

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

England & Wales · Charity number 1108057

Details

Other names	HOME-START MEDWAY
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	05135567
Registered	2005-02-14
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Home Start Medway Unit L5 Temple Court Knight Road Rochester Kent
Phone	01634570717
Email	manager@home-startmedway.org.uk
Website	www.home-startmedway.org.uk

Activities

Objects: A) TO SAFEGUARD, PROTECT AND PRESERVE THE GOOD HEALTH, BOTH MENTAL AND PHYSICAL OF CHILDREN AND PARENTS OF CHILDREN;B) TO PREVENT CRUELTY TO OR MALTREATMENT OF CHILDREN; C) TO RELIEVE SICKNESS, POVERTY AND NEED AMONGST CHILDREN AND PARENTS OF CHILDREN;D) TO PROMOTE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN BETTER STANDARDS OF CHILD CARE WITHIN THE AREA OF MEDWAY AND ITS ENVIRONS.

Activities: Home-Start Medway offers support, friendship and practical help to parents with young children. We recruit and train volunteers, who are usually parents themselves, to home-visit families who have at least one child under five. Our volunteers offer parents informal, friendly and confidential support. Home-Start Medway supports parents in order to help give children the best possible start in life.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** MEDWAY, KENT.
- Kent
- Medway

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£265,866	£391,683	-	-
2024-03-31	£250,165	£304,499	-	-
2023-03-31	£351,315	£287,769	-	-
2022-03-31	£278,267	£228,098	-	-
2021-03-31	£327,722	£221,350	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Luke Geary	Chair	2025-10-15
Georgina Aplin		2023-03-15
James Harman		2021-03-17
Joan Mary Arthurs		2023-01-18
Sheena Bolland		
TINA JANET LOVEY OBE		2024-07-17
Toni Gibbs		2025-11-19

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1108057

Accounts

Charity registration number 1108057

Company registration number 05135567 (England and Wales)

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees Mrs S Bolland, Chair
Mr J Harman
Ms R Wray
G Aplin
Mrs J Arthurs, Treasurer (Appointed 17 July 2024)
T J Lovey OBE
L S Geary

Charity number 1108057

Company number 05135567

Registered office L5 Temple Court
Knights Park
Knight Road
Strood
Kent
ME2 2LT

Independent examiner TC Group
Star House
Star Hill
Rochester
Kent
ME1 1UX

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

CONTENTS

	Page
Chairman's statement	1
Trustees' report	2 - 18
Statement of trustees' responsibilities	19
Independent examiner's report	20
Statement of financial activities	21
Statement of financial position	22 - 23
Notes to the financial statements	24 - 37

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

This year marks 52 years since our founder, Margaret Harrison, established the very first Home-Start in Leicester. Margaret's vision was simple yet profound: that the best way to give children the strongest start in life is through friendly, volunteer-led support offered directly in the home. While our work has evolved over the decades, her ethos remains the beating heart of everything we do.

Home-Start Medway was founded in 1987, and since then, we've proudly supported families across the Medway area. Our services have grown and adapted over the years to meet the changing needs of our community and to secure vital funding. In a year that has posed significant challenges for charities nationwide, marked by increased competition for both funding and volunteers, I am especially proud of how our team has responded. Sadly, many organisations have struggled to navigate these times, but Home-Start Medway has continued to thrive.

It has been an exceptionally busy year. We received 615 referrals, an increase of 63%, reflecting the growing demand for our services and the successful introduction of bespoke groups funded by the National Lottery to support children's development. We also secured additional funding from Medway Council through the Start for Life programme, enabling us to run targeted groups focused on speech and language development. These initiatives are already making a meaningful impact, with parents reporting noticeable improvements in their children's progress. We have continued our valued work with local army families, and none of this would be possible without our dedicated and skilled staff team. Their commitment and expertise are the foundation of our success.

This year also saw us complete our Quality Assurance Assessment, and we were proud to be awarded QA accreditation from Home-Start UK, an important recognition of the quality and consistency of our work.

We have expanded training opportunities for both Staff and Volunteers, and we continue to celebrate the incredible contributions of our Home-Start Volunteers and Trustees, who give their time and energy so generously. Their support is vital to our mission. We have expanded our group of Trustees and thank all of our Volunteers and Trustees for giving their time to Home-Start Medway.

Collaboration has been a key theme this year. We've strengthened ties across the Home-Start network, with local partners and other voluntary sector organisations. In the face of local challenges, we've chosen to pull together rather than retreat inward. We know that working collaboratively is the most effective way to tackle the complex issues facing families in our community.

Finally, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to every member of the Home-Start Medway team; Staff, Volunteers, Supporters, and Partners. Your dedication and passion are what make Home-Start Medway the compassionate, impactful organisation it is today.

Warm regards,



Tina Lovey OBE
Co-Chair of the Board



James
Co-Chair
Home-Start Medway

of the Harman Board



Mrs S Bolland
Chairman

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 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) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Structure, governance and management

CONSTITUTION

The company is a charitable company limited by guarantee and has been in operation for 37 years.

The company is constituted and is a registered charity number 1108057.

The principal objective of the company is to recruit and train volunteers who are usually parents themselves to visit families at home with at least one child under five and offer them informal, friendly and confidential support.

METHOD OF APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

The management of the company is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Memorandum and Articles of Association. One third of the board retire by rotation, by reference to those who have been longest in office since their last election, together with any members of the board who have been appointed to fill a casual vacancy since the last annual general meeting.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the company is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the company, and are satisfied that the policies, systems and procedures are in place to mitigate our exposure to the major risks.

The Board of Trustees will clarify annually the level of known financial liability it carries so that policy and operational actions can be implemented.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mrs S Bolland, Chair

Ms I Jeffrey, Treasurer

(Resigned 17 July 2024)

Mr J Harman

Ms R Wray

G Aplin

Mrs J Arthurs, Treasurer

(Appointed 17 July 2024)

T J Lovey OBE

L S Geary

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Home-Start helps to improve the life chances of children by supporting their parents and carers at difficult times. In particular Home-Start offers emotional and practical support as well as friendship to parents with at least one child under the age of five. The organisation gives families support by assisting them to identify what family and child centred issues are a problem in their lives and how they can get help. This is done at an initial visit, with regular follow ups to review progress and determine to what extent Home-Start is making a difference and how other resources may be accessed to improve the family's circumstances.

Our Vision:

Home-Start Medway has been working with local families for the last 38 years. We are an independent voluntary organisation with a vision that; Every parent has the support they need to give their children the best start in life, as childhood cannot wait.

Our Ambition:

Help parents in Medway grow in confidence

Help parents strengthen their relationships with their children

Widen their links within the local community

What we want to achieve:

All children in Medway will have the opportunity to achieve their full potential

All children in Medway will feel safe in their home environment

To drive greater awareness of Home-Start and its services throughout the Medway area

To offer a greater range and diversity of volunteered services

All children in Medway will feel safe in their home environment

Services we currently offer:

Home Visiting through a network of volunteers

Groups to support children's development

1-1 support and groups for our Armed Forces families

Domestic Abuse Support

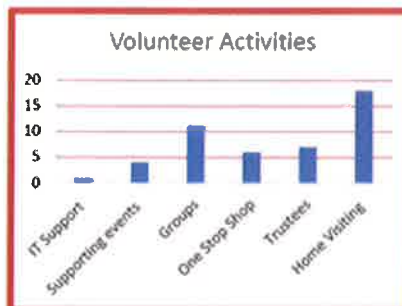
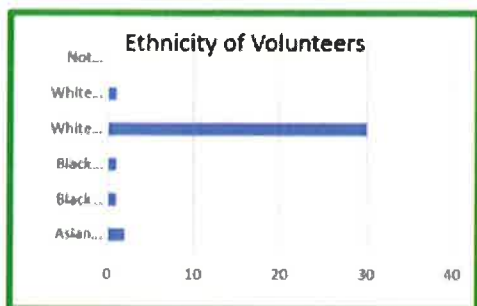
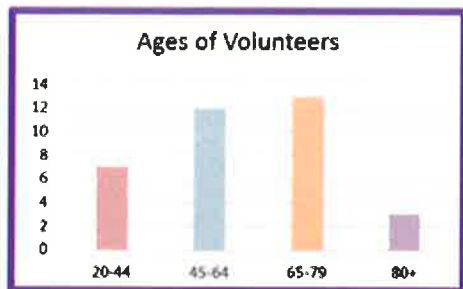
Our team:

Our team currently consists of 8 paid members of staff and 35 volunteers (including 7 Trustees).

Volunteers:

As of 31.03.25, we have 35 Active Volunteers, supporting Home-Start Medway to deliver services across Medway. Roles include Trustees, Home Visitors, IT support, Group Support, One Stop Shop Co-ordination and support to facilitate promotional events and fundraising stands.

All volunteers are subject to a DBS check and references to ensure that they are suitable for the role. We provide full training which is delivered using a hybrid approach. This consists of 8 hours on-line training and 12 hours face to face training. The content of this training includes; our Home-Start approach, family life, boundaries, commitment, communication and listening, confidentiality, safeguarding, personal safety alongside information about the additional services the volunteers can signpost to within Home-Start.



Volunteer Training and Support

Following completion of the preparation course, Volunteers can also attend bespoke training sessions including; An afternoon of Play and Inspiration and Safeguarding training, Strengthening Families training and First Aid. We also offer 12 further training modules. The focus of these modules are as follows:

- Observing young children
- Developing indoor spaces for young children
- Young children outdoors
- Baby's communication
- Baby's outdoors
- Developing young children's communication and language
- Understanding 2-year-olds
- Managing the terrible twos
- Young children and English as an additional language
- Schemas and young children's learning
- Developing literacy with young children
- Managing Behaviour with young children.

Via HSUK, Volunteers are able to access the Learning Centre where they can complete courses on; Healthy Eating, Safer sleep for babies, Sleep advice for children over 1, Finance, play and neuro diversity.

In addition, we are able to access Medway's Councils training courses available via MSCP and 'A Better Medway' free of charge, further enhancing Volunteers knowledge and skills to support families

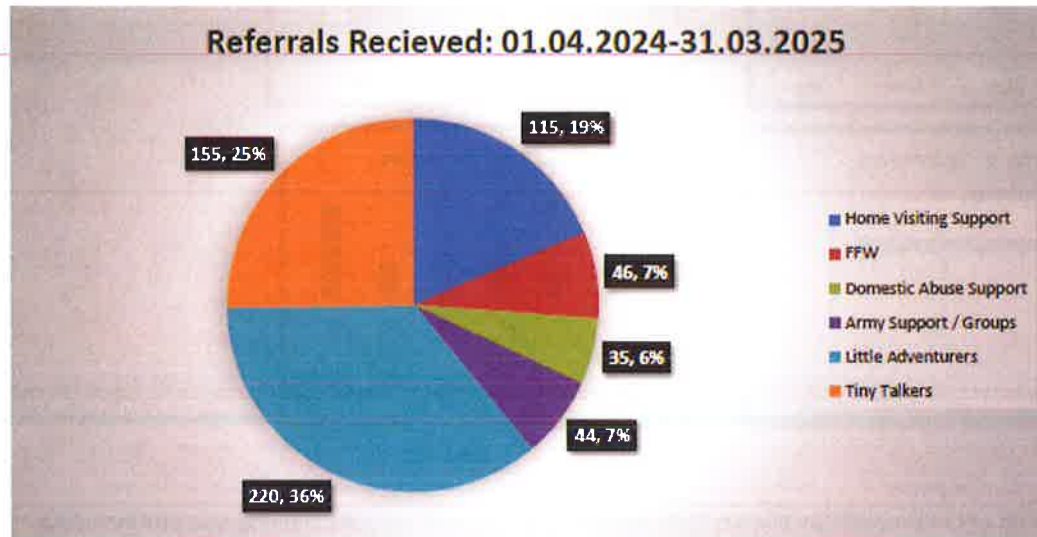
Volunteers are provided with regular supervision with a Volunteer Co-ordinator, and we hold regular Volunteer support group meetings throughout the year, during which we provide bitesize training and support. Following feedback from Volunteers, new for this year we have additionally devised a Newsletter for Volunteers which is distributed quarterly. We have also organised monthly coffee mornings to give the Volunteers the opportunity to come along and meet the team and other Volunteers.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

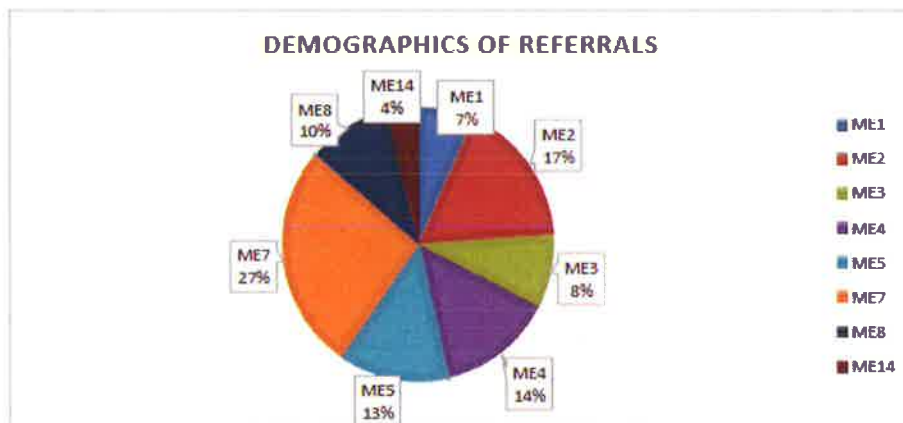
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

During the last year (01.04.24 - 31.03.25) we have received **615** referrals to our service (an increase of 63% based on last year's referral figure of 230). This represents 615 primary parents/carers and 866 children. This large increase is primarily due to the introduction of bespoke groups to support children's development. These referrals break down as follows:



The referrals received are from all areas of Medway as demonstrated in the chart below, however referrals from ME7 and ME2 account for 44% of all referrals received.

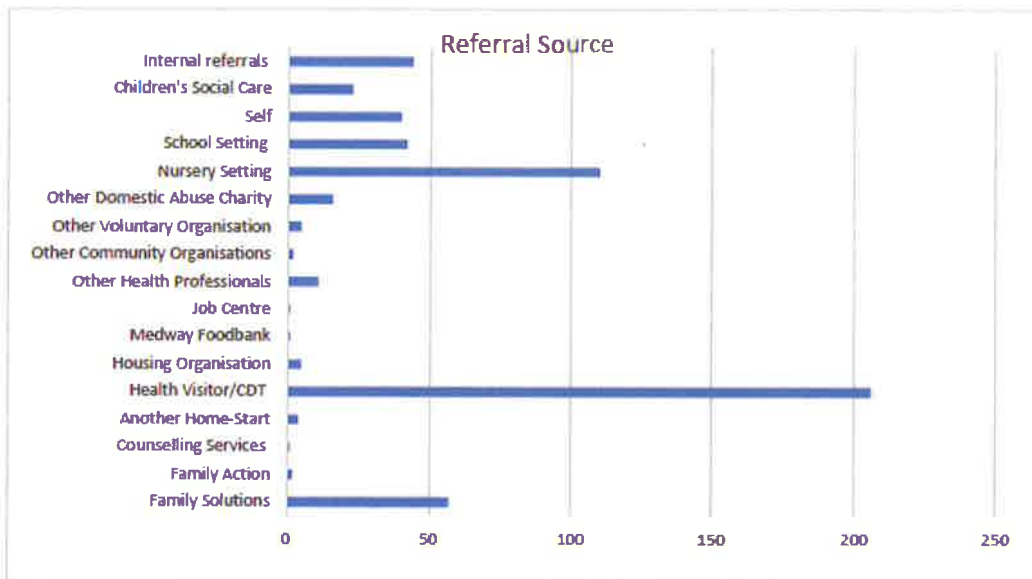


HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

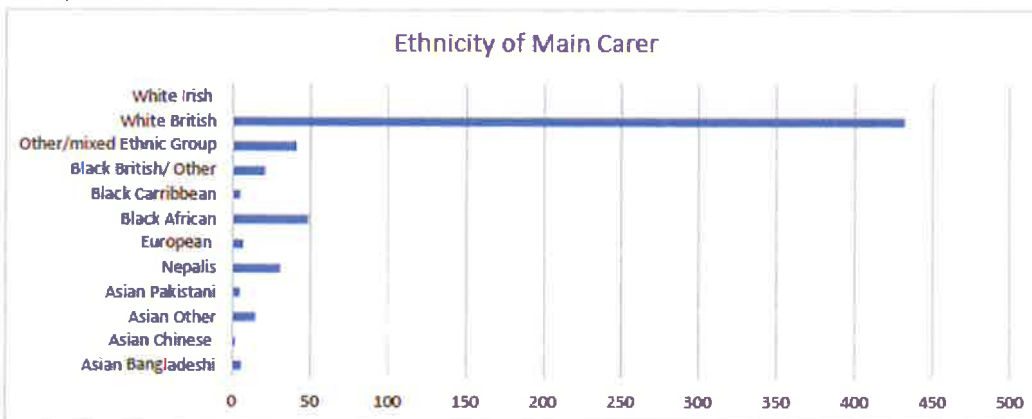
Home-start Medway are a well-known, respected and valued service within the community. We have developed effective collaborative partnerships with many stakeholders and partners. As a result, these referrals are from a range of organisations, as demonstrated below:



As this chart demonstrates, Health Professionals and Nursery settings are our main source of referrals. This has been particularly prevalent this year due to the increase in provision of groups that support children's development. We also receive a large number of referrals from Family Solutions and Children's Social Care Teams. We refer many families internally to other services that we provide, ensuring holistic support.

Ethnicity of the main carer accessing services 01.04.24 to 31.03.25:

The main carer was White British in 70% of families referred to the service. The remaining 30% were from a variety of diverse cultures as detailed below:



This year has seen a 9% increase in families being referred to our service from other ethnic groups, reflecting the changing demographics of Medway.

126 children that have been referred have a disability (often neuro diverse).

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Home Visiting (funded by Medway Council)

Home Visiting continues to be at the core of our Services, supporting families in Medway who have at least one child under the age of 5. The support is provided by our fully trained volunteers in the family's own home. Families are offered weekly visits for 2-3 hours, which can if needed be provided for up to 6 months, (sometimes this may be longer if a new life event occurs which impacts the family's wellbeing).

We support families in a non-judgmental way, objectives are set and agreed by the family and a review takes place to see the progress after 3 months and again at the end of the support. Our volunteers provide support to parents in many different situations, such as:

- Mental health problems
- Bereavement
- Coping with twins, triplets or several pre-school children
- Lone parenthood
- Loneliness and isolation
- Illness, and disability or special needs
- Relationship problems and those who have been victims of domestic abuse
- Dealing with a child's/children's behavioural problems

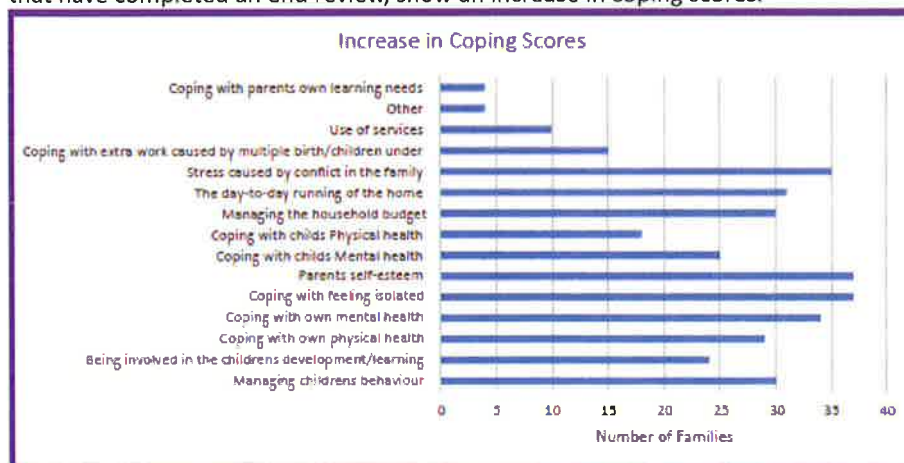
We encourage healthy eating, social interaction and support to improve parenting skills. Home-Start volunteers are local people, from all walks of life, have parenting experience and offer non-judgmental support, building families' resilience in a practical and emotionally balanced way.

We have a target with Medway Council to provide 100 families with Home Visiting support over the course of the year.

During the last year (01.04.24– 31.03.25), we have received **196** referrals for Home Visiting support. (This is a 27% increase compared to last year's figure of 143). 46 of these referrals were allocated to our Family First Worker, 35 received support from our designated Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator.

Outcomes of Home Visiting support:

We use Home-Start coping scores to track the journey of our families across several areas. 0 is the lowest score showing that the family are not coping in an area and 5 being coping well. We track the changes the family identify they have made during the support with the hope that we see the coping scores increase. 94% of families that have completed an end review, show an increase in coping scores.



We have also received regular verbal feedback from families about the impact of the support, i.e.,

'It's indescribable how much of a difference the help and support of the Volunteer has made to our family. I cannot thank her enough and would recommend Home-Start volunteer support to anyone with babies/young children struggling in the future.'

"I am really grateful; I am a lot more relaxed and confident now. The biggest help in such a difficult time in my life".

Summer 2024:

To further support families during the half terms and Summer holidays, we arranged a number of activities and family days out. 19 activities were facilitated, attended by 54 Adults and 85 Children. Through additional funding from the Co-op we were able to arrange 2 coach trips for families. We visited Howletts Park and Joss Bay beach. These free trips provide an opportunity for young children to experience days out that their parents/carers would not otherwise be able to afford or access for their family. 83 individuals (31 parents/carers with 52 children) attended these trips.





"Having a day out with my children, being around people with similar circumstances and supportive people"

"Hearing my child say animal names she's never said before and make their noises"



Danielle Perry kindly gifted HSM 65 Christmas boxes and sacks, see her amazing video here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0D_TcvDm1ZA

This support, along with donations from Bluewater giving tree, Morrisons and kind donations from families buying gifts from our Amazon Wishlist we have been able to distribute over 100 sacks of presents this year. In addition to this, 20 families were provided with a Christmas Hamper via KICC Church.



Family First Worker (funded by Nationwide)

Of the 196 families referred for Home Visiting Support, 46 families were offered support from our Family First Worker, representing 55 Adults and 88 Children. A qualified Early Years practitioner, her work with families sought to address more complex issues within the family home prior to the family being allocated to a Volunteer (if necessary).

Following an initial visit to the family home to identify outcomes that the parent/carer would like to work on, a plan of support is drawn up. This plan is reviewed by the worker and parent/carer mid-way through and at the end of support. As part of this plan we measure the parents coping scores in the areas that they have asked for help. This gives us a clear starting point and indication of the progress that the family has made during the intervention. It also identifies if further support is needed and the plan can then be adapted accordingly. The work offered to date has concentrated in a variety of areas including:

- support to engage with Mental Health Services / Counselling.
- referrals for therapeutic support / groups to support their emotional well-being.
- support to access specialist support for their child/ren, including ADHD and ASD support groups.
- support to access the GP.
- support to access local community services, such as Children and Family Hub's, the Library and local parks.
- support applying for a Nursery place.
- strategies to manage child/ren's behaviour, routines and set age-appropriate boundaries.
- role modelling plays in the home and positive parental interaction.
- advocated on the parents/carer's behalf with other professionals and services such as Housing, Nurseries and GPs.

85% of parents that have completed an end review to date, report an increase in their coping scores across areas of identified need. This evidence the positive impact of the support provided. Families are asked for feedback during reviews. Families speak very highly of the support received with comments such as:

'My son and I have benefited so much from your involvement with us. Before meeting you, I was feeling low and struggling to deal with my son's behaviour daily. With your help and advice, I have managed to start engaging and interacting more with him, and I am able to use some of the strategies you have shared, to help when things aren't going well.

My son loves the time he gets to spend with you and is always asking me when you're next coming to see him!'

'I am so very thankful of how patient and understanding you have been of everything, and for you listening to everything I've had to say. I had to fight for a really long time to get any help and have been made to feel extremely uncomfortable previously when I have reached out for help.

You have taken the time to get to know myself and my son and are always happy to offer an alternative to try, if I'm not comfortable with something you have suggested. My whole experience with you has been positive, and I cannot thank you enough!'

Domestic Abuse Support (Funded by the National Lottery)

We offer specialised support for families with a child under five who are experiencing low/medium domestic abuse or who have experienced domestic abuse historically, including those who have fled to Medway. We have a dedicated Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator who supports these families directly. **35** families (35 parents/carers with 67 children) were supported by this worker during the last year.

We often find that families supported by the DA Co-ordinator have been placed into emergency accommodation. These are often poorly furnished and do not have the essential equipment needed to meet their child's needs. Our DA Co-ordinator seeks to provide parents/carers with the essentials that they need through applications to partner charities and the Children in Need grants programme. During the last year, 11 grants totalling £16,442.51 have been secured for these families.

Our DA Co-ordinator will provide home-visiting support to families weekly. During these visits, survivors will be supported to come to terms with the trauma they have experienced and supported to ensure that their children have all the support that they need also. The work often focuses on supporting parents to integrate into their new area, as well as practical support, such as Makenzie friend in court and signposting to DA services that can support with the acquisition of legal orders.

To reduce the chances of repeat victimisation, we are now co-delivering the Phoenix programme in partnership with Medway Council's DA lead. This 10-week educational programme has been designed to be interactive, inclusive and educational. It covers safety planning, the tactics used in an abusive relationship, the warning signs as well as personal boundaries and building healthy relationships in a way that is engaging and promotes self-care. 39 individuals have attended this programme during the reporting period.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Additionally, to support survivors further that have attended this programme, we have started a follow-on coffee group. Held weekly, the group provides a vital space for continued peer and professional support. 28 individuals have attended these sessions on a regular basis. We have already seen the benefits of this group, with parents connecting with others, forming friendships which often extend beyond the group setting into the community with their children. This is particularly helpful for parents that have fled DA to Medway and do not have support networks locally. Parents have been supported to Volunteer, and some have built connections with others of the same faith and culture. One attendee said, *'you can sit in the same room, you don't even have to say one word, but it is nice to sit in a room with people that understand and know what you have been through, and you don't feel like anyone is judging you'*. Attendees report that through the groups they have supported each other with food tailored to their cultural needs, attended local parks together, shared childcare, received advice from attending guest speakers such as housing, Seteda, DWP etc.

In addition to our direct work with families, we continue to co-ordinate the One Stop Shop (OSS) in Gillingham. The OSS ensures survivors receive support from a range of professional agencies / organisations as needed. In attendance weekly is the DWP, domestic abuse services, legal advisor, and housing. In addition, survivors also have access to safety equipment such as door bars and personal alarms. During the last year there have been 267 individuals have attended the One Stop Shop for support.

As with all other projects, we monitor the impact of support. Families report progress in their coping scores and give positive feedback about their experience of the service, such as:

'Since being placed in refuge, I felt lost and hopeless, and the majority of organisations who were supposed to be supporting me, instead were criticizing me as a mother, making me feel isolated and like the situation I was in was my own fault. Yvette changed all of that. She listened to me carefully without any judgement, allowed me to rant and cry when I needed to, and when it came to practical help she did everything, she could help me there too. Getting me and my daughter clothes from the clothes bank, getting me food bank referrals, starting the process for me to find a double buggy etc for my new baby. I honestly don't know what I would have done without her support, people like her who genuinely care are few and far between. She stays calm under pressure and advocates for all of her ladies, always going above and beyond for us all.'

Thank you, Yvette, for everything you've done for me and my daughter, we will miss you!!'

'I was in a very challenging emotional and mental stage when I met Yvette first and even months after. Yvette was the person whom I could rely on in difficulties. I have 2 little children as well, so Yvette's help was very much needed. She helped us emotionally mentally and financially as well.'

She never judged me for my weaknesses she always stands by me and supported us. Looking back after I could successfully come out from that very weak and hurt emotional stage I appreciate Yvette even more. When I was down, she was there, and I knew she's helping a lot. But after I could get out of that broken me, now I see even better how much support she gave to us.'

Because of lack of self-esteem and self-confident I couldn't always come over my trauma and Yvette was there to hold my hand no matter how weak I was. She trusted my strength. She's seen the potential in me as it was always there. She could see through the abused and traumatised mother /woman /human I was. I slowly could build back up some of my confidence and self - esteem and Yvette had a big impact on that. Now I just need to improve it.'

So thank you very much for all the help. I'm glad I met you'

Little Adventurers (Funded by the National Lottery)

New for this year has been the development of our Little Adventurers programme. This is a group-based intervention, predominantly for children who have scored in the 'grey' for one or more areas on their ASQ form or below their expected EYFS in one or more of the prime areas.

Children are provided with a 'free' 6-week targeted programme of activities to support children's communication, physical, problem solving and personal-social development. These sessions delivered by highly qualified practitioners, have been carefully planned with activities to target different areas of development and include the provision of resources for home learning.

During the data reporting period 220 children were referred to the programme.

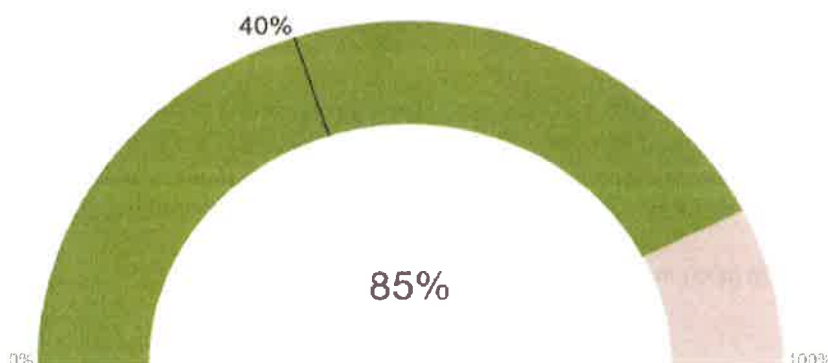
During the completion of the entry form, parents were also asked what worried them about their child's development and for additional comments on what the child found difficult. Notably, 54% of parents were worried about communication, while 31% expressed concerns about their child's personal-social development.

A summary of the key themes from parents' comments on what their child found difficult is shown below and highlights that personal-social and communication are the main challenges facing children.



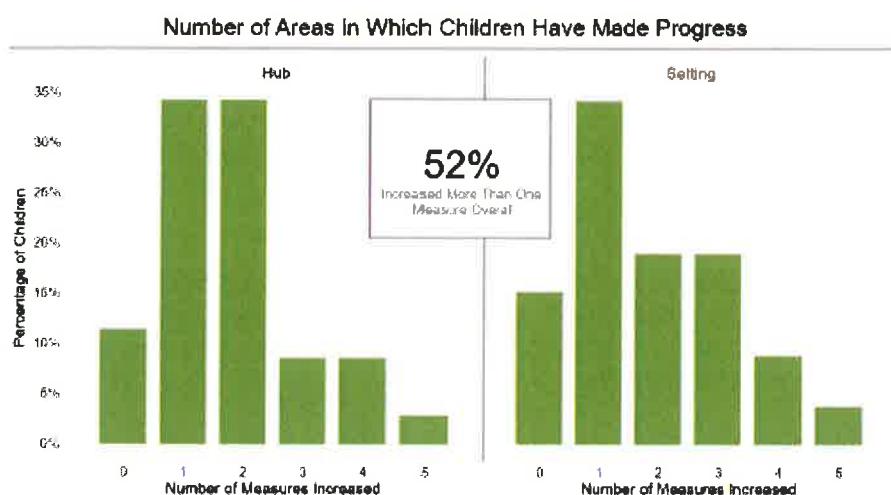
The target to observe 40% of children increase their scores was exceeded by more than 100%, with 97 children demonstrating improvement on exit to the programme. This was consistent across both age categories.

Percentage of Children to Increase Impact Measures Compared to Target



Across all three cohorts, children increased their scores by an average of 1.8 levels. When analysing this figure further, we observed that younger children exhibited the greatest improvement, while females in the older age category showed the smallest increase.

Furthermore, we examined the number of different measures in which children demonstrated improvement. We found that over half of the children raised their scores in two or more of the five areas. This improvement was consistent across both hubs and settings.



The Little Adventurers programme has made some significant impact in its first year, addressing developmental delays and supporting families in Medway. By refining our approach and expanding our reach, we aim to further enhance early years development and community support.

Key Success:

- Achieving our referrals target of 108 in the half year, with 114 children completing the programme.
- Doubling our progression targets, observing 85% of children increasing their developmental scores.
- Overwhelmingly positive feedback received from parents and settings staff.

When asked about their child’s favourite aspect of the programme, one of the key themes that emerged was the improvement in interactions with other children. The visual below illustrates the frequency of words used in parents’ responses, with positive comments highlighting children’s engagement with other children, playing alongside them, and interacting with new children and adults.



HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Furthermore, feedback from the children themselves was overwhelmingly positive, with multiple responses related to play and exploration of new toys and activities. Water play stood out as a favourite amongst the children.

"These groups have been fantastic for Stanley and also for us as parents. Stanley has learnt so much from these groups - the time and effort the ladies put in is amazing. Children need these groups to thrive, and to meet other children - Stan is an only child and has additional needs. Stanleys mobility has improved, along with making friends. Touching objects, fine motor skills - the activities are always interesting for the children to keep them engaged.

I recommend to everyone - my husband feels confident at Wednesday's group and is often the only male parent. Without these groups Stanley wouldn't be where he is today - he has a great relationship with Karen and Steph. I can't praise these groups enough. Thank you for these groups - the smaller they are, the better they are."

Tiny Talkers (Funded by Medway Council)

Funded through the Start for Life Programme (Medway Council) Tiny Talkers is a 5-week, targeted intervention for children aged 3-4 years that are not meeting age expected levels of development in Speech and Language. We have delivered this programme in partnership with clinicians from MCH. Children aged 3-4 years old are referred onto the programme following their 27-30-month ASQ check.

Parents/carers attend an initial information session with their child/ren. This session is facilitated by the Group Worker and Volunteer that will be delivering the programme. The sessions are held in the venues that the subsequent groups take place from. Here parent/carers are given an understanding of what the course will entail, expectations, and the reasons why we do what we do in the sessions.

Following this, the child referred along with their parent/carer will attend the programme. The next 4 sessions are all themed and provide lots of different activities to encourage the various strands of language development and social skills. At the end of each session parents/carers are given activities (like those completed in the sessions) to try at home.

After the 4-week sessions are completed the group worker will take time with each parent to discuss any further help that may be offered.

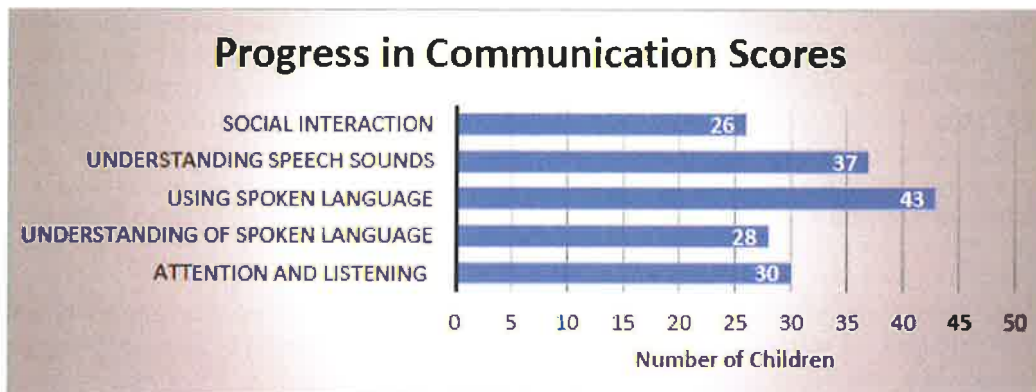
This can include:

- Home-visiting from the Community Nursery Nurses team
- A referral to Home-Start Medway's Little Adventurer Programme
- Further referrals to SALT and other pathways

Impact of the programme to date:

- To date we have received 155 referrals to the Tiny Talker Programme.
- Referrals breakdown: 110 boys (71%) and 45 girls (29%)
- 22 Inappropriate referrals (needs of the children are too high)
- 33 families did not engage with the programme to date.
- 89 children have attended the course.

Data analysis of the 7 Cohorts delivered so far indicates that 68% of parents have reported an improvement in their child's speech following attendance on the programme:



Following attendance the following support was offered:

- SALT referral – 14% (12 children)
- Supported by Community Nursery Nurses – 39% (35 children)
- Referral to another HSM service - 11% (10 children)
- 1 child was referred to OT, another to the Violet Pathway and 5 children were offered the opportunity to repeat the Tiny Talkers Programme

'It is a lovely group, we have seen a massive improvement in his speech since we started, the groupworker is so welcoming and encouraging'.

'She has really flourished these last 4 weeks at tiny talkers and has gained a bit more confidence every session'.

Support for our Armed Forces (funded by the Army Central fund and SGN funding via HSUK)

Having now provided services to our local Army families for the last 8 years, we are acutely aware of the unique pressures they face. Families deployed into the area have often lost their established support networks which can cause anxiety and stress on family life, increase isolation and impact on mental health. To support families to manage this, we facilitate groups for the spouses and children of serving Army personnel.

During the last year, we have offered 2 groups per week (during term time) at Brompton Barracks and 2 hours per week at Invicta Park Barracks in Maidstone. The groups are supported by a staff member and volunteers who offer practical and emotional support alongside signposting to other services. We signpost families either internally through our Home-Start branch where families can additionally access support around domestic abuse, home-visiting, or externally to services such as Early Help and Housing. This extended provision supports parents to cope with the impact of family life, and it's associated pressures.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

This group aims to provide a variety of activities for the children to explore that support development and social interactions with their peers. The groups also provide an opportunity for parents/carers to receive peer support from others in a similar situation to themselves. These groups are particularly important in this regard due to the increased issues of isolation and lack of support due to Army spouses often being posted far away from home. We ensure that activities are different each week to ensure that the children maintain their interest and further develop their skills. During every Stay and Play session we encourage all of the children to sit down and enjoy a healthy snack with their parents and peers. This often leads to children trying different foods to those that they would eat at home.

The Army families based at Brompton Barracks are primarily White British, with a small Nepalese Community and a few families of dual heritage. However due to our extended reach of support, we have now managed to engage the large Nepalese community that reside at Maidstone.

Here are some pictures marking the celebration of Dashain with our Nepalese families at Maidstone. All families attended in traditional dress to share Nepalese food, play traditional music, and perform dances.



Report written by Raz Goodred, CEO

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Total income for the year increased slightly from £250,531 to £265,866. We have been grateful for the continued support of Medway Council, with whom we have further collaborated with this year to deliver some of the agenda in relation to the Start for Life programme. Funding from the National Lottery, Army Central Fund and SGN has enabled us to deliver group work to address a range of presenting needs.

Total expenditure has increased from £304,499 to £391,683 as a result of a increased overhead costs for the new office, increase in staff costs to support new projects and HR support. This additional staffing has allowed us to develop further projects. A move to a new premises in Strood has led to increased overhead costs, however the new office space enables us to offer groups sessions for families and the facility to offer Volunteer training from our office base too.

Overall, we have seen a deficit of £125,817. This is in part due to increased costs, combined with some unsuccessful grant applications, meaning that we have had to dip into our reserves this year. This has led to a decrease in funds from £412,857 to £287,040 at year end.

RESERVES POLICY

The Board of Trustees has set a Financial Reserve Policy which states that:

- Reserves are maintained at a level which ensures that Home-Start Medway organisation's core activities could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty.
- A proportion of reserves be maintained in a ready realisable form.

At the end of the financial year £110,000 was held for ongoing liabilities including early termination of office lease, state redundancy payments, office equipment on lease, utilities and accountancy fees.

The Board of Trustees, who are members of the community who bring with them their own varied specialist skills, have overall responsibility for ensuring that the company has an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise. They are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the Financial Statements comply with the Companies Act 2006.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

It remains that the Trustees have in place on-going arrangements for monitoring services via regular reports to the Board. Through discussions with staff and representatives of volunteers, the Board engages in the operational activities of Home-Start Medway and reviews the organisation's policies and procedures that are timetabled for scrutiny at frequencies appropriate to the issues under consideration.

Home-Start Medway complies with the national quality assurance scheme. The Trustees have devised a fundraising and promotional strategy set out in a new Strategic Plan. Promotional events will inform interested parties of the excellent value for money services delivered by Home-Start Medway. Effective communication with stakeholders is essential to maintain the support of partner organisations and the community in which Home-Start Medway works. In a multi-agency environment it is essential to have trust and a clear understanding of purpose. This openness and accountability is a strategic approach at the centre of the Board's decision-making process, considered fundamental to the success of the Charity's work.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees, who are also the directors of Home-Start Medway Limited 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; 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. 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.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Mrs S Bolland, Chair
Trustee

Date: 17/12/25

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Home-Start Medway Limited (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Sally Meah FCCA
On behalf of TC Group

Star House
Star Hill
Rochester
Kent
ME1 1UX

Dated:

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	3	8,400	253,528	261,928	15,517	234,648	250,165
Investments	4	3,938	-	3,938	366	-	366
Total income		<u>12,338</u>	<u>253,528</u>	<u>265,866</u>	<u>15,883</u>	<u>234,648</u>	<u>250,531</u>
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	5	15,110	376,573	391,683	9,444	294,557	304,001
Other expenditure	9	-	-	-	498	-	498
Total expenditure		<u>15,110</u>	<u>376,573</u>	<u>391,683</u>	<u>9,942</u>	<u>294,557</u>	<u>304,499</u>
Net expenditure		<u>(2,772)</u>	<u>(123,045)</u>	<u>(125,817)</u>	<u>5,941</u>	<u>(59,909)</u>	<u>(53,968)</u>
Transfers between funds		(52,900)	52,900	-	15,540	(15,540)	-
Net movement in funds		<u>(55,672)</u>	<u>(70,145)</u>	<u>(125,817)</u>	<u>21,481</u>	<u>(75,449)</u>	<u>(53,968)</u>
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		<u>304,745</u>	<u>108,112</u>	<u>412,857</u>	<u>283,264</u>	<u>183,561</u>	<u>466,825</u>
Fund balances at 31 March 2025		<u>249,073</u>	<u>37,967</u>	<u>287,040</u>	<u>304,745</u>	<u>108,112</u>	<u>412,857</u>

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

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		19,583		24,442
Current assets					
Debtors	12	40,553		11,642	
Cash at bank and in hand		318,444		460,504	
		<u>358,997</u>		<u>472,146</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(91,540)</u>		<u>(83,731)</u>	
Net current assets			267,457		388,415
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>287,040</u>		<u>412,857</u>
Net assets excluding pension liability			<u>287,040</u>		<u>412,857</u>
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	15		37,967		108,112
Unrestricted funds			249,073		304,745
			<u>287,040</u>		<u>412,857</u>

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (CONTINUED)

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2025.

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.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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 on17/12/25.

S M Bolland

Mrs S Bolland, Chair
Trustee

Company registration number 05135567 (England and Wales)

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Home-Start Medway Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is L5 Temple Court, Knights Park, Knight Road, Strood, Kent, ME2 2LT. The charity's business office address is Canterbury Street Gillingham Kent ME7 5TP.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

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.

1.2 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 or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.3 Income

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

There is one exception to the above in relation to grant income. The Charity has departed from the SORP and deferred grant income which does not meet the criteria, it is considered beneficial to match the income with the costs for the readers of our accounts. If the charity was to apply the SORP there would be an additional £38,938 of grant income.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the company is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Trust that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the company has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the company, or the company is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

Donated services or facilities are recognised when the company has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use of the company of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of the Friends is not recognised and refer to the Trustees' report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the company which is the amount the company would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.4 Expenditure

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

Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the company and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Charitable activities and Governance costs are costs incurred on the company's operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the company apportioned to charitable activities.

1.5 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:

Computer equipment	25% reducing balance
--------------------	----------------------

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.

1.6 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).

1.7 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.

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.8 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.

1.9 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.

1.10 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 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.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2025	2025	2025	2024	2024	2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	8,400	253,528	261,928	15,517	234,648	250,165
Donations and gifts						
Medway Council	-	-	-	-	120,270	120,270
REAP	-	-	-	-	44,360	44,360
Groups	-	18,947	18,947	-	6,000	6,000
Medway Community Healthcare	-	-	-	-	16,468	16,468
Kent Community Foundation	-	-	-	-	12,550	12,550
Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	-	-	-	35,000	35,000
Veteran Foundation	6,111	-	6,111	-	-	-
SGN Funding	-	16,319	16,319	-	-	-
National Lottery - Awards for all	-	15,769	15,769	-	-	-
National Lottery - Community Fund	-	82,728	82,728	-	-	-
Medway Council - Homevisiting	-	97,660	97,660	-	-	-
Medway Council - Tiny Talkers	-	17,962	17,962	-	-	-
MDAF	-	1,681	1,681	-	-	-
Co-Op group Donation	-	2,462	2,462	-	-	-
Other	2,289	-	2,289	15,517	-	15,517
	8,400	253,528	261,928	15,517	234,648	250,165

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

4 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Interest received	2,048	366
Interest receivable	1,890	-
	<u>3,938</u>	<u>366</u>

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	2025 £	As restated 2024 £
Direct costs		
Staff costs	176,510	129,391
Staff expenses	5,665	-
Volunteers	2,648	3,557
Training	-	290
	<u>184,823</u>	<u>133,238</u>
Share of support and governance costs (see note 6)		
Support	201,803	166,232
Governance	5,057	4,531
	<u>391,683</u>	<u>304,001</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	15,110	9,444
Restricted funds	376,573	294,557
	<u>391,683</u>	<u>304,001</u>

A prior year adjustment has been made to correctly categorise charitable expenditure between direct, support and governance costs. The adjustment has no impact on funds.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

6 Support costs allocated to activities

	2025	As restated 2024
	£	£
Staff costs	94,723	99,817
Depreciation	6,184	8,156
Telephone / IT costs	10,146	11,430
Office expenses	31,468	26,330
Staff Expenses	445	-
Cleaning	1,490	236
Insurance	1,109	1,235
Licence fee	2,432	5,433
Volunteers	880	1,795
Training	1,058	5,716
Entertainment	240	488
Legal fees	35	5,596
HR consultancy	51,593	-
Governance costs	5,057	4,531
	<u>206,860</u>	<u>170,763</u>
Analysed between:		
Charitable activities	<u>206,860</u>	<u>170,763</u>

7 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

8 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

2025	2024
Number	Number
<u>8</u>	<u>10</u>

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

8 Employees	(Continued)	
Employment costs	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	249,466	213,204
Social security costs	16,314	11,816
Other pension costs	5,453	4,188
	<u>271,233</u>	<u>229,208</u>

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

9 Other

	Total Unrestricted	funds
	2025	2024
	£	£
Net loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	<u>-</u>	<u>498</u>

10 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment £
Cost	
At 1 April 2024	35,230
Additions	1,324
At 31 March 2025	36,554
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 April 2024	10,787
Depreciation charged in the year	6,184
At 31 March 2025	16,971
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2025	19,583
At 31 March 2024	24,442

12 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	31,607	6,000
Prepayments and accrued income	8,946	5,642
	40,553	11,642

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Other taxation and social security		3,444	4,552
Government grants	14	79,744	76,170
Trade creditors		6,514	-
Other creditors		-	974
Accruals and deferred income		1,838	2,035
		91,540	83,731

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

14 Government grants

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Deferred income is included within:		
Current liabilities	79,744	76,170
Movements in the year:		
Deferred income at 1 April 2024	76,170	29,234
Released from previous periods	(73,005)	(29,234)
Resources deferred in the year	76,579	76,170
Deferred income at 31 March 2025	79,744	76,170

15 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.

	At 1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Medway Council	54,474	-	-	(54,474)	-
Nationwide Groups - Family First Worker	45,640	18,947	(35,405)	-	29,182
Kent Community Foundation	7,998	-	-	-	7,998
SGN Funding	-	16,319	(13,075)	(3,244)	-
National Lottery - Awards for All	-	15,769	(39,270)	23,501	-
National Lottery -Community fund	-	82,728	(109,458)	26,730	-
Medway Council - Homevisiting	-	97,660	(136,636)	38,976	-
Medway Council - Tiny Talkers	-	17,962	(39,373)	21,411	-
MDAF	-	1,681	(1,404)	-	277
Co-op Group Donation	-	2,462	(1,952)	-	510
	<u>108,112</u>	<u>253,528</u>	<u>(376,573)</u>	<u>52,900</u>	<u>37,967</u>

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

15 Restricted funds	(Continued)				
Previous year as restated:	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Medway Council	63,969	120,270	(129,765)	-	54,474
Financial Fitness	55,321	44,360	(70,207)	(29,474)	-
REAP	6,156	-	(4,336)	(1,820)	-
BBC Children in Need	24,588	16,468	(28,917)	(12,139)	-
Groups	1,169	12,550	(9,663)	41,584	45,640
Medway Community Healthcare	4,646	-	(3,272)	(1,374)	-
Kent Community Foundation	2,290	6,000	(5,839)	5,547	7,998
Lloyds Bank Foundation	3,245	-	(2,286)	(959)	-
Armed Forces Grant	22,177	35,000	(40,272)	(16,905)	-
	<u>183,561</u>	<u>234,648</u>	<u>(294,557)</u>	<u>(15,540)</u>	<u>108,112</u>

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

15 Restricted funds

(Continued)

Medway Council Tiny Talkers

Through the Start for life programme, Home-Start Medway were commissioned to run Tiny Talkers, a targeted programme for children aged 3-4 years that have speech and language delay.

SGN funding

Funding towards groups that reduce isolation and increase social interaction, supporting with parenting, improving gross and fine motor skills through messy play, promoting peer to peer and group support.

Nationwide – Family First Worker

Provision of a full time staff member to offer home visiting support to families with complex needs.

Kent Community Foundation

Funding through a variety of donations to support towards to core costs of running the charity

National Lottery Awards for ALL

Funding towards the salary of a dedicated Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator, to support survivors of domestic abuse on a 1-1. basis.

National Lottery Community funding

Funding to offer a programme called Little Adventurers that supports children aged 1-7 years that are not meeting age expected levels of development.

Medway Domestic Abuse Forum (MDAF)

Funding to co-ordinate the One Stop Shop – a service providing support to victims of domestic abuse.

Co-op

Funding towards summer and half term activities for families,, enabling them to have experiences that support Family Cohesion.

Army Central Fund

Grant to support group services for the spouses and children of serving Army Personal, reducing isolation through professional and peer support networks as well as supporting children’s development and school readiness.

16 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. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	304,745	12,338	(15,110)	(52,900)	249,073

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

16 Unrestricted funds (Continued)

Previous year:	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	283,264	15,883	(9,942)	15,540	304,745

At the end of the financial year trustees have agreed to designate £42,200 for ongoing liabilities including state redundancy payments, office equipment on lease, utilities and accountancy fees.

17 Operating lease commitments

Lessee

At the reporting end date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Within one year	20,000	20,000
Between two and five years	80,000	80,000
In over five years	77,425	97,425
	<u>177,425</u>	<u>197,425</u>

18 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2024 - none).

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1108057

Accounts

Charity registration number 1108057

Company registration number 05135567 (England and Wales)

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mrs S Bolland, Chair Mr J Harman Ms R Wray G Aplin J Arthurs
Charity number	1108057
Company number	05135567
Registered office	L5 Temple Court Knights Park Knight Road Strood Kent ME2 2LT
Independent examiner	TC Group Star House Star Hill Rochester Kent ME1 1UX

CONTENTS

	Page
Chairman's statement	1
Trustees' report	2 - 20
Statement of trustees' responsibilities	21
Independent examiner's report	22
Statement of financial activities	23
Statement of financial position	24 - 25
Notes to the financial statements	26 - 38

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The year 2023 marks 50 years since our founder Margaret Harrison set up the very first Home-Start in Leicester. Margaret's founding ethos was that the best way to give children the strongest start in life is to offer families friendly, volunteer-led support in their own homes. Simple, yet so powerful. Home-Start's work has developed over the decades but Margaret's ethos remains at the heart of what we do.

Home-start Medway was born in 1987 and since that time has provided services to Families in the Medway area diversifying service delivery over the years to meet the needs of the community and to access funding. In a year when the environment has been challenging for charities across the UK, with increasing competition for funding and volunteers, I am particularly proud of how Home Start team has responded. I am aware some charities have not found their way through this difficult time.

We have had a lot to celebrate at Home-start Medway. Firstly, we have moved premises to a larger and more suitable building where we can offer group work and training. This move is from Gillingham to Strood. We have been busy securing funding and support for Home-Start work, particularly of note is long term funding from Medway council and the Big Lottery, partnering with other organisations, developing training for staff and volunteers, and collectively celebrating our wonderful Home-Start volunteers who support our families and the trustees who also give their time voluntarily. In the last year we have developed early speech projects and have been fortunate to continue our work with local army families.

There have been staff changes but we have been very fortunate to recruit excellent team members to all the posts. We have strengthened our bonds across the network, pulling closer together rather than becoming more insular in the face of local challenges. 50 years of experience tells us that by coming together, supporting each other, and celebrating progress, we will find solutions to the challenges around us and be able to stand alongside families. Home-start is all about the families we work alongside.

I'd like again to thank every member of the wonderful Home-Start team – for their hard work and commitment this includes staff, volunteers, supporters and partners – for the part you've played in making Home-Start Medway what it is today.

Mrs S Bolland
Chairman

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 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) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Structure, governance and management

CONSTITUTION

The company is a charitable company limited by guarantee and has been in operation for 37 years.

The company is constituted and is a registered charity number 1108057.

The principal objective of the company is to recruit and train volunteers who are usually parents themselves to visit families at home with at least one child under five and offer them informal, friendly and confidential support.

METHOD OF APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

The management of the company is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Memorandum and Articles of Association. One third of the board retire by rotation, by reference to those who have been longest in office since their last election, together with any members of the board who have been appointed to fill a casual vacancy since the last annual general meeting.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the company is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the company, and are satisfied that the policies, systems and procedures are in place to mitigate our exposure to the major risks.

The Board of Trustees will clarify annually the level of known financial liability it carries so that policy and operational actions can be implemented.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mrs S Bolland, Chair

Ms I Jeffrey, Treasurer

(Resigned 17 July 2024)

Mr J Harman

Ms R Wray

G Aplin

J Arthurs

Objectives, achievements and performance

POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES

Home-Start helps to improve the life chances of children by supporting their parents and carers at difficult times. In particular Home-Start offers emotional and practical support as well as friendship to parents with at least one child under the age of five. The organisation gives families support by assisting them to identify what family and child centred issues are a problem in their lives and how they can get help. This is done at an initial visit, with regular follow ups to review progress and determine to what extent Home-Start is making a difference and how other resources may be accessed to improve the family's circumstances.

Our Vision:

Home-Start Medway has been working with local families for the last 37 years. We are an independent voluntary organisation with a vision to support parents across Medway to give their children the best start in life.

Our Ambition:

- Help parents in Medway grow in confidence
- Help parents strengthen their relationships with their children
- Widen their links within the local community

What we want to achieve:

- Positively impact children's outcomes through parental support and guidance
- All children in Medway will feel safe in their home environment
- To drive greater awareness of Home-Start and its services throughout the Medway area
- To offer a greater range and diversity of volunteered services

Services we currently offer:

1. Home Visiting through a network of volunteers
2. Group support
3. 1-1 family support from a dedicated Family Worker
4. 1-1 support and groups for our forces families
5. Domestic Abuse Support

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Our team:

Our team currently consists of 12 paid members of staff and 35 volunteers (including 6 Trustees).

Volunteers:

Our Volunteers support Home-Start Medway to deliver services across Medway. Roles include Trustees, Home Visiting, Admin, Group Support and Medway's One Stop Shop.

All volunteers are subject to a DBS check and references to ensure that they are suitable for the role. We provide full training which is delivered using a hybrid approach. This consists of 8 hours on-line training and 8 hours face to face training. The content of this training includes; our Home-Start approach, family life, boundaries, commitment, communication and listening, confidentiality, safeguarding, personal safety alongside information about the additional services the volunteers can signpost to within Home-Start.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

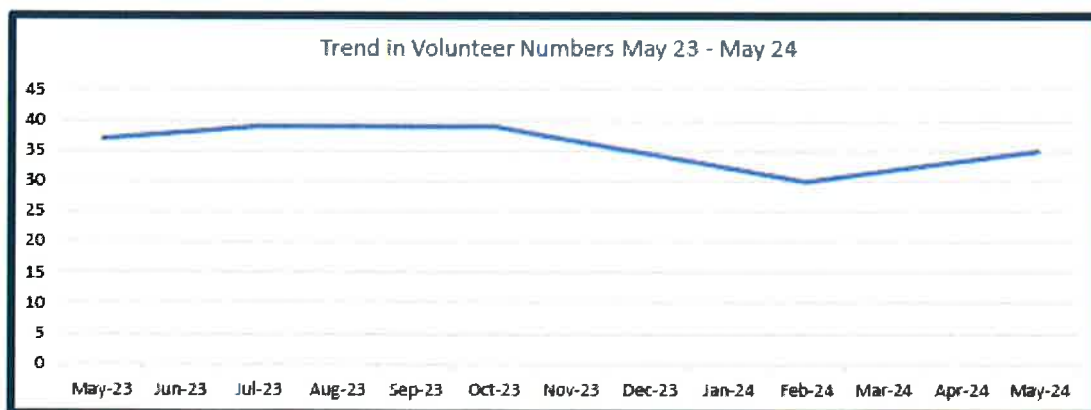
Following a successful application for a grant from Medway Parenting Strategy fund of £5000, we were able to commission the development of further training modules for Volunteers in partnership with Medway Early Years. 9 E-learning modules have been developed to support Volunteers in their role, both on a 1-1 basis in a family home and when they are supporting our group sessions. The focus of these modules are as follows:

- Observing young children
- Developing indoor spaces for young children
- Young children outdoors
- Baby's communication
- Baby's outdoors
- Developing young children's communication and language
- Understanding 2 year olds
- Managing the terrible twos
- Young children and English as an additional language
- Schemas and young children's learning
- Developing literacy with young children
- Managing Behaviour with young children.

We are looking to extend our current Volunteer preparation course to include additional safeguarding training, strengthening families training and the Early Years modules detailed above. We feel that the extended on boarding process will upskill volunteers, whilst enabling them to get to know other volunteers within the service, as well as the wider staff team.

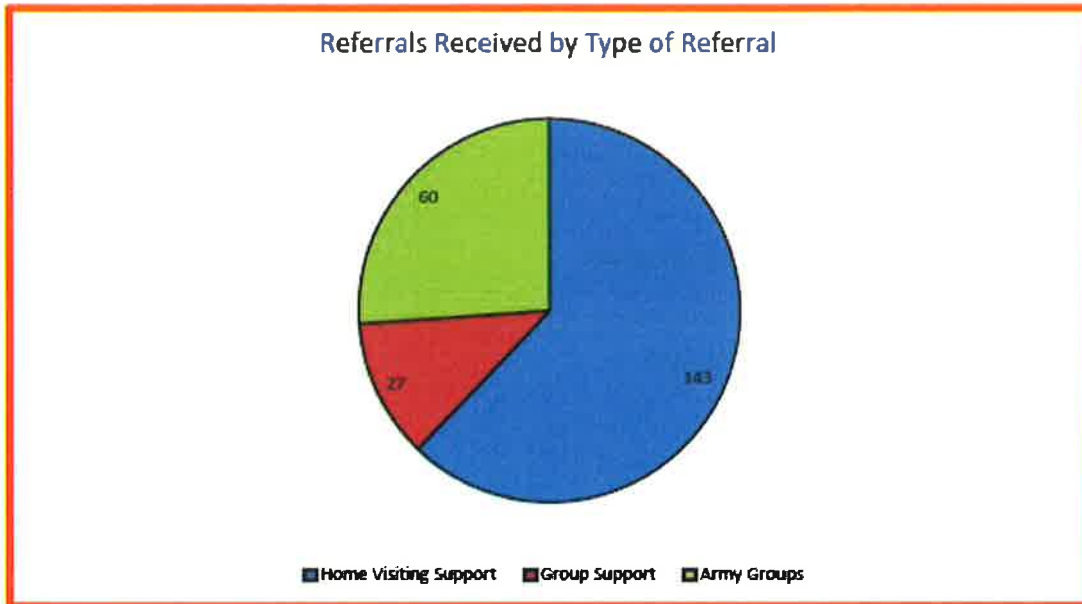
Volunteers are given regular supervision with a Volunteer Co-ordinator and we hold regular Volunteer support group meetings throughout the year, during which we provide bitesize training and support. Volunteers are connected with the service through their own Facebook page, support groups meetings and monthly newsletters.

We, like many other Voluntary organisations have found Volunteers recruitment and retention challenging. During the last year, we have seen a number of Volunteers leave due to a combination of health reasons, the cost-of-living crisis and childcare responsibilities, as the Chart below demonstrates.



We were part of a National Campaign called 1 million minutes again this year. This campaign, which was promoted on Good Morning Britain throughout December 2023, sought pledges of time from the general public. Despite last year's success of 14 pledges, we did not receive any pledges this year. However, we have created an action plan to focus on Volunteer recruitment and are already seeing the positive impacts of this work. We have managed to recruit 11 new Volunteers to replace those that have left the service. We are now hoping to continue an upward trajectory.

During the last year (01.04.23 - 31.03.24) we have received **230** referrals to our service. These referrals break down as follows:



Home Visiting (funded by Medway Council)

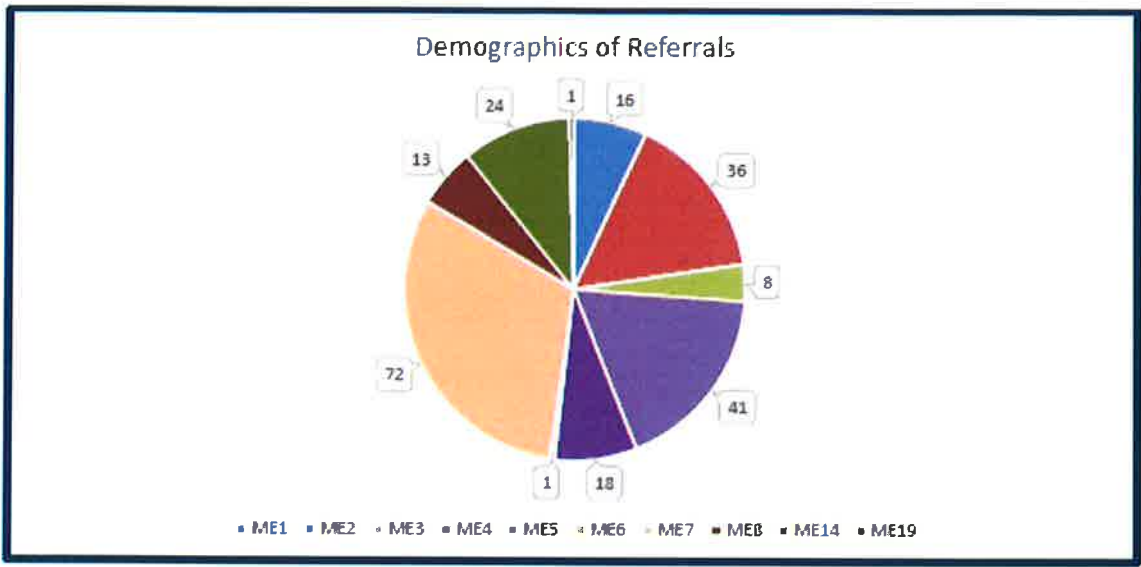
Home Visiting continues to be at the core of our Services, supporting families in Medway who have at least one child under the age of 5. The support is provided by our fully trained volunteers in the family's own home. Families are offered weekly visits for 2-3 hours, which can if needed be provided for up to 6 months, (sometimes this may be longer if a new life event occurs which impacts the family's wellbeing).

We support families in a non-judgmental way, objectives are set and agreed by the family and a review takes place to see the progress after 3 months and again at the end of the support. Our volunteers provide support to parents in many different situations, such as:

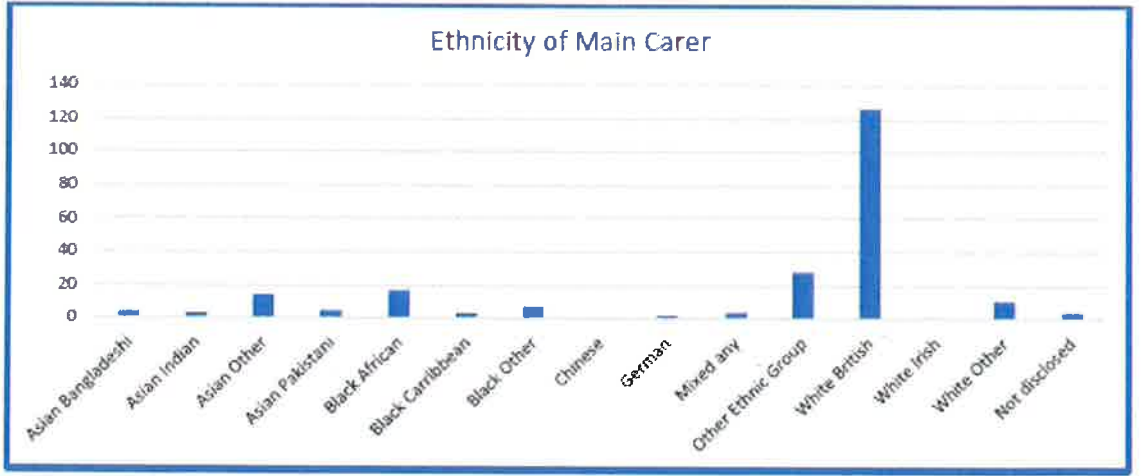
- Mental health problems
- Bereavement
- Coping with twins, triplets or several pre-school children
- Lone parenthood
- Loneliness and isolation
- Illness, and disability or special needs
- Relationship problems and those who have been victims of domestic abuse
- Dealing with a child's/children's behavioural problems
- And for those who are just finding it hard to cope

We encourage healthy eating, social interaction and support to improve parenting skills. Home-Start volunteers are local people, from all walks of life, have parenting experience and offer non-judgmental support, building families' resilience in a practical and emotionally balanced way.

All referrals we have received are from all areas of Medway as demonstrated in the chart below, however referrals from ME7 and ME4 account for 49% of all Home Visiting referrals.



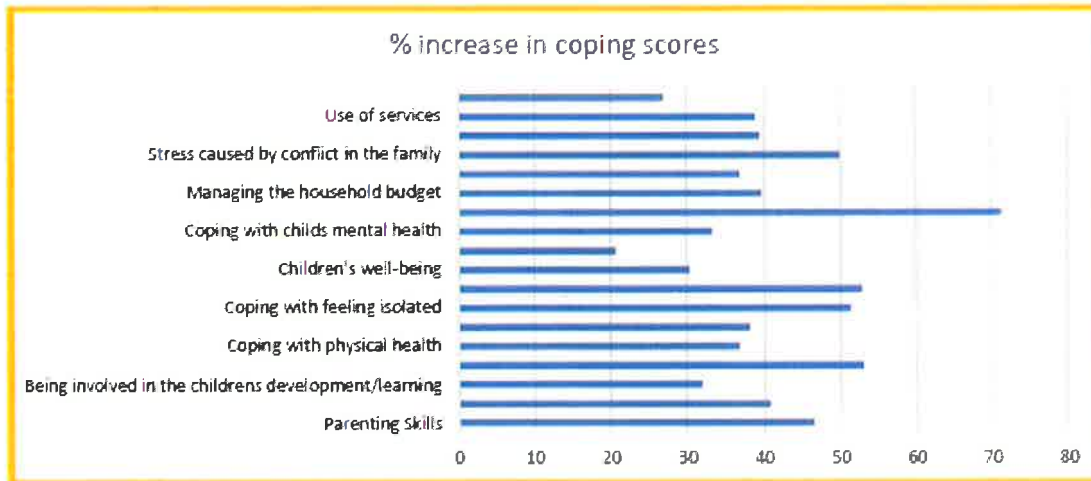
The main carer was White British in 55% of families referred to the service. In 45% of referrals, the main carers were from a variety of diverse ethnicities as detailed below. These statistics are significantly different to last year, during which 21% of families referred were not White British, this 24% increase reflects that the service is providing support to the wider community and engaging with a wider range of ethnic groups. It is likely that this increase is due to the engagement work carried out with Faith Groups and Medway Diversity Forum.



In 32 households out of the 143 families referred for Home Visiting (22%), the main carer or child had a disability.

Outcomes of Home Visiting support:

We use Home-Start coping scores to track the journey of our families across several areas. 0 is the lowest score showing that the family are not coping in an area and 5 being coping well. We track the changes the family identify they have made during the support with the hope that we see the coping scores increase. Feedback from families that have accessed support demonstrates a % increase across all coping scores as demonstrated in this table below:



We also receive regular verbal feedback from families about the impact of the support, i.e.,

'I have no words to describe how much of a difference the help and support of the volunteer has made to our family. I cannot thank her enough and would recommend Home-Start volunteer support to anyone with babies/young children struggling in the future'

'My volunteer was fantastic. Blended in with family, not pushy, went above and beyond'

Support for families with complex needs:

Through additional funding from Nationwide, we have been able to maintain a paid Family First Worker within the team. This staff member supports families referred to the service who have needs that are too complex for a volunteer. As a qualified practitioner with many years experience supporting families, they are able to provide bespoke support on a one to one basis following an agreed plan. During the last year, our Family Worker has directly supported 30 families. All families that have received support from our Family Worker have reported an increase in coping scores at the end of support. In addition, verbal feedback has been extremely positive, with comments such as,

'Home start is something that I had never heard of before I was quite reluctant to accept the referral for them in the first place. When I first met Karen and Sandra I was apprehensive because I saw that they were older than me and assumed that they wouldn't necessarily know the struggles of a mum with young children in this day and age. After meeting Karen again we started to form a good bond and I was able to openly discuss issues and problems that I was having with myself and my children with her.'

I genuinely believe that since she's been in my family's life she has made a huge impact offering support help and advice that other services had previously neglected to provide for me and my family. Since Karen has been here, I have had assessments referrals from health visiting teams she chased up and sorted out the school nursing team for my eldest daughter she's helped with the hygiene bank to be able to provide me nappies for my children she's completely gone above and beyond of anything that I had expected.

My youngest daughter who even struggles to form bonds or connections with my own father stands at the window jumping about excitedly when she knows it's the day that Karen comes and she gets to do a play session with her and spend a bit of one-on-one time. I feel very lucky that I was assigned Karen and look forward to the progress that we make going forward with any other advice and help that she gives along the way'.

'After being let down and discharged from my previous mental health support home start have been invaluable to me. Due to my mental health breaking down and suffering from agoraphobia I found myself surrounded with excess stuff accumulated for comfort and security that started to make me feel suffocated.

I can't thank Karen and Sandra enough for their help and support coming and helping me going through the mountains of stuff and also removing it from my house taking it to be donated so that it doesn't sit here and go back into the house which has previously happened when I have sorted stuff out. I have now managed with their help to start getting the rooms more manageable and can't wait for the house to be empty of all the excess stuff. These wonderful ladies aren't just providing practical help but are being a listening ear when at times I have felt so alone and depressed. Thank you.

'At first, it had been very difficult to trust someone new and also, to accept that I needed support with my son behaviour. I was in a very difficult situation when I met Karen. I was struggling with everything and it took time to trust her and follow her guidance. But when I started to listen, to learn and to follow her advice, I've been so impressed that it actually worked.

I also learned that kids behaviour and emotions are a reflection of how we feel and behave.

Therefore, with Karen's support all the way, I changed how I answer and react with my son.

It took lots of trials and patience but it worked. My son now is more calm, happy, he listen to me most of the times. When I say no for sweets and toys, instead of throwing himself on the floor and shout in the shops, he now put the toys or sweets back. He moan a bit but still no more crying shouting and kicking.

There is still a lot of work in progress but I'm more confident in my skills. By following Karen guidance I had good results, I'm a better person and a happier mum. I will miss her lots but I will keep in touch. Thank you Karen and thank you Home Start Medway!'

Domestic Abuse support:

We offer specialised support for families with a child under five who are experiencing low/medium domestic abuse or who have experienced domestic abuse historically, including those who have fled to Medway. We have a dedicated Domestic Abuse Co-Ordinator who supports these families directly. 29 families were supported by this worker during the last year.

We often find that families supported by the DA Co-ordinator have been placed into emergency accommodation. These are often poorly furnished and do not have the essential equipment needed to meet their child's needs. Our DA Co-ordinator seeks to provide parents/carers with the essentials that they need through applications to partner charities and the Children in Need grants programme.

Our DA Co-ordinator will provide home-visiting support to families weekly. During these visits, victims will be supported to come to terms with the trauma they have experienced, will be supported to ensure that their children have all the support that they need also. The work often focuses on supporting parents to integrate into their new area, as well as practical support, such as Makenzie friend in court and signposting to DA services that can support with the acquisition of legal orders.

In addition to our direct work with families, we continue to co-ordinate the One Stop Shop (OSS) in Gillingham. The OSS ensures victims receive support from a range of professional agencies / organisations as needed. In attendance weekly is the DWP, domestic abuse services, legal advisor, and housing. In addition, victims also have access to safety equipment such as door bars and personal alarms.

As with all other projects, we monitor the impact of support. Families report progress in their coping scores and give positive feedback about their experience of the service, such as:

'I am very happy with the help from Home-Start and I am very grateful that Yvette and Marice helped me with everything from medical appointments for my and my daughter and for always visiting me and trying to find out how I am. They are great, they are professionals and I will miss them very much.'

'Home-start staff has supported us both individually and as a family. There has been much improvement in my child's behaviour which is due to the support and guidance she has received. There has been so much help given to us which has helped with living now and the future when we are in our permanent home.'

'Our family dynamic has improved a lot due to the support we received. With regular meets and communication, it has helped us get to where we are at today with giving us the tools to recover from our previous situation.'

'The Home start team are a lovely bunch and are full of knowledge and advice. We are grateful to have had the positive input and thank everyone who has been involved in our journey.'

Home-Start Groups:

Generic Groups:

We have provided 87 Groups for parents/carers to attend with their children during the last year. These have primarily been delivered from the Children and Family Hubs or Well-Being Centres run by Medway council. These facilities are specifically designed and resourced for young children and therefore provide ideal environments to run the groups from. The sessions provide a range of age-appropriate activities to support children's development. Parents/carers attend with their child/ren and are encouraged to support them to engage with the activities on offer. Many of the parents that attend these groups have received support from other Home-Start services. The groups therefore often provide a follow on from home visiting support, offering a light touch intervention as an exit strategy for families.



The groups have been attended by 47 different families, accumulating in 755 attendances. Additionally, to further support families during the half terms and Summer holidays, we arranged a number of picnics, stay and play sessions and a trip to Rochester Castle.

We carried out a Customer Satisfaction and Consultation Survey (CSCS). The consultation was distributed to all families that were receiving support from Home-Start Medway and we were pleased to receive 51 responses. Representing 130 individuals, (51 parents/carers with 79 children). 43 of these responses were from families currently attend Home-Start groups. Parents described the following benefits of attending groups for their child/ren:

100% - enjoyed coming along to the group, 98% - helps with their social skills, 93% - supports their development, 93% - makes new friends, 67% - encourages my child/children to eat healthy and 63% - helps my child/children's speech and language.

Tiny Talkers:

During the last year we were also commissioned to deliver the Tiny Talkers Programme for Medway Council. This 4-week targeted programme has offered support to children aged 3-4 years who have been identified as having delayed Speech and Language. The session content was developed by a Speech and Language therapist with contributions from Home-Start Medway's Group Worker and Volunteers. Below is one of the session plans which details the core areas that are covered each week and the format the session takes: Each week the themes change to ensure the sessions remain engaging for the children attending.

Attention and listening	Understanding of spoken language	Using spoken language	Using speech sounds	Social interaction
<p>Ready steady Go Game - aim is to encourage good looking skills</p> <p>Promote good waiting Improve motor planning</p> <p>Develop hand eye coordination</p> <p>Each child takes it in turn to choose an animal bean bag The adult will then say "ready steady" and then wait for the child to look in their direction before saying "go"</p> <p>Encourage the child to aim for a big box.</p>	<p>Action game – aim is to encourage the child to follow simple 2 word instructions e.g. "rabbit jumping"</p> <p>Place a selection of action picture cards into a fishing game. Place them in a pond. Ask the child to jump to the pond, squat down and catch the fish the adult asks for i.e. ' girl jumping'.</p>	<p>Find the animal – aim is to help the child use 2 key words .</p> <p>Using a therapy ball, ask the child to lay on their tummy over the ball. Use the movement of the ball to bring the objects into view. Get the child to reach for an animal and roll back.</p> <p>Ask the child 'what have you got?' encouraging them to say 'big elephant'</p> <p>Use the 10 second rule.</p> <p>(Alternatively, the child can pretend to be a snake sliding on tummy across the floor instead of the ball)</p>	<p>Syllable clapping – for the child to be able to clap out the correct number of syllables in words of up to 3 syllables</p> <p>Place a selection of animals into a magic sock and then ask the child to take one out</p>	<p>Parachute -aim is to help the child with non verbal turn taking and social interaction between peers.</p> <p>Also works core stability, shoulder stability and balance.</p> <p>All children sit around the parachute holding on to a handle with adult. . Leader calls the name of a child and asks them to crawl under the parachute to the other side like a spider or slither like a snake. At the end of the game all children crawl under the parachute together, leader drops the parachute over the children and asks ' where have the children gone !' and then lift the parachute .</p>

The groups have been facilitated by a paid member of Staff from Home-Start Medway and 5 volunteers. The activities over the 4 weeks have supported the children's speech development, as well as providing helpful resources for parents/carers to use at home, further enriching the home learning environment.

We currently offer the service from 5 venues in Medway namely; Strood Family Hub, Oaklands Wellbeing Centre, HOO wellbeing Centre, Twydall Wellbeing Centre and Deanwood Wellbeing Centre. These venues are all sites associated with the Children and Family Hubs in Medway. As such, they are well resourced and easily accessible for families.

The groups have proved to have a very positive impact to date. Parents complete an assessment at the beginning and end of the programme, enabling us to assess their child's progress. 73% of parents have reported an improvement in their child's speech following attendance at the sessions. This is extremely positive given that it is such a short intervention. Parents tell us:

'Leaders are very understanding and patient, listen to concerns and really help to improve in those areas' and 'He has shown significant progress since the first session'.

In addition, MCH have provided 2 staff that have offered more intensive Speech and Language support in the home for children that have been identified via the programme. To date of the 57 families that have engaged with the programme, 37% have either received further referrals into a specialist pathway or, have received follow up visits from the Community Nursery Nurses team, in their home setting.

Support for families at Christmas:

This year we received support from the Giving Tree at Bluewater. They provided us with 73 presents and a voucher for £116.

We also received a number of donations through our Amazon Wishlist this year.

A lady called Danielle Perry approached us to provide free gifts for the children we support. Danielle provided us with 35 beautiful sacks of presents for our children.



HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024



We received 30 food hampers from KICC.

With the combination of the sacks provided by Danielle, the gifts from Bluewater and the Amazon Wishlist, in total 73 sacks of presents were distributed to children this year.

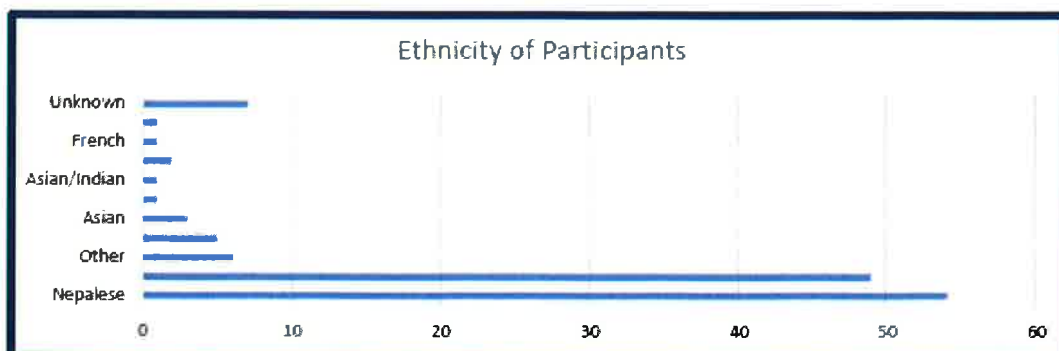
Please see 2 x case studies at the end of this report that demonstrate the impact that Home Visiting support has had for them.

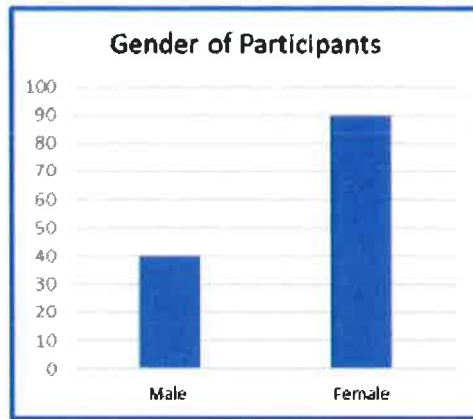
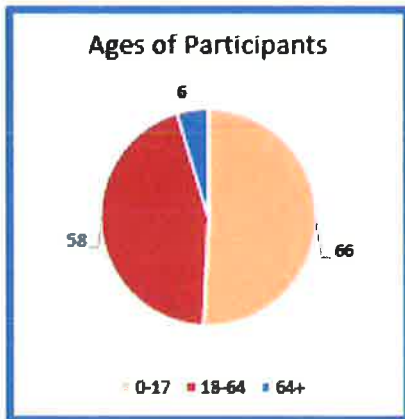
Support for our Armed Forces (funded by the Veterans Foundation and Army Central fund via HSUK)

Having now provided services to our local Army families for the last 7 years, we are acutely aware of the unique pressures they face. Families deployed into the area have often lost their established support networks which can cause anxiety and stress on family life, increase isolation and impact on mental health. To support families to manage this, we have facilitated groups for the spouses and children of serving Army personnel.

During the last year we have delivered 179 groups for the spouses and children of serving Army personnel active within 1 RSME (Royal School of Military Engineering), 36 regiment and the Queen's Gurka Engineers. The sessions provided have resulted in 1728 attendances from 130 direct beneficiaries (60 families), 7 of whom were serving Army Personnel.

Demographics of participants:





Musical Bumps:

This session is meticulously designed to nurture children's speech and language skills through the engaging medium of music. Here's what the session entails:

- **Dance Movements:** Children are encouraged to express themselves and interpret the music through dance, which not only aids in physical development but also in understanding rhythm and language patterns.
- **Instrumental Play:** Hands-on experience with instruments allows children to explore sounds, contributing to auditory discrimination and phonemic awareness—key components in language development.
- **Singing Along:** Engaging with a variety of nursery rhymes and familiar songs provides repetitive language structures and vocabulary, enhancing memory and articulation.

The combination of these musical activities creates a fun and immersive learning environment that supports and encourages the natural acquisition of speech and language in young children.



'The groups are so friendly and my child looks forward to it every week'

Stay 'n' Play

With one session currently delivered from **Brompton Barracks** and two sessions a week from **Invicta Park Barracks**, these groups are popular for all Army families.

The sessions offer a range of diverse activities, such as;

- o Messy Play & Sensory Corner: **Encourages exploration and sensory stimulation.**
- o Book Corner: **Fosters a love for reading and language acquisition.**
- o Singing and Action Rhymes: **Enhances listening skills and coordination.**
- o Trikes and Bikes: **Promotes physical development and balance.**
- o Puzzles & Craft: **Stimulates cognitive skills and creativity.**
- o Themed Activity: **Changes weekly to keep engagement high and learning fresh.**

The Stay and Play sessions are not just about play; they encourage parents and children to socialise with their peers enabling them to make friends, reducing their isolation and supporting their integration into the Community. The activities provided have the following benefits for participants;

• **Developmental Benefits:**

- o Improves motor skills through hands-on activities.
- o Boosts brain development with stimulating tasks.
- o Supports language development with interactive play.
- o Encourages the use of senses, crucial for overall growth.

• **Healthy Lifestyle Promotion:**

- o Provision of a healthy snack time to instil good eating habits.
- o Offers ideas for healthy packed lunches.
- o Encourages children to sit at a table to eat.

• **School/Nursery Readiness:**

- o Introduces children to communal dining, taking turns and peer interactions preparing them for school/nursery routines.



'It is very hard when moving every 12-24 months to restart your life. These groups allow easy access to community support and social situations.'

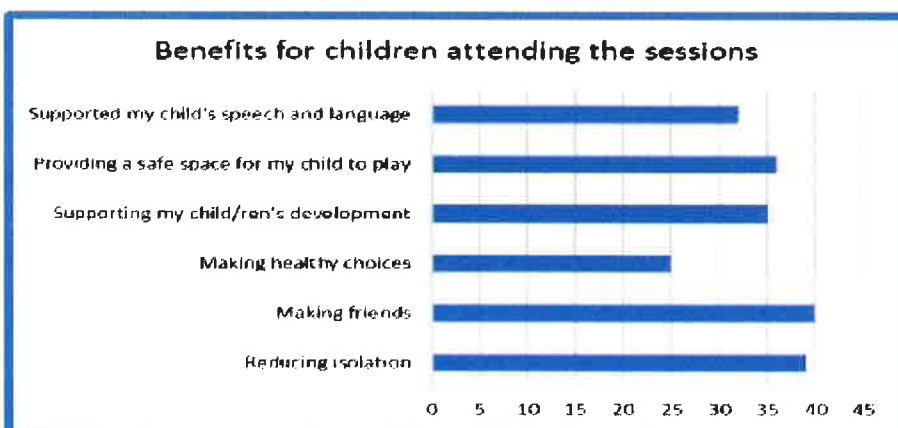
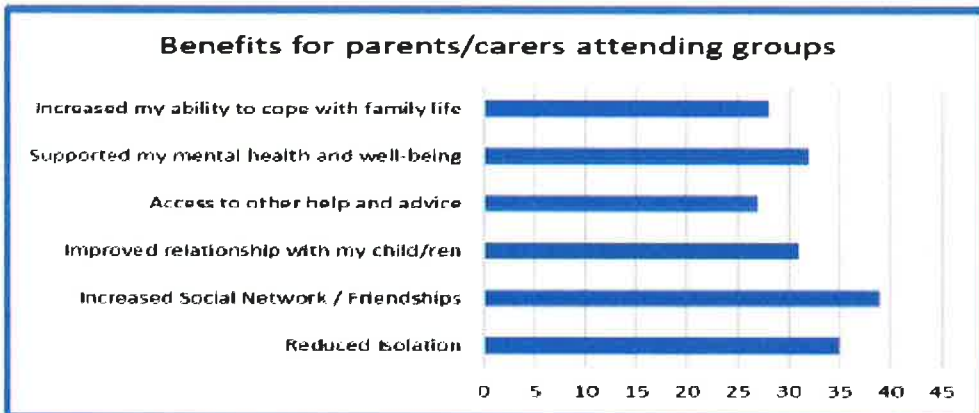
We have arranged for a number of external organisations to visit the groups to promote the services that they offer children and families, and further support integration into the local community.



Impact of this support:

We seek feedback from participants at regular intervals during the year. We use this feedback to understand what is working well, what needs to change and what impact the service is having on those that are attending. We have reviewed the feedback which identifies that 95% of participants felt that the sessions had reduced their own and their child/ren's isolation and increased their friendships. 88% felt that the groups offered a safe environment for children to learn and play whilst 78% identified that the sessions had supported their children's speech and language development.

Further benefits are detailed in the graphs below:



Parents also gave verbal feedback such as,

'This is a very important group for military families to meet others'.

'This group helps us to reduce the isolation and helps us to make friends'.

'When I come to this group I feel relaxed and happy watching my daughter play in a safe environment'.

'It helps with children's social lives and development'.

'Everything that this group has to offer is very helpful for both mothers and children. We love to come every time when we can'.

Case Study 1 – Home Visiting Support (Family Worker)

Referral from CIN team for single Mum of 4 children, only 2 children live with her (C3 & C4) they are placed on a supervision order, the other 2 (C1 & C2) have an SGO with maternal grandparents. There has been previous DA with children's father.

Issues at referral –

CIN team still involved.

Children recently returned to mum following a short removal to foster care.

Mum has low self-esteem, lack of self-care and holds a lot of guilt re the children being removed.

C4's speech has deteriorated since returning home to mum.

Children's defiant, negative behaviour & lack of boundaries – such as dropping unwanted food on to the floor & drawing on walls.

Home conditions not always adequate.

CIN team would like FF worker to role model play with the children for mum, she has limited experience due to DA in her life & being prevented from interacting with the children.

Plan of work & support offered.

1. Parenting

FF worker to offer x 4 play sessions in the home using a variety of resources - mainly for C3 but will include C4 when she is not at school.

Mum will be aware of a range of activities she can offer to promote interaction with the children and improve their parent / child relationship.

Discuss routines, boundaries & consistency.

Outcomes - Parenting

FF worker provided x 4 play sessions – offering painting, playdough, collage, cooking & puzzles. Role modelling each activity. Mum joined in every session and appeared to take on board my explanation of the benefits to the children's development of each activity. C4 fully immersed himself in the activities.

FF worker offered basic parenting strategies to help improve the children's behaviour such as distraction techniques to divert their attention.

Open discussion with mum to highlight the importance of supervising the children during play to ensure they are safe but to prevent them drawing on walls & damaging furniture.

2 - Practical support

FF worker to observe home conditions at visits, discuss any concerns with mum & update CIN team accordingly. FF worker observed deterioration in home conditions during period of involvement, the flat became increasingly untidy, and often lots of washing piled up, open black sacks of rubbish in kitchen diner area. Mould was unaddressed which then began to transport to children's beds. These issues addressed by CIN team.

Many of the children's toys were broken & dirty. FF worker gave support to sort & clean toys, disposing of broken toys or toys that were no longer age appropriate.

Outcomes - Practical support

FF worker provided a food bank box, Christmas presents to all the family & a food hamper.

An unsuccessful application to sofology for a new suite was also submitted.

FF worker requested school uniform for C4 and shoes for both children from Wonderfully Made, this was successful.

Mum welcomed FF worker into her home & engaged with the sessions appropriately alongside the children. The children appeared to enjoy the sessions too. It is hoped that Mum will use the experience of seeing activities in action & be able to repeat on her own with the children, this will stimulate their development & continue to develop the parent child relationship.

On going support from CIN team, so final outcome known.

Feedback from parent

'I don't want you to leave, please stay forever. You are a genuine person who tells me as it is. Me & the kids have really enjoyed it all. I have liked having your company as I have no one to talk to. I will engage more with the children, I want to do the activities, but I need to get the equipment. Thank you for your support through it all. I wish you could stay.'

Case Study 2 - Home Visiting Support (Volunteer)

This was a self referral from a 29-year-old first time mum with a child who has just had his first birthday.

Objectives:

Setting Routines.

Emotional Support – Listening ear.

Support in finding time for herself without feeling guilty

Issues:

For 3 weeks following the birth mum stated she struggled to bond with the baby. As the baby wasn't sleeping very much, Mum started to feel very low, crying every day, doubting her ability to be a mother and struggling to bond / interact with the baby. She recognised she had post-natal depression. Mums' self-esteem was rock bottom and she felt very isolated. Mum was very anxious and was stressed most of the time. She felt the baby sensed this and seemed stressed too. She seemed to struggle with day to day running of the home and housework seemed insurmountable. This has made mum feel more stressed as she described her husband as a bit of a 'neat freak' and mum feels guilty that the house is not as tidy as it should be when he comes home from work.

Mum was due back to work in March 2023 but due to the amount of holiday accrued since being on maternity leave, is due to officially return to work at the beginning of June. She may do an odd shift leading up to the return so she can put the baby into a nursery so he can get used to being without mum and mixing with other children, making his transition to fulltime nursery easier too.

At Mid Review:

Since the volunteer has been supporting the family, mum stated she found it easier to cope on difficult days and is bonding, interacting and playing with her child. She feels she copes better with the housework but doesn't stress so much if things aren't completely done or didn't get done. She now feels more in control and able to cope with her child's demands.

Mum feels the objectives that were set at the beginning of support have been partly met but feels in need of a bit more support with routines and balancing things.

Mum is also juggling raising her child as well as doing a course (deadline is coming soon for coursework to be handed in). Mum is very aware she may not have been able to complete this if she was still feeling the way she was before the help & support of the volunteer.

Outcomes:

Mum looks forward to the volunteers visits as they have a chat first and volunteer always asks how her week has been which makes such a difference to have someone to chat to and to share things with someone outside of the family who doesn't judge her. Mum has a better relationship with her child and feels all of her previous concerns are much improved as she doesn't get so easily upset which makes her feel more in control and a more confident parent.

Mum has found the biggest impact since having the volunteer support is she is no longer crying on a daily basis. The volunteer has helped with setting routines, bonding, playing & interacting with her baby, and has learnt not to worry over what she hasn't done, but to recognise what she has done & how far she has come.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Mum has also managed to complete her coursework before the deadline & this was because of the help of the volunteer playing with the baby whilst she was on the computer doing this.

She is now getting out and about to baby groups etc on her own and is no longer feeling isolated.

Feedback:

Mum said, *'Its indescribable how much of a difference the help and support of the volunteer has made to our family. She cannot thank her enough and would recommend Home-Start volunteer support to anyone with babies/ young children struggling in the future'*.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Total income for the year fell slightly to £250,531 from £351,315 in 2023, with the main decrease resulting from an overall reduction in smaller grant applications although we were grateful with the continued support of Medway Council which allowed us to have a strong delivery base. Funding from The Veterans Foundation, Big Lottery, Kent Community Foundation and Nationwide Building Society amongst others allowed us to develop group work and individual support to a range of families in Medway.

Total expenditure has increased to £304,499 from £287,769 in 2023, as a result in an increase in staff costs to £229,208 from £202,618 in 2023 additional staff allowed us to develop further projects. Volunteering costs have decreased during the year to £5,352 from £12,458 in 2023.

We have also secured the lease of our new premises in Strood, placing us at the heart of our delivery area but also allowing us to hold group sessions and parent groups in the safety and comfort of our bespoke premises.

Overall this has resulted in a deficit for the year of £53,968 (2023 – surplus £63,546) and resulted in an decrease in funds from £466,825 to £412,857 at the year end.

RESERVES POLICY

The Board of Trustees has set a Financial Reserve Policy which states that:

- Reserves are maintained at a level which ensures that Home-Start Medway organisation's core activities could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty.
- A proportion of reserves be maintained in a ready realisable form.

At the end of the financial year £110,000 was held for ongoing liabilities including early termination of office lease, state redundancy payments, office equipment on lease, utilities and accountancy fees.

The Board of Trustees, who are members of the community who bring with them their own varied specialist skills, have overall responsibility for ensuring that the company has an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise. They are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the Financial Statements comply with the Companies Act 2006.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

It remains that the Trustees have in place on-going arrangements for monitoring services via regular reports to the Board. Through discussions with staff and representatives of volunteers, the Board engages in the operational activities of Home-Start Medway and reviews the organisation's policies and procedures that are timetabled for scrutiny at frequencies appropriate to the issues under consideration.

Home-Start Medway complies with the national quality assurance scheme. The Trustees have devised a fundraising and promotional strategy set out in a new Strategic Plan. Promotional events will inform interested parties of the excellent value for money services delivered by Home-Start Medway. Effective communication with stakeholders is essential to maintain the support of partner organisations and the community in which Home-Start Medway works. In a multi-agency environment it is essential to have trust and a clear understanding of purpose. This openness and accountability is a strategic approach at the centre of the Board's decision-making process, considered fundamental to the success of the Charity's work.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees, who are also the directors of Home-Start Medway Limited 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. 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.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

S M Bolland

Mrs S Bolland, Chair

Trustee

Date: 8/10/24

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Home-Start Medway Limited (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



Sally Meah FCCA

On behalf of TC Group

Star House

Star Hill

Rochester

Kent

ME1 1UX

Dated: 11 October 2024

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

		Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
	Notes						
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	3	15,517	234,648	250,165	78,175	272,913	351,088
Investments	4	366	-	366	227	-	227
Total income		15,883	234,648	250,531	78,402	272,913	351,315
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	5	9,444	294,557	304,001	21,672	266,093	287,765
Other expenditure	8	498	-	498	-	4	4
Total expenditure		9,942	294,557	304,499	21,672	266,097	287,769
Net income/(expenditure) and movement in funds		5,941	(59,909)	(53,968)	56,730	6,816	63,546
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		283,264	183,561	466,825	226,534	176,745	403,279
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		289,205	123,652	412,857	283,264	183,561	466,825

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

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10		24,442		24,112
Current assets					
Debtors	11	11,642		241	
Cash at bank and in hand		460,504		481,891	
		<u>472,146</u>		<u>482,132</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	<u>(83,731)</u>		<u>(39,419)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>388,415</u>		<u>442,713</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>412,857</u>		<u>466,825</u>
Net assets excluding pension liability			<u>412,857</u>		<u>466,825</u>
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	14	123,652		183,561	
Unrestricted funds		289,205		283,264	
		<u>412,857</u>		<u>466,825</u>	

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (CONTINUED)

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2024.

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.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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 8/10/24

SMBolland

Mrs S Bolland, Chair

Trustee

Company registration number 05135567 (England and Wales)

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Home-Start Medway Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is L5 Temple Court, Knights Park, Knight Road, Strood, Kent, ME2 2LT. The charity's business office address is Canterbury Street Gillingham Kent ME7 5TP.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

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.

1.2 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 or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.3 Income

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

There is one exception to the above in relation to grant income. The Charity has departed from the SORP and deferred grant income which does not meet the criteria, it is considered beneficial to match the income with the costs for the readers of our accounts. If the charity was to apply the SORP there would be an additional £38,938 of grant income.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the company is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Trust that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the company has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the company, or the company is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

Donated services or facilities are recognised when the company has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use of the company of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of the Friends is not recognised and refer to the Trustees' report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the company which is the amount the company would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.4 Expenditure

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

Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the company and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Charitable activities and Governance costs are costs incurred on the company's operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the company apportioned to charitable activities.

1.5 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:

Leasehold land and buildings	5 years straight line
Computer equipment	25% reducing balance

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.

1.6 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).

1.7 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.

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.8 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.

1.9 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.

1.10 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 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.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds		Total		Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds		Total	
	2024	£	2024	£	2024	£	2023	£	2023	£	2023	£
3 Income from donations and legacies												
Donations and gifts	15,517		234,648		250,165		78,175		272,913		351,088	
Donations and gifts												
Medway Council and Medway PCT	-		120,270		120,270		-		109,055		109,055	
Big Lottery Fund	-		44,360		44,360		-		79,175		79,175	
Kent Community Foundation	-		6,000		6,000		-		-		-	
Children in Need Grant	-		16,468		16,468		-		39,815		39,815	
Nationwide Groups	-		12,550		12,550		-		-		-	
ABF The Soldier	-		35,000		35,000		-		44,868		44,868	
Other	15,517		-		15,517		78,175		-		78,175	
	15,517		234,648		250,165		78,175		272,913		351,088	

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

4 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Interest received	366	227

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Direct costs		
Staff costs	229,208	202,618
Depreciation and impairment	8,156	6,002
Telephone/IT costs	11,430	13,944
Office expenses	26,330	39,859
Staff expenses	5,716	546
Cleaning	236	638
Insurance	1,235	1,147
Licence fee	5,433	5,899
Volunteers	5,352	12,458
Training	290	681
Entertainment	488	-
Legal fees	5,596	-
Accountancy and bookkeeping	4,531	3,973
	<u>304,001</u>	<u>287,765</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	9,444	21,672
Restricted funds	<u>294,557</u>	<u>266,093</u>
	<u>304,001</u>	<u>287,765</u>

6 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024****7 Employees**

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
	10	10
	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>
Employment costs	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	213,204	186,384
Social security costs	11,816	12,276
Other pension costs	4,188	3,958
	<u>229,208</u>	<u>202,618</u>
	<u>229,208</u>	<u>202,618</u>

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

8 Other

	Unrestricted	Restricted
	funds	funds
	general	
	2024	2023
	£	£
Net loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	498	4
	<u>498</u>	<u>4</u>

9 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold land and buildings	Computer equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 April 2023	16,505	30,487	46,992
Additions	-	8,985	8,985
Disposals	(16,505)	(4,243)	(20,748)
At 31 March 2024	-	35,229	35,229
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 April 2023	14,025	8,856	22,881
Depreciation charged in the year	2,480	5,676	8,156
Eliminated in respect of disposals	(16,505)	(3,745)	(20,250)
At 31 March 2024	-	10,787	10,787
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2024	-	24,442	24,442
At 31 March 2023	2,480	21,632	24,112

11 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	6,000	-
Prepayments and accrued income	5,642	241
	11,642	241

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2024	2023
		£	£
Other taxation and social security		4,552	4,096
Government grants	13	76,170	29,234
Other creditors		974	874
Accruals and deferred income		2,035	5,215
		83,731	39,419

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

13 Government grants

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Deferred income is included within:		
Current liabilities	76,170	29,234
Movements in the year:		
Deferred income at 1 April 2023	29,234	52,702
Released from previous periods	(29,234)	(52,702)
Resources deferred in the year	76,170	29,234
Deferred income at 31 March 2024	76,170	29,234

14 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.

	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2024 £
	-	-	1	1
Medway Council	63,969	120,270	(129,765)	54,474
Financial Fitness	55,321	44,360	(70,208)	29,473
REAP	6,156	-	(4,336)	1,820
BBC Children in Need	24,588	16,468	(28,917)	12,139
Groups	1,169	12,550	(9,663)	4,056
Medway Community Healthcare	4,646	-	(3,272)	1,374
Kent Community Foundation	2,290	6,000	(5,839)	2,451
Lloyds Bank Foundation	3,245	-	(2,286)	959
Armed Forces Grant	22,177	35,000	(40,272)	16,905
	183,561	234,648	(294,557)	123,652

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

14 Restricted funds	(Continued)			
Previous year:	At 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
Medway Council	47,646	109,055	(92,732)	63,969
Financial Fitness	56,341	79,175	(80,195)	55,321
REAP	15,080	-	(8,924)	6,156
BBC Children in Need	20,416	39,815	(35,643)	24,588
Groups	2,863	-	(1,694)	1,169
Medway Community Healthcare	11,382	-	(6,736)	4,646
Kent Community Foundation	5,610	-	(3,320)	2,290
Lloyds Bank Foundation	7,948	-	(4,703)	3,245
Armed Forces Grant	9,459	44,868	(32,150)	22,177
	<u>176,745</u>	<u>272,913</u>	<u>(266,097)</u>	<u>183,561</u>

14 Restricted funds

(Continued)

Medway Council

The funding from Medway Council is so Home-Start Medway can offer home-visiting support to local families who have children under the age of five. The funding helps to pay staffing costs and the charities general expenses.

Financial Fitness

The Financial Fitness funding enables Home-Start Medway to provide a free service that ultimately helps families get themselves onto a level financial playing field. Reducing the stress of debt helps with all the family members' emotional wellbeing.

The Royal British Legion

The one year funding from The Royal British Legion is specifically for Home-Start Medway to support the Army families in the Brompton Barracks area and Ex-Army families. The funding pays for an additional member of staff and expenses attributed to this support and for recruiting volunteers from within the Army families.

REAP

The REAP funding enables Home-Start Medway to hire a team to support people in hardship or crisis situations.

BBC Children In Need

The three year funding from BBC Children In Need is specifically for Home-Start Medway to support families who have or are experiencing low level domestic abuse. Providing a new Domestic Abuse Coordinator to directly support, organise home visiting volunteers, run a peer support group and help with safety planning via the One Stop Shop.

Medway Community Healthcare

Supporting families in their own home around potty training, sleep behaviour and introducing solid food.

Groups (Kent Community Foundation, The Big Lottery Awards For All, ABF The Soldiers Charity)

Reducing isolation and increasing social interaction, supporting with parenting, improving gross and fine motor skills through messy play, promoting peer to peer and group support. Within Grey n Play our intergenerational group we are promoting strong intergenerational relationships, increasing social interaction, whilst also helping to improve mental health and supporting older people with dementia.

Lloyds Bank Foundation

The above restricted fund represents monies given to us by Lloyds for the delivery of groups.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

15 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. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
General funds	283,264	15,883	(9,942)	289,205
	<u>283,264</u>	<u>15,883</u>	<u>(9,942)</u>	<u>289,205</u>
Previous year:	At 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
Redundancy, lease, utility and accountancy costs	42,200	-	-	42,200
General funds	184,334	78,402	(21,672)	241,064
	<u>184,334</u>	<u>78,402</u>	<u>(21,672)</u>	<u>241,064</u>
	<u>226,534</u>	<u>78,402</u>	<u>(21,672)</u>	<u>283,264</u>

At the end of the financial year trustees have agreed to designate £42,200 for ongoing liabilities including state redundancy payments, office equipment on lease, utilities and accountancy fees.

16 Operating lease commitments**Lessee**

At the reporting end date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Within one year	20,000	5,699
Between two and five years	80,000	-
In over five years	97,425	-
	<u>197,425</u>	<u>5,699</u>

17 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2023 - none).

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1108057

Accounts

Charity registration number 1108057

Company registration number 05135567 (England and Wales)

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mrs S Bolland, Chair Ms I Jeffrey, Treasurer Mr J Harman Ms R Wray G Aplin J Arthurs	(Appointed 15 March 2023) (Appointed 18 January 2023)
Charity number	1108057	
Company number	05135567	
Registered office	Star House Star Hill Rochester Kent ME1 1UX	
Independent examiner	Crossley Financial Accounting Star House Star Hill Rochester Kent ME1 1UX	

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

CONTENTS

	Page
Chairman's statement	1
Trustees' report	2 - 26
Independent examiner's report	27
Statement of financial activities	28
Statement of financial position	29
Notes to the financial statements	30 - 40

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The year 2023 marks 50 years since our founder Margaret Harrison set up the very first Home-Start in Leicester. Margaret's founding ethos was that the best way to give children the strongest start in life is to offer families friendly, volunteer-led support in their own homes. Simple, yet so powerful. Home-Start's work has developed over the decades but Margaret's ethos remains at the heart of what we do.

Home-start Medway was born in 1987 and since that time has provided services to Families in the Medway area diversifying service delivery over the years to meet the needs of the community and to access funding. In a year when the environment has been challenging for charities across the UK, with increasing competition for funding and volunteers, I am particularly proud of how Home Start team has responded. I am aware some charities have not found their way through this difficult time.

Home-start operated throughout the covid period adapting services to online and delivering to parents who struggled, even still providing Christmas presents. Most popular was our online family cooking sessions.

We have had a lot to celebrate at Home-start Medway from securing funding and support for Home-Start work, partnering with other organisations, developing training for staff and volunteers, and collectively celebrating our wonderful Home-Start volunteers who support our families and the trustees who also give their time voluntarily.

There have been some staff changes including our new manager Raz. We have strengthened our bonds across the network, pulling closer together rather than becoming more insular in the face of local challenges. 50 years of experience tells us that by coming together, supporting each other, and celebrating progress, we will find solutions to the challenges around us and be able to stand alongside families. I'd like again to thank every member of the Home-Start team – staff, volunteers, supporters and partners – for the part you've played in making Home-Start Medway what it is today.



Mrs S Bolland
Chairman

Date: 19/03/2023

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 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) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Structure, governance and management

CONSTITUTION

The company is a charitable company limited by guarantee and has been in operation for 35 years.

The company is constituted and is a registered charity number 1108057.

The principal objective of the company is to recruit and train volunteers who are usually parents themselves to visit families at home with at least one child under five and offer them informal, friendly and confidential support.

METHOD OF APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

The management of the company is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Memorandum and Articles of Association. One third of the board retire by rotation, by reference to those who have been longest in office since their last election, together with any members of the board who have been appointed to fill a casual vacancy since the last annual general meeting.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the company is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the company, and are satisfied that the policies, systems and procedures are in place to mitigate our exposure to the major risks.

The Board of Trustees will clarify annually the level of known financial liability it carries so that policy and operational actions can be implemented.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mrs S Bolland, Chair

Ms I Jeffrey, Treasurer

Mrs D Sargent

(Resigned 9 November 2022)

Miss C M Jamieson

(Resigned 9 November 2022)

Mr J Harman

Ms R Wray

G Aplin

(Appointed 15 March 2023)

J Arthurs

(Appointed 18 January 2023)

Objectives, achievements and performance

POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES

Home-Start helps to improve the life chances of children by supporting their parents and carers at difficult times. In particular Home-Start offers emotional and practical support as well as friendship to parents with at least one child under the age of five. The organisation gives families support by assisting them to identify what family and child centred issues are a problem in their lives and how they can get help. This is done at an initial visit, with regular follow ups to review progress and determine to what extent Home-Start is making a difference and how other resources may be accessed to improve the family's circumstances.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Our Vision:

Home-Start Medway has been working with local families for the last 35 years. We are an independent voluntary organisation with a vision that; Every parent has the support they need to give their children the best start in life, as childhood cannot wait.

Our Ambition:

- Help parents in Medway grow in confidence
- Help parents strengthen their relationships with their children
- Widen their links within the local community

What we want to achieve:

- All children in Medway will have the opportunity to achieve their full potential
- All children in Medway will feel safe in their home environment
- To drive greater awareness of Home-Start and its services throughout the Medway area
- To offer a greater range and diversity of volunteered services

Services we currently offer:

1. Home Visiting through a network of volunteers
2. Financial Fitness Support
3. Group support
4. 1-1 support and groups for our forces families
5. Domestic Abuse Support

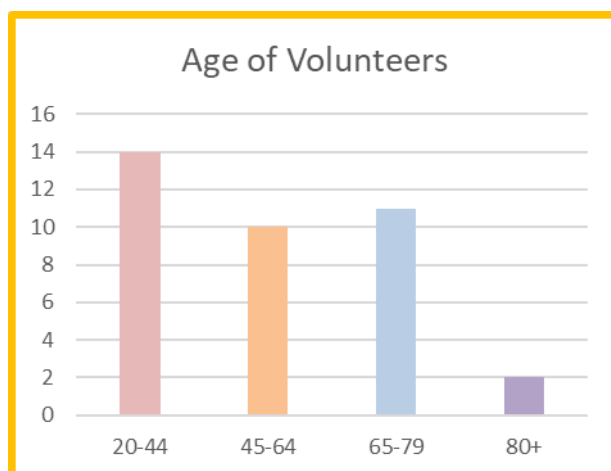
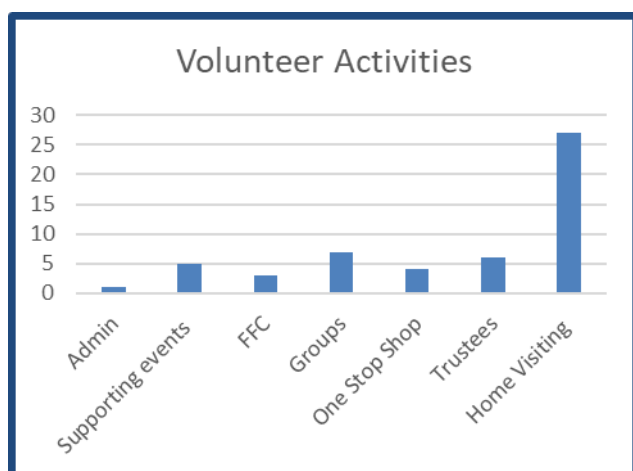
ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Our team:

Our team currently consists of 8 paid members of staff and 37 volunteers (including 6 Trustees).

Volunteers:

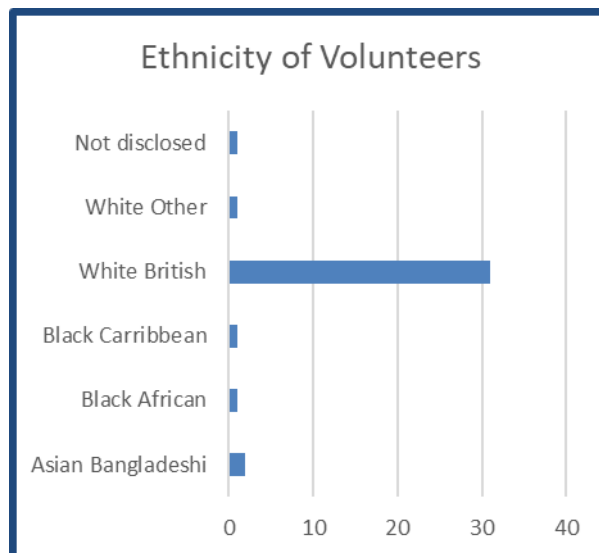
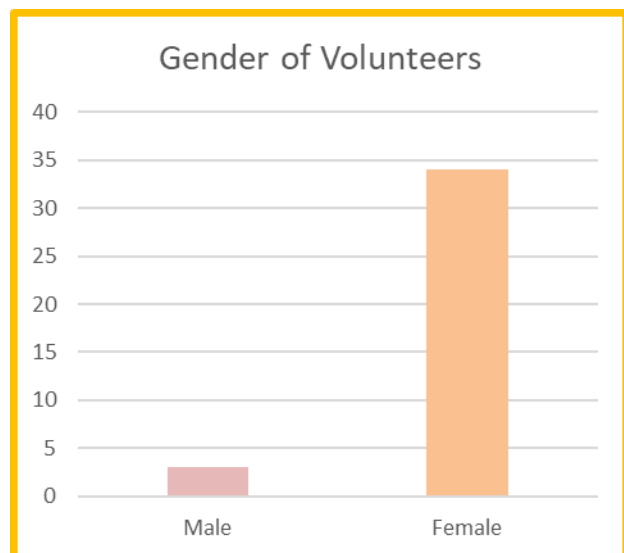
As of 31.03.23, we have 37 Active Volunteers, supporting Home-Start Medway to deliver services across Medway. Roles include Trustees, Home Visiting, Financial Fitness Champions, Admin, Group Support and One Stop Shop meet and greet.



HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023



We have, like many other Voluntary organisations found that the ongoing pandemic is having an impact on Volunteer recruitment. We were part of a National Campaign called 1 Million Minutes, This campaign which was promoted on Good Morning Britain throughout December 2022, sought pledges of time from the general public. We received 14 pledges of time, however we did not onboard any new Volunteers through this process. We are currently focusing on attendance at over 55 recruitment fayres and promotional events.

All volunteers are subject to a DBS check and references to ensure that they are suitable for the role. We provide full training which is delivered using a hybrid approach. This consists of 8 hours on-line training and 8 hours face to face training. The content of this training includes; our Home-Start approach, family life, boundaries, commitment, communication and listening, confidentiality, safeguarding, personal safety alongside information about the additional services the volunteers can signpost to within Home-Start.

We were successful in securing £5000 funding to develop further training modules for Volunteers in partnership with Medway Early Years. We are looking to develop 12 modules to support Volunteers in their role, both on a 1-1 basis in a family home and when they are supporting our group sessions. The focus of these modules are as follows:

- Observing young children
- Developing indoor spaces for young children
- Young children outdoors
- Baby's communication
- Baby's outdoors
- Developing young children's communication and language
- Understanding 2 year olds
- Managing the terrible twos
- Young children and English as an additional language
- Schemas and young children's learning
- Developing literacy with young children
- Managing Behaviour with young children.

In addition, we have been offered the opportunity to offer a National Volunteer Certificate (NVC) for Volunteers. The NVC was produced by Health Education England in order to standardise the learning and training volunteers receive when starting their volunteering experience, with the aim of making core learning uniformed across all voluntary organisations.

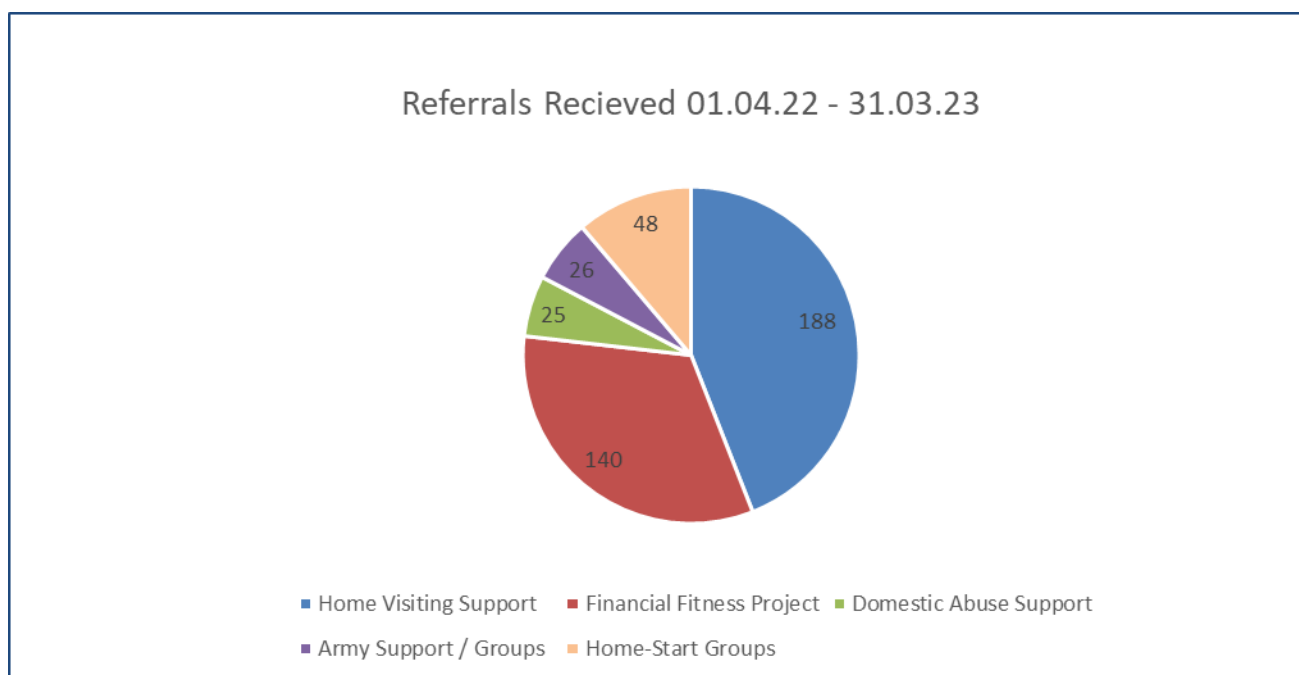
The certificate when completed, can be used to evidence volunteering when applying for new roles, voluntary or otherwise, as well as towards any education related activities which require an element of voluntary service.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Volunteers are provided with regular supervision with a Volunteer Co-ordinator and we hold regular Volunteer support group meetings throughout the year, during which we provide bitesize training and support. Following feedback from Volunteers, new for this year we have additionally devised a Newsletter for Volunteers which is distributed monthly. We have also organised monthly coffee mornings to give the Volunteers the opportunity to come along and meet the team and other Volunteers.

During the last year (01.04.22 - 31.03.23) we have received **427** referrals to our service. These referrals break down as follows:



Home Visiting (funded by Medway Council)

Home Visiting continues to be at the core of our Services, supporting families in Medway who have at least one child under the age of 5. The support is provided by our fully trained volunteers in the family's own home. Families are offered weekly visits for 2-3 hours, which can if needed be provided for up to 6 months, (sometimes this may be longer if a new life event occurs which impacts the family's wellbeing).

We support families in a non-judgmental way, objectives are set and agreed by the family and a review takes place to see the progress after 3 months and again at the end of the support. Our volunteers provide support to parents in many different situations, such as:

- Mental health problems
- Bereavement
- Coping with twins, triplets or several pre-school children
- Lone parenthood
- Loneliness and isolation
- Illness, and disability or special needs
- Relationship problems and those who have been victims of domestic abuse
- Dealing with a child's/children's behavioural problems
- And for those who are just finding it hard to cope

We encourage healthy eating, social interaction and support to improve parenting skills. Home-Start volunteers are local people, from all walks of life, have parenting experience and offer non-judgmental support, building families' resilience in a practical and emotionally balanced way.

