

Lotus Families

England & Wales · Charity number 1108855

Details

Other names	HOME START EAST SUSSEX, HOME-START EAST SUSSEX, HOME-START SOUTH DOWNS
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	05368531
Registered	2005-04-05
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address
Newhaven Enterprise Centre
Denton Island
Newhaven
East Sussex
BN9 9BA

Phone 01273612025

Email hello@lotus-families.org.uk

Website www.lotus-families.org.uk

Activities

Objects: FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT, IN EAST SUSSEX AND THE SURROUNDING AREA:A) TO PROMOTE AND PROTECT THE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF WOMEN, CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY THOSE AT RISK OF HARM AND DISADVANTAGE, INCLUDING THOSE AT RISK OF DOMESTIC ABUSE IN ALL ITS FORMS.B) TO PROMOTE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN BETTER STANDARDS OF CHILD CARE.

Activities: Lotus Families is a small, women-centred charity based in East Sussex, dedicated to the prevention of abuse and violence against women and girls (VAWG), and to supporting long-term recovery. Since 1996, we have specialised in services for women with children living across East Sussex and Brighton & Hove.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities, Other Defined Groups

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** THE BOROUGH OF EASTBOURNE; LEWES AND WEALDEN DISTRICT AND THEIR ENVIRONS.
- East Sussex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£268,516	£275,188	-	-
2024-03-31	£325,906	£281,176	-	-
2023-03-31	£292,041	£275,889	-	-
2022-03-31	£176,166	£161,312	-	-
2021-03-31	£145,095	£125,148	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Jayne Rice-Oxley Ms	Chair	2019-10-22
ALISON WENDY GRAY		2025-10-29
Analiene Doctrove		2026-01-28
Ann-Marie Wilkinson		2026-01-28
Dawn Alison Phillips		2025-10-30
Gail Gray		2024-01-23
Kate Montgomery		2025-09-01
Renata Maria Sims		2026-04-30

Lotus Families

England & Wales - Charity number 1108855

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 05368531 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1108855

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025
FOR
LOTUS FAMILIES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

Woodgate Accounting Services Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Unit 43, Newhaven Enterprise Centre
Newhaven
East Sussex
BN9 9BA

LOTUS FAMILIES

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 7
Independent Examiner's Report	8
Statement of Financial Activities	9
Balance Sheet	10 to 11
Notes to the Financial Statements	12 to 21

LOTUS FAMILIES

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's Memorandum and Articles, the Companies Act 2006 and the provisions of 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).

CHAIR'S OVERVIEW 2024/25

I am pleased to present the Lotus Families Annual Report and Financial Statements for 2024/25.

To reflect our wider spectrum of service delivery and our specialist expertise in domestic and familial abuse, the board took the decision to step away from the Home-Start UK federation and operate under our own identity. From 1 April 2024, we became **Lotus**, named after our longest-standing service. We are grateful to Home-Start UK for their support during this smooth and collaborative transition.

This has been a year of both continued success and significant development for the charity. Our **Domestic Abuse Recovery** and **Child-to-Parent Violence (CAPