the internal arm of our Kinship Minds programme, 50 staff members, including all our front-line staff, received training on trauma-informed practice, with 30 attending group facilitation training. We also established regular reflective learning spaces attended by 46 staff members, to help ensure our teams feel confident and supported, so they can in turn better support kinship carers.

**Participation**

We are proud that kinship carers are embedded in the structure of our organisation at all levels, from front-line staff to our Board of Trustees and Kinship Carer Advisory Group which is co-chaired by trustee and kinship carer Janet Kay and our Chief Executive. A joint working group of staff members and 5 kinship carers developed a new Participation and Involvement Framework to strengthen and ensure consistency in the way we meaningfully involve kinship carers in all areas of our work.

We established a new network of 36 kinship carers interested in sharing their views and expertise to help improve Kinship's activity. Over the year there were more than 150 engagements where kinship carers helped to inform our work, including developing our training and workshops, advising on our marketing materials, and testing new digital tools. We continue to involve kinship carers in our interview panels as much as possible, and for all open posts, we guaranteed interviews to kinship carers who met the minimum requirements of the role.

Our research has continued to include a strong focus on meaningful involvement of kinship carers. We progressed our study on co-production in kinship care research with Lancaster University, including involving kinship carers in the design of a toolkit. We employed 2 kinship carers as peer researchers on the Lancaster study and 4 kinship carers on our *Raised by Relatives* study with the University of Oxford.

**Equality, Diversity and Inclusion**

During Black History Month, we ran a variety of internal sessions to learn about and celebrate Black history, as well as hearing the experiences of one of our Kinship Care Advisory Group members, Bobbie-Jo. We also developed and rolled out our *Diverse Families* online peer support group in partnership with Families in Harmony. Over the coming year, we will be looking at how we can incorporate the learnings from our *Raised by Relatives* research, supported by the KPMG Foundation, to address barriers that prevent Black and Asian kinship carers from accessing services, and ensuring that our programmes are as inclusive and accessible as possible, meeting the needs of all kinship carers.

In addition to our diverse families group, our peer support team has also developed other special interest

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groups which provide spaces for kinship carers to come together with other carers in similar circumstances. These include groups for men, aunts and uncles, LGBTQ+ carers and kinship families affected by bereavement.

Our new website was designed with accessibility in mind. All of our advice and information content is written for lower literacy levels and readability, and takes into account both language and visibility barriers. Our style guide ensures that the way we write is accessible for those with visual impairments and screen-readers, and all content can be easily translated into more than 100 languages. We also ensure that all our photography, whether it is on our website, in our recruitment packs, or on our printed materials, is intentional and inclusive to more accurately represent the diversity of kinship carers.

### **Safeguarding**

We continue to see a high number of safeguarding cases managed by our front-line staff, driven by the complex situations many kinship families experience and the lack of support families typically receive from statutory services.

Safeguarding training is provided to all front-line staff when they join Kinship, and we also provide annual training to the whole organisation, to ensure that they are adept at recognising safeguarding concerns and confident with raising them.

Our safeguarding structure includes an organisational Designated Safeguarding Lead, and 6 deputy safeguarding leads across our services teams, ensuring that there is always someone available for staff to raise concerns with. These are monitored through a bespoke case management system on Salesforce to ensure that an audit trail and decision making is captured accurately. We have Safeguarding Leads on our Executive team and Board of Trustees to ensure that safeguarding remains a primary focus as we support kinship families.

### **Strategy development**

We kicked off the year with a Trustee Away Day, welcoming a new chair, reviewing our current strategy and key areas of development, and discussing the external landscape. With our Board of Trustees having taken the decision to extend our strategy out until March 2026, in February 2025, we brought our whole staff team together to kick off our strategy planning process for 2026 and beyond. We held sessions to help team members learn about external inspirations and trends and generate ideas around how we could revolutionise the future of Kinship and kinship care.

### **Strengthening our operations – capitalising on our leading position by being ambitious, smart and strategic**

#### **Core funding**

In addition to the funders mentioned above, we are privileged to have received continued core funding from the Dulverton Trust, Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, Oak Foundation, Pears Foundation, Garfield Weston Foundation, the players of the People's Postcode Lottery, and new funding from Purposeful Ventures.