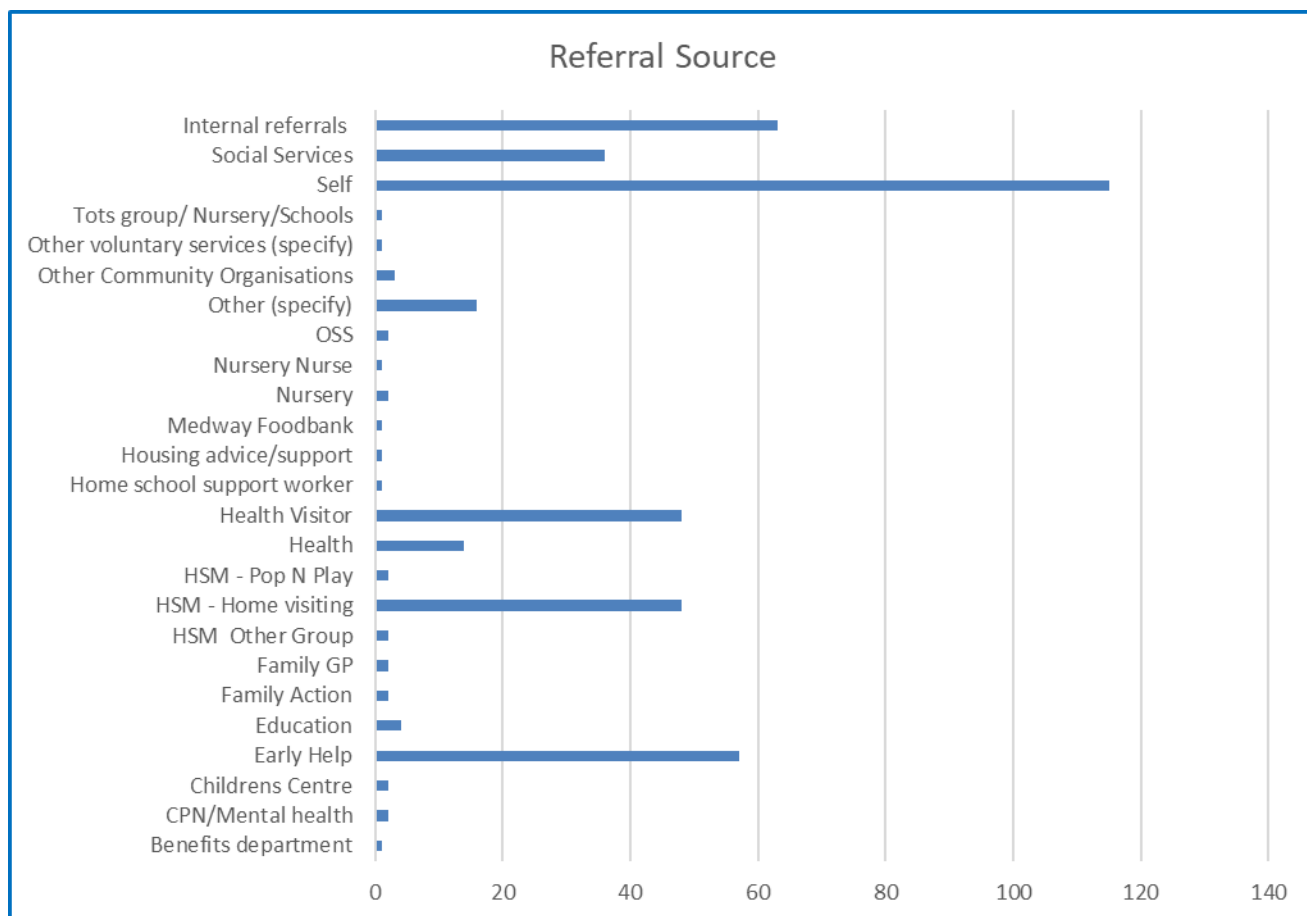
HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

We have a target with Medway Council to provide 100 families with Home Visiting support over the course of the year.

During the last year (01.04.22– 31.03.23), we have received **188** referrals for Home Visiting support. This is a slight increase compared to 182 last year).

Home-start Medway are a well-known, respected and valued service within the community. We have developed effective collaborative partnerships with many stakeholders and partners. As a result, these referrals are from a range of organisations, as demonstrated in the chart below:

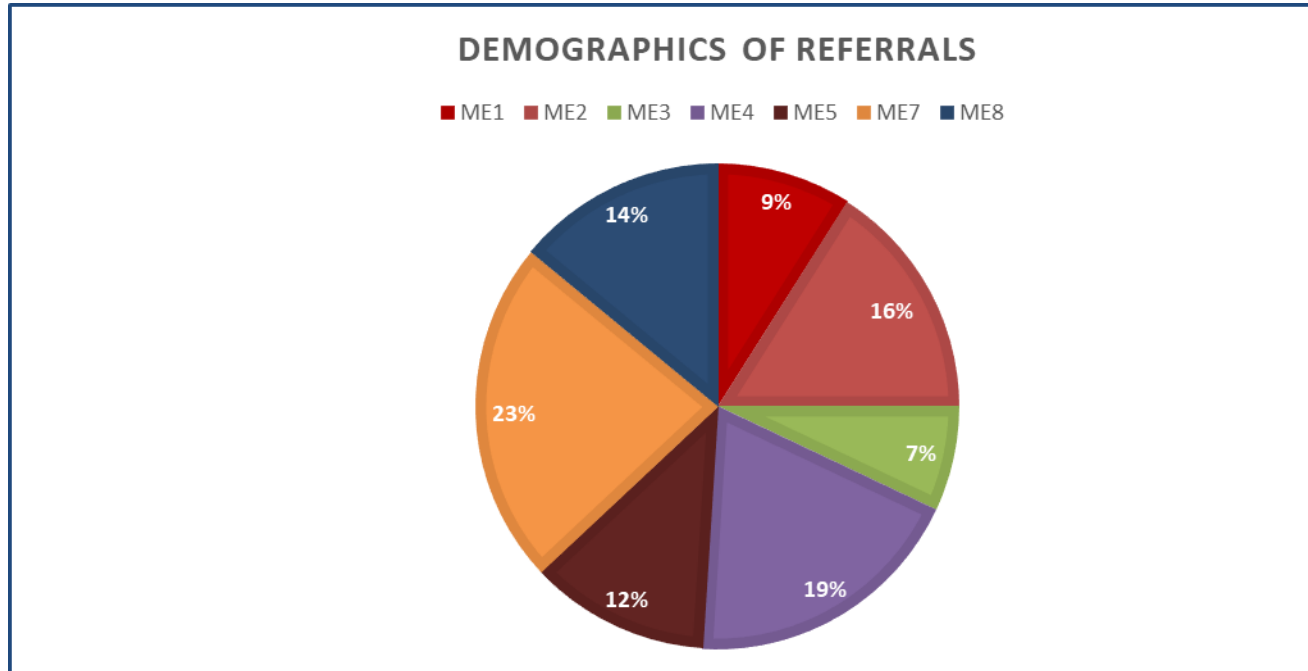


As this chart demonstrates, self referrals are our main source of referrals for Home Visiting. We also receive a large number of referrals from Children's Social Care, Medway's Early Help (Family Solutions) and Children's Social Care Teams. We refer many families internally to other services that we provide, ensuring holistic support.

The referrals received are from all areas of Medway as demonstrated in the chart below, however referrals from ME7 and ME4 account for 42% of all HV referrals.

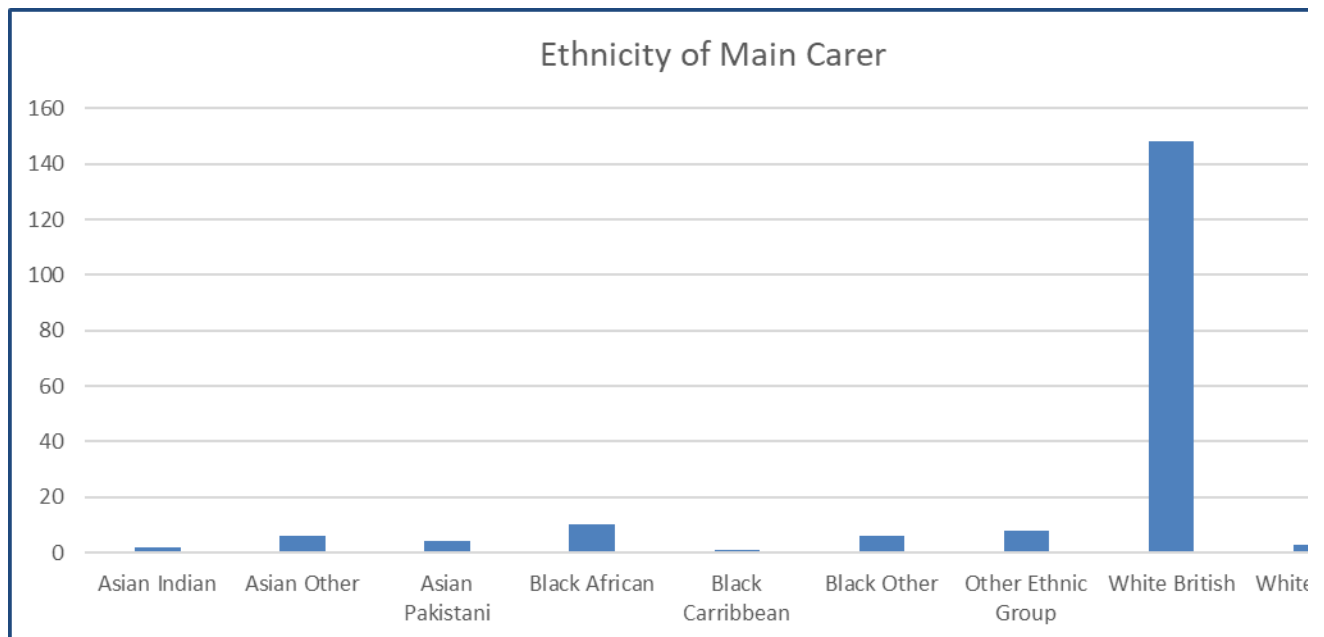
HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023



Ethnicity of the main carer accessing services 01.04.22 to 31.03.23:

The main carer was White British in 79% of families referred to the service. The remaining 21% were from a variety of diverse cultures as detailed below:



HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

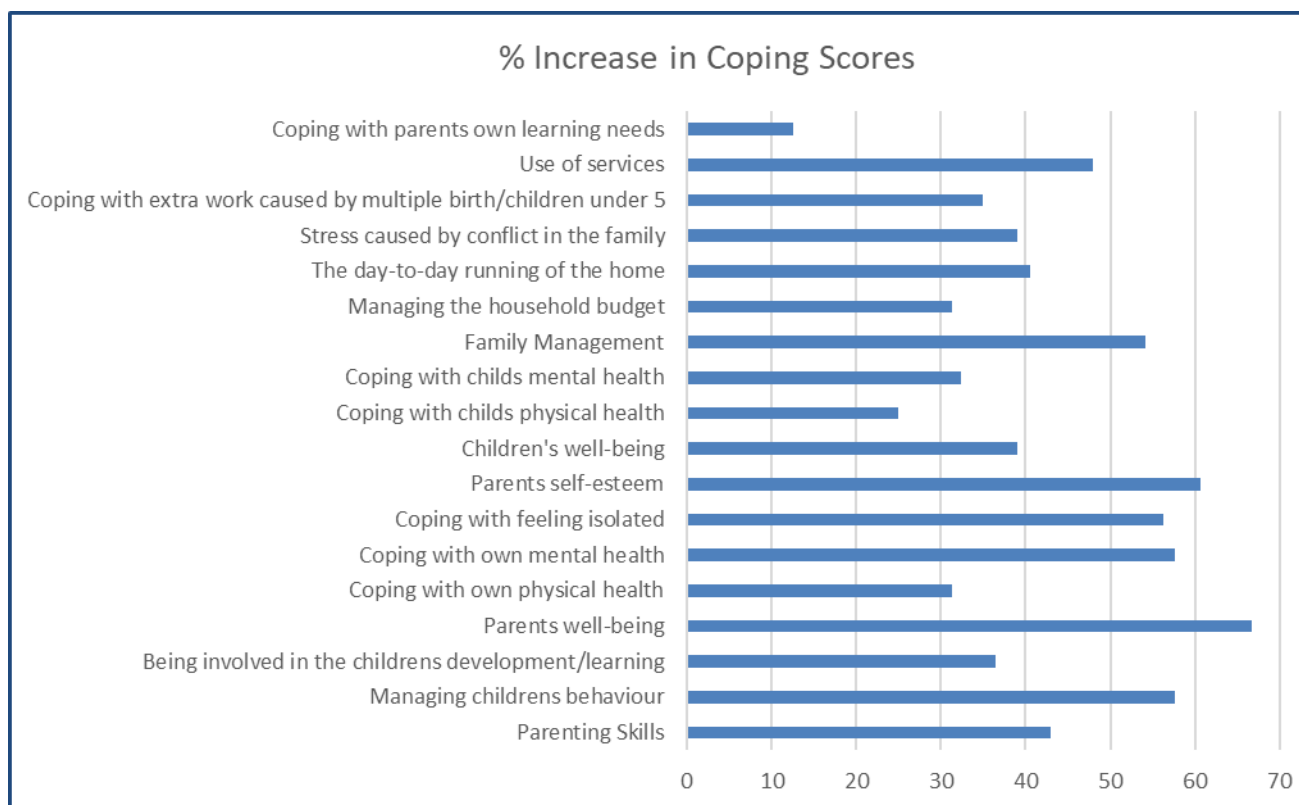
We have been keen to ensure further promotion of our service to ethnic minority groups. This was due to previous analysis suggesting that families accessing our services were not wholly reflective of the culturally diverse communities we serve. I met with Medway's Inter Faith Action group (MIFA), offering a presentation of our service. During this meeting, we had discussions around some of the barriers to engagement from ethnic minority groups. They explained that there are often cultural barriers to accessing support of this nature. Leaders of these groups agreed to promote our services widely amongst their members. I also met with Medway Diversity Forum. During this conversation, much of what had been said in the other meeting was echoed. In addition only a few of the families that attended sessions and groups organised by Medway's Diversity Forum had children aged 0-8 years. They agreed to promote our services amongst their families. We also had a meeting with a group of Nepalese families to understand why they were not engaging with external services (this was an impromptu discussion at the end of a group). The parents confirmed that women with young children can often be 'shamed' when seeking support from external services as this is culturally unacceptable.

This further promotion has led to an increase in referrals to generic Home-Start services, In addition, following on from the presentation to MIFA, the Muslim Welfare Association and Chatham Unitarian Church have expressed that they are keen to learn more about Volunteering opportunities and potential Trustee roles available. I anticipate that if we were able to engage these representatives into Trustee roles, this would in turn lead to increased engagement from other ethnic groups.

In 18 households out of the 188 families referred for Home Visiting (10%), the main carer had a disability.

Outcomes of Home Visiting support:

We use Home-Start coping scores to track the journey of our families across several areas. 0 is the lowest score showing that the family are not coping in an area and 5 being coping well. We track the changes the family identify they have made during the support with the hope that we see the coping scores increase. Feedback from families that have accessed support demonstrates a % increase across all coping scores as demonstrated in this table below:



HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

We have also received regular verbal feedback from families about the impact of the support, i.e.,

'This has helped my confidence. Given me tools and support with my children. Safe support within my own home. No judgement and able to cry when needed'

'I feel listened to and pointed in the right direction, I have made friends and got out more'

'It's a personal service which is my safe space, it has reduced my anxiety and was regular support I desperately needed' and

'Its indescribable how much of a difference the help and support of the volunteer has made to our family'.

In March 2022, we secured some additional funding to recruit a Family First Worker. Our family worker is a qualified practitioner with many years experience supporting families. Their role is to support families referred to the service who have needs that are too complex for a Volunteer. During the last year, our Family Worker has directly supported 42 families (42 adults with 102 children). They also trialled a Young Parents group, which was offered weekly from the Chatham Children and Family Hub. This group was delivered for 20 weeks, accumulating 156 attendances by 9 adults and 16 children. All families that have received support from our Family Worker have reported an increase in coping scores. In addition, feedback from those that have received support has been extremely positive, with comments such as,

'You have helped me in every way imaginable, having you in mine and my child's life has been very beneficial and we will be sad to end our time with you as you've been a friend and a listening ear that we did not have. You helped us through the worst time of my life with being Homeless, adapting to being a single mum, at a low with my mental health etc you helped me with ways to be a good mum and assured me that I was a good one when I really felt like I wasn't which helped me a great deal to get through everything, you visited regularly helping me with emails and phone calls when I couldn't communicate myself you was part of the reason that me and my child have a forever home now'.

'Your visits have really helped myself and my child as I don't feel so alone, and I can talk to you about any issues that I have, and you always give advice and that is amazing. Your help and support as helped me overcome some of the issues I have had. In regard to the advice you have given me with my child's behaviour has been amazing as their behaviour has settled down quite a lot. And also, in regard to her eating issue she is starting to eat more of her food and I'm trying new foods with her which is a good thing. And since your visits mine n my child's bond has got more stronger because I'm seeing her behaviour has changed and our bond is as stronger than ever and it's nice that I enjoy spending time with my child as her behaviour before was upsetting me but now I have put things in place that I have found have been working for her...We really enjoy your visits and it's helping my mental health as well...Thank you so much for all your help and support'.

As well as the support from our service, we also refer families to other services locally that can further support them with their identified areas of need. 108 referrals have been made in the last year:

Early Help (2)	Small Steps (12)	Club Awesome (1)
Financial Fitness (27)	Skinner Street Angels (11)	Kent Fire & Rescue (4)
Princess Project (13)	Wonderfully Made (10)	Megan CIC (1)
Triple P (1)	Medway Together (6)	Chatham Charities (3)
Citizens Advice (2)	Domestic Abuse Support (1)	Gillingham Lions (1)
Home Visiting (1)	KAB (1)	Medway Foodbank (5)
Pregnancy to 3 service (3)	Medway Parent/Carer Forum (1)	Puzzles (1)
Social Care (1)		

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Summer 2022:

To further support families during the half terms and Summer holidays, we arranged a number of picnics and family days out. On the back of the success of our work, we secured some funding from a few organisations to provide fully funded coach trips. We were very grateful to receive the generous support from Watt's Charity, Kent Community Foundation, Brompton Academy, Medway Council and COOP which enabled us to provide 5 Coach trips. We visited Joss Bay, Wingham Wildlife Park, Leeds Castle, Bedgebury Park and Swanley Park. 165 individuals (62 parents/carers with 103 children) attended these trips. Many families attended more than 1 trip.



*'The children and I enjoyed ourselves a lot. We are on a low income, so a Summer Holiday is something that is very hard for us to enjoy. I am very pleased and thankful to HSM...Thanks a lot to all of the sponsors for making it happen'.
(parent)*

'We saw different types of animals. My children loved seeing them. This was a first time experience for them'



'All the Dinosaurs were Wonderful...I loved Dino Land'.



Feedback was sought from all families that attended the Summer trips. The majority (83%) felt that the trips had helped their child's personal and social skills as they met new people and interacted with adults and other children. Almost all (92%) felt that the visit helped their child's communication skills as they learnt new words and attempted to articulate what they were seeing to their parents/carers.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023



'We have made family memories that will last forever'

'Lovely day with time spent with Grandma on a trip we could not have got to without support'

'Todays visit has been amazing as it is something I will never be able to do myself.'

Courses and Groups:

We facilitated a 4 week Cooking Course called Cooking on a Budget. This was offered to 8 families, During the 4 weeks, 5 families attended. The ethos behind Cooking on a Budget was to show families how to cook healthy, nutritious meals for the whole family that could be cooked in bulk and frozen. As well as teaching the method for cooking these meals, the aim was also to reduce the cost of their weekly food shop and their gas/electric bills. Each week focused on different types of cooking. All participants took home the dish they had cooked for that evenings meal. They also proudly sent in pictures of what they had cooked with the additional ingredients provided.



'Thought you would like to see the shepherds pie I cooked again for the children this week, it was quite a hit'

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

In session 2 the children made meatballs with their parents and added them to a homemade sauce in the slow cooker. All families that attended had their own slow cookers, so we provided them with other recipes they could also try at home.



Parents particularly seemed to benefit from this session, with comments such as;

'This is a great idea to cook it whilst they are at school. I can do it in the morning and not worry about it all day'.

'I love that it can be burgers as well, two meals prepared in one go!'



Wk3. Chicken, leek & mushroom pie



Wk4. Healthy Pizza



Picture above sent in by parent

We asked participants for feedback following completion of the course. 100% stated that they felt their food preparation skills had improved, they were now eating more healthy meals and did not have as much food wastage. 50% said that they were now cooking 4-5 times a week from scratch.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

During the last year, we have delivered 126 groups for Home-Start families which have been attended by 318 individuals. These have been delivered from the Children and Family Hubs / well-being sites in Strood, Gillingham and more recently we have started delivering a group from a well-being site in Chatham.



Support for families at Christmas:

This Christmas was a particularly challenging time for many parents due to the cost of living crisis. To support families we created and managed an Amazon Wishlist which people could use to purchase a gift for a child at Christmas. We received an overwhelming response, with individuals donating more than 400 gifts to a value of over £3000.



HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023



This included a donation from Medway Town FC, one of the local football teams, who purchased gifts to the value of £500 for Home- Start families.

As a result of the generosity of the local community, 165 children were provided with a sack of presents in readiness for Christmas.

We also provided 25 families with Food Hampers via the support of KICC and local Community donations from Churches and Support Groups.

Additionally, we received a donation from our local Co-op, which enabled us to provide 50 pantomime tickets to families that were accessing Home-Start services. For many of these children this was their first experience of live theatre and the families that attended all had a wonderful time.

Please see 2 x case studies at the end of this report that demonstrate the impact that Home Visiting support has had for them.

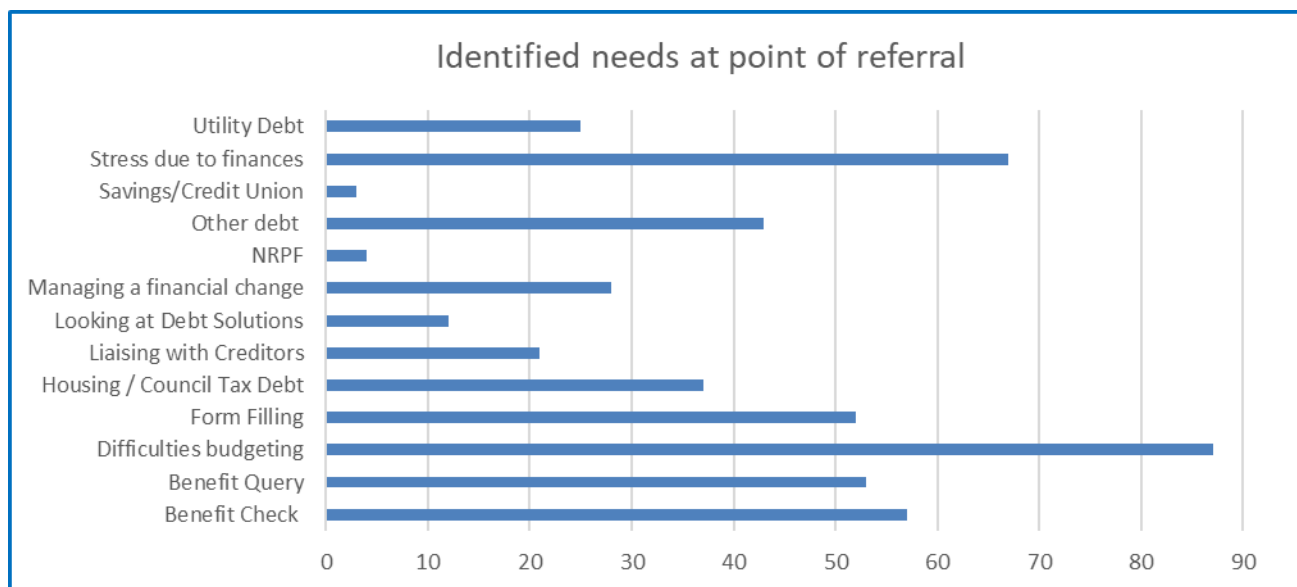
Financial Fitness (Funded by the National Lottery)

During it's 6th year our Financial Fitness (FF) project continued to provide much needed support to families in the Medway area with a child under the age of 8 years.

During the last year 140 families have been supported by the FF team, an 13% increase for the same data period last year. All families referred to the FF team have undergone an analysis of their income and expenditure, and then dependant on the outcome of this assessment, accessed the wider financial fitness services available, which include: Hardship support, benefit applications, grant applications for white goods and essential items needed in the home and signposting to debt advice services such as CAB and Step Change. An analysis of the FF team's support identifies that families have required information / support in a variety of areas in relation to their finances.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023



The above chart identifies that all families have needed support in more than 1 area and on average have needed support in 4 areas of work.

We have continued to work closely with our partners in Children's Social Care and Early Help teams to offer financial support as needed. As a result, 26% of families referred were open to Early Help services at the time of referral, and 11 % were subject to Child Protection or Child In Need plans.

Hardship Support:

We were unsuccessful in our application for further REAP funding, so have not been able to provide utilities top ups during the last year. However, through the FF project we have continued to offer support for families that are facing immediate crisis in other ways, for example support for those with no food, no clothes or necessary living items for themselves and/or their child/ren. We have provided parents with access to hygiene products, clothing and some small pieces of equipment such as stair gates, either from donations, or other local charities. We have provided 172 foodbank vouchers (a 14% increase on the same time period last year), enabling families to access emergency food through the Trussel Trust Foodbank scheme.

Benefit assessment and application:

Many people that access services from the FF Team are not aware of benefits that they are entitled to. This is often highlighted during the income / expenditure analysis. If this is the case, staff will support the parents to complete the necessary application forms with all the required supporting documentation. In the last year alone, the team has successfully secured a total of £52,275 additional income per year for eligible families. With an additional £4869.43 awarded in back pay. The team also managed to secure a rental reduction for 1 family totaling £1200 and had a Water bill to the value of £1100 written off.

Grant applications:

We continue to work in close partnership with other local charities and CIN who provide white goods and equipment for families that meet their criteria. During the last year £9,609 worth of essential items or equipment have been sourced for families in financial hardship. This includes items such as cookers, fridge freezers, sofas, beds, bedding and clothing. This compares to £2470 last year, representing an increase of 74%.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

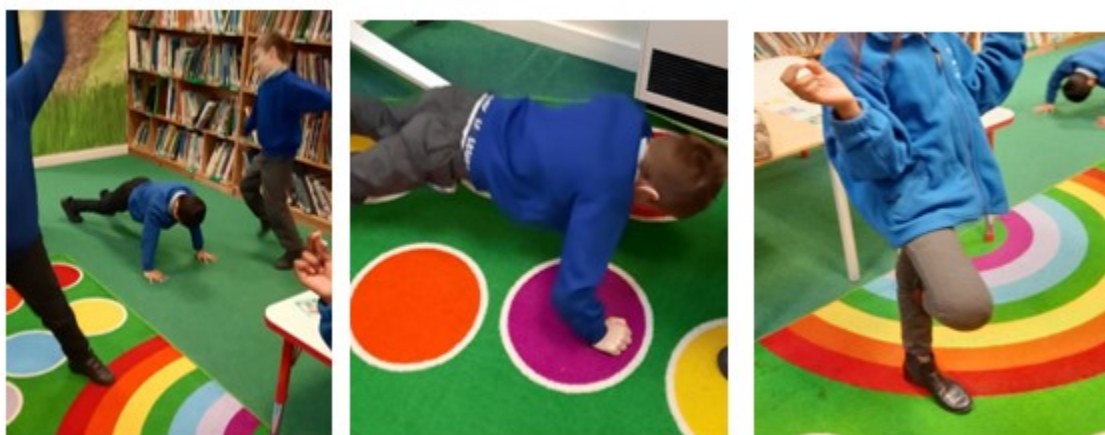
Start Right Sessions:

Our opportunity to offer start right sessions was significantly impacted by Covid. Despite children returning to school following lockdown, many schools were reluctant to allow additional visitors on the school premises to minimise the risk of infection. Additionally, we found that some schools had introduced sessions into their curriculum which focused on money matters (often provided by local banks) and they therefore did not have the need for these sessions. We found 3 schools that were keen to engage with the sessions and we arranged times that would complement what the children were currently learning. In total Sue Brown from our FF team delivered the 4 week programme in 3 schools to 4 groups of pupils. 1 group was in Year 2, the other 3 were in Year 3.

Session 1 focused on a broad understanding of the value of coins and notes. Sue used real coins and replica notes for the sessions. Children were encouraged to study the coins and feedback to the group their observations. The session also covered how money is obtained and what money was used for. The group then took part in some basic purchasing tasks where they had to buy an item using the correct value in coins. They were challenged as a group to come up with 8 combinations of coins that added up to the same value to deepen their understanding. Children were asked why money mattered and they came up with an extensive list, including: *'If we don't have money, we will have nowhere to live', 'If my mum doesn't have any money, she can't buy our food'* and *'My mum has two jobs to get us money, she leaves really early in the morning to go to work'*.



Session 2 focused on how we earn and spend money. All pupils apart from one acknowledged that they would have to go to work to earn money. The one who did not think this thought that the Government would give him money. To introduce the topic of earning money, each pupil was able to pick a physical activity from cards dotted around the room. There were 7 activities that had various degrees of difficulty on them. Each activity carried a monetary value. At the end of the task, pupils calculated how much they had earned through their efforts.



HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Sue then introduced a virtual shop, where children could purchase things with the money that they earned. *"I can only buy one snack here!"* said one student who chose a low paid, low effort activity and put very little effort into his task. The rest of the group reacted with things like *"you should have worked harder"* or *"you should have chosen a tougher activity"*. This led to a meaningful discussion about the different job roles and the associated salaries. Sue asked pupils what they thought they had to do to achieve those occupations. 1 girl who wanted to sell ice creams thought she had to go to University. Another wanted to become an Olympian because she was, *'really good on the monkey bars'*.



Sue encouraged the students to order jobs according to what salary they thought they earned. Sue pointed out that a professional footballer could earn in one match the same amount that a surgeon could in a year. The children were visibly shocked at this. Comments such as *"I think nurses and doctors should get paid more because they help people and keep them alive"* and *"I don't think that people kicking a ball about for entertainment should get paid so much money, that's wrong"*. Sue discussed what training was needed for these positions. One pupil said *"why would you have to pay for the training to become a doctor, nurse or teacher if you are helping others, wouldn't it be better for the government to pay us to do the training?"*. The children had a great sense of what they felt was right and wrong.

Session 3 focused on needs and wants. Pictures were placed around the room that showed essential and luxury items. Each child divided their white boards into 2 with the headings of NEEDS and WANTS. They then wrote or drew what they thought should go into each column. Sue gave an example to the group, when shopping in Tesco she had £50 for the food shopping for the week but wanted a jumper in the ladies' department. Sue had to make a choice between a need and a want. Sue explained she didn't get the jumper because she wouldn't have the money for the groceries.

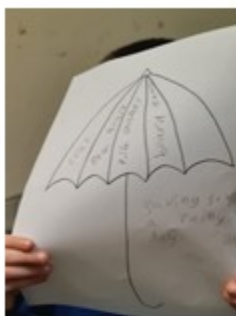


"I know what the difference is between needs and wants, if I only have a little bit of money, I need to buy food before I buy toys, like your jumper Mrs Brown!"

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

All the children chose a house, healthy food, gas and electric as essential needs. Those living in a town felt there was enough public transport to get around, so, a car wasn't an essential, compared to the children who lived in rural areas such as Grain who said that a car was essential as, *'there was only two buses a day'*!. Children were then given a picture of an umbrella which they populated with items that they would like to save for.

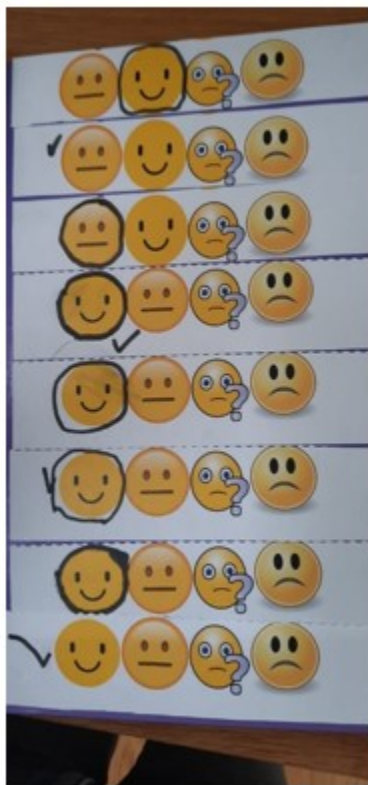


For the final session, children reflected on what they had learnt in the previous 3 weeks and gave some very valuable feedback and reflections. For their final activity children designed and decorated their own money boxes to take home.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Feedback from the Children:



You should pay your loans before anything.	1
I learned you should save money for a rainy day / I learned how to save a lot of money.	10
I learned how I got money by doing chores / I learnt how to earn money	3
I learnt about needs and wants	7
It's good to go to work and earn money.	1
I learnt all the coins and the pound notes	2
I learnt how much money people get, even if people do a lot of work they won't always earn a lot	1
I learnt lots of stuff about money.	1
I learnt how much money you get depending on the job you have.	1

'I have learnt that when you save 10% of money you will have LOADS in the future. P.S Mrs Brown is wonderful to have!'

'I enjoyed the lessons, My favourite lesson was the last lesson because I learned about savings and money. This was the best lesson I had. Mrs Brown is incredible. Fanks!'

It would appear that the most impactful sessions were around needs and wants and children understanding the difference, and why and how to save money.

We received the following feedback from the School's Headteachers:

'I just wanted to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to Sue Brown and Home Start Medway. Sue has completed 4 weeks with us working with groups of children in Year 3 on money matters. Every week the children have spoken to me about what they have been learning and it is clear after 4 weeks they can see the importance of savings and working towards something. I love the fact that they can so clearly discuss the difference between what is needed and what is wanted - a great lesson indeed.

Here at Grain, we don't see many visitors and having Sue come out - laden down with all her resources has been really exciting. Three of the children have already come to see me to ask if Sue is coming back! So, if there are any other times Sue is available to do the same again or indeed any other sessions, please do think of us.

Thank you again, worthwhile sessions with a lovely lady'.

(Fay Cordingley, Headteacher, St James CofE Primary Academy)

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

'I wanted to email and say how wonderful our money workshops were with Suzie. She was absolutely wonderful with the children and they loved every minute of it. They learnt so much from it and the activities were perfect for our children and the age group. It really helps our children to have a better understanding of money.'

Suzie was perfect! She built up a wonderful relationship with the children and worked brilliantly with the staff at our school. The communication was excellent.

It was a great experience and just wanted to share that with you. Thank you'

(Hannah James, New Road Primary)

'The sessions were very informative and the children thoroughly enjoyed the groups. Sue Brown had thought about the age / ability of the children and planned accordingly. She was positive, enthusiastic and built a good rapport with the pupils. The children definitely learnt lots and the sessions made the children reflect on jobs and money. The sessions were practical and interactive. Thank you for such worthwhile and wonderful sessions.'

(Cara Watson, Deputy Head, Balfour Infants)

Headline data from the FF team this year:

- 490 parents assessed for their financial viability
- 140 parents referred for Financial Fitness support
- Alongside the 140 direct beneficiaries, there are approx. 310 indirect beneficiaries (children and family members of these individuals)
- 32 pupils attended the Start Right Workshops
- 172 families provided with foodbank vouchers
- 165 children provided with a sack of Christmas gifts
- 25 families provided with a Food Hamper for Christmas
- 31 volunteers trained to deliver Shop Smart
- 31 volunteers trained in FF
- 5 volunteers support the FF team specifically
- 84 referrals made to partners and stakeholders to provide additional support.
- 4 families supported that have no recourse to public funds

We seek feedback from parents that have accessed support from the FF team, parents tell us they have:

- improved skills to budget and manage their financial responsibilities.
- a better understanding of how to cook on a budget, plan meals and cook from fresh.
- improved confidence and self-esteem to tackle issues in the future by themselves, not just with their finances but also other areas of their lives as they feel more 'in control'.
- improved relationships as they are less stressed about their financial situation.
- Improved support networks and peer support gained through accessing groups.

'Fantastic support when filling in the DLA form'

'I received help to complete my PIP application and check I was receiving everything. I was also matched with a Volunteer who helps me on a weekly basis'

'Helped me to Budget better, meal plan and shop more efficiently'

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

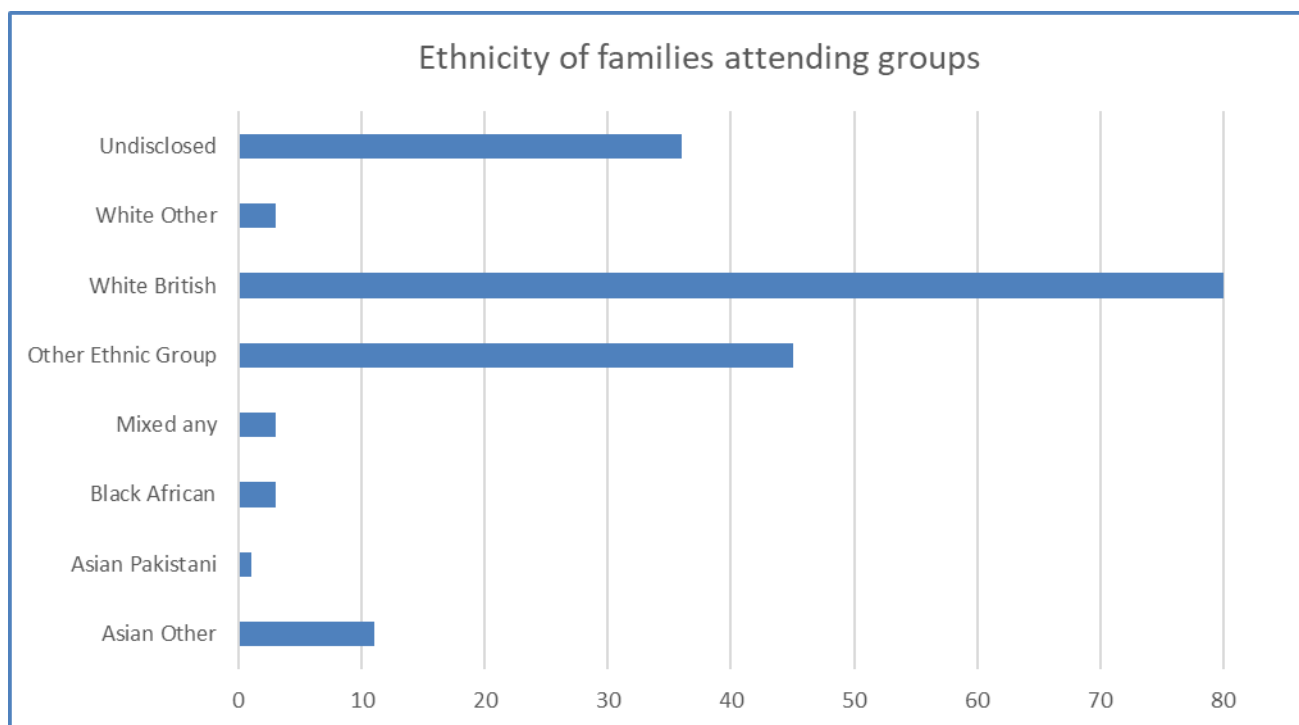
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Support for our Armed Forces (funded by the Veterans Foundation and Army Central fund via HSUK)

Having now provided services to our local Army families for the last 6 years, we are acutely aware of the unique pressures they face. Families deployed into the area have often lost their established support networks which can cause anxiety and stress on family life, increase isolation and impact on mental health. This has been particularly impacted by the ongoing Covid 19 pandemic. To support families to manage this, we have facilitated groups for the spouses and children of serving Army personnel.

During the last year, we have further extended support for our Army Community, now offering 2 groups per week at Invicta Park Barracks in Maidstone. The groups are supported by a staff member and volunteers who offer practical and emotional support alongside signposting to other services. We signpost families either internally through our Home-Start branch where families can additionally access support around domestic abuse, financial fitness and home-visiting, or externally to services such as Early Help and Housing. This extended provision supports parents to cope with the impact of family life and it's associated pressures.

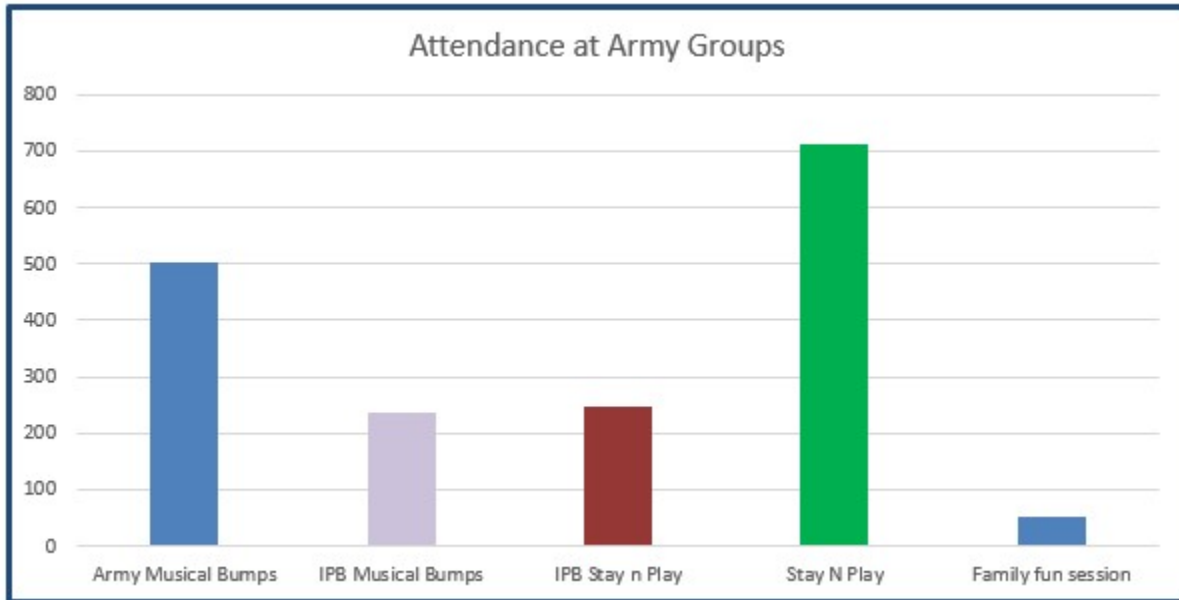
The Army families based at Brompton Barracks are primarily White British, with a small Nepelese Community and a few families of dual heritage. However due to our extended reach of support, we have now managed to engage the large Nepalese community that reside at Maidstone and as such 36% of those that have disclosed their ethnicity are from a diverse range of backgrounds as detailed below:



During the last year across the 2 sites, we have provided 166 sessions, attended by 186 individuals, accumulating in 1752 attendances.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023



Stay and Play:

This group aims to provide a variety of activities for the children to explore that support development and social interactions with their peers. The groups also provide an opportunity for parents/carers to receive peer support from others in a similar situation to themselves. These groups are particularly important in this regard due to the increased issues of isolation and lack of support due to Army spouses often being posted far away from home. We ensure that activities are different each week to ensure that the children maintain their interest and further develop their skills. During every Stay and Play session we encourage all of the children to sit down and enjoy a healthy snack with their parents and peers. This often leads to children trying different foods to those that they would eat at home.



HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

'My daughter has grown in herself coming to these groups, she is more confident...I also get to meet and chat with other Army wives'

'These groups are a lovely support for Army families'

Musical Bumps:

These weekly music sessions for families sought to encourage children's speech and language acquisition through music and rhyme. The children were provided with a selection of instruments, scarves and music props to encourage their participation and engagement. Parents/Carers were encouraged to sing along with their child/ren using the instruments, providing an opportunity for them to bond with their child and learn new songs to sing together at home.



Domestic Abuse Support (Funded by Children in Need)

We offer specialised support for families with a child under five who are experiencing low/medium domestic abuse or who have experienced domestic abuse historically, including those who have fled to Medway. We have a dedicated Domestic Abuse Co-Ordinator who supports these families directly. 35 families (35 parents/carers with 67 children) were supported by this worker during the last year.

83% of the families referred for DA support were White British, 17% were families that were Black Caribbean, Asian Bangladeshi, Asian Indian or other ethnic groups.

We often find that families supported by the DA Co-ordinator have been placed into emergency accommodation. These are often poorly furnished and do not have the essential equipment needed to meet their child's needs. Our DA Co-ordinator seeks to provide parents/carers with the essentials that they need through applications to partner charities and the Children in Need grants programme. During the last year, 13 grants totalling £6844 have been secured for these families.

Our DA Co-ordinator will provide home-visiting support to families weekly. During these visits, victims will be supported to come to terms with the trauma they have experienced, will be supported to ensure that their children have all the support that they need also. The work often focuses on supporting parents to integrate into their new area, as well as practical support, such as Makenzie friend in court and signposting to DA services that can support with the acquisition of legal orders.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

In addition to our direct work with families, we continue to co-ordinate the One Stop Shop (OSS) in Gillingham. The OSS ensures victims receive support from a range of professional agencies / organisations as needed. In attendance weekly is the DWP, domestic abuse services, legal advisor, and housing. In addition, victims also have access to safety equipment such as door bars and personal alarms.

As with all other projects, we monitor the impact of support. Families report progress in their coping scores and give positive feedback about their experience of the service, such as:

'The support I have received from Daniela from home start has been life changing. I've already stated this to Daniela, she goes above and beyond her job role. She has supported me with housing issues, attended mental health appointments, universal credit appointments, social services appointments and a court hearing. She is due to attend the next court hearing.

Her main role in helping me is to get through domestic abuse I have been going through, she has been there for me every step of the way, to listen and advise. Daniela has enrolled me onto the Phoenix program which is helping me to build my confidence and to understand everything I have been through and how to protect myself now and in the future. She has enabled me to attend a pantomime with my daughter and find funding for any household items I required.

Since Daniela has been my support worker I was the lowest I've been in my life and she has helped me rebuild myself in every way. Without charity's like home start and in particular Daniela I think my life could of taken a very different path. Daniela is a credit to herself and to home start. I owe her my sincere gratitude for everything she has done to change my life for the better.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Total income for the year rose to £351,315 from £278,267 in 2022, with the main increase resulting from other income of rising to £78,175 from £19,566 from a range of grant givers in the voluntary sector including Kent Community Foundation and YMCA enabling the development of further group work in 2022 and grants from ABF The Soldier doubling in the year to £44,868 from £19,000 in 2022.

Total expenditure has increased to £287,769 from £228,098 in 2022, as a result in an increase in staff costs to £202,618 from £149,867 in 2022 additional staff allowed us to develop further projects and also resulted from a very detailed staff salary benchmarking exercise to ensure we attract excellent candidates to the roles. Volunteering costs have also increased during the year to £12,458 from £7,977 in 2022 due to a change in focus in the current year to more going away trips and music sessions as opposed to inside activities such as play areas.

Overall this has resulted in a surplus for the year of £63,546 (2022 - £50,169) and resulted in an increase in funds from £403,279 to £466,825 at the year end.

RESERVES POLICY

The Board of Trustees has set a Financial Reserve Policy which states that:

- Reserves are maintained at a level which ensures that Home-Start Medway organisation's core activity could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty.
- A proportion of reserves be maintained in a ready realisable form.

At the end of the financial year £42,200 was held for ongoing liabilities including state redundancy payments, office equipment on lease, utilities and accountancy fees.

The Board of Trustees, who are members of the community who bring with them their own varied specialist skills, have overall responsibility for ensuring that the company has an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise. They are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the Financial Statements comply with the Companies Act 2006.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

It remains that the Trustees have in place on-going arrangements for monitoring services via regular reports to the Board. Through discussions with staff and representatives of volunteers, the Board engages in the operational activities of Home-Start Medway and reviews the organisation's policies and procedures that are timetabled for scrutiny at frequencies appropriate to the issues under consideration.

Home-Start Medway complies with the national quality assurance scheme. The Trustees have devised a fundraising and promotional strategy set out in a new Strategic Plan. Promotional events will inform interested parties of the excellent value for money services delivered by Home-Start Medway. Effective communication with stakeholders is essential to maintain the support of partner organisations and the community in which Home-Start Medway works. In a multi-agency environment it is essential to have trust and a clear understanding of purpose. This openness and accountability is a strategic approach at the centre of the Board's decision-making process, considered fundamental to the success of the Charity's work.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees, who are also the directors of Home-Start Medway Limited 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).

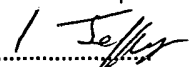
Company Law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

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. 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.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.


.....
Ms I Jeffrey, Treasurer
Trustee

Date: 15/10/2023
.....

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Home-Start Medway Limited (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



Sally Meah FCCA
Crossley Financial Accounting Limited

Star House
Star Hill
Rochester
Kent
ME1 1UX

Dated: 18 December 2023

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
<u>Income from:</u>							
Donations and legacies	3	78,175	272,913	351,088	19,566	258,624	278,190
Investments	4	227	-	227	77	-	77
Total income		78,402	272,913	351,315	19,643	258,624	278,267
<u>Expenditure on:</u>							
Resources expended on managing and administering the charity	5	21,672	266,093	287,765	17,534	209,926	227,460
Other	8	-	4	4	-	638	638
Total expenditure		21,672	266,097	287,769	17,534	210,564	228,098
Net income for the year/ Net movement in funds		56,730	6,816	63,546	2,109	48,060	50,169
Fund balances at 1 April 2022		226,534	176,745	403,279	224,425	128,685	353,110
Fund balances at 31 March 2023		283,264	183,561	466,825	226,534	176,745	403,279

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10		24,112		8,574
Current assets					
Debtors	11	241		207	
Cash at bank and in hand		481,891		458,342	
		482,132		458,549	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(39,419)		(63,844)	
Net current assets			442,713		394,705
Total assets less current liabilities			466,825		403,279
Income funds					
Restricted funds	14		183,561		176,745
<u>Unrestricted funds - general</u>					
Designated funds	15	42,200		42,200	
General unrestricted funds		241,064		184,334	
			283,264		226,534
			466,825		403,279

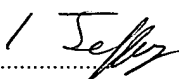
The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2023.

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.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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 10th October 2023


.....
Ms I Jeffrey, Treasurer
Trustee

Company registration number 05135567

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Home-Start Medway Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Star House, Star Hill, Rochester, Kent, ME1 1UX. The charity's business office address is Canterbury Street Gillingham Kent ME7 5TP.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

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.

1.2 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 financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.3 Income

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

There is one exception to the above in relation to grant income. The Charity has departed from the SORP and deferred grant income which does not meet the criteria, it is considered beneficial to match the income with the costs for the readers of our accounts. If the charity was to apply the SORP there would be an additional £38,938 of grant income.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the company is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Trust that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the company has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the company, or the company is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

Donated services or facilities are recognised when the company has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use of the company of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of the Friends is not recognised and refer to the Trustees' report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the company which is the amount the company would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

1.4 Expenditure

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

Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the company and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Charitable activities and Governance costs are costs incurred on the company's operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the company apportioned to charitable activities.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 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:

Leasehold land and buildings	5 years straight line
Computer equipment	25% reducing balance

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.

1.6 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).

1.7 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.

1.8 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.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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.

1.9 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.

1.10 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 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.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

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

3 Donations and legacies	Unrestricted funds general		Restricted funds		Unrestricted funds general		Restricted funds		Total	
	2023	£	2023	£	2022	£	2022	£	2023	£
Donations and gifts	78,175		272,913		19,566		258,624		351,088	278,190
Donations and gifts										
Medway Council and Medway PCT	-		109,055		-		126,439		109,055	126,439
Financial Fitness Grant	-		79,175		-		76,825		79,175	76,825
REAP	-		-		-		4,134		-	4,134
Children in Need Grant	-		39,815		-		25,976		39,815	25,976
ABF The Soldier	-		44,868		-		19,000		44,868	19,000
Groups	-		-		-		6,250		-	6,250
Other	78,175		-		19,566		-		78,175	19,566
	78,175		272,913		19,566		258,624		351,088	278,190

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

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

4 Investments

	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds general 2022 £
Interest received	227	77

5 Resources expended on managing and administering the charity

	2023 £	2022 £
Staff costs	202,618	149,867
Depreciation and impairment	6,002	4,443
Telephone/IT costs	13,944	10,383
Office expenses	39,859	41,752
Staff expenses	546	505
Cleaning	638	459
Insurance	1,147	1,217
Licence fee	5,899	5,899
Volunteers	12,458	7,977
Training	681	1,495
Accountancy and bookkeeping	3,973	3,463
	<u>287,765</u>	<u>227,460</u>
	<u>287,765</u>	<u>227,460</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds - general	21,672	17,534
Restricted funds	266,093	209,926
	<u>287,765</u>	<u>227,460</u>

6 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

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

7 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
	10	9
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Employment costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	186,384	138,040
Social security costs	12,276	8,374
Other pension costs	3,958	3,453
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	202,618	149,867
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

8 Other

	Restricted funds	Restricted funds
	2023 £	2022 £
Net loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	4	638
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

9 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

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

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold land and buildings	Computer equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 April 2022	16,505	9,434	25,939
Additions	-	21,544	21,544
Disposals	-	(490)	(490)
At 31 March 2023	16,505	30,488	46,993
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 April 2022	10,725	6,640	17,365
Depreciation charged in the year	3,300	2,702	6,002
Eliminated in respect of disposals	-	(486)	(486)
At 31 March 2023	14,025	8,856	22,881
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2023	2,480	21,632	24,112
At 31 March 2022	5,780	2,794	8,574

11 Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Prepayments and accrued income	241	207

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2023	2022
		£	£
Other taxation and social security		4,096	2,944
Government grants	13	29,234	52,702
Other creditors		874	803
Accruals and deferred income		5,215	7,395
		39,419	63,844

13 Government grants

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

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

13 Government grants

(Continued)

	2023 £	2022 £
Deferred income is included within:		
Current liabilities	29,234	52,702
Movements in the year:		
Deferred income at 1 April 2022	52,702	13,750
Released from previous periods	(52,702)	(13,750)
Resources deferred in the year	29,234	52,702
Deferred income at 31 March 2023	29,234	52,702

14 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds			Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Movement in funds		
	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £		Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Medway Council	24,150	126,439	(102,943)	47,646	109,055	(92,732)	63,969
Financial Fitness	42,065	76,825	(62,549)	56,341	79,175	(80,195)	55,321
REAP	14,312	4,134	(3,366)	15,080	-	(8,924)	6,156
BBC Children in Need	15,589	25,976	(21,149)	20,416	39,815	(35,643)	24,588
Groups	1,702	6,250	(5,089)	2,863	-	(1,694)	1,169
Medway Community Healthcare	11,382	-	-	11,382	-	(6,736)	4,646
Kent Community Foundation	5,610	-	-	5,610	-	(3,320)	2,290
Lloyds Bank Foundation	7,948	-	-	7,948	-	(4,703)	3,245
Armed Forces Grant	5,927	19,000	(15,469)	9,459	44,868	(32,150)	22,177
	128,685	258,624	(210,564)	176,745	272,913	(266,097)	183,561

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

14 Restricted funds

(Continued)

Medway Council

The funding from Medway Council is so Home-Start Medway can offer home-visiting support to local families who have children under the age of five. The funding helps to pay staffing costs and the charities general expenses.

Financial Fitness

The Financial Fitness funding enables Home-Start Medway to provide a free service that ultimately helps families get themselves onto a level financial playing field. Reducing the stress of debt helps with all the family members' emotional wellbeing.

The Royal British Legion

The one year funding from The Royal British Legion is specifically for Home-Start Medway to support the Army families in the Brompton Barracks area and Ex-Army families. The funding pays for an additional member of staff and expenses attributed to this support and for recruiting volunteers from within the Army families.

REAP

The REAP funding enables Home-Start Medway to hire a team to support people in hardship or crisis situations.

BBC Children In Need

The three year funding from BBC Children In Need is specifically for Home-Start Medway to support families who have or are experiencing low level domestic abuse. Providing a new Domestic Abuse Coordinator to directly support, organise home visiting volunteers, run a peer support group and help with safety planning via the One Stop Shop.

Medway Community Healthcare

Supporting families in their own home around potty training, sleep behaviour and introducing solid food.

Groups (Kent Community Foundation, The Big Lottery Awards For All, ABF The Soldiers Charity)

Reducing isolation and increasing social interaction, supporting with parenting, improving gross and fine motor skills through messy play, promoting peer to peer and group support. Within Grey n Play our intergenerational group we are promoting strong intergenerational relationships, increasing social interaction, whilst also helping to improve mental health and supporting older people with dementia.

Lloyds Bank Foundation

The above restricted fund represents monies given to us by Lloyds for the delivery of groups.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

15 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds		Movement in funds		Balance at 31 March 2023 £
	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	
Redundancy, lease, utility and accountancy costs	42,200	-	42,200	-	42,200
	42,200	-	42,200	-	42,200

At the end of the financial year trustees have agreed to designate £42,200 for ongoing liabilities including state redundancy payments, office equipment on lease, utilities and accountancy fees.

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:					
Tangible assets	24,112	-	24,112	8,574	8,574
Current assets/(liabilities)	259,152	183,561	442,713	176,745	394,705
	283,264	183,561	466,825	176,745	403,279

17 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Within one year	5,699	8,000
Between two and five years	-	5,699
	5,699	13,699

18 Related party transactions

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

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1108057

Accounts

Charity registration number 1108057

Company registration number 05135567 (England and Wales)

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mrs S Bolland, Chair Ms I Jeffrey, Treasurer Mrs D Sargent Miss C M Jamieson Mr J Harman Ms R Wray	(Appointed 16 March 2022)
Charity number	1108057	
Company number	05135567	
Registered office	Star House Star Hill Rochester Kent ME1 1UX	
Independent examiner	Crossley Financial Accounting Star House Star Hill Rochester Kent ME1 1UX	

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

CONTENTS

	Page
Chairman's statement	1
Trustees' report	2 - 15
Independent examiner's report	16
Statement of financial activities	17
Statement of financial position	18
Notes to the financial statements	19 - 28

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

It is with great pleasure I am once again presenting the Chair's report for Home-Start Medway.

As with all voluntary sector organisations in the current climate this year has brought financial challenges but the project and the Trustees have continued to provide an outstanding and valuable service. We are still working with local partners to support work for children affect by Covid. The record of finances is within the Treasurer's report.

This year the financial fitness service has gone from strength to strength and hopefully will continue to do so. This service supports families through financial difficulties and is invaluable to those who have used the service. We still have Pop and Play which we are hoping will expand in the next year in negotiation with other agencies.

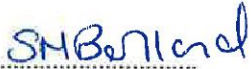
We have increased our work with the Army families by piloting the service in Maidstone I'm sure this will be just as successful.

The domestic abuse support services and our work with young parents continues and is well received. As always the core of our work is the contact with families which without our volunteers would not be possible. There are a number of volunteers who have been with us many years. The time all the volunteers spent with families offering support and assistance is always overwhelming, when we see the monthly figures.

During the year our new CEO has established her role and we have recently appointed a Manager. This year has seen a number of staff changes but we are looking forward to developing the service going forward.

We have also had Trustee changes due to retirement and change of roles.

Going forward we hope that the service continues developing and recreating itself around the need of families in Medway.



Mrs S Bolland
Chairman

Date: 28/11/22

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 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) (effective 1 January 2019)".

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT CONSTITUTION

The company is a charitable company limited by guarantee and has been in operation for 30 years.

The company is constituted and is a registered charity number 1108057.

The principal objective of the company is to recruit and train volunteers who are usually parents themselves to visit families at home with at least one child under five and offer them informal, friendly and confidential support.

METHOD OF APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

The management of the company is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Memorandum and Articles of Association. One third of the board retire by rotation, by reference to those who have been longest in office since their last election, together with any members of the board who have been appointed to fill a casual vacancy since the last annual general meeting.

RISK

MANAGEMENT

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the company is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the company, and are satisfied that the policies, systems and procedures are in place to mitigate our exposure to the major risks.

The Board of Trustees will clarify annually the level of known financial liability it carries so that policy and operational actions can be implemented.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES POLICIES

AND

OBJECTIVES

Home-Start helps to improve the life chances of children by supporting their parents and carers at difficult times. In particular Home-Start offers emotional and practical support as well as friendship to parents with at least one child under the age of five. The organisation gives families support by assisting them to identify what family and child centred issues are a problem in their lives and how they can get help. This is done at an initial visit, with regular follow ups to review progress and determine to what extent Home-Start is making a difference and how other resources may be accessed to improve the family's circumstances.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Our Vision:

Home -Start Medway has been working with local families for the last 35 years. We are an independent voluntary organisation with a vision that; Every parent has the support they need to give their children the best start in life, as childhood cannot wait.

