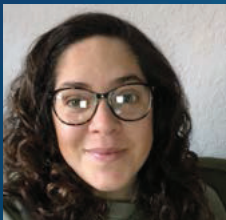


# ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

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2022-2023



'My highlight for 2022-2023 was definitely joining the charity! I am really proud we were able

to develop two LGBTQ+ support groups in the reporting period: one for those at the beginning of the journey and another for those who are undergoing treatment. People often tell me how much they value a safe space where they can be all of who they are without needing to explain themselves, and a space where they can seek peer support from others on their journey to parenthood.'

**Bethan Shoemark-Spear, Wales  
project worker**

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# Welcome



**Jo Binding**  
Chair

## Welcome from our Chair

2022/2023 was a year of growth and change for the charity; trustees are proud of the work that has been achieved and are grateful to staff.

After growing our board at the end of March 2022, we embarked on some board training to ensure that trustees and staff understood their responsibilities under charity law. Following that training, the charity embarked on several changes to ensure the governance was as effective as it needed to be to support this incredible charity in its mission.

The board designated funds to support the growth of the charity and to learn new and emerging skills that we would need for the future, including social media and fundraising. This year was focused around delivering that governance reform and the charity embarked on some major

changes to ensure we were delivering against our charitable objects and within charity law.

The charity was supported in this transformation programme by the trustees who dedicated significant amounts of time as well as by specialist charity professionals at CounterCulture LLP and at McPhersons.

We want to thank all of those who supported the charity during this year of change and as we plan for our 20th anniversary.

Thank you

Jo



'My highlight of the year was the Fertility In The Workplace Summit. It was in City Hall in London,

which is an amazing venue, and I got to meet so many incredible people. It was great listening to the MPs who attended, to hear what changes they are trying to make within parliament. It was also positive hearing the policies some companies have put in place, such as the Co-op and Autotrader. I spoke to many organisations that were so enthusiastic about implementing fertility policies based on the lived experiences that were shared on our panels. It felt so rewarding knowing we were helping to make change.'

**Sarah Dixon, Fertility in the Workplace project officer**

**The Trustees present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2023.**

**Included within the Trustees' report is the directors' report as required by company law. Reference and administrative information set out on page 38 forms part of this report.**

**The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102 ('Charities SORP').**

# About Fertility Network UK

## Our mission

- Fertility Network UK is the leading charity across the UK in the provision of a comprehensive support network for those facing fertility challenges at all stages of their journey, providing information and education as well as practical and emotional support.

## Our objective

- To relieve the suffering from infertility particularly through the provision of information, advice, and support.
- To uphold the provision of an equitable system of publicly-funded fertility treatment throughout the UK for all sufferers of infertility, subfertility, and secondary infertility.

- To support the needs of persons suffering from infertility through the provision of inter alia, a network of local support groups, a support line service, a website and a regular magazine and e-newsletter;
- To advance public education about all aspects of fertility and infertility;
- To raise the profile of issues concerning fertility and infertility in the media and in general, in an informed, responsible manner; and
- To encourage and assist continuing research of the broadest nature into infertility and its various effects.

# What we do

## **Provision of information, advice, and support to people suffering from infertility**

Unbiased and free information on our website ([www.fertilitynetworkuk.org](http://www.fertilitynetworkuk.org))

Telephone advice and support via a general 'Information Line' and a 'Support Line' staffed by former fertility nurses.

Network of support groups across the nations, run either by team members or volunteers. Meetings are held at a frequency determined by the members, typically every month.

Online groups and webinars, with all support activities publicised on the website and via social media.

This year we increased services to meet the demand for support. We also post a range of content and support materials on our website.

Workshops in conjunction with organisations to support their employees.

## **Support the provision of an equitable system of publicly-funded fertility treatment**

Represent patients throughout the UK lobbying for fair and equitable access to NHS funding through virtual meetings with policy makers.

We meet with MPs, MSPs, MSs and MLAs and give support for the production of Parliamentary Questions and other briefings.

Meet with the political parties in Scotland, Wales, England and Northern Ireland to build relationships and advocate for our service users.

## **Advancing public education**

We believe that fertility education is essential, not only for those experiencing fertility challenges but also for young people so that they know how to care for their future if they might wish to have children one day.

We are engaged in several activities to raise awareness and educate the public, including working across social media and digital, TV, print and radio.

In Scotland and Wales, the Charity undertakes education and awareness sessions at Freshers events and throughout the academic year in universities and colleges.

## **To encourage and assist research in its broadest sense into infertility and its various effects**

We are widely perceived as the leading national fertility patient organisation, providing patient representation on several professional committees.

We regularly represent the patient voice on many academic and scientific research projects.

We are founder members of the Patient Organisation Stakeholder Group (POSG).

# Achievements of the Year

We hosted

**21 webinars**

with 731 participants and 7,776 views.

A survey of nearly **1,300** patients explored the devastating impact on patients of infertility and its treatment.

## Digital impact

We grew our reach and engagement on social and digital channels. We now have approaching 20K followers on Instagram, 15K followers on Facebook and 13.5K followers on twitter.

**Our online HealthUnlocked Trying To Conceive (TTC) community** has 40,465 active members, our More To Life (MTL) community 914 active members, and our pregnancy support community 4,033 members.

We now have **70** support groups with a total of 12,156 members.

**The tenth National Fertility Awareness Week** gained widespread attention and support across digital and traditional broadcast media for the five days of the week.

On our website we had on average **27,751** new users each month.

We gained national newspaper coverage for our survey (the Daily Telegraph, the Daily Mail, the Guardian, I News, HuffPost), magazine coverage (HR magazine, People Management) and radio and TV coverage too, including Channel 5 news, ITV News Wales, ITV News Anglia, BBC Radio Solent, BBC Radio Berkshire and others. We gave interviews and coverage featured many of our media volunteers. Woman's Hour presenter Emma Barnett covered our survey in her weekly fertility blog/newsletter.

**Our free Support Line** is run by two former fertility nurses, available five days a week.

It has been described on many occasions as a 'lifeline' by those dealing with fertility issues. Diane and Janet cannot diagnose but will try to answer and support people through their queries and worries. We supported **4,210** beneficiaries over the year.



# Highlights



## Securing funding

We were successful in **securing three years of funding** in England with The National Lottery Community Fund – Reaching Communities England. This enabled us to expand and enhance our support services and diversify and grow our England team.

Fertility Network's ground-breaking **Fertility in the Workplace** initiative, which aims to change the work landscape for all experiencing fertility issues, was successful in securing support from the VCSE Health and Wellbeing Fund, part of a partnership programme between Department of Health & Social Care, NHS England and UK Health Security Agency.

This will enable us to substantially **expand our vital work** helping small and medium enterprise organisations implement fertility policies and provide support and understanding for women facing fertility treatment.



## Raising awareness

In November 2022, we held a **major virtual event** for UK and Ireland healthcare professionals involved in fertility care, political representatives and other key stakeholders from the fertility world, to start a conversation and raise awareness about Trauma in Infertility. The event included presentations from key UK researchers and the British Infertility Counselling Association. This important research project is progressing well, with a major survey planned for the end of 2023.

Fertility Network was invited to speak at the **Fertility 2023 Conference** in January 2023 hosted by the British Fertility Society, the Association of Reproductive & Clinical Scientists and the Society of Reproduction and Fertility. This was held in Belfast and our Northern Ireland coordinator Hilary presented to the conference about NHS funding differences across the UK, highlighting the results from both our Fertility Network Impact Survey and the Trauma in Infertility research project we have initiated.

Team Wales hosted a reception in February 2023 at **the Senedd, the Welsh Parliament**, in Cardiff Bay raising awareness and celebrating the critical work that we

undertake with fertility patients in Wales. The event was sponsored by Russell George MS, Shadow Minister for Health and Chair of the Welsh Parliament's Health and Social Care committee. It was a very well-attended, wonderful day with some truly incredible fertility awareness raised and critical conversations had across the political spectrum. We were thrilled and so very encouraged to see so many people there, willing and eager to collaborate and work together to further support fertility patients in Wales.

During the event, we discussed the critical work being undertaken with **Welsh fertility patients** and essential projects within primary, secondary and tertiary care, as well as highlighting key areas of focus for 2023 and beyond. We also raised awareness of our essential work within education via our Fertility Education Programme – Your Future Fertility.

Fertility Network's '**Recognising Reproductive Health**' summit in March 2023 brought together key campaigners, organisations, and individuals to highlight the future of reproductive health in the workplace and the pressing need for change. Speakers included MPs Nickie Aiken and Alex Davies-Jones and delegates heard about the charity's decades of experience in enhancing understanding of the impact of infertility and its treatment, and in helping organisations large and small develop tailored fertility policies.



**Providing valuable help to more people**

During the year we welcomed three new England team members:

**London Representative:** London has far more fertility clinics than any other region of the UK and, as such, the role of the London representative is vital to increasing engagement in London, via fertility clinics, community groups and events and outreach to other relevant stakeholders.

**Ethnic Minority Communities Project Worker:** to engage with Ethnic Minority Communities and enable increased support to specific minority groups, alongside raising awareness of the different impacts of fertility on these communities.

**England Project Worker:** to increase engagement and awareness across the rest of England and provide admin support in managing the additional groups and courses we have been able to introduce as part of our funding.

We expanded our **Clinic Ambassador programme**, launched in 2021. Clinic ambassadors provide a bridge between the charity and fertility clinics, promoting awareness about the wide variety of free

support services the charity has to offer. The clinic ambassador role is open to doctors, nurses, embryologists, or counsellors. This programme has established links with 66% of all London based fertility clinics and 87% of all applicable clinics across the rest of England.

We continue to collaborate with **key stakeholders in the sector** including the Royal College of Nursing, Donor Conception Network, the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA), The British Infertility Counselling Association (BICA), NGA Law, and fertility clinics.

Our feedback in England from participants shows:

- **82%** of people who have attended our meetings or webinars felt they were more knowledgeable about the subject after the meeting than prior to attending.
- **88%** of people felt better after attending a meeting/webinar.
- **85%** of people who were struggling prior to the meeting/webinar felt better equipped to deal with things after attending.
- **97%** of people feel supported by Fertility Network UK.
- **100%** of people would recommend Fertility Network UK meetings to others on a fertility journey.

Team Wales developed a new and exciting **creative project RISE** – a deeply emotional expression of infertility through poetry and photography by the people we support. Professionals in photography and creative writing led a series of four workshops for those looking for a safe space to share and express emotions while on their fertility journey. Some of the incredible work produced at the workshops was showcased during National Fertility Awareness Week and at our Senedd meeting in February 2022.

Team Northern Ireland is collaborating with Queen's University, Belfast to develop a research project '**Trauma in Infertility**', investigating the incidence and impact that fertility issues have on the social and emotional wellbeing of those affected, with particular regard to psychological trauma.



### Educating young people

Our project '**Your Future Fertility**' educates young people on lifestyle choices which could impact their future fertility. The project has continued to grow successfully in Scotland and Wales supported by the Scottish Government and The National Lottery Community Fund Wales, respectively.



### Campaigning for change

We worked with MP Nickie Aiken supporting her **Fertility Treatment (Employment Rights) Private Member's Bill** which was presented to parliament in June 2022. However, a second reading was interrupted. We are continuing to work with Ms Aiken, supporting her voluntary scheme for organisations – the fertility workplace pledge – which encourages employers to pledge to provide the support and understanding fertility patients need from their workplace.

The UK government published its first **Women's Health Strategy for England** in July 2022, aimed at improving healthcare for women and girls across England. Fertility Network UK made a submission in response to a call for evidence which generated almost 100,000 responses. The responses highlighted a need for greater focus on women-specific health conditions, including fertility and pregnancy loss, and gynaecological conditions such as endometriosis.

As part of the Women's Health Strategy, the Government announced it would remove non-clinical barriers to IVF for

**same-sex female couples**, something Fertility Network has long campaigned for. This means same-sex female couples will no longer have to pay for artificial insemination to prove their fertility status and gain NHS treatment, with their treatment pathway beginning with six NHS-funded intra-uterine insemination (IUI) cycles, prior to accessing IVF services, if necessary.

However, the Government did not say how or when these changes would be implemented and did not announce plans to tackle **the postcode lottery** across England in accessing treatment beyond providing information on the current patchy provision. This information is already available in a more in-depth format on Fertility Network's website.

In England, we continue to lobby Government to dismantle the IVF postcode lottery and work with integrated care boards (ICBs) to **ensure access to NHS-fertility treatment is fair**. Current changes in the way the NHS is structured with areas coming together to commission treatment means some have been reviewing their fertility policies to align them. We worked with commissioners in North Central and also North East London to help them to ensure patient views are part of their considerations. In North Central London, we were part of the fertility policy steering group and helped

to ensure patient views were taken into consideration at every stage of the policy development. Both areas have come up with policies which will improve the care offered to fertility patients.

We were pleased to hear that, after many years of campaigning, **NHS-funded fertility treatment** is to be reinstated in two areas of Essex – Mid-Essex and Basildon & Brentwood. Elsewhere, Staffs and Stoke ICB announced a consultation on a new policy which would provide just one embryo transfer – one of the worst in England!

We expressed our deep concerns relating to proposed changes to the **fertility policy in Wales** by the Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee (WHSSC) in January 2023. The proposed cuts seek to ration access to NHS fertility treatment for heterosexual couples, will make it harder for same-sex couples to access NHS treatment by increasing the amount of IUI required from six to 12 cycles, will prevent women over 40 and single women and men from accessing NHS fertility help and will also exclude women and men who self-fund fertility preservation from future NHS fertility treatment.

These suggested changes were not being reported by **the media**. We issued a statement and identified media volunteers happy to speak with the press. ITV and

BBC Wales covered the issue on TV, with interviews with our Wales coordinator Emma. BBC Wales radio also covered the topic with Emma giving interviews in English and Welsh.

Thanks to our efforts, working with WHSSC and the media, **WHSSC's consultation** was made available for anyone to respond to on the WHSSC website and the consultation deadline was extended by over a month. We met with Plaid Cymru and Welsh Conservatives and alerted other organisations, including Fair Treatment for Women of Wales, Stonewall Cymru and the RCN, who all followed up with responses to the consultation, as well as ourselves. We are continuing to work to prevent these cuts happening.



### Fertility Network in the news

Our **press office** was busier than ever, responding to 235 media requests, and providing 37 interviews, 47 press comments, and 25 press releases / statements. We were mentioned in the media 129 times! Our media volunteers were sharing their stories and 105 new media volunteers joined us.

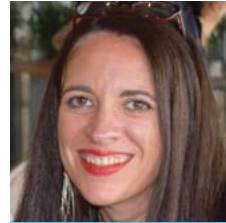
Our **social media team** produced an alternative Mother's Day card for anyone struggling to become a Mum and worked with sister organisations for International Women's Day. We now have an account for Fertility Network-designed cards on Thortful and these cards are promoted on our website.

Our **media team** worked with the cabinet office to provide a representative to speak with the Minister for Women about how female health problems impact in the workplace.



### The Fertility Show

We are the charity partner of The Fertility Show, held at Olympia in London at the start of May 2022. The show provides visitors with unparalleled access to the world's leading fertility experts, charities and many service providers under one roof. This year it was the first face-to-face meeting since the pandemic. Team Fertility Network had a stand and also hosted sessions.



'It has been fantastic to work with clinics across England and build their awareness of our

work and it's always rewarding to hear from patients who have found our services as a result of signposting from their clinics. Attending the Senior Infertility Nursing Group (SING) event in Birmingham gave me the opportunity to speak to the fertility nurses who are working directly with patients at their clinics, and it was saddening to hear how few of them were aware of all the services we offer. This, however, gave us a better understanding of the need to link with frontline staff and attend nurses/admin meetings at clinics where possible, to ensure that they are fully aware of everything they can signpost their patients to, and enabled us to continue to improve on our approach and relationships with clinics.'

**Claire Heuclin, England coordinator**

# Report: The Impact of Infertility and its Treatment

We commissioned a major new piece of research with Middlesex University London assessing the impact of infertility. Our survey of approaching 1,300 fertility patients in the UK revealed the devastating toll infertility wreaks on people's mental health, relationships, finances and career and was picked up widely by the media during Fertility Week 2022 and beyond. **The survey found:**

## Mental health

- Four out of ten respondents experienced **suicidal feelings**: 30% reported suicidal feelings sometimes or occasionally, while 10% experienced suicidal feelings often or all the time.
- Approaching half (47%) of respondents experienced **feelings of depression** often or all the time, while the vast majority (83%) felt sad, frustrated and worried often or all the time.

## Finances

- Two-thirds of patients (63%) **had to pay** for their own medical treatment.
- The average cost of investigations and treatment was **£13,750**, with around one in ten couples (12%) spending more than £30,000.

## Career

- More than one in ten respondents (15%) either reduced their hours or **left their job**, and less than half (45%) of respondents felt they received really good support from their employer.
- Over a third (36%) of respondents felt their **career was damaged** as a result of fertility

treatment, and the majority (58%) felt concerned that fertility treatment would affect their career prospects.

- Only a quarter (25%) reported the existence of a **supportive workplace** policy.

## Relationships

- The majority of respondents (59%) reported some detrimental impact of fertility problems and/or treatment on **their relationship** with their partner, while 2% of respondents reported their relationship had ended as a result.

## Information & Support

- Approaching half (44%) of respondents **sought help** from Fertility Network UK, the nation's leading fertility charity.
- Three-quarters of respondents (75%) felt their GP did not provide **sufficient information** about fertility problems and treatment and 7% were not sure. Less than one-fifth (18%) were satisfied with the information GPs provided.
- The majority of respondents (78%) would have liked to have **counselling** if it was free. Half of respondents (51%) did have counselling, but most of these (59%) had to fund some of it themselves.



# Fertility Week

**What a week!** During National Fertility Awareness Week 2022 we hosted four live Q&A webinars, a Fertility in the Workplace face-to-face event with AutoTrader, released our survey on the impact of infertility and its treatment, showcased 16 blogs on our website from patients and professionals, including representatives from Adoption UK, and the Defence Fertility Network.

We broadcast 27 videos on our social media platforms, from patients and professionals, including:

- Julia Chain, chair of the fertility regulator the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority;
- Raj Mathur, chair of the British Fertility Society;
- Angela Pericleous-Smith, chair of British Infertility Counselling Association;
- Nickie Aiken MP.

**We focused on different topics each day. Our timetable is below.**

## **Monday 31 October**

### **#FertilityFairness**

Infertility is a recognised disease, yet the majority of UK fertility patients are forced to pay for medical treatment because access to NHS-funded fertility treatment is unfairly rationed. Only Scotland offers the recommended three full IVF cycles. We released a major new survey on the impact of infertility and its treatment.

We hosted a #FertilityFairness webinar with experts from the Human Fertilisation and

Embryology Authority, the British Infertility Counselling Association and the British Fertility Society.

## **Tuesday 1 November**

### **#FertilityInTheWorkplace**

Shockingly, fertility treatment is not recognised by the majority of employers as necessary medical treatment and there is no legal right to time off work for fertility appointments.

We are calling for employers to recognise fertility treatment as a clinical necessity and to provide

appropriate medical leave. We hosted a #FertilityintheWorkplace webinar with Nickie Aiken MP and representatives from AutoTrader.

## **Wednesday 2 November**

### **#HIMfertility**

Male factor fertility problems are the most common reason for a couple to seek fertility treatment, yet far too often men's fertility is not tested in the first stages of a couple seeking medical help, leading to unnecessary delays and distress. We are calling for



We hosted a #HIMfertility webinar with Maria Satchi, consultant urological surgeon and two former male fertility patients: Andrew Baines-Vosper and Ciaran Hannington.

**#FertilityEd**

We hosted a #FertilityEd webinar with Professor Joyce Harper, co-founder of the Fertility Education Initiative and our Your Future Fertility team.

**#TalkFertility**

Infertility can be a lonely experience: too many people struggle in silence when talking about what you are facing can make a big difference. We signposted the help that is available, including our regional and specialty online groups and highlighted patients' experiences. Hearing how others have coped with their fertility journey can be extraordinarily helpful.

situations fertility patients were currently faci

[illegible]

# Workplace support



We were **one of only 16 organisations** to secure funding from VCSE Health and Wellbeing Fund. This was a huge endorsement of the work we have been doing.

Thanks to the funding from VCSE, we welcomed **three new members** of the FITW team at the end of March 2023. Their focus is on supporting women in small-to-medium enterprises, business owners and self-employed women in England by providing free workplace education and support.

The VCSE funding has also enabled us to meet with some **other incredible charities** who have received funding and to reimagine what women's health support could look like overall in the next few years.

We continued to grow our other work helping organisations of any size support both women and men facing fertility struggles. We increased the number of organisations we have worked with, **from 50 to over 100**. They include charities, hospital trusts and government departments, such as the Ministry of Defence. There are also firms we have

worked with for over three years, such as HSBC and BP.

Our aim is to listen to the needs of the organisation first and then **co-design a pathway of support**, while plugging them into the work of the charity to provide long-term, wrap around care. The feedback is consistently positive with people regularly saying what a relief it was to feel less alone, less afraid and more empowered as they progress. From all-staff training to managers' sessions, and specific topic talks, we remain committed to our primary vision that no one should feel isolated at work when facing fertility issues.

Our in-person Recognising Reproductive Health Summit in London saw approaching **100 people** coming together to hear from experts, including Nickie Aiken MP and Alex Davies-Jones MP and organisations we have worked with including the Co-op and AutoTrader.

We continued to campaign for **improved support for fertility patients from their workplace**. As it stands there is no legal right for time off or flexible working for patients seeking the medical support they need for infertility, leaving patients to navigate this issue on an individual basis and with huge variations around experience in the workplace. We reached out to many MPs about this.



'The pandemic drew attention to the health and social inequalities experienced by people from global

majority communities. As the Ethnic Minorities Community Project Worker, I'm committed to bringing into sharper focus the voices and experiences of those who experience inequities in fertility treatment and provision.

In October 2022, I was pleased to coordinate and host Fertility Network UK's first Black History Month event. This event brought together a panel of Black men and members of the Black community, to share their knowledge, value their contributions and to provide a greater understanding of their different intersectional fertility needs.

It was an open and inclusive discussion on some of the key themes and systemic issues which particularly affect the black community.

The webinar event was an opportunity to increase awareness about the shortage of Black donors in the UK and the subsequent impact on fertility clients from Black and/or mixed ethnicity communities. The audience heard how the creation of the first UK Black donor agency helped to bridge the gaps in provision.

The event also centred on the lived and learned experience of one of Fertility Network's community ambassadors, the actor Jonathan Luwagga, who spoke about his personal fertility journey as a Black man. He highlighted an important and often-missing perspective in conversations about infertility.

I was delighted to be able to amplify their voices and provide a safe space to understanding what impacts and influences the fertility journeys of black and racially minoritised people.'

**Jenny Okona-Mensah,**  
**Ethnic Minorities Community**  
**Project Worker**



**Actor Jonathan Luwagga**

# Our work across the nations and regions

We have team members based across the UK in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, and Wales whose focus is to serve the local community with support groups and events.

They had a busy and impactful year.



# Fertility Network UK in England

**In England, with the support of The National Lottery Community Fund – Reaching Communities England, we have...**



We engaged with **5,636** members of our regional groups in England. We now have 36 regional fertility groups and we've introduced **one** additional group this year. We have seen an **87%** increase in engagement with our England regional communities on Facebook and **46%** increase in attendance to our online meetings.



Our outreach and engagement with **Ethnic Minority Communities** across the country has been exceptional. We have taken part in talks, podcasts, events and general outreach work and have had the opportunity to raise awareness with over 700 people across the country.



We now have **13** UK-wide specialist groups. Engagement within our specialist UK wide groups has increased by **72%** with the introduction of two new groups: South Asian Fertility Group & Fertility Treatment Abroad. We are planning an Under 25's group and a Muslim community group.



Our **Wellbeing Programme** in England flourished. We provided a six-week online Yoga for relaxation course, a six-week online Pathway to Parenthood course for the LGBTQ+ community, a four-week Mindfulness course and a four-week nutrition course focused on helping those who need to lose weight to access fertility treatment. We saw a 100% improvement in wellbeing demonstrated through our wellbeing assessments.



We have actively engaged with the majority of fertility clinics across the country, through our **Clinic Ambassador** programme. This programme has established links with 66% of all London-based fertility clinics and 87% of all applicable clinics across the rest of England.



We ran a series of All England **Q&A Sessions** with guest speakers, including the fertility regulator the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA) and The British Infertility Counselling Association (BICA).



Thanks to our new team we have been able to attend community events and engage with other stakeholder organisations, including **LGBTQ+ community groups** and women's health organisations.



The England team provided one-to-one **information and support**, via text, social media, phone and email to 1,463 individuals and we have

followed up with these contacts on 411 occasions.



The England team hosted 29 **webinars** online. These covered general fertility information and

advice, discussions about specific reports and regulations, focused topics for coping with specific events and information sessions relevant to target audiences.

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## Fertility Network UK in Wales

**In Wales, with the support from The National Lottery Community Fund Wales, we have...**



Supported **1,258** people overall with **662** people now in our four private groups (South & West Wales, Shropshire & Mid Wales, North Wales, All-Wales LGBTQ+). Regular meetings of the All-Wales group include both peer support meetings and meetings with expert speakers.



Attended the **Pride Cymru** event in Cardiff where we spoke to many couples who had no idea that they were entitled to NHS fertility treatment in Wales. One male same-sex couple said talking to Fertility Network UK and finding out this information had made their year.



Collaborated with some **brilliant organisations**, such as Fair Treatment for the Women of Wales (FTWW), British Heart Foundation Cymru, Endometriosis UK, Tommy's and Mind Cymru. These collaborations focused on securing the Welsh Government's commitment for the implementation



of the Women's Health Plan for Wales. We contributed to the Women & Girls Health Wales Quality Statement.

We also worked closely with a number of Welsh Health Boards to provide emotional impact training for primary care **mental health teams** and are working with local authorities to further raise awareness.



We launched our Wales **LGBTQ+** fertility peer group and are delighted to say that it grew incredibly fast and is now a UK-wide peer group. Later in the year we launched a second LGBTQ+ group. One group is for those at the beginning of the journey and another for those who are undergoing treatment.



Our **education programme** was busy, with attendance at six freshers events, multiple presentations in healthcare and ongoing exciting work with Aberystwyth University, regarding our





involvement and support in a new degree programme.

Our six-week **LGBTQ+** Pathways to Parenthood course was very well-received and we collaborated with a number of organisations including Donor Conception Network, the Royal College of Nursing and NGA Law. The course looked at a number of topics, including legal implications, lived experience and donor conception support.



Our **information sessions** and groups included mindfulness and coping mechanisms for anxiety, nutrition to improve egg quality and uterine lining, a presentation and Q&A on the IVF process by a fertility consultant, and a mindful eating course for anyone struggling to lose weight for fertility treatment. For our fertility in the workplace activities, we provided ongoing support to North Wales police, South Wales police and Admiral.

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## Fertility Network UK in Northern Ireland

**In Northern Ireland, with the support of the Department of Health via the Belfast Health Trust and the Belfast Cathedral Black Santa Sit-out Fund, we have...**



Working closely with the NI Department of Health, the NHS Regional Fertility Clinic and healthcare professionals as part of the NI IVF Project Board, we have lobbied for patients regarding the proposed move towards **three cycles** of publicly-funded IVF fertility treatment. Though delayed due to a lack of devolved NI Government, we hope to see improvement for patients in 2024.



As patient advocates, we represent **patient needs** in both the NHS and private fertility sector, and have continued to develop our

connections with other support services and organisations. We have recently joined a NI Baby Loss consortium to work together to improve support for pregnancy loss.



In Northern Ireland, we continue to have high demand for our **one-to-one support**. Support group meetings for Trying to Conceive, More to Life and AceBabes continue via Zoom with informal chats, and a variety of guest speakers.

Our **#GetFit4Fertility** programme helps women and men on a fertility



journey develop positive lifestyle habits. Nutrition, Mindfulness and Exercise help to optimise their fertility health and wellbeing:

- Magic Mile for Me - to encourage, motivate and maintain a daily habit of walking a mile;
- Nutrition for Fertility course - led by a nutritionist, highlighting benefits of eating well, maintaining steady blood glucose and avoiding insulin spikes;
- Wellbeing – six-week mindfulness programmes, adapted to the challenges of infertility.



considerable endorsement from health professionals. An application was made to the Department of Health and Social Care Core Grant Funding for a 12-month pilot project in NI, but the funding was withdrawn.

Queens University and Belfast City Council are two organisations that have linked with our **Fertility in the Workplace** initiative, which helps employers to offer support and understanding for employees on a fertility journey, whatever the outcome. It is heartening to see increased recognition of infertility as a legitimate health condition and employees seeking time off for medical appointments, granted leave, flexibility and support.



Our education programme '**Your Future Fertility**' which highlights potential risks to future fertility health, has received

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# Fertility Network UK in Scotland

**In Scotland, with the support of the Scottish government, we have...**



Celebrated a decade of our education project **Your Fertile Future** in Scotland. This project was the first of its kind in the UK and creates awareness by providing information to a range including colleges, universities, voluntary organisations, GPs, sexual health clinics and many more.



This year also saw us launch our first **TikTok** social media channel as part of our education project. Our handle is @FertilityFuture. We also have

social media accounts on Instagram, Facebook and X (formerly Twitter). A big push this year was to increase our presence on social media. We worked with volunteers to record a series of videos on how anabolic steroids and recreational drug use can impact fertility. Our total reach across our social media platforms for the period was 59,977.

With pandemic restrictions now fully eased in Scotland for colleges





and universities, we were very happy to return to a full schedule of **Fresher events**. We attended a record 38 Fresher events, talked to lots of students about their future fertility, and distributed around 4000 'Your Wellbeing Your Future' education leaflets.



Overall staff attended **60 events** and completed a record amount of **3,037 questionnaires** for our education project. The survey assesses students' knowledge of what could affect their future fertility. Our support services in Scotland continue to thrive. We now have 707 people in our peer support groups, up from 496 in the previous reporting period. These include seven regional trying to conceive (TTC) WhatsApp groups in Scotland which are sorted by age, region and stage in their TTC journey. We also have six specialist peer support groups.

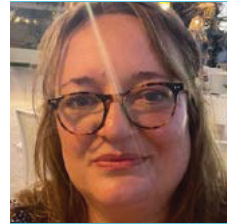


Our **volunteers** continue to play a vital role in the charity. Their contribution and enthusiasm for the cause is essential for the continued delivery of our support services. They include peer support volunteers, More to Life volunteers, student ambassadors and media volunteers.



We continued our work with **sexual health** clinics and gave presentations to medical students and health and social care students. We also continue to work with other organisations including Health

and Social Care Alliance Scotland, Volunteer Scotland, Period Poverty UK, Pride Glasgow, Verity PCOS, Youth Scotland, SHE Scotland, Baby Loss Awareness Week and Endometriosis UK.



'It was great to see attendance of our Freshers events back to pre-pandemic levels,

staff were delighted to be back and the whole team worked extremely hard in reaching as many students as possible. A bumper year for questionnaires! Our requests for support in Scotland continue to grow and the feedback from our beneficiaries is extremely rewarding.'

**Sarah Lindores-Williams,  
Scotland Coordinator**



'Working for this charity is an absolute honour, being able to support people facing the loneliness

and isolation of a fertility journey. Facilitating webinars and helping people better understand and take control of their own journey is hugely rewarding.'

**Sharon Martin, Business  
Development Manager**

# Our supporters

**We are extremely grateful for the support from our partners including:**

## **The Scottish Government**

To work with clinics and Health Boards on the provision of fertility services in Scotland; to provide a comprehensive support service to infertility patients; to raise awareness of issues surrounding fertility and infertility by working with universities, health professionals and employers across Scotland. Provide recruitment and training support for our volunteers and support the Scottish Government donor campaign.

## **The National Lottery Community Fund Wales**

Five-year project to expand our regional network of support for infertility sufferers in Wales and to deliver the Education project across the country.

## **The VCSE Health and Wellbeing Fund**

Part of a partnership programme between Department of Health & Social Care, NHS

England and UK Health Security Agency – to improve health and employment outcomes for women and people experiencing reproductive health issues.

The support should ensure women facing reproductive health issues can remain in and return to work with the right support.

## **TNL Community Grant England**

This project will provide increased support and information to increase our reach in order that more people are supported on their fertility journey. Dedicated resource to engage and support LGBTQ, Ethnic minority, women over 40 and male community. Increase the number of volunteers in the network with a focus on geographical areas where there are none.

Also: **Health Medica; My Family Tree; Tori Day; Broken Heart Tees; NUA; Melio** and **Sheila Lamb**.

## Our thanks go to our corporate and clinic supporters:

Agora  
Apricity  
BCRM  
Bourn Hall Ltd  
Bridge Clinic London  
Care Fertility Group  
Concept Fertility Clinic  
Chelmsfield And Sussex Downs  
Fertility Centre  
The Centre For Reproductive & Genetic  
Health (CRGH)  
Gennet City  
The Hull IVF Unit  
Herts And Essex Fertility Clinic

In-Ovo Clinics Ltd  
IVF Matters Ltd  
London Women's Clinic  
Manchester Fertility  
Newcastle Centre For Life  
NHS Orchard Clinic  
Aberdeen Fertility Centre  
Dundee Assisted Conception Unit  
Edinburgh Fertility Centre  
Glasgow Fertility Clinic  
Belfast Health And Social Care Trust Regional  
Fertility Centre  
The Fertility Partnership Clinic Group  
The Shropshire And Mid Wales Fertilty Centre

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**We are particularly grateful to all those individuals who have made donations or carried out fundraising activities for Fertility Network UK.**

A special thanks to those small businesses who are donating a proportion of their proceeds to Fertility Network UK including: **HelloTreacle** & **The Pants Project**, and **Notch**.

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## Our Corporate Partnership Programme has four different levels:

### Gold

Ferring  
Merck  
LogixX  
TestHim  
The Fertility Show

### Silver

Ovogene  
Vitabiotics

### Bronze

Access Fertility  
Cooper Surgical  
Cryos  
Peppy Health  
Pharmasure  
BTO Solicitors

### Friend

MD Consents  
Fertility Family  
GAIA

# Fundraising

Our incredible fundraisers include:



## Dundee Kilt Walk

Fertility Network Scotland are forever grateful to our group of amazing fundraisers who participating in the famous Scottish Kilt Walks raised a staggering £2,671.



## Man vs Mountain Challenge

Big thanks to Andrew Dawkins, Head of Andrology at The Doctors Laboratory, who took part in the Rat Race: Man vs Mountain Challenge. Andrew completed the event in seven hours, 3,200 calories lighter, and although the event was extremely tough on both body and mind Andrew is already considering another one!



## Burlesquercise UK

Burlesquercise UK instructor Amy Parkes and her team of fabulous dancers held a fundraising event and raised a fantastic leg-kicking £1,555.

# Financial review

## Review of the year

Total income in 22/23 increased by £186,637 (43%) compared to the previous year and this was due to additional grant income received. We are grateful to both the various grant bodies for this and the staff of the charity who have worked tirelessly towards making successful grant submissions. This has enabled the charity to increase the scope and reach of the work it undertakes. The charity continues to explore ways to diversify income generation to build on this growth for future years.

## Income and expenditure

Income in total increased by £186,637 compared to the previous year.

The majority of our expenditure (66% in 22/23) goes on staff salaries, plus expenses related to the cost of delivering our activities. There were higher costs than in previous years on items related to the governance changes, including expenditure on legal advice and other professional advice.

Income by Source			
	Restricted/Unrestricted	2023 (£)	2022 (£)
Grant income	R	463,661	232,809
Income from fundraising	UR	26,478	44,955
Sponsorship income	UR	108,377	135,618
Donations and gifts	UR	25,205	31,916
Interest receivable	UR	576	3,737
The Fertility Show	UR	14,000	1,275
Advertising income	UR	0	1,350
Other income	UR	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>638,297</b>	<b>451,660</b>

### Reserves

The charity previously had a reserves policy in relation to unrestricted reserves of nine months expenditure. This is reviewed annually by the trustees and scrutinised by the finance committee. At the year ended 31 March 2023 unrestricted reserves were just over eight months expenditure for the year. The reserves policy was adjusted to be between six-nine months.

The trustees have previously designated funds to support the delivery of a refreshed strategy and business plan for the charity together with governance improvements. This work continues, working with our accountants and CounterCulture LLP to ensure the charity is in good financial health for the future.



'My highlight was attending 25 different college and university events throughout the

year to promote the Your Future Fertility project and raise awareness of the wellbeing factors that impact fertility. It was great to have the opportunity to speak to so many students in person after the impact of COVID on live events.'

**Anna Paterson, Scotland  
education development officer**



'Making the videos has been extremely rewarding as I see what an impact they can have when I use

them in sessions or see the reactions that they receive on social media. In particular, one of the women I filmed was in a difficult place during the RISE project, but ultimately became pregnant and allowed me to make a video with her. The generosity of her actions was stunning. I never cease to be amazed by the strength of some of the women I work with.'

**Michele Wright, Wales education  
development officer**



# Structure, governance & management

## Governance

The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee and is therefore governed by Articles of Association.

The number of Trustees shall not be less than four and not more than ten (unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution) individuals over the age of 18, all of whom must support the Objects. The Trustees are each members of the company and have no beneficial interest therein and guarantee to contribute £1.00 in the event of a winding up.

Thanks to those Trustees who departed this year, we are very grateful for your support, time and energy.

## Organisational structure & decision making

The Board meets quarterly and as necessary. The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, who served during the year, were: Lucy Thorn (Treasurer), Isabel Traynor, Jo Binding (Chair), Arti Shah, Rachel Bodner, Francesca Raine, Angela Pericleous-Smith, Isla Billett.

The Chief Executive is appointed by the Board of Trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity and has

overall responsibility for managing the charity's operations and employees. The Board delegates to the Finance and Risk Committee for further support and scrutiny.

## Remuneration policy

It is the wish of the Trustees that the charity pay fairly. The new Board of Trustees commissioned a pay benchmarking report delivered by a third party and those recommendations were considered as part of the financial plan for this year. The Board continues to monitor this.

## Volunteers

Volunteers play a vital role in the charity. Their contribution and enthusiasm is essential for us to deliver the quality of our support services. We offer support to all our volunteers from our dedicated Volunteer Coordinator and regional staff teams. We currently have a total of 226 volunteers: 73 in England, 22 in Scotland, 14 in Wales and seven in Northern Ireland, and 110 media volunteers.

## Fundraising

We have built varied and stable funding streams and developed relationships with key partners. We established relationships with several new organisations as we sought to grow and diversify our income streams.

## There are three key sources of income that we rely on:

### 1. Grants & Trusts

We are incredibly grateful for the grant and trust income we receive, in particular the ongoing support from the Scottish Government, the Northern Ireland Health & Social Care Board, The National Lottery (TNL) Community Fund Wales, St Anne's Cathedral - Sit Out Fund and TNL Community Fund (England). We are thrilled to have secured valuable funds from the VCSE Health and Wellbeing Fund, part of a partnership programme between Department of Health & Social Care, NHS England and UK Health Security Agency for a five-year project in England.

### 2. Clinics & other Corporate organisations:

We continue to receive income support through our clinic Patient Pledge and outreach scheme.

### 3. Individual Giving/ Community Fundraising

As a result of our increasing reach we have seen an increase in the number of individuals who donate to us.

## Principal risks and uncertainties

The Finance and Risk Committee meets to provide further support and scrutiny of our finances and our risk register.

The key risks identified include:

- The need for a more comprehensive business plan and strategy setting out the charity's plans
- The need for governance improvements including the quality of information provided to the Board to allow them to fully fulfil their duties
- The need to change the governance arrangements so that they are inline with our governing document
- The large turnover of trustees dating back several years
- The trustees are fully committed to the long term success of this charity and believe it has significant potential to deliver more impact for our beneficiaries. The trustees have enlisted the help from CounterCulture LLP to advise the charity.



# Our plans for the future

**We plan to further diversify our income next year, and secure further long term grants from several new supporters. Generating a diverse and sustainable income stream in 2023/24 and beyond is critical to the charity's future and ongoing success.**

Our website and social channels will continue to offer us more opportunities to generate income by working closely with existing partners and recruiting new partners. We will work together to ensure our partnerships enhance and expand the good quality information and support we offer our service users. We will also look at expanding our successful work engaging with fundraisers.

We will build our capacity in digital and social media and will resource this to capitalise on the increased demand in this space together with technology changes.

We expect to continue to provide our services in a hybrid way, and continue to deliver many activities digitally and remotely.

## Activities

Five initiatives we will continue to develop and grow during 2023/24:

- We aim to increase our support and seek to diversify our beneficiary base so that it is more representative of society and the UK today. For example, we will build on our support activities for the male fertility community.
- We will continue to build upon successful work already undertaken across the UK in the activities with workplaces.
- We will seek to deepen our role as the leading resource for information and support by both patients and health professionals.
- We will extend our content offered, developing and hosting a series of webinars facilitated by Fertility Network UK with expert speakers, offered each month.

- Our awareness week initiative will once again be a focus for us, providing support, raising awareness and funds, and changing perceptions. This is planned for the week 30th October – 5th November 2023. We will use hashtags to highlight some key objectives during the week as well as our campaign hashtag #Forward4Fertility

### **Our 20th birthday**

Fertility Network will celebrate 20 years of providing free and impartial information and support on 5 July 2023. We will plan activities celebrating our 20th anniversary throughout the year.

### **Influencing on behalf of patients**

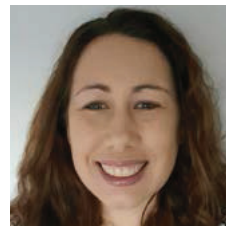
We will continue to lobby for increased funding for NHS fertility treatment in Wales, England, and Northern Ireland. We believe our work in the nations is essential in keeping fertility on the public agenda and the channels for effective dialogue with government and parliamentary representatives open. We will continue our campaign to end the unfair 'postcode lottery' across England and increase provision in Northern Ireland and Wales.

We are proud that our work continues with the Scottish Government as part of the National Infertility Group which has resulted in Scotland having the gold standard in provision of treatment. We will

continue to work with the Health Boards, National Infertility group and subgroups in 2023/24.

We will work to develop a survey assessing the impact of the cost-of-living crisis on fertility patients, results will be released during National Fertility Awareness Week.

We will continue our work with all professional organisations including HFEA, BFS, BICA and RCOG, to highlight the emotional impact, and promote the services offered by the charity.



'The Education Project in Scotland is growing on social media which is a great

way to reach young people but it cannot compare to the fabulous response we get from face to face events. It's wonderful that so many young people are interested in our messages and many comment on the importance of the project because there was nothing about what affects fertility taught in their school education.'

**Sarah Baird, Scotland education development officer**

# Thank you

## Thanks to donors

Thank you for your help to fund our amazing work.

## Thanks to volunteers

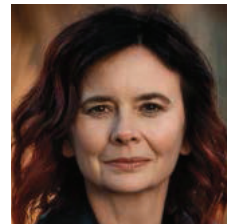
Thanks to our committed and generous volunteers, including those patients who bravely share their stories for the benefit of all our beneficiaries.

## Thanks to staff

We are grateful to our passionate staff who deliver our activities for our beneficiaries.

## Thanks to those departing

During 2022/2023 we said goodbye to some of our Trustees. We would like to thank them for their service to Fertility Network UK and wish them all every success in the future.



'I am so proud that our work highlighting the detrimental effect on fertility patients

of the proposed new fertility policy in Wales and the fact that the policy had not been made widely available resulted in the consultation deadline being extended and being made more widely available. The result: more people could respond and more voices against the proposed policy were heard. We are still waiting to hear the outcome but it could be positive for fertility patients because of our lobbying efforts!'

**Dr Catherine Hill,**  
**communications manager**

# Statement of Trustees' Responsibility

**The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).**

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the 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 Charities SORP
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice 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

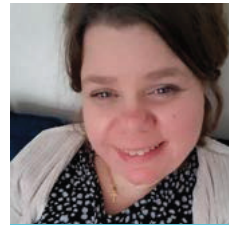
The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable group and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The Trustees' annual report has been approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by



**Jo Binding, Chair of Trustees**



'I am so pleased to see the Moving on Group re-established and doubled in membership, an

active WhatsApp and with regular meetings and we are currently writing creative poetry in our workshops. I feel this group is often overlooked and is such an important breathing space to think through feelings and process the trauma and grief many of our patients have been through.'

**Kimberley Thomas, Wales**  
project worker



'Bringing together a group of influential health professionals from across the UK at our online event

'Trauma in Infertility' to start an important conversation about how we can collectively learn and create a reduction in trauma for fertility patients... and realising that we had initiated a research journey that could really make a difference'

**Hilary Knight, Northern**  
Ireland coordinator

# Financial Statements

Reference and Administrative Information	
Charity name	Infertility Network UK (Trading name – Fertility Network UK.) This was changed to Fertility Network UK on 20 January 2022.
Charity no. (England & Wales)	1099960
Company no.	4822073
Scottish charity no.	SC039511
Governing Document	Articles of Association, 2016
Registered office	The Forum at Greenwich (2nd floor office), London SE10 9EQ
Trustees	Lucy Thorn, Treasurer (resigned 30th April 2023) Isabel Traynor, (Resigned 19/09/22) Jo Binding, Chair Arti Shah (Resigned 16/10/22) Rachel Bodner Francesca Raine Angela Pericleous-Smith (appointed 29/03/22, resigned November 2022) Isla Billet
Accountants	McPhersons, 23 St Leonards Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex TN40 1HH
Bankers	Lloyds Bank, 25 Cornhill, Bridgwater, Somerset TA6 3AY

**Please see Financial Statements appended over coming pages.**

Charity registration number 1099960 (England and Wales)

Charity registration number SC039511 (Scotland)

Company registration number 4822073 (England and Wales)

**FERTILITY NETWORK UK  
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

## FERTILITY NETWORK UK

### STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

#### *FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023*

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The Trustees, who are also the directors of Fertility Network UK for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- 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, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). 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.



## FERTILITY NETWORK UK

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

#### TO THE TRUSTEES OF FERTILITY NETWORK UK

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##### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Fertility Network UK (the 'Charity') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including 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 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, 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, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

##### 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 Charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

##### Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

##### Other information

The 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 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.

## FERTILITY NETWORK UK

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

#### TO THE TRUSTEES OF FERTILITY NETWORK UK

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##### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Trustees' report; or
- sufficient and proper accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

##### **Responsibilities of Trustees**

As explained more fully in the statement of Trustees' responsibilities, the Trustees, who are also the directors of the Charity for the purpose 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 Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

##### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and report in accordance with the Acts and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

## FERTILITY NETWORK UK

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

#### TO THE TRUSTEES OF FERTILITY NETWORK UK

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##### **Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities, including fraud**

Based on our understanding of the charitable company and the sector in which it operates, we identified that the following laws and regulations are significant to the entity:

- Those laws and regulations considered to have a direct effect on the financial statements including UK financial reporting standards, Company Law and Charity Law.
- Those laws and regulations for which non-compliance may be fundamental to the operating aspects of the charity and therefore may have a material effect on the financial statements include compliance with charitable objectives, public benefit, fundraising regulations, safeguarding and health and safety legislation.

These matters were discussed amongst the engagement team at the planning stage and the team remained alert throughout the audit.

Audit procedures undertaken in response to the potential risks relating to irregularities (which include fraud and noncompliance with laws and regulations) comprised of: inquiries of management and the Trustees as to whether the entity complies with such laws and regulations; enquiries with the same concerning any actual or potential litigation or claims; inspection of relevant legal correspondence and legal costs incurred; review of Trustee meeting minutes; testing the appropriateness of journal entries; and the performance of analytical review to identify unexpected movements in account balances which may be indicative of fraud.

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

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

##### **Other matters on which we are required to report**

The prior year financial statements were not subject to audit and therefore the comparative figures in the financial statements are unaudited.

##### **Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and regulation 10 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees 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 charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

**FERTILITY NETWORK UK**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)  
TO THE TRUSTEES OF FERTILITY NETWORK UK**

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**Maxine Pott**

21 December 2023

**Chartered Accountant  
Statutory Auditor**

Sumer Auditco Ltd  
The Beehive, Beehive Ring Road  
Gatwick  
RH6 0PA

Sumer Auditco Limited is eligible for appointment as auditor of the Charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

**FERTILITY NETWORK UK****STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Current financial year		Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	Notes	2023 £	2023 £	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>						
Donations and legacies	3	25,205	-	-	25,205	31,916
Charitable activities	4	26,478	-	463,661	490,139	279,114
Investments	5	576	-	-	576	3,737
Other income	6	122,377	-	-	122,377	136,893
<b>Total income</b>		174,636	-	463,661	638,297	451,660
Charitable activities	7	179,465	-	464,898	644,363	426,460
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		(4,829)	-	(1,237)	(6,066)	25,200
Transfers between funds		(124,060)	72,566	51,494	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		(128,889)	72,566	50,257	(6,066)	25,200
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>						
Fund balances at 1 April 2022		249,965	-	138,127	388,092	362,892
<b>Fund balances at 31 March 2023</b>		121,076	72,566	188,384	382,026	388,092

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

**FERTILITY NETWORK UK**
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)  
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Unaudited prior financial year		Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total
	Notes	2022 £	2022 £	2022 £	2022 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	31,916	-	-	31,916
Charitable activities	4	46,305	-	232,809	279,114
Investments	5	3,737	-	-	3,737
Other income	6	136,893	-	-	136,893
Total income		218,851	-	232,809	451,660
Charitable activities	7	186,612	-	239,848	426,460
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		32,239	-	(7,039)	25,200
Transfers between funds		-	(12,300)	12,300	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		32,239	(12,300)	5,261	25,200
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Fund balances at 1 April 2021		217,726	12,300	132,866	362,892
<b>Fund balances at 31 March 2022</b>		249,965	-	138,127	388,092

**FERTILITY NETWORK UK****BALANCE SHEET****AS AT 31 MARCH 2023**

		<b>2023</b>		<b>Unaudited 2022</b>	
	<b>Notes</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	<b>13</b>		1,138		491
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	<b>14</b>	12,278		42,712	
Cash at bank and in hand		601,298		526,982	
		613,576		569,694	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>15</b>	232,688		182,093	
Net current assets			380,888		387,601
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			382,026		388,092
<b>The funds of the Charity</b>					
Designated funds	<b>18</b>	72,566		-	
Restricted income funds	<b>20</b>	188,384		138,127	
Unrestricted funds		121,076		249,965	
		382,026		388,092	

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 20 December 2023



J L Binding  
Trustee

Company registration number 4822073 (England and Wales)

## FERTILITY NETWORK UK

### STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>					
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	23		78,887		(10,996)
<b>Investing activities</b>					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(5,147)		(1,967)	
Investment income received		576		3,737	
<b>Net cash (used in)/generated from investing activities</b>			(4,571)		1,770
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>			-		-
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>			74,316		(9,226)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			526,982		536,208
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>			601,298		526,982



## FERTILITY NETWORK UK

### STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

#### 1 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

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

#### 2 Accounting policies

##### Charity information

Fertility Network UK is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 2nd Floor Office, The Forum at Greenwich, Trafalgar Road, Greenwich, London, SE10 9EQ.

##### 2.1 Accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Charity's Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and "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)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2019). The Charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

##### 2.2 Going concern

These financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis. The Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

##### 2.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the accounts.

Designated funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives. Such funds are subject to certain conditions agreed by the Trustees and used in accordance with the majority decision of the Trustees from time to time.

##### 2.4 Income

Income is recognised when the Charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the Charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

## FERTILITY NETWORK UK

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

## 2 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected.

The value of donated services and gifts in kind provided to the charity are recognised at their open market value in the period in which they are receivable as incoming resources, where the benefit to the charity can be reliably measured. An equivalent amount is included as expenditure under the relevant heading in the Statement of financial activities.

Government grants are recognised at the fair value of the asset received or receivable when there is reasonable assurance that the grant conditions will be met and the grants will be received.

A grant that specifies performance conditions is recognised in income when the performance conditions are met. Where a grant does not specify performance conditions it is recognised in income when the proceeds are received or receivable. A grant received before the recognition criteria are satisfied is recognised as a liability.

### 2.5 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 are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Fundraising and publicity costs include general advertising and promotion of the charity and its objectives.

Governance costs include costs associated with the strategic as opposed to the day to day management of the charity's activities.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

A liability will arise when the charity is under an obligation to make a transfer of value to a third party. Where costs cannot be attributed to a particular heading they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

### 2.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Fixtures, fittings & equipment	20% per annum on a straight line basis
F,F&E - grant funded	Fully depreciated in year of purchase

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

## FERTILITY NETWORK UK

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

## 2 Accounting policies

(Continued)

### 2.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the Charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

### 2.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

### 2.9 Financial instruments

The Charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Charity's balance sheet when the Charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

#### **Basic financial assets**

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

#### **Basic financial liabilities**

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### **Derecognition of financial liabilities**

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

### 2.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

**FERTILITY NETWORK UK**
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**
**3 Income from donations and legacies**

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Donations and gifts	25,205	31,916

**4 Income from charitable activities**

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
<b>Fundraising income</b>						
Income within charitable activities	26,478	-	26,478	44,955	-	44,955
<b>Grants receivable</b>						
Grants receivable for charitable activities	-	463,661	463,661	-	232,809	232,809
<b>Advertising income</b>						
Income within charitable activities	-	-	-	1,350	-	1,350
	<u>26,478</u>	<u>463,661</u>	<u>490,139</u>	<u>46,305</u>	<u>232,809</u>	<u>279,114</u>

**5 Income from investments**

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Interest receivable	576	3,737

## FERTILITY NETWORK UK

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

## 6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Sponsorship	108,377	135,618
The Fertility Show income	14,000	1,275
	<u>122,377</u>	<u>136,893</u>

## 7 Charitable activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Staff costs	412,386	312,563
Depreciation and impairment	330	413
Activities undertaken directly	160,465	87,413
	<u>573,181</u>	<u>400,389</u>
Share of governance costs (see note 11)	71,182	26,071
	<u>644,363</u>	<u>426,460</u>
<b>Analysis by fund</b>		
Unrestricted funds	179,465	186,612
Restricted funds	464,898	239,848
	<u>644,363</u>	<u>426,460</u>

## 8 Auditor's remuneration

Fees payable to the charity's auditor and associates:	2023 £	2022 £
<b>For audit services</b>		
Audit of the financial statements of the charity	<u>6,000</u>	<u>-</u>

## 9 Trustees

None of the Trustees (nor any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the Charity during the year.

## FERTILITY NETWORK UK

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

#### 10 Employees

The average monthly number employees (including full time and part time staff) during the year was:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
	22	17

#### Employment costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	393,612	300,722
Social security costs	24,309	16,009
Other pension costs	7,321	5,410

The number of employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000 is as follows:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
£60,001 to £70,000	1	-

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows.  
Aggregate compensation

133,162	113,214
---------	---------

#### 11 Governance costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Staff costs	12,856	9,578
Legal and professional	58,326	16,493
	71,182	26,071
Analysed between Charitable activities	71,182	26,071

All costs are allocated based on estimated actual use of service provision.

#### 12 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

## FERTILITY NETWORK UK

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

## 13 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 April 2022	25,038
Additions	5,147
At 31 March 2023	30,185
<b>Depreciation and impairment</b>	
At 1 April 2022	24,548
Depreciation charged in the year	4,499
At 31 March 2023	29,047
<b>Carrying amount</b>	
At 31 March 2023	1,138
At 31 March 2022	491

## 14 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Amounts falling due within one year:</b>		
Trade debtors	7,810	35,039
Other debtors	200	2,084
Prepayments and accrued income	4,268	5,589
	12,278	42,712

## 15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Other taxation and social security		6,665	5,544
Deferred income	16	142,563	153,064
Trade creditors		47,060	4,853
Other creditors		28,240	14,762
Accruals and deferred income		8,160	3,870
		232,688	182,093

## FERTILITY NETWORK UK

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

#### 16 Deferred income

	2023 £	2022 £
Other deferred income	142,563	153,064

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Deferred income is included within:		
Current liabilities	142,563	153,064
Movements in the year:		
Deferred income at 1 April 2022	153,064	171,535
Released from previous periods	(10,501)	(18,471)
Deferred income at 31 March 2023	142,563	153,064

#### 17 Retirement benefit schemes

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Charity in an independently administered fund.

#### 18 Designated funds

To provide funds to deliver a refreshed long-term strategy and business plan for the charity together with governance improvements. This is to ensure that the charity is in robust financial health for the foreseeable future.

	At 1 April 2022 £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2023 £
	-	72,566	72,566
Previous year:	At 1 April 2021 £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2022 £
	12,300	(12,300)	-



**FERTILITY NETWORK UK****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023****19 Unrestricted funds**

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2023 £
General funds	249,965	174,636	(179,465)	(124,060)	121,076
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>Previous year:</b>	<b>At 1 April 2021 £</b>	<b>Incoming resources £</b>	<b>Resources expended £</b>	<b>Transfers £</b>	<b>At 31 March 2022 £</b>
General funds	217,726	218,851	(186,612)	-	249,965
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

## FERTILITY NETWORK UK

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

#### 20 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	Balance at 1 April 2021	Movement in funds			Balance at 1 April 2022	Movement in funds			Balance at 31 March 2023
	£	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	£	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Match Funding	£
Health & Social Care Board	2,842	22,946	(22,224)	-	3,564	50,800	(46,276)	-	8,088
Scottish Government Health Board Project & Options	14,763	44,733	(44,506)	-	14,990	47,668	(45,893)	-	16,766
Scottish Government Fertility Education Project	56,253	49,240	(48,053)	-	57,440	47,357	(48,225)	-	56,572
Belfast Cathedral Sit Out Appeal	1,079	1,000	(174)	-	1,905	920	-	-	2,825
Scottish Government Fertility Network Scotland Projects	43,509	-	(8,509)	-	35,000	35,599	(41,491)	-	29,108
Restricted donations	-	-	-	12,300	12,300	-	-	-	12,300
Scottish Volunteer Project	815	9,500	(8,998)	-	1,317	9,500	(9,016)	-	1,801
VCSE Health & Wellbeing Fund	-	-	-	-	-	97,229	(97,229)	14,592	14,592
TNL Community Grant	12,703	72,946	(75,941)	-	9,708	71,254	(73,469)	29,329	36,822
Scotland Covid Funding	-	20,460	(19,459)	-	1,001	9,930	(10,931)	-	-
Match funding for Wales	901	-	-	-	901	-	(901)	-	-
PHA Clear project Western Trust	-	4,991	(4,991)	-	-	-	-	-	-
PHA Clear project Belfast Trust	-	4,991	(4,991)	-	-	-	-	-	-
PHA Clear project Western Trust	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-	-	-	-	-
PHA Clear project Belfast Trust	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-	-	-	-	-
TNL Community Fund England	-	-	-	-	-	93,403	(91,466)	7,573	9,509
	132,866	232,808	(239,846)	12,300	138,127	463,661	(464,898)	51,494	188,383

FERTILITY NETWORK UK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

20 Restricted funds

(Continued)

Health & Social Care Board - Successful bid for tender to provide a part-time support coordinator, a confidential telephone helpline service, practical information services and the coordination and delivery of support to local patient groups.

Scottish Government - Funding to allow us to continue to provide a comprehensive support service to infertility patients throughout Scotland, to provide patient representation by participating in the various meetings following on from the National Groups and increase awareness of the services offered in Scotland, to work with Health Boards to bring about full implementation of recommendations for the provision of fertility services in Scotland, and to produce patient information packs.

Scottish Government Fertility Education Project - To raise awareness of issues surrounding fertility and infertility through working with universities, health professionals and employers across Scotland to introduce ways of ensuring people are better informed about how their fertility can be conserved.

St Anne's Cathedral Sit-Out Fund - To run workshops for the More to Life Group in Northern Ireland and provide some funding for Fertility Network Support Groups not covered by other funding.

Scottish Volunteer Project - Match funding from the Scottish Government to employ a Volunteer Coordinator.

VCSE Health & Wellbeing Fund - To improve health and employment outcomes for women and people experiencing reproductive health issues. The support should ensure women facing reproductive health issues can remain in and return to work with the right support.

TNL Community Grant - Funding to allow us to continue to provide a comprehensive support service to infertility patients throughout Wales, to provide patient representation by participating in the various meetings following on from the National Groups and increase awareness of the services offered in Wales. To raise awareness of issues surrounding fertility and infertility through working with universities, health professionals and employers across Wales to introduce ways of ensuring people are better informed about how their fertility can be conserved.

TNL Community Grant England - This project will provide increased support and information to increase our reach in order that more people are supported on their fertility journey. Dedicating resource to engage and support LGBTQ, Ethnic minority, women over 40 and male community. Increase the number of volunteers in the network with a focus on geographical areas where there are none.

Awards for all England - Funding to allow us to expand and improve our digital presence providing support throughout England regardless of your geographical location.

FERTILITY NETWORK UK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

20	Restricted funds	(Continued)
	PHA Clear project Western Trust - Mindfulness for Life 8 week programme for TTC group of up to 20 people with 6 weekly follow on sessions.	
	PHA Clear project Belfast Trust - Mindfulness for Life 8 week programme for MTL group of up to 20 people with 6 weekly follow on sessions.	
	PHA Clear project Western Trust - Enhancement funding of 4 weekly additional sessions to increase mindfulness personal practice for TTC group and introduce mindfulness to some additional new group members.	
	PHA Clear project Belfast Trust - Enhancement funding of 4 weekly additional sessions for MTL group to focus on using mindfulness to address deep grief and loss using resourcing and listening spaces.	
	All of the above grants were received after successful application for funding by Fertility Network UK.	
	All of the grants are restricted to expenditure as agreed with the grant body during the application process.	

**FERTILITY NETWORK UK****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023****21 Analysis of net assets between funds**

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:				
Tangible assets	1,138	-	-	1,138
Net current assets/(liabilities)	119,938	72,566	188,384	380,888
	<u>121,076</u>	<u>72,566</u>	<u>188,384</u>	<u>382,026</u>

**22 Related party transactions**

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2022 - none).

**23 Cash generated from operations**

	2023 £	2022 £
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(6,066)	25,200
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(576)	(3,737)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	4,513	1,766
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	30,421	(20,952)
Increase in creditors	61,096	5,198
(Decrease) in deferred income	(10,501)	(18,471)
<b>Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations</b>	<u>78,887</u>	<u>(10,996)</u>