Support from Purposeful Ventures included an in-kind donation of an experienced Chief Operating Officer, Joshua Marks, who started in January 2025 and is helping to drive our infrastructure transformation and move us into our next strategic phase.

#### **Technology**

In June 2024, we undertook a technology audit project to identify good practices, processes and systems, as well as efficiencies and new technologies that could help us to deliver impact more effectively. Some key recommendations that we have implemented include a dedicated internal Head of IT to support staff as well as work in partnership with our external IT support provider and a Fractional Chief Technology Officer to continue to facilitate and embed the learnings and recommendations.

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96% of our staff use our Salesforce CRM (last year: 76%) and have received targeted training to ensure we are accurately capturing information, flagging safeguarding risks and continuously learning and improving processes to help us better support kinship families. We are continuing to roll out Asana as our project management tool and embedding the use of Notion to provide new starters with user guides, policies and manuals. We also renewed our Cyber Essentials certification and have an ambition to achieve Cyber Essentials Plus in 2026.

### **Operations**

In February 2025, we embarked upon an Advice Transformation Project to review our systems, processes and ways of working, and learn from users' needs to co-create a refreshed service that is well-positioned to respond to growing demand and provide the support and guidance kinship carers are looking for. We are also exploring how we can use AI to better serve the needs of kinship carers, considering the data protection implications of any development.

### **Review of the Financial Statements**

The financial statements reflect the operations of Kinship for the twelve months ended 31 March 2025.

The total income for the year increased by 32% from £3,686,628 in 2024 to £4,875,357 in 2025. 18% (last year: 19%) of the year's income was unrestricted and 82% (last year: 81%) restricted.

Total expenditure, not including any movements in investments, increased by 44% from £3,493,036 in 2024 to £5,041,412 in 2025. The resulting net deficit for the year, before movements in investments, was £166,054 (last year: surplus of £193,592).

The net deficit of £144,111 is made up of a surplus of £216,543 in unrestricted funds and a deficit of £360,654 in restricted funds. The total funds carried forward at 31 March 2025 are £2,540,852 (last year: £2,684,963), being unrestricted funds of £1,799,236 and restricted funds of £741,616.

At 31 March 2025 the charity had cash resources of £312,814 (2024: £842,486). 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.

### **Investment Performance**

We developed an ethical investment policy with Quilters in Autumn 2022, approved by our Finance Committee. Investment income in 2025 was £30,670 (2024: £39,045) and revaluations increased the value of investments held by £21,943. Net of additions and disposals, the valuation of investments held increased from £811,272 at 1 April 2024 to £815,622 at 31 March 2025.

### **Reserves policy and position**

The long-term sustainability of Kinship is central to its ability to continue to campaign on behalf of kinship carers while concurrently developing and delivering a wide range of services at national level. The charity needs to ensure that it balances these wide-ranging and growing activities with the need to:

- Provide sufficient working capital for the following year and to provide against any downturn in revenue generation and fundraising activities
- Mitigate the risk of unforeseeable expenditure and/or business interruption
- Support innovative programmes where such require a period of development and testing prior to proving their case to external funders
- Invest in organisational development and infrastructure to better support front-line delivery and boost long-term stability and sustainability.

The charity's reserves policy, which is reviewed annually, is to maintain unrestricted reserves to cover approximately six months' unrestricted operating expenditure of £1,807,956. We closed the year at 31 March 2025 with unrestricted reserves of £1,799,236 (2024: £1,594,040).

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**Going concern**

The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis and it is the belief of the Trustees that Kinship will continue to operate as a going concern, with continued income levels reflecting the ongoing recognition of the need to support the valuable contribution of kinship carers, and control of expenditure enabling a continued level of surpluses to fund further investment and growth. The Trustees consider that the level of unrestricted (both free and designated) reserves provides sufficient resilience as well as capacity to designate funds for investment in provision of Kinship's services.

**Principal funding sources in 2024-25**

In 2024/25 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:

- The Ballinger Charitable Trust
- BBC Children in Need
- City Bridge Foundation
- Comic Relief
- Department for Education
- The Dulverton Trust
- Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
- Fidelity Foundation
- Garfield Weston Foundation
- Hadley Trust
- Islington Giving
- The KPMG Foundation
- Local authority partners in England and Wales
- Monday Charitable Trust
- The National Lottery Community Fund
- Oak Foundation
- Pears Foundation
- Players of People's Postcode Lottery, through Postcode Support Trust
- The Prudence Trust
- Purposeful Ventures
- The Triangle Trust 1949 Fund

We would like to extend special thanks to the Players of the Peoples' 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 to raise funds for Kinship.

**Priorities for 2025-26**

Everything we do is focused on achieving our goal that every kinship family will be able to access the support they need.

During 2025-26 we will:

- Deliver high quality, evidence-based support programmes in England and Wales that make a difference for kinship families.
- Co-design and deliver a free training and support service across England, reaching new and diverse kinship

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carers.

- Deliver a peer support service in England and increase the number of sustainable kinship carer-led peer support groups across England and Wales.
- Lead the transformation of our advice service to enable more future and current kinship carers to find specialist advice, information and support when they need it.
- Grow our kinship care community to connect kinship carers with each other and with us for support and to influence change.
- Embed our organisation-wide approach to participation to ensure that kinship carers and young people are able to influence our work.
- Develop our website and online offer, innovating with new technologies and ways of working to enable efficiencies and improve kinship carers' access to the information they need.
- Raise awareness about kinship care, including through high profile media coverage and leading the national awareness campaign, Kinship Care Week.
- Continue to develop our #ValueOurLove campaign and our Campaign Champions hub, with meaningful kinship carer participation and stakeholder engagement that delivers impact.
- 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.
- Focus on embedding equality, diversity and inclusion practices, including addressing gaps in ethnic diversity across the organisation and reviewing and developing our services to ensure they meet the needs of all kinship families.
- Invest in our infrastructure to ensure systems and processes support our people to work efficiently and effectively.
- Invest in our people, embedding our values, developing our leadership and management capacity and skills, and supporting staff wellbeing.
- Develop our new strategic plan, considering how we are best placed to ensure that kinship carers and the children they care for get the support and recognition they need.
- Have a relentless focus on learning, horizon scanning and collaborating to innovate and secure income to support further growth and impact and deliver real change for kinship families.

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**Principal risks and uncertainties**

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

Risk identified	Action taken to mitigate the risk
The charity does not achieve its growth ambition, relies overly on certain funders and/or it grows in a way that is not sustainable.	Investment in Development team and developed fundraising and business development strategies to diversify income while introducing new Chief Operating Officer role to ensure sustainable infrastructure (people, systems, processes) to support growth and impact measurement.
Cyber security non-compliance, data breach/loss and/or GDPR concerns.	Technology audit and investment in IT staff. Data protection and other IT policies, systems and processes reviewed regularly; CRM system implemented with mandatory staff training in safeguarding, GDPR and cyber security protocols.
Ongoing inflationary/cost of living pressures and impact on our beneficiaries, our people and our operations.	Ongoing review of beneficiary needs and our services, focus on securing sustainable income and financial planning.
Failure to fundraise for core services.	An appropriate margin is agreed with funders to support core services delivery as well as ensuring sufficient overhead cover to run the charity effectively.
The need to continuously adapt and evolve the way the charity offers advice and support for kinship carers.	Creating a structured, iterative approach to kinship carer participation and involvement, conducting regular reviews of beneficiaries needs, drawing on services insight and external feedback. We continue to digitally innovate and roll out new digital offerings informed by user experience.
External factors including political, 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.



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**Legal Structure**

Grandparents Plus, (T/A “Kinship”), is constituted as a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (number 4454103) and registered as a charity with the Charity Commission (number 1093975).

The charity was founded in April 2002; incorporated as Grandparents Plus on 5 June 2002 as a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 30 September 2002. The charity is governed by its Articles of Association.

**Subsidiary undertakings**

Grandparents Plus (T/A “Kinship”) has no subsidiary undertakings.

**Charitable objects**

The charitable objects of the charity 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.

**Public Benefit Statement**

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission’s general guidance on public benefit, ‘Charities and Public Benefit’.