Our Ambition:

- Help parents in Medway grow in confidence
- Help parents strengthen their relationships with their children
- Widen their links within the local community

What we want to achieve:

- All children in Medway will have the opportunity to achieve their full potential
- All children in Medway will feel safe in their home environment
- To drive greater awareness of Home-Start and it's services throughout the Medway area
- To offer a greater range and diversity of volunteered services

Services we currently offer:

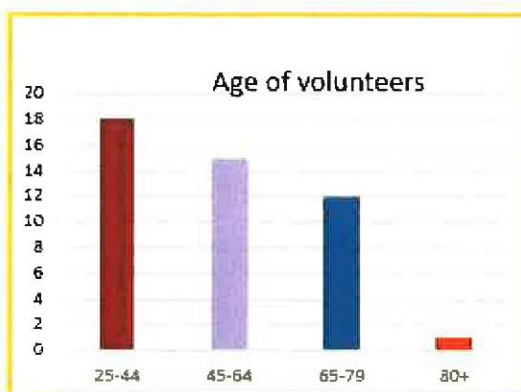
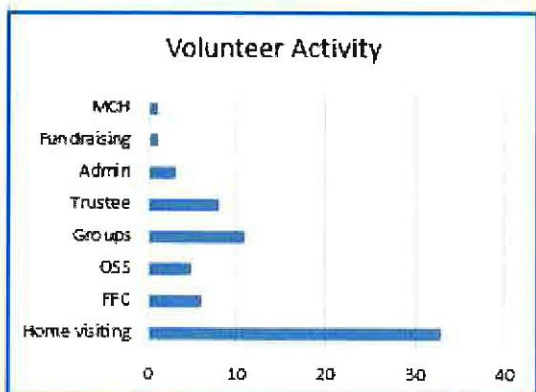
1. Home Visiting through a network of volunteers
2. Financial Fitness Support
3. Group support
4. 1-1 support and groups for our forces families
5. Domestic Abuse Support
6. Crisis support via REAP (Restoration, Empowerment, Action, Purpose)

Our team:

Our team currently consists of 9 paid members of staff and 40 volunteers (including 6 Trustees).

Volunteers:

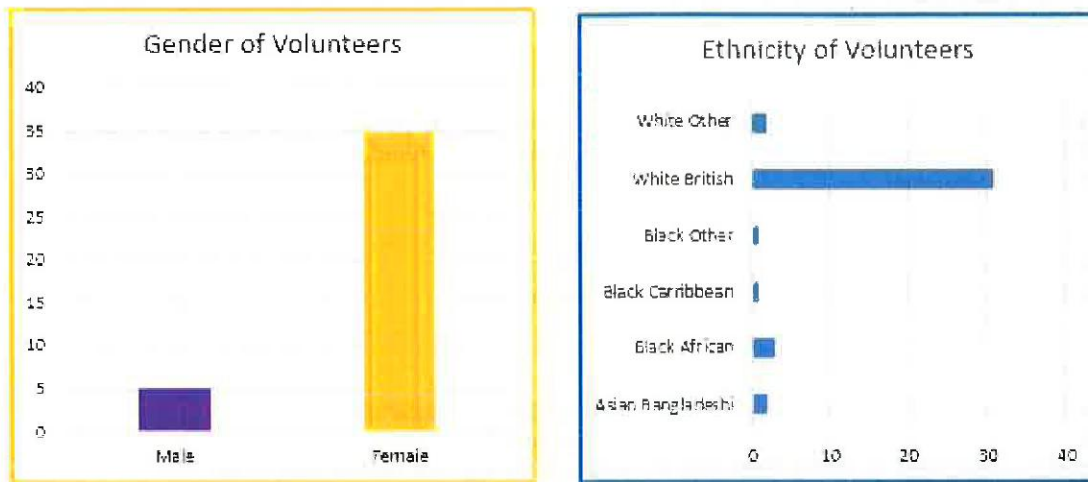
As of 31.03.22, we have **40** Active Volunteers, supporting Home-Start Medway to deliver services across Medway. Roles include Trustees, Home Visiting, Financial Fitness Champions, Admin, Group Support, One Stop Shop meet and greet.



HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022



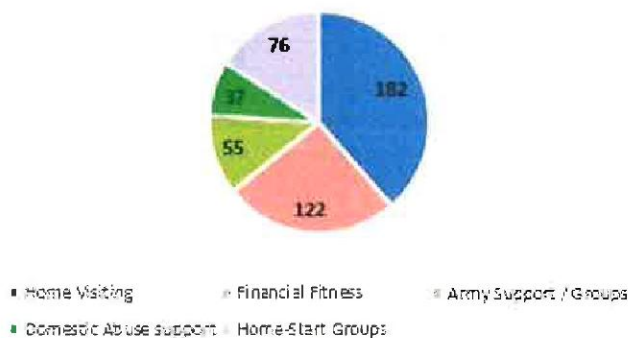
We found that our number of volunteer numbers was impacted negatively due to the pandemic. Many volunteers decided that they were unable to continue volunteering for us due to the nature of the support that they offered (face to face support in the home). Others were unable to continue due to their own health concerns. We are working hard to rebuild volunteer network – we have been actively advertising and promoting the opportunities through Indeed and our social media networks. This has led to 26 enquiries since 01 March, 8 of whom have already attended an information session and are in the process of applying to volunteer with us.

All volunteers are subject to a DBS check and references to ensure that they are suitable for the role. We provide full training which is delivered using a hybrid approach. This consists of 8 hours on-line training and 8 hours face to face training. The content of this training includes; our Home-Start approach, family life, boundaries, commitment, communication and listening, confidentiality, safeguarding, personal safety alongside information about the additional services the volunteers can signpost to within Home-Start. Volunteers are provided with regular supervision with a Volunteer Co-ordinator and we hold regular Volunteer support group meetings throughout the year, during which we offer provide bitesize training and support.

During the height of the pandemic, we continued to support families through our telephone befriending service – families were called once a week by a volunteer to check how they were and identify if there was any urgent support needed. This support proved invaluable to families who were very isolated during this time. It reassured them that despite the pandemic, they were not alone and we were still there to support them.

During the last year (01.04.21 - 31.03.22) we have received 472 referrals to our service. This represents a 69% increase in referrals, compared to 325 received last year. These referrals break down as follows:

Referrals Received 01.04.21 - 31.03.22



HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Home Visiting (funded by Medway Council)

Home Visiting continues to be at the core of our Services, supporting families in Medway who have at least one child under the age of 5. The support is provided by our fully trained volunteers in the family's own home. Families are offered weekly visits for 2-3 hours, which can if needed be provided for up to 6 months, (sometimes this may be longer if a new life event occurs which impacts the family's wellbeing).

We support families in a non-judgmental way, objectives are set and agreed by the family and a review takes place to see the progress after 3 months and again at the end of the support. Our volunteers provide support to parents in many different situations, such as:

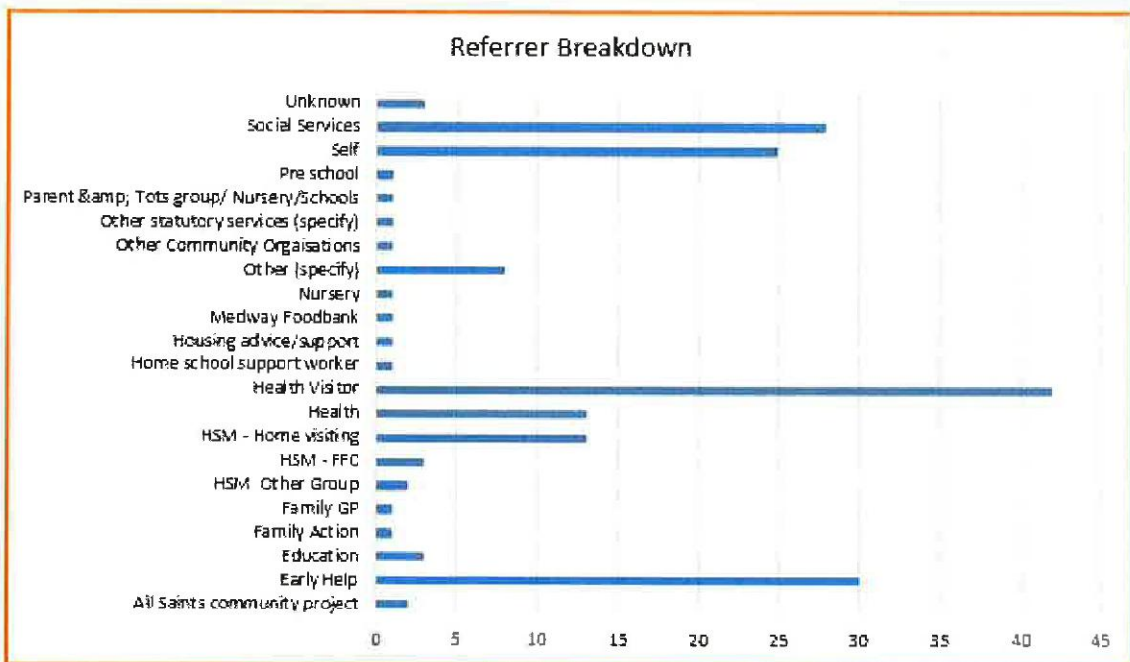
- Mental health problems
- Bereavement
- Coping with twins, triplets or several pre-school children
- Lone parenthood
- Loneliness and isolation
- Illness, and disability or special needs
- Relationship problems and those who have been victims of domestic abuse
- Dealing with a child's/children's behavioural problems
- And for those who are just finding it hard to cope

We encourage healthy eating, social interaction and support to improve parenting skills. Home-Start volunteers are local people, from all walks of life, have parenting experience and offer non-judgmental support, building families' resilience in a practical and emotionally balanced way.

We have a target with Medway Council to provide 100 families with Home Visiting support over the course of the year.

During the last year (01.04.21– 31.03.22), we have received 182 referrals for Home Visiting support. This is an increase of 63%, compared to 116 last year). This represents 624 individuals (377 children and 247 parent/ carers).

Home-start Medway are a well-known, respected and valued service within the community. We have developed effective collaborative partnerships with many stakeholders and partners. As a result, these referrals are from a large number of organisations , as demonstrated in the chart below:

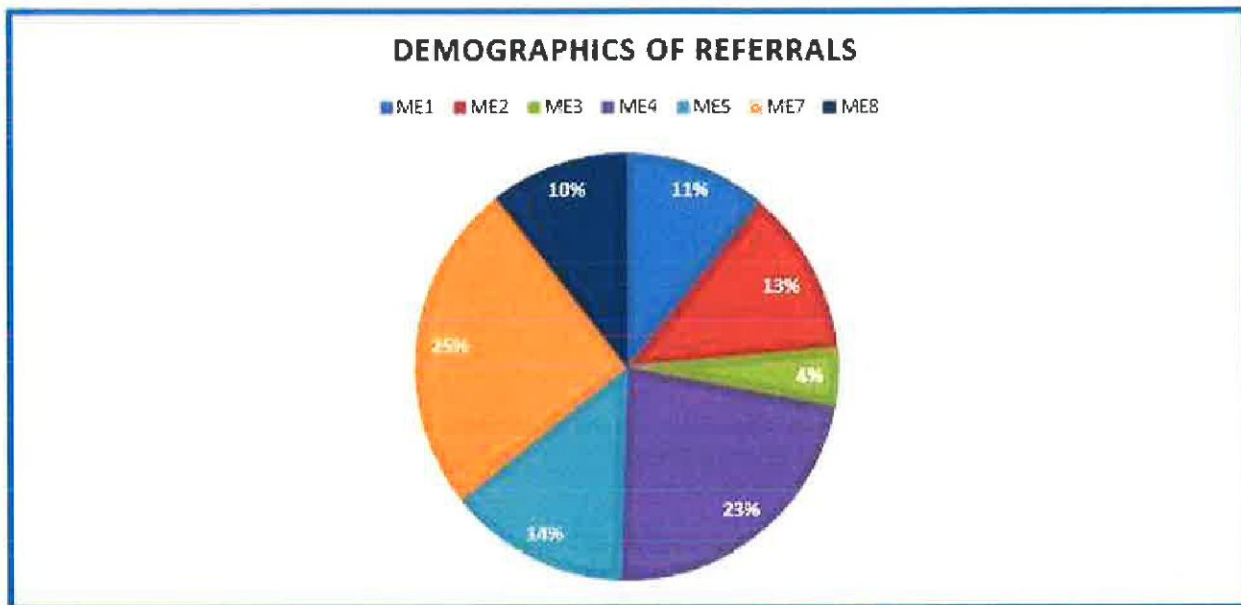


HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

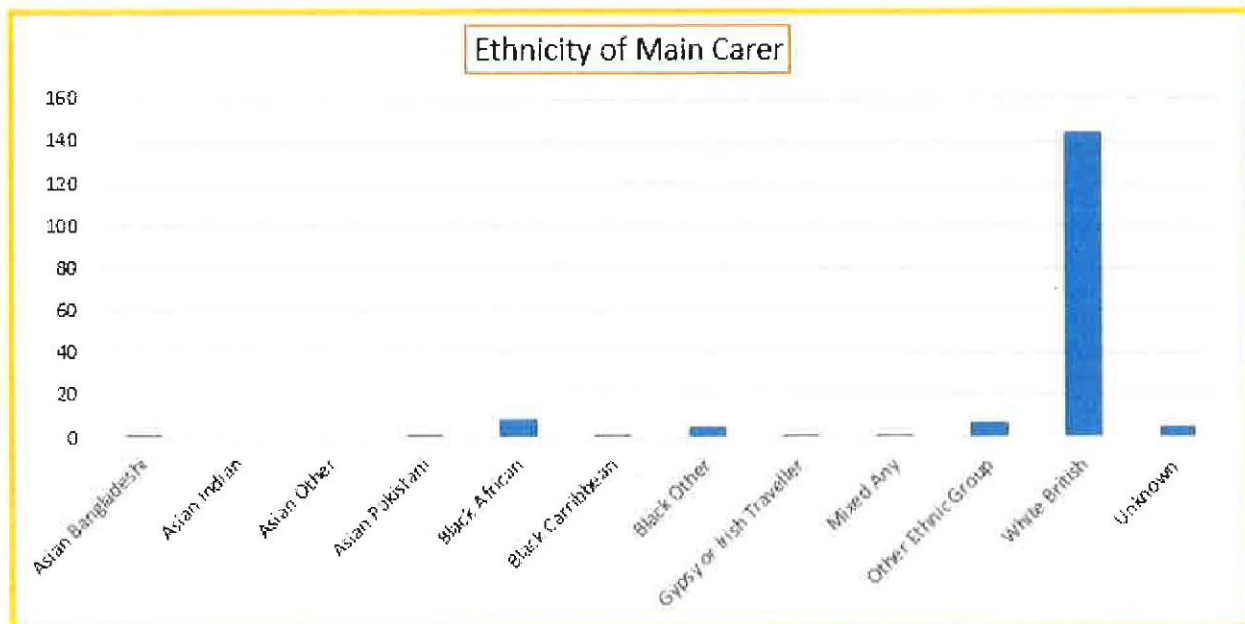
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The referrals received are from all areas of Medway as demonstrated in the chart below, however referrals from ME7 and ME4 account for 48% of all HV referrals.



Ethnicity of the main carer accessing services 01.04.21 to 31.03.22

The main carer was White British in 79% of families referred to the service. The remaining 21% were from a variety of diverse cultures as detailed below:



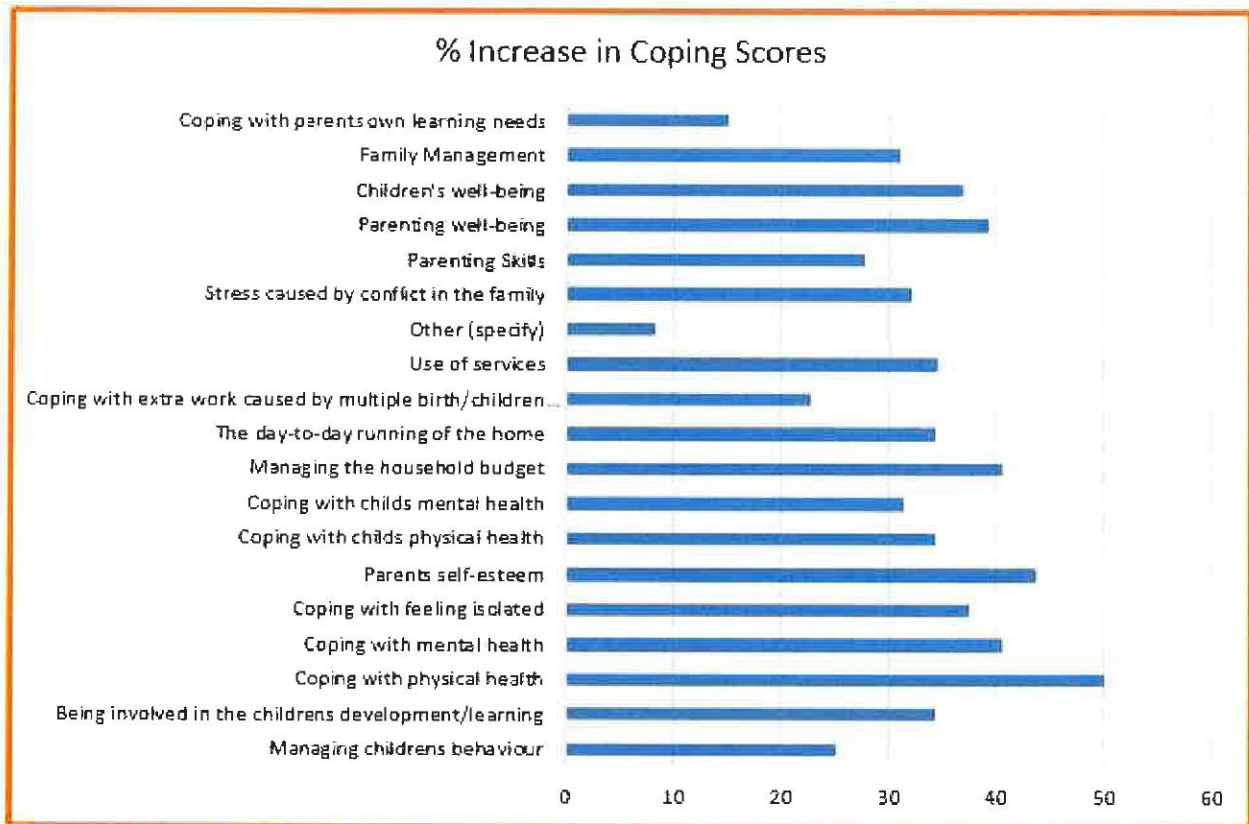
In 21 households out of the 182 families referred for Home Visiting (11%), the main carer had a disability.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Outcomes of Home Visiting support:

We use Home-Start coping scores to track the journey of our families across several areas. 0 is the lowest score showing that the family are not coping in an area and 5 being coping well. We track the changes the family identify they have made during the support with the hope that we see the coping scores increase. Feedback from families that have accessed support demonstrates a % increase across all coping scores as demonstrated in this table below:



We have also received regular verbal feedback from families about the impact of the support, i.e.,

"I want to say a massive thankyou for all of your help, support and kindness. Never once did you judge me or my situation, right back from the first time I spoke to you...I'm lucky to have had you to support me".

"Amazing support. Volunteer was a perfect match for my family. Volunteer communicates really well with me and makes me feel confident. She encourages me to do things, but I never feel pressured".

As well as the support from our service, we also refer families to other services locally that can further support them with their identified areas of need. 75 referrals have been made in the last year:

Princess Project (13)	Tri tots (1)	Club Ausome (1)
Early Help (3)	Small Steps (2)	Another Home-Start (4)
Financial Fitness (26)	Skinner Street Angels (14)	Kent Fire & Rescue (2)
Foodbank (1)	Wonderfully Made (2)	Megan CIC (3)
Free cakes (2)	Medway Together (1)	

Financial Fitness (Funded by the National Lottery)

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

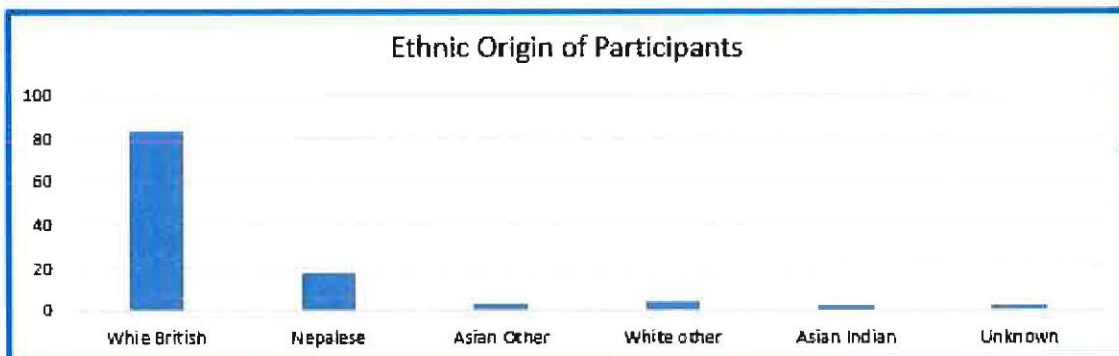
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

During the last year, despite the challenges of a global pandemic, we have delivered our planned groups for the spouses and children of serving Army Personnel from 1 RSME Brompton Barracks and 36 Engineer Regiment. The key purpose of this funding was to continue to offer 3 group sessions per week (term time) for families to attend. (We purposely avoid school holidays as families will often travel to visit their extended family members during this time with their spouses). We were in the fortunate position that these groups were already established and as such this funding allowed us to focus on continuing delivery of groups that families reported they enjoyed, enabled them to increase their social networks and peer support and supported their child/ren's development.

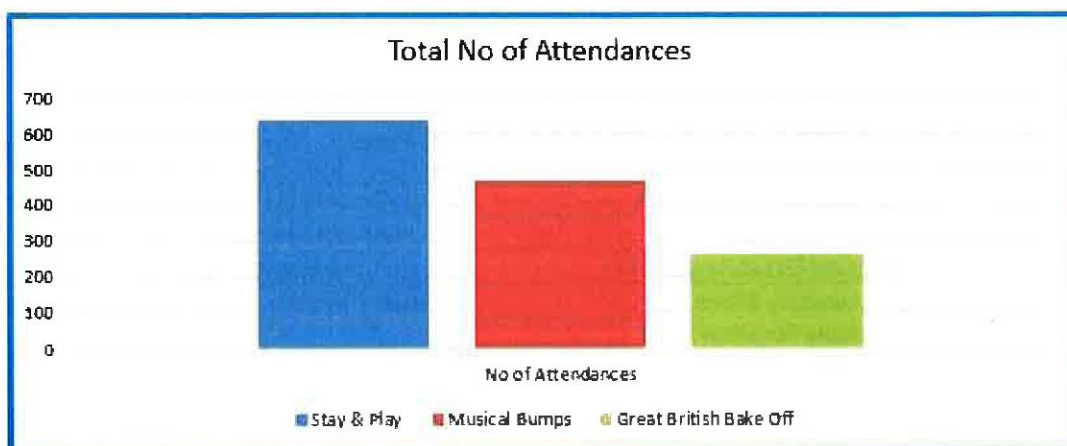
The groups are supported by our Army coordinator and volunteers who offer practical and emotional support alongside signposting to other services. We signpost families either internally through our Home-start branch where families can additionally access support around domestic abuse, financial fitness and home-visiting, or externally to services such as Early Help and Housing. This extended provision supports parents to cope with the impact of family life and it's associated pressures.

All of the services that we have delivered to families over the last year have been from the Community Centre at Brompton Barracks. The Community Centre boasts a large hall, outside play area and a kitchen which enables the delivery of a variety of services for the Army Community that it serves. A Memorandum of Understanding is in place which outlines the support that the Army Welfare Service (AWS) will offer and the expectations of Home-Start whilst using the facilities on site. A member of staff from the AWS supports our Army Co-ordinator to facilitate the groups. The groups are also supported by Home-Start volunteers who help to set up the sessions, support with supervision of the activities, provision of a healthy snack and clearing away at the end.

The Army families based at the Barracks are primarily White British, but there is a small Nepalese Community and a few families of dual heritage. We have managed to engage with a diverse range of adults / children which mirrors the demographic of the Army Community it serves.

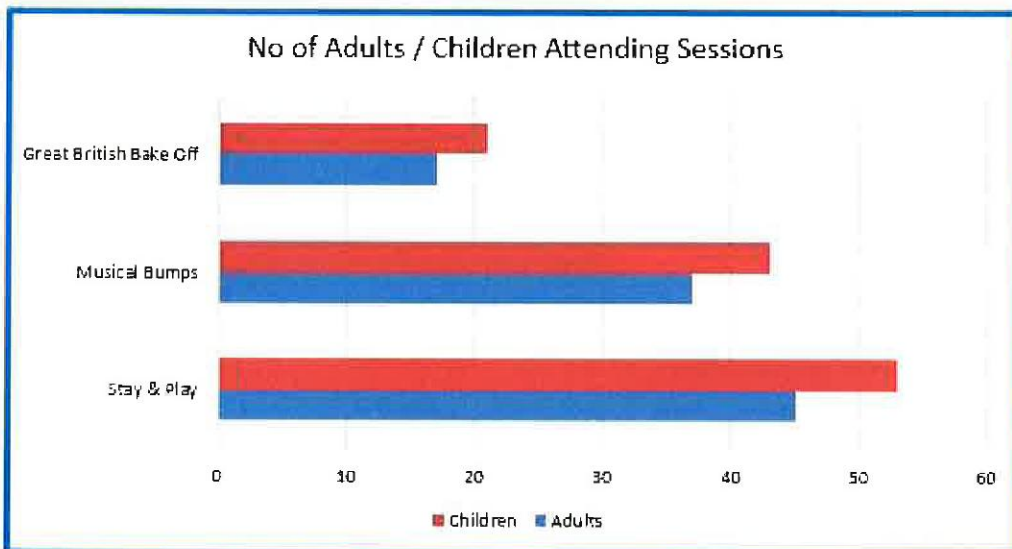


In total, we have provided 85 sessions for our Army Community during the last year, which has accumulated in a total of 1365 attendances, (53 adults with 59 children).



HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022



There are reduced attendances at some of the sessions as Great British Bake Off is limited to a total number of 8 families and Musical Bumps is limited to 10 families. These limitations are to ensure that the participants gain maximum value from the sessions. To ensure that all families have equitable access to these groups, the Army Co-ordinator operates a rotational booking system.

Stay and Play:

This group aims to provide a variety of activities for the children to explore with their parent. The activities aim to provide children with enriched learning experiences that develop their gross and fine motor skills, support speech and language development and encourage social and emotional development. We ensure that activities are different each week to ensure that the children maintain their interest and further develop their skills. We have introduced a sensory area within this session at the request of attending parents, particularly those with young babies. We have soft play equipment that can be used to further support children's gross motor skills. We also have access to an outside space and encourage the children to access the scooters and bikes provided to explore this area. During every Stay and Play session we encourage all of the children to sit down and enjoy a healthy snack with their parents and peers. This often leads to children trying different foods to those that they would eat at home.

In total we delivered 31 Stay and Play sessions during the last year. These groups were attended by 45 Adults and 53 Children (a total of 635 attendances), demonstrating that these individuals attended the sessions multiple times further reducing their isolation and offering them the opportunity to build meaningful relationships and support networks with their peers.



'This has helped me to get out of the house and to get to know new people. It has also helped with my little girl's confidence after the lockdown.'

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

'Groups and meetings like this have helped me in ways I never thought possible...it's helped me to keep a routine...it's helped me to focus...to take a breather from every day life and to live.'



'Post covid having a place to come together and learn new skills while my child learns to socialise with others and develop her personality'



'The Great Brompton Bake-Off'

These cooking sessions allowed families to engage with each other and meet new friends through the fun activity of baking. Delivered in 6 week blocks, each week families were provided with the ingredients and a recipe sheet to follow with their child/ren. The children would be so proud of their creations by the end of the course. All children finished with a gifted personalised t towel to take home with them to remember their achievements. Not only did the children gain a lot from these sessions, but also the parents too, with feedback such as:



'I suffer with anxiety and PTSD...baking with my children allowed me to gain control. We had fun, laughed and made some great memories.'

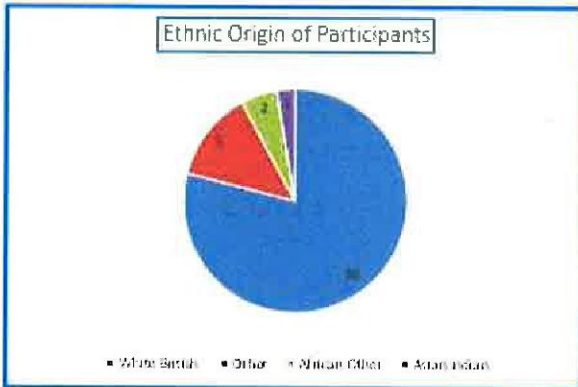
'Having the support of others during tough times has been really helpful for my mental well-being.'



HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

During the last year we delivered these sessions 22 times, they were attended by 17 Adults and 21 Children, with a total of 260 attendances.



Musical Bumps

These weekly music sessions for families sought to encourage children's speech and language acquisition through music and rhyme. The children were provided with a selection of instruments, scarves and music props to encourage their participation and engagement. Parents/Carers were encouraged to sing along with their child/ren using the instruments, providing an opportunity for them to bond with their child and learn new songs to sing together at home.

During the year we have delivered 32 sessions of musical bumps, which have been attended by 37 Adults with 43 Children, accumulating an attendance of 470.

This group has really helped especially during lockdown, getting us all out of the house, being part of a community and making friends!

My child enjoys coming, each week she learns new songs and great for interacting!



HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Delivering services during a global pandemic

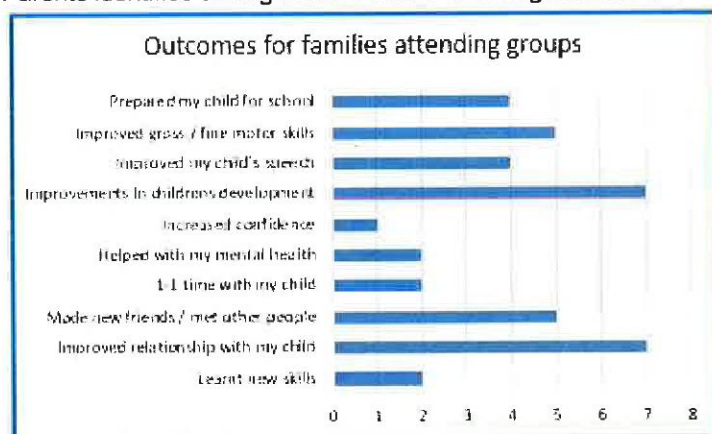
These groups have proved to be particularly impactful for families who have given birth during Covid as they have had limited interaction and assistance from immediate friends and family. Due to the pandemic we had to change our delivery methods to ensure that we were able to continue delivering services to these families in line with Government guidance. We developed a partnership with our local Adult Education provider and Public Health representatives to deliver virtual cooking groups, 'Little Chefs'. These proved very successful and enabled us to meet the Public Health agenda whilst delivering fun and engaging sessions. Families joined the staff on-line to partake in virtual cooking groups using the recipes and ingredients provided.

Despite the challenges of the pandemic, we have learnt that even virtual groups can offer an opportunity for families to still feel connected with others, preventing isolation. This is now another medium through which we can engage with our families.

Feedback from families

We have collated feedback forms from parents that have attended our sessions. Parents have made many impactful statements about how these groups have supported their child/ren's development and socialisation, along with the benefits for themselves. Parents reported that participating in the groups has helped them with their own mental health, has improved their relationship with their child/ren and has extended their social networks and peer support. I have included throughout this report some of the Quotes made by parents on their feedback forms.

Parents identified through feedback the following benefits of attending the groups:



As well as the expected outcomes, parents also identified that the groups have significantly supported their child/ren's development. This was particularly the case for the Music sessions, from which parents stated that they had seen improvements in their child's fine and gross motor skills as well as their language acquisition. Attendees also felt that the sessions had supported their child in readiness for School. 7 parents who completed feedback forms stated that the groups had improved their relationship with their child.

Home-Start Groups:

Our Area Co-ordinators with the support of volunteers have delivered regular group sessions for Home-Start families. These are delivered during term time with a view to offer families an exit strategy from Home-Visiting support. 76 families were referred for group support during the last year. The groups are now delivered from Medway Council's Children and Family Hubs. This then introduces families to the universal services that are available to support them, ensuring that they are able to sustain the positive changes that they have made.

Pop n Play - 53 parents with 68 children attended these sessions

All Sorts – 14 parents with 20 children

Little Explorers – 19 parents with 26 children attended these sessions.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Domestic Abuse Support (Funded by Children in Need)

We offer specialised support for families with a child under five who are experiencing low/medium Domestic Abuse or who have experienced Domestic Abuse historically, including those who have fled to Medway. We have a dedicated Domestic Abuse Co-Ordinator who supports these families directly. 37 families were supported by this worker during the last year.

Within this support, parents are offered weekly visits for up to 6 months to address areas of identified needs which can include; Home visiting, Financial Fitness, Groups, help to attend the One Stop Shop for specialist advice and safety planning, access to an interpreter, trips and additional help with hardship and crisis through our REAP project. Through our partnership working with REAP and other local charities the DA co-ordinator oversaw delivery and/or signposting for our DA families to hardship support including Fare Share food, hygiene products and made successful bids for small grants for white goods and clothes for children e.g., school uniform and winter coats.

Our DA Co-ordinator will also work closely with other organisations that provide support to DA victims. This ensures that families receive support to court, access to specialist advice and provision of safety equipment as needed such as door bars.

"Thankyou to you and your team for all the support that you have given me over the last year. I am so grateful for the guidance and help. I still have a long way to go but your support made a big difference".

"I want to say a massive thankyou for all your help and support and your kindness. Never once did you judge me or my situation, right back from the first time I spoke to you...I am lucky to have had you support me".

Home-Start Medway Profile

We have significantly developed our presence on social media platforms over the last year. We have our own Facebook page (1179 followers), twitter account (499 followers) and Instagram page (460 followers).

We continue to have promotional events throughout the year where we celebrate the work of the Organisation and give thanks to the grant providers including Medway Council, as without this support, we would not be able to complete this vital work in our Community. At Christmas (2021) we were very proud to be presented (finally) with the Queens Award for Volunteering. The award was actually won the year before but we were unable to have the presentation due to the Pandemic. The award was presented by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Kent, The Lady Colgrain. This event was attended by many dignitaries including; the local Mayor Jan Aldous, her consort Tony Aldous and the Wing Commander Peter Gilbert, a deputy lieutenant of Kent.



HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

FUNDRAISING

ACTIVITIES/INCOME

GENERATION

Medway Council provided the funding for the 'Core' home visiting support of families. The continuation of this funding is on a three months basis, with three months' notice required.

The Financial Fitness Champions Project is currently in the second year of 3- year funding through The National Lottery Community Fund (Big Lottery).

We have 1 years funding from the Army Covenant Fund to work with Army families.

Specialist Domestic Abuse service for families who have been or are experiencing low/medium Domestic Abuse is in the final year of 3 year funding through BBC Children in Need.

The REAP project is in the final year funded by The Big Lottery Fund tackling Hardship and crisis.

Small covid grants have been received from Kent Community Foundation, The Big lottery Awards for All, Coop Local Community Fund, Fareshare, Home-Start UK, Asda Community Fund and Tesco Community Cooks. These have funded new and additional services and projects during covid.

Fundraising from local businesses and members of the community provides raffle prizes used in events, activities and support for the families.

As a Charity, income generation is always a focus of attention by the Trustees, because of the limited access to alternative sources of funds. The Trustees will continue to explore ways and means of acquiring extra income, for the purpose of meeting the annual service plan in aid of the families and children assisted by Home Start Medway.

FINANCIAL REVIEW RESERVES POLICY

The Board of Trustees has set a Financial Reserve Policy which states that:

- Reserves are maintained at a level which ensures that Home-Start Medway organisation's core activity could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty.
- A proportion of reserves be maintained in a ready realisable form.

At the end of the financial year £42,200 was held for ongoing liabilities including state redundancy payments, office equipment on lease, utilities and accountancy fees.

The Board of Trustees, who are members of the community who bring with them their own varied specialist skills, have overall responsibility for ensuring that the company has an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise. They are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the Financial Statements comply with the Companies Act 2006.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

It remains that the Trustees have in place on going arrangements for monitoring services via regular reports to the Board. Through discussions with staff and representatives of volunteers, the Board engages in the operational activities of Home Start Medway and reviews the organisation's policies and procedures that are timetabled for scrutiny at frequencies appropriate to the issues under consideration.

Home Start Medway complies with the national quality assurance scheme. The Trustees have devised a fundraising and promotional strategy set out in a new Strategic Plan. Promotional events will inform interested parties of the excellent value for money services delivered by Home Start Medway. Effective communication with stakeholders is essential to maintain the support of partner organisations and the community in which Home Start Medway works. In a multi agency environment it is essential to have trust and a clear understanding of purpose. This openness and accountability is a strategic approach at the centre of the Board's decision making process, considered fundamental to the success of the Charity's work.

TRUSTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The trustees, who are also the directors of Home-Start Medway Limited 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).

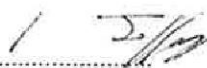
Company Law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

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. 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.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.


.....
Ms I Jeffrey, Treasurer
Trustee
Dated: 21/12/22.....

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Home-Start Medway Limited (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



Sally Meah BA Hons FCCA
Crossley Financial Accounting

Star House
Star Hill
Rochester
Kent
ME1 1UX

Dated: 7 December 2022

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £
Income from:						
Donations and legacies	2	19,566	258,624	278,190	85,686	327,621
Investments	3	77	-	77	101	101
Total income		19,643	258,624	278,267	85,787	327,722
Expenditure on:						
Resources expended on managing and administering the charity	4	17,534	209,926	227,460	12,759	221,350
Other	7	-	638	638	-	-
Total expenditure		17,534	210,564	228,098	12,759	221,350
Net income for the year/ Net movement in funds		2,109	48,060	50,169	73,028	106,372
Fund balances at 1 April 2021		224,425	128,685	353,110	151,397	246,738
Fund balances at 31 March 2022		226,534	176,745	403,279	128,685	353,110

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022 £	£	2021 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		8,574		13,655
Current assets					
Debtors	9	207		44,708	
Cash at bank and in hand		458,342		313,636	
		<u>458,549</u>		<u>358,344</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(63,844)		(18,889)	
Net current assets			394,705		339,455
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>403,279</u>		<u>353,110</u>
Income funds					
Restricted funds	12		176,745		128,685
<u>Unrestricted funds - general</u>					
Designated funds	13	42,200		42,200	
General unrestricted funds		184,334		182,225	
		<u>226,534</u>		<u>224,425</u>	
			<u>403,279</u>		<u>353,110</u>


The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2022.

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.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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 2/12/22



Ms I Jeffrey, Treasurer
Trustee

Company registration number 05135567

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Home-Start Medway Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Star House, Star Hill, Rochester, Kent, ME1 1UX. The charity's business office address is Canterbury Street Gillingham Kent ME7 5TP.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

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.

1.2 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 financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.3 Income

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

There is one exception to the above in relation to grant income. The Charity has departed from the SORP and deferred grant income which does not meet the criteria, it is considered beneficial to match the income with the costs for the readers of our accounts. If the charity was to apply the SORP there would be an additional £38,938 of grant income.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the company is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Trust that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the company has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the company, or the company is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

Donated services or facilities are recognised when the company has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use of the company of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of the Friends is not recognised and refer to the Trustees' report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the company which is the amount the company would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

1.4 Expenditure

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

Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the company and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Charitable activities and Governance costs are costs incurred on the company's operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the company apportioned to charitable activities.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 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:

Leasehold land and buildings	5 years straight line
Computer equipment	25% reducing balance

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.

1.6 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.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

2 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds general 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Unrestricted funds general 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £
Donations and gifts	19,566	258,624	278,190	85,686	241,935	327,621
Donations and gifts						
Donations	-	-	-	15,572	-	15,572
Medway Council and Medway PCT	-	126,439	126,439	-	97,127	97,127
Financial Fitness Grant	-	76,825	76,825	-	81,550	81,550
REAP	-	4,134	4,134	-	14,058	14,058
Children in Need Grant	-	25,976	25,976	-	23,700	23,700
ABF The Soldier Groups	-	19,000	19,000	-	-	-
MCH	-	6,250	6,250	-	-	-
Other	19,566	-	19,566	70,114	10,000	10,000
	19,566	258,624	278,190	85,686	241,935	327,621

3 Investments

	Unrestricted funds general 2022 £	Unrestricted funds general 2021 £
Interest received	77	101

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

4 Resources expended on managing and administering the charity

	2022 £	2021 £
Staff costs	149,867	161,109
Depreciation and impairment	4,443	4,436
Telephone/IT costs	10,383	4,449
Office expenses	41,752	35,846
Staff expenses	505	30
Cleaning	459	483
Insurance	1,217	1,146
Licence fee	5,899	4,820
Volunteers	7,977	4,442
Training	1,495	1,286
Labour costs	-	45
Accountancy and bookkeeping	3,463	3,258
	<u>227,460</u>	<u>221,350</u>
	<u>227,460</u>	<u>221,350</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds - general	17,534	12,759
Restricted funds	209,926	208,591
	<u>227,460</u>	<u>221,350</u>

5 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

6 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

2022 Number	2021 Number
<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

6 Employees	(Continued)	
Employment costs	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	138,040	147,475
Social security costs	8,374	7,687
Other pension costs	3,453	5,947
	<u>149,867</u>	<u>161,109</u>

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

7 Other	Restricted funds	Total
	2022	2021
	£	£
Net loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	638	-
	<u>638</u>	<u>-</u>

8 Tangible fixed assets	Leasehold land and buildings	Computer equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 April 2021	16,505	15,517	32,022
Disposals	-	(6,083)	(6,083)
At 31 March 2022	<u>16,505</u>	<u>9,434</u>	<u>25,939</u>
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 April 2021	7,425	10,943	18,368
Depreciation charged in the year	3,300	1,143	4,443
Eliminated in respect of disposals	-	(5,446)	(5,446)
At 31 March 2022	<u>10,725</u>	<u>6,640</u>	<u>17,365</u>
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2022	<u>5,780</u>	<u>2,794</u>	<u>8,574</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>9,080</u>	<u>4,575</u>	<u>13,655</u>

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

9 Debtors		2022	2021
		£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:			
Prepayments and accrued income		207	44,708
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		2022	2021
	Notes	£	£
Other taxation and social security		2,944	2,763
Government grants	11	52,702	13,750
Other creditors		803	792
Accruals and deferred income		7,395	1,584
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		63,844	18,889
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
11 Government grants			
Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:			
		2022	2021
		£	£
Deferred income is included within:			
Current liabilities		52,702	13,750
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Movements in the year:			
Deferred income at 1 April 2021		13,750	38,938
Released from previous periods		(13,750)	(38,938)
Resources deferred in the year		52,702	13,750
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Deferred income at 31 March 2022		52,702	13,750
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

11 Government grants

(Continued)

12 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds						
	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Medway Council	4,343	97,127	(77,320)	24,150	126,439	(102,943)	47,646
Financial Fitness	41,106	81,550	(80,591)	42,065	76,825	(62,549)	56,341
REAP	12,232	14,058	(11,978)	14,312	4,134	(3,366)	15,080
The Royal British Legion	5,927	-	-	5,927	-	-	5,927
BBC Children in Need Groups	11,219	23,700	(19,330)	15,589	25,976	(21,149)	20,416
	1,744	-	(42)	1,702	6,250	(5,089)	2,863
Medway Community Healthcare	9,114	10,000	(7,732)	11,382	-	-	11,382
Kent Community Foundation	1,708	15,500	(11,598)	5,610	-	-	5,610
Lloyds Bank Foundation	7,948	-	-	7,948	-	-	7,948
Armed Forces Grant	-	-	-	-	19,000	(15,469)	3,531
	<u>95,341</u>	<u>241,935</u>	<u>(208,591)</u>	<u>128,685</u>	<u>258,624</u>	<u>(210,564)</u>	<u>176,745</u>

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

12 Restricted funds

(Continued)

Medway Council

The funding from Medway Council is so Home-Start Medway can offer home-visiting support to local families who have children under the age of five. The funding helps to pay staffing costs and the charities general expenses.

Financial Fitness

The Financial Fitness funding enables Home-Start Medway to provide a free service that ultimately helps families get themselves onto a level financial playing field. Reducing the stress of debt helps with all the family members' emotional wellbeing.

The Royal British Legion

The one year funding from The Royal British Legion is specifically for Home-Start Medway to support the Army families in the Brompton Barracks area and Ex-Army families. The funding pays for an additional member of staff and expenses attributed to this support and for recruiting volunteers from within the Army families.

REAP

The REAP funding enables Home-Start Medway to hire a team to support people in hardship or crisis situations.

BBC Children In Need

The three year funding from BBC Children In Need is specifically for Home-Start Medway to support families who have or are experiencing low level domestic abuse. Providing a new Domestic Abuse Coordinator to directly support, organise home visiting volunteers, run a peer support group and help with safety planning via the One Stop Shop.

Medway Community Healthcare

Supporting families in their own home around potty training, sleep behaviour and introducing solid food.

Groups (Kent Community Foundation, The Big Lottery Awards For All, ABF The Soldiers Charity)

Reducing isolation and increasing social interaction, supporting with parenting, improving gross and fine motor skills through messy play, promoting peer to peer and group support. Within Grey n Play our intergenerational group we are promoting strong intergenerational relationships, increasing social interaction, whilst also helping to improve mental health and supporting older people with dementia.

Lloyds Bank Foundation

The above restricted fund represents monies given to us by Lloyds for the delivery of groups.

13 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds				
	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Redundancy, lease, utility and accountancy costs	42,200	-	42,200	-	42,200
	<u>42,200</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>42,200</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>42,200</u>

At the end of the financial year trustees have agreed to designate £42,200 for ongoing liabilities including state redundancy payments, office equipment on lease, utilities and accountancy fees.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

13 Designated funds

(Continued)

14 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Within one year	8,000	7,644
Between two and five years	5,699	13,698
	<u>13,699</u>	<u>21,342</u>

15 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2021 - none).

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1108057

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 1108057

Company Registration No. 05135567 (England and Wales)

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees

Mrs W Purdy
Mrs M Smith
Mrs S Bolland, Chair
Mrs J Baker
Mrs A Dowsett
Mr P Giles
Ms I Jeffrey, Treasurer
Dr C Johnson
Mrs D Sargent
Miss C M Jamieson

Charity number

1108057

Company number

05135567

Registered office

Star House
Star Hill
Rochester
Kent
ME1 1UX

Independent examiner

Crossley Financial Accounting
Star House
Star Hill
Rochester
Kent
ME1 1UX

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 4
Independent examiner's report	5
Statement of financial activities	6
Statement of financial position	7
Notes to the financial statements	8 - 17

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 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) (effective 1 January 2019)".

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT CONSTITUTION

The company is a charitable company limited by guarantee and has been in operation for 30 years.

The company is constituted and is a registered charity number 1108057.

The principal objective of the company is to recruit and train volunteers who are usually parents themselves to visit families at home with at least one child under five and offer them informal, friendly and confidential support.

METHOD OF APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

The management of the company is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Memorandum and Articles of Association. One third of the board retire by rotation, by reference to those who have been longest in office since their last election, together with any members of the board who have been appointed to fill a casual vacancy since the last annual general meeting.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the company is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the company, and are satisfied that the policies, systems and procedures are in place to mitigate our exposure to the major risks.

The Board of Trustees will clarify annually the level of known financial liability it carries so that policy and operational actions can be implemented.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES

Home-Start helps to improve the life chances of children by supporting their parents and carers at difficult times. In particular Home-Start offers emotional and practical support as well as friendship to parents with at least one child under the age of five. The organisation gives families support by assisting them to identify what family and child centred issues are a problem in their lives and how they can get help. This is done at an initial visit, with regular follow ups to review progress and determine to what extent Home-Start is making a difference and how other resources may be accessed to improve the family's circumstances.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

Families from all kinds of backgrounds with many different needs receive support via home visiting. The organisation has over 50 volunteers, 1 full time and 7 part time paid staff who work flexibly and creatively with families to encourage and empower parents to give their children the best possible start in life. The home visiting support raises self-confidence, improves social networks and reduces isolation, reduces difficult behaviour on the part of the child and improves physical and mental health. Volunteers are at the heart of the service, they are usually parents themselves, recruited, trained, and mentored by the experienced Home Start team. Many volunteers move on to further education and training and take up paid employment.

HOME VISITING SUPPORT SESSIONS

Home Visits

116 home visiting support referrals were received during the year.

Additional activities

- Families who have been identified as having money concerns that are impacting on their family life are supported to look at their budget, maximise their income, apply for benefits and look at their debt, by receiving impartial non-judgemental information and guidance from the Financial Fitness Champions Project.
- Those families identified as having experienced/ fled or are experiencing lower/ medium level Domestic Abuse (DA) are given specialised support through the Home Start DA project, with direct home support from a paid member of staff, including help to access the One Stop Shop.
- With Brompton Barracks within our local community, we are supporting Army and ex-Army families experiencing isolation, helping to integrate them into the community and offering group and home visiting support as well as volunteering opportunities.

REAP is a partnership project where we tackle hardship and crisis across Medway with 4 other organisations. Our role within this partnership is to assist families who find themselves in a hardship or crisis, then referring on for longer term support.

In accordance with its aims and objectives, Home Start continues to perform its core services of:

Offering support, friendship and practical help to parents with at least one child under the age of five.

Recruiting and training volunteers who are usually parents themselves to visit families at home and offer them informal friendly and confidential support, helping to give children the best possible start in life.

Supporting parents as they grow in confidence, strengthening their relationship with their children and widening their links with the local community.

Home Start Medway vision going forward is 'Every Medway parent has the support they need to live their children the best start in life' and does not envisage any future developments outside the course of its principle activities, which are reported in more detail below.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES/INCOME GENERATION

Medway Council provided the funding for the 'Core' home visiting support of families. The continuation of this funding is on a three months basis, with three months' notice required.

The Financial Fitness Champions Project is currently in the second year of 3- year funding through The National Lottery Community Fund (Big Lottery).

We have 1 years funding from the Army Covenant Fund to work with Army families.

Specialist Domestic Abuse service for families who have been or are experiencing low/medium Domestic Abuse is in the final year of 3 year funding through BBC Children in Need.

The REAP project is in the final year funded by The Big Lottery Fund tackling Hardship and crisis.

Small covid grants have been received from Kent Community Foundation, The Big lottery Awards for All, Coop Local Community Fund, Fareshare, Home-Start UK, Asda Community Fund and Tesco Community Cooks. These have funded new and additional services and projects during covid.

Fundraising from local businesses and members of the community provides raffle prizes used in events, activities and support for the families.

As a Charity, income generation is always a focus of attention by the Trustees, because of the limited access to alternative sources of funds. The Trustees will continue to explore ways and means of acquiring extra income, for the purpose of meeting the annual service plan in aid of the families and children assisted by Home Start Medway.

FINANCIAL REVIEW RESERVES POLICY

The Board of Trustees has set a Financial Reserve Policy which states that:

- Reserves are maintained at a level which ensures that Home-Start Medway organisation's core activity could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty.
- A proportion of reserves be maintained in a ready realisable form.

At the end of the financial year £42,200 was held for ongoing liabilities including state redundancy payments, office equipment on lease, utilities and accountancy fees.

The Board of Trustees, who are members of the community who bring with them their own varied specialist skills, have overall responsibility for ensuring that the company has an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise. They are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the Financial Statements comply with the Companies Act 2006.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

It remains that the Trustees have in place on-going arrangements for monitoring services via regular reports to the Board. Through discussions with staff and representatives of volunteers, the Board engages in the operational activities of Home-Start Medway and reviews the organisation's policies and procedures that are timetabled for scrutiny at frequencies appropriate to the issues under consideration.

Home Start Medway complies with the national quality assurance scheme. The Trustees have devised a fundraising and promotional strategy set out in a new Strategic Plan. Promotional events will inform interested parties of the excellent value for money services delivered by Home-Start Medway. Effective communication with stakeholders is essential to maintain the support of partner organisations and the community in which Home-Start Medway works. In a multi-agency environment it is essential to have trust and a clear understanding of purpose. This openness and accountability is a strategic approach at the centre of the Board's decision-making process, considered fundamental to the success of the Charity's work.

TRUSTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The trustees, who are also the directors of Home-Start Medway Limited 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. 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.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.


.....
Ms I Jeffrey, Treasurer
Trustee
Dated: 14/12/21

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Home-Start Medway Limited (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of , which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



Crossley Financial Accounting

Star House
Star Hill
Rochester
Kent
ME1 1UX

Dated: 14.12.2021

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

		Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total 2020 £
	Notes						
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	2	85,686	241,935	327,621	23,075	243,520	266,595
Other trading activities	3	-	-	-	1,031	-	1,031
Investments	4	101	-	101	131	-	131
Total income		85,787	241,935	327,722	24,237	243,520	267,757
Expenditure on:							
Resources expended on managing and administering the charity	5	12,759	208,591	221,350	-	227,546	227,546
Net income for the year/ Net movement in funds		73,028	33,344	106,372	24,237	15,974	40,211
Fund balances at 1 April 2020		151,397	95,341	246,738	127,159	79,367	206,526
Fund balances at 31 March 2021		224,425	128,685	353,110	151,396	95,341	246,737

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		13,655		16,269
Current assets					
Debtors	9	44,708		31,473	
Cash at bank and in hand		313,636		245,141	
		<u>358,344</u>		<u>276,614</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>(18,889)</u>		<u>(46,146)</u>	
Net current assets			339,455		230,468
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>353,110</u>		<u>246,737</u>
Income funds					
Restricted funds	11		128,685		95,341
<u>Unrestricted funds - general</u>					
Designated funds	12	42,200		42,200	
General unrestricted funds		182,225		109,196	
		<u>224,425</u>		<u>151,396</u>	
			<u>353,110</u>		<u>246,737</u>


The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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 15 September 2021


Ms I Jeffrey, Treasurer
Trustee

Company Registration No. 05135567

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Home-Start Medway Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Star House, Star Hill, Rochester, Kent, ME1 1UX.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's [governing document], the Companies Act 2006 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) (effective 1 January 2019)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

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.

1.2 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 financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.3 Income

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

There is one exception to the above in relation to grant income. The Charity has departed from the SORP and deferred grant income which does not meet the criteria, it is considered beneficial to match the income with the costs for the readers of our accounts. If the charity was to apply the SORP there would be an additional £38,938 of grant income.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the company is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Trust that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the company has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the company, or the company is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

Donated services or facilities are recognised when the company has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use of the company of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of the Friends is not recognised and refer to the Trustees' report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the company which is the amount the company would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

1.4 Expenditure

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

Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the company and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Charitable activities and Governance costs are costs incurred on the company's operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the company apportioned to charitable activities.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 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:

Leasehold land and buildings	5 years straight line
Computer equipment	25% reducing balance

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 net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.6 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.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

2 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds general	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds general	Restricted funds	Total
	2021	2021	2021	2020	2020	2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	85,686	241,935	327,621	23,075	243,520	266,595
Donations and gifts						
Donations	15,572	-	15,572	2,183	-	2,183
Medway Council and Medway PCT	-	97,127	97,127	-	97,463	97,463
Financial Fitness Grant	-	81,550	81,550	-	52,948	52,948
REAP	-	14,058	14,058	-	15,504	15,504
The Royal British Legion	-	-	-	-	11,860	11,860
Children in Need Grant	-	23,700	23,700	-	39,000	39,000
Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	-	-	-	6,250	6,250
Pop 'n' Play Grant	-	-	-	4,520	-	4,520
Groups	-	-	-	-	4,168	4,168
MCH	-	10,000	10,000	-	10,000	10,000
Kent Community Foundation	-	15,500	15,500	-	6,327	6,327
Other	70,114	-	70,114	16,372	-	16,372
	85,686	241,935	327,621	23,075	243,520	266,595

3 Other trading activities

	Total	Unrestricted funds general
	2021	2020
	£	£
Fundraising events	-	1,031

4 Investments

	Unrestricted funds general	Unrestricted funds general
	2021	2020
	£	£
Interest received	101	131

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

5 Resources expended on managing and administering the charity

	2021	2020
	£	£
Staff costs	161,109	175,581
Depreciation and impairment	4,436	4,596
Telephone	4,449	2,954
Office expenses	35,846	18,838
Staff expenses	30	1,821
Cleaning	483	117
Insurance	1,146	1,075
Licence fee	4,820	5,143
Volunteers	4,442	10,015
Training	1,286	754
Labour costs	45	1,334
Fundraising costs	-	46
Venue costs	-	1,785
Accountancy and bookkeeping	3,258	3,251
Refreshments	-	236
	<u>221,350</u>	<u>227,546</u>
	<u>221,350</u>	<u>227,546</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds - general	12,759	-
Restricted funds	<u>208,591</u>	<u>227,546</u>
	<u>221,350</u>	<u>227,546</u>

6 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

7 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

2021	2020
Number	Number
<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

7 Employees (Continued)

Employment costs	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	147,475	160,413
Social security costs	7,687	8,452
Other pension costs	5,947	6,716
	<u>161,109</u>	<u>175,581</u>

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

8 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold land and buildings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2020	16,505	13,695	30,200
Additions	-	1,822	1,822
At 31 March 2021	<u>16,505</u>	<u>15,517</u>	<u>32,022</u>
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 April 2020	4,125	9,806	13,931
Depreciation charged in the year	3,300	1,136	4,436
At 31 March 2021	<u>7,425</u>	<u>10,942</u>	<u>18,367</u>
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2021	<u>9,080</u>	<u>4,575</u>	<u>13,655</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>12,380</u>	<u>3,889</u>	<u>16,269</u>

9 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>44,708</u>	<u>31,473</u>

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Other taxation and social security	2,763	(334)
Trade creditors	-	5,143
Other creditors	792	815
Accruals and deferred income	15,334	40,522
	<u>18,889</u>	<u>46,146</u>

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

11 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds			Movement in funds			Balance at 31 March 2021 £
	Balance at 1 April 2019 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	
Medway Council	4,846	97,463	(97,966)	4,343	97,127	(77,320)	24,150
Financial Fitness	26,349	52,948	(38,191)	41,106	81,550	(80,591)	42,065
REAP	11,400	15,504	(14,672)	12,232	14,058	(11,978)	14,312
The Royal British Legion	14,106	11,860	(20,039)	5,927	-	-	5,927
BBC Children in Need	5,617	39,000	(33,398)	11,219	23,700	(19,330)	15,589
Groups	5,270	4,168	(7,694)	1,744	-	(42)	1,702
Medway Community Healthcare	8,020	10,000	(8,906)	9,114	10,000	(7,732)	11,382
Kent Community Foundation	2,061	6,327	(6,680)	1,708	15,500	(11,598)	5,610
Lloyds Bank Foundation	1,698	6,250	-	7,948	-	-	7,948
	<u>79,367</u>	<u>243,520</u>	<u>(227,546)</u>	<u>95,341</u>	<u>241,935</u>	<u>(208,591)</u>	<u>128,685</u>

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

11 Restricted funds

(Continued)

Medway Council

The funding from Medway Council is so Home-Start Medway can offer home-visiting support to local families who have children under the age of five. The funding helps to pay staffing costs and the charities general expenses.

Financial Fitness

The Financial Fitness funding enables Home-Start Medway to provide a free service that ultimately helps families get themselves onto a level financial playing field. Reducing the stress of debt helps with all the family members' emotional wellbeing.

The Royal British Legion

The one year funding from The Royal British Legion is specifically for Home-Start Medway to support the Army families in the Brompton Barracks area and Ex-Army families. The funding pays for an additional member of staff and expenses attributed to this support and for recruiting volunteers from within the Army families.

REAP

The REAP funding enables Home-Start Medway to hire a team to support people in hardship or crisis situations.

BBC Children In Need

The three year funding from BBC Children In Need is specifically for Home-Start Medway to support families who have or are experiencing low level domestic abuse. Providing a new Domestic Abuse Coordinator to directly support, organise home visiting volunteers, run a peer support group and help with safety planning via the One Stop Shop.

Medway Community Healthcare

Supporting families in their own home around potty training, sleep behaviour and introducing solid food.

Groups (Kent Community Foundation, The Big Lottery Awards For All, ABF The Soldiers Charity)

Reducing isolation and increasing social interaction, supporting with parenting, improving gross and fine motor skills through messy play, promoting peer to peer and group support. Within Grey n Play our intergenerational group we are promoting strong intergenerational relationships, increasing social interaction, whilst also helping to improve mental health and supporting older people with dementia.

Lloyds Bank Foundation

The above restricted fund represents monies given to us by Lloyds for the delivery of groups.

HOME-START MEDWAY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

12 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds				
	Balance at 1 April 2019 £	Incoming resources £	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
Redundancy, lease, utility and accountancy costs	42,200	-	42,200	-	42,200
	<u>42,200</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>42,200</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>42,200</u>

At the end of the financial year trustees have agreed to designate £42,200 for ongoing liabilities including state redundancy payments, office equipment on lease, utilities and accountancy fees.

13 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Within one year	7,644	7,144
Between two and five years	13,698	21,342
	<u>21,342</u>	<u>28,486</u>

14 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2020 - none).