Kinship’s Board of Trustees regularly monitors and reviews the success of the organisation in meeting its key objectives. The Trustees confirm, in the light of the guidance, that these aims fully meet the public benefit test and that all the activities of the charity, described in the Strategic Report, are undertaken in pursuit of these aims.

This report demonstrates how Kinship’s strategy and activities during the year have helped kinship carers and their families through key performance metrics and reported outcomes. Kinship has also reiterated its commitment to continuing to deliver public benefit in the years ahead through its 2022-26 Strategy.

**Structure and governance**

The Articles of Association provide for a minimum of 3 trustees but do not provide for a maximum. 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.

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) serve for 3 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.

Trustees are invited to visit the offices of the charity for further informal briefings by the Chief Executive and also 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.

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**Management and decision-making**

The Trustees who held office during the year are shown on page 1. There were 4 board meetings during the year and a trustee away day. In addition, the Finance sub-committee meets quarterly, chaired by the Treasurer.

**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 public and other stakeholders. Julian Young, the Treasurer, chaired the committee during 2024-25.

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.

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 register which is updated on a regular basis. All significant and emerging risks, together with current mitigation actions, are reviewed quarterly by the Trustees. As a result, the Trustees are satisfied that systems have been developed and are in place to mitigate identified risks to an acceptable level.

**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 peer support, 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 Janet Kay, 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.

**Statement to Trustees' responsibilities**

The Trustees (who are also Directors of Grandparents Plus for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
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Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, 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 Statement of Recommended Practice (Accounting and Reporting by Charities) (the Charities' SORP FRS 102);
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity 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 charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Each of the Trustees confirms that:

- So far as the Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware; and
- They have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a Trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditors are aware of that information.

This confirmation is given and should be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of s418 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions. The Report of the Trustees, which incorporates the requirements of the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report as set out in the Companies Act 2006 (strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Caroline Abrahams  
.....  
**Caroline Abrahams**  
Chair of Trustees

Date: 01/10/2025

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)**

**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Grandparents Plus (trading as Kinship) (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, 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 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year 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 United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council'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 charitable company'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.

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP) (CONTINUED)**

**Other information**

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual report. 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. 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 course of 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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.

**Opinion 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 for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- 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 our 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 Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- 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
- the Trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the Trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a Strategic report.

**Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, 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.

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP) (CONTINUED)**

**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.

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:

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance to identify any material instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Performing audit work to address the risk of irregularities due to management override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for evidence of bias.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our Auditor's report.

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP) (CONTINUED)**

**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 its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



**Darren O'Connor BSc(Hons) ACA FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)**

for and on behalf of

**James Cowper Kreston Audit**

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor

8th Floor

Reading Bridge House

George Street

Reading

RG1 8LS

Date: 03/10/2025

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	4	57,225	20,973	78,198	37,959
Charitable activities	5	795,855	3,970,635	4,766,490	3,609,624
Investments	6	30,670	-	30,670	39,045
<b>Total income</b>		<b>883,750</b>	<b>3,991,608</b>	<b>4,875,358</b>	<b>3,686,628</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds	7	159,374	-	159,374	119,472
Charitable activities	8	529,776	4,352,262	4,882,038	3,373,564
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>689,150</b>	<b>4,352,262</b>	<b>5,041,412</b>	<b>3,493,036</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) before net gains on investments</b>		<b>194,600</b>	<b>(360,654)</b>	<b>(166,054)</b>	<b>193,592</b>
Net gains on investments		21,943	-	21,943	72,812
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>216,543</b>	<b>(360,654)</b>	<b>(144,111)</b>	<b>266,404</b>
Transfers between funds	18	(11,347)	11,347	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>205,196</b>	<b>(349,307)</b>	<b>(144,111)</b>	<b>266,404</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		1,594,040	1,090,923	2,684,963	2,418,559
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>1,799,236</b>	<b>741,616</b>	<b>2,540,852</b>	<b>2,684,963</b>

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

The notes on pages 30 to 47 form part of these financial statements.



**GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)****(A company limited by guarantee)****REGISTERED NUMBER: 04454103****BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 31 MARCH 2025**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>2025 £</b>	<b>2024 £</b>
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	13	<b>78,526</b>	73,133
Investments	14	<b>815,622</b>	811,272
		<b>894,148</b>	884,405
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	15	<b>2,066,834</b>	1,507,067
Cash at bank and in hand		<b>312,814</b>	842,486
		<b>2,379,648</b>	2,349,553
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	<b>(712,711)</b>	(548,995)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<b>1,666,937</b>	1,800,558
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>2,561,085</b>	2,684,963
Provisions for liabilities	17	<b>(20,233)</b>	-
<b>Total net assets</b>		<b>2,540,852</b>	2,684,963
<b>Charity funds</b>			
Restricted funds	18	<b>741,616</b>	1,090,923
Unrestricted funds	18	<b>1,799,236</b>	1,594,040
<b>Total funds</b>		<b>2,540,852</b>	2,684,963

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**REGISTERED NUMBER: 04454103**

**BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)**

**AS AT 31 MARCH 2025**

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

*Caroline Abrahams*

.....  
Caroline Abrahams (01/10/2025 15:45:00 GMT+1)

**Caroline Abrahams**

(Chair of Trustees)

Date: 01/10/2025

The notes on pages 30 to 47 form part of these financial statements.

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net cash used in operating activities	21	<b>(581,168)</b>	(227,128)
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Dividends and interests from investments		<b>30,670</b>	39,045
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		<b>(30,809)</b>	(74,580)
Proceeds from sale of investments		<b>91,490</b>	47,007
Purchase of investments		<b>(39,855)</b>	(34,316)
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities</b>		<b>51,496</b>	<b>(22,844)</b>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>		<b>(529,672)</b>	<b>(249,972)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		<b>842,486</b>	1,092,458
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	22	<b>312,814</b>	842,486

The notes on pages 30 to 47 form part of these financial statements

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR**  
**THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**1. General information**

Grandparents Plus (trading as Kinship) is a private company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (Company Registered Number 04454103). It is registered with the Charity Commission (Charity Registered Number 1093975).

In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the Charity.

The address of the registered office is given in the Charity information on page 1 of these financial statements. The nature of the Charity's operations and principal activities are as detailed on page 3.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

**2. Accounting policies**

**2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Grandparents Plus (trading as Kinship) meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

**2.2 Income**

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 income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance Sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**2. Accounting policies (continued)**

**2.3 Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Charity to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

**2.4 Interest receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

**2.5 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.

**2.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets costing £500 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition is included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method.

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Fixtures and fittings	-	25%
IT equipment	-	33%

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**2. Accounting policies (continued)**

**2.7 Investments**

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance Sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of Financial Activities.

**2.8 Debtors**

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

**2.9 Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

**2.10 Liabilities and provisions**

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance Sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as a finance cost.

**2.11 Financial instruments**

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

**2.12 Pensions**

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Charity to the fund in respect of the year.

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**2. Accounting policies (continued)**

**2.13 Fund accounting**

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The costs 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.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

**3. Judgements in applying accounting policies and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

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

**4. Income from donations and legacies**

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Donations	57,225	20,973	78,198	37,894
Sundry income	-	-	-	65
	<u>57,225</u>	<u>20,973</u>	<u>78,198</u>	<u>37,959</u>
Total 2024	<u>31,659</u>	<u>6,300</u>	<u>37,959</u>	

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**5. Income from charitable activities**

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Kinship care advice and support services	795,855	3,970,635	<b>4,766,490</b>	3,609,624
	<u>632,550</u>	<u>2,977,074</u>	<u>3,609,624</u>	
Total 2024				

**6. Investment income**

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Investment income	25,594	<b>25,594</b>	26,886
Bank interest	5,076	<b>5,076</b>	12,159
	<u>30,670</u>	<u>30,670</u>	<u>39,045</u>
<b>Total 2025</b>			
	<u>39,045</u>	<u>39,045</u>	
Total 2024			



**GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**7. Expenditure on raising funds**

**Costs of raising voluntary income**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2025 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2025 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2024 £</b>
Staff costs	147,954	<b>147,954</b>	78,168
Other costs	11,420	<b>11,420</b>	41,304
<b>Total 2025</b>	<u>159,374</u>	<u><b>159,374</b></u>	<u>119,472</u>
Total 2024	<u>119,472</u>	<u>119,472</u>	

**8. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities**

**Summary by fund type**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2025 £</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2025 £</b>	<b>Total 2025 £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>
Kinship Care Support Services	148,313	3,441,712	<b>3,590,025</b>	2,120,469
Advice Services	-	182,524	<b>182,524</b>	215,680
Core	233,424	728,026	<b>961,450</b>	863,368
Governance	148,039	-	<b>148,039</b>	174,047
	<u>529,776</u>	<u>4,352,262</u>	<u><b>4,882,038</b></u>	<u>3,373,564</u>
Total 2024	<u>863,368</u>	<u>2,510,196</u>	<u>3,373,564</u>	

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**9. Analysis of expenditure by activities**

	Activities undertaken directly 2025 £	Support costs 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Kinship Care Support Services	3,590,025	-	<b>3,590,025</b>	2,120,469
Advice Service	182,524	-	<b>182,524</b>	215,680
Core	-	961,450	<b>961,450</b>	863,368
Governance	116,647	31,392	<b>148,039</b>	174,047
	<u>3,889,196</u>	<u>992,842</u>	<u><b>4,882,038</b></u>	<u>3,373,564</u>
Total 2024	<u><u>2,503,807</u></u>	<u><u>869,757</u></u>	<u><u>3,373,564</u></u>	

**Analysis of support costs**

	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Depreciation	<b>25,416</b>	21,751
Other staff costs	<b>581,162</b>	170,738
Marketing	<b>372</b>	84,499
Premises costs	<b>77,187</b>	84,109
Professional and consultancy costs	<b>199,599</b>	371,523
Office equipment maintenance	<b>58,628</b>	56,472
Postage	<b>2,736</b>	1,805
Investment management costs	<b>5,976</b>	5,962
Database costs	<b>39,039</b>	42,480
Subscriptions and memberships	-	18,260
Other costs	<b>2,727</b>	12,158
	<u><u><b>992,842</b></u></u>	<u><u>869,757</u></u>

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**10. Auditor's remuneration**

	<b>2025</b> £	2024 £
Fees payable to the Charity's auditor for the audit of the Charity's annual accounts	<b>24,800</b>	32,500

**11. Staff costs**

	<b>2025</b> £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	<b>2,735,308</b>	2,169,644
Social security costs	<b>267,358</b>	154,027
Pension costs	<b>66,520</b>	40,637
	<b>3,069,186</b>	2,364,308

The average number of persons employed by the Charity during the year was as follows:

	<b>2025</b> No.	2024 No.
Direct activities	<b>71</b>	59
Fundraising	<b>3</b>	4
Resourcing and support	<b>6</b>	7
Key management personnel	<b>6</b>	5
	<b>86</b>	75

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**11. Staff costs (continued)**

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	<b>2025</b>	2024
	<b>No.</b>	No.
£60,001 - £70,000	<b>1</b>	-
£70,001 - £80,000	<b>1</b>	2
£90,001 - £100,000	<b>1</b>	-
£100,001 - £110,000	-	1

During the year remuneration paid to key management personnel, including national insurance contributions, totalled £447,068 (2024: £416,775).

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**12. Trustees' remuneration and expenses**

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2024 - £NIL).

During the year ended 31 March 2025, expenses totalling £1,351 were reimbursed or paid directly to 5 Trustees (2024 - £552). These expenses were for travel and training.

**13. Tangible fixed assets**

	Computer equipment £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>	
At 1 April 2024	153,523
Additions	30,809
	<hr/>
At 31 March 2025	184,332
	<hr/>
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 April 2024	80,390
Charge for the year	25,416
	<hr/>
At 31 March 2025	105,806
	<hr/>
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 31 March 2025	78,526
	<hr/> <hr/>
At 31 March 2024	73,133
	<hr/> <hr/>

**14. Fixed asset investments**

	Listed investments £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>	
At 1 April 2024	811,272
Additions	39,855
Disposals	(56,260)
Revaluations	20,755
	<hr/>
At 31 March 2025	815,622
	<hr/> <hr/>

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**15. Debtors**

	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Due within one year</b>		
Grant debtors	978,364	641,136
Accrued income	1,028,021	831,890
Other debtors and prepayments	60,449	34,041
	<u>2,066,834</u>	<u>1,507,067</u>

**16. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	299,023	39,693
Other taxation and social security	87,618	85,251
Other creditors	6,411	32,464
Accruals and deferred income	319,659	391,587
	<u>712,711</u>	<u>548,995</u>

**17. Provisions**

	Other provision £
Provisions	20,233
	<u>20,233</u>

A provision for dilapidations has been recognised in respect of the office accommodation which the Charity leases and is required to restore the property at the end of the lease to the same condition as at the lease commencement.

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)**  
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**18. Statement of funds**

**Statement of funds - current year**

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
<b>Designated funds</b>						
Fixed asset fund	73,133	-	(25,416)	30,809	-	78,526
<b>General funds</b>						
General funds	1,520,907	883,750	(663,734)	(42,156)	21,943	1,720,710
<b>Total Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>1,594,040</b>	<b>883,750</b>	<b>(689,150)</b>	<b>(11,347)</b>	<b>21,943</b>	<b>1,799,236</b>
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
Local Authority programmes	22,050	493,842	(442,293)	-	-	73,599
Central Government national services	101,873	3,196,452	(3,298,325)	-	-	-
Campaign, voice and participation	256,025	181,235	(262,807)	6,703	-	181,156
Research	133,045	26,079	(89,046)	-	-	70,078
Advice and direct beneficiary support	566,318	53,000	(193,154)	586	-	426,750
Infrastructure development	11,612	-	(27,153)	-	-	(15,541)
Regional grants	-	21,000	(25,058)	4,058	-	-
TNL Community Fund	-	20,000	(14,426)	-	-	5,574
	<b>1,090,923</b>	<b>3,991,608</b>	<b>(4,352,262)</b>	<b>11,347</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>741,616</b>
<b>Total of funds</b>	<b>2,684,963</b>	<b>4,875,358</b>	<b>(5,041,412)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>21,943</b>	<b>2,540,852</b>

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)**  
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**18. Statement of funds (continued)**

**RESTRICTED FUNDS**

Restricted funds are those funds that must be used in accordance with the donors' wishes. In 2024-25 a total of £3.992m (2024: £2.983m) was received to support a wide range of activities, as follows:

**Local Authority programmes**

Kinship was contracted by local authorities to deliver Kinship Connected, Kinship Reach and Kinship Ready which provide intensive one-to-one support, peer support and preparation training for kinship carers.

**Central Government national services**

Kinship was contracted by the Department for Education in England to deliver two national services: the Kinship Peer Support Service and the Kinship Carer Training and Support Service.

**Campaign, voice and participation**

Kinship received funding from Comic Relief, BBC Children in Need, Monday Charitable Trust and The Triangle Trust 1949 Fund to support its influencing work which included participation of kinship carers and young people with experience of kinship care.

**Research**

Kinship received funding from KPMG Foundation and through research collaborations with academic institutions and Foundations - The What Works Centre for Children and Families.

**Advice and direct beneficiary support**

Kinship received funding from City Bridge Trust, Hadley Trust, The Charity of Sir Richard Whittington and The Ballinger Charitable Trust which supported its advice service, Someone Like Me telephone peer support service and grants for kinship families.

**Infrastructure development**

Kinship received funding from Fidelity Foundation to support the development of its finance and telephony systems.

**DESIGNATED FUNDS**

**Fixed Asset Fund**

The fixed asset fund represents the net book value of tangible assets (see note 13) as of the balance sheet date. This fund has been designated by the Board of Trustees to cover future depreciation on tangible assets held.



**GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)**  
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**18. Statement of funds (continued)**

**Statement of funds - prior year**

	As restated Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	As restated Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
<b>Designated funds</b>						
Fixed asset fund	20,304	-	(21,751)	74,580	-	73,133
<b>General funds</b>						
General funds	1,782,886	703,254	(961,089)	(76,956)	72,812	1,520,907
<b>Total Unrestricted funds</b>	1,803,190	703,254	(982,840)	(2,376)	72,812	1,594,040

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)**  
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**18. Statement of funds (continued)**

	As restated Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	As restated Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
Local Authority programmes	-	711,275	(689,225)	-	-	22,050
Central Government national services	1,743	1,467,342	(1,367,212)	-	-	101,873
Campaign, voice and participation	371,880	119,768	(235,623)	-	-	256,025
Research	200,000	13,705	(83,036)	2,376	-	133,045
Advice and direct beneficiary support	41,746	621,546	(96,974)	-	-	566,318
Infrastructure development	-	49,738	(38,126)	-	-	11,612
	<u>615,369</u>	<u>2,983,374</u>	<u>(2,510,196)</u>	<u>2,376</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,090,923</u>
<b>Total of funds</b>	<u><u>2,418,559</u></u>	<u><u>3,686,628</u></u>	<u><u>(3,493,036)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>72,812</u></u>	<u><u>2,684,963</u></u>

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)**  
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**19. Summary of funds**

**Summary of funds - current year**

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Designated funds	73,133	-	(25,416)	30,809	-	78,526
General funds	1,520,907	883,750	(663,734)	(42,156)	21,943	1,720,710
Restricted funds	1,090,923	3,991,608	(4,352,262)	11,347	-	741,616
	<u>2,684,963</u>	<u>4,875,358</u>	<u>(5,041,412)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,943</u>	<u>2,540,852</u>

**Summary of funds - prior year**

	As restated Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Designated funds	20,304	-	(21,751)	74,580	-	73,133
General funds	1,782,886	703,254	(961,089)	(76,956)	72,812	1,520,907
Restricted funds	615,369	2,983,374	(2,510,196)	2,376	-	1,090,923
	<u>2,418,559</u>	<u>3,686,628</u>	<u>(3,493,036)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>72,812</u>	<u>2,684,963</u>

**20. Analysis of net assets between funds**

**Analysis of net assets between funds - current year**

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	78,526	-	78,526
Fixed asset investments	815,622	-	815,622
Current assets	1,401,284	978,364	2,379,648
Creditors due within one year	(475,963)	(236,748)	(712,711)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	(20,233)	-	(20,233)
<b>Total</b>	<u>1,799,236</u>	<u>741,616</u>	<u>2,540,852</u>

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**20. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)**

**Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year**

	As restated Unrestricted funds 2024 £	As restated Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	73,133	-	73,133
Fixed asset investments	811,272	-	811,272
Current assets	1,148,747	1,200,806	2,349,553
Creditors due within one year	(439,112)	(109,883)	(548,995)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,594,040</b>	<b>1,090,923</b>	<b>2,684,963</b>

**21. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities**

	<b>2025 £</b>	<b>2024 £</b>
Net income/expenditure for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	<b>(144,111)</b>	266,404
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation charges	<b>25,416</b>	21,751
Gains on investments	<b>(21,943)</b>	(72,812)
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	<b>(30,670)</b>	(39,045)
Increase in debtors	<b>(657,125)</b>	(632,992)
Increase in creditors	<b>227,032</b>	229,566
Increase in provisions	<b>20,233</b>	-
<b>Net cash used in operating activities</b>	<b>(581,168)</b>	(227,128)

**22. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents**

	<b>2025 £</b>	<b>2024 £</b>
Cash in hand	<b>312,814</b>	842,486
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>312,814</b>	842,486

**GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)**  
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**23. Analysis of changes in net debt**

	At 1 April 2024	Cash flows	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	842,486	(529,672)	312,814
	<u>842,486</u>	<u>(529,672)</u>	<u>312,814</u>

**24. Pension commitments**

The Charity operates a defined contributions pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Charity in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the Charity to the fund and amounted to £66,520 (2024: £40,637). Contributions totalling £20,810 (2024: £5,554) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors.

**25. Related party transactions**

There has been one transaction involving related parties during the year. A Business Support Officer was employed at the Charity's standard salary level for the post, who is also a direct relation of the Charity's Treasurer.

There are no outstanding balances owing between related parties and the Charity at 31 March 2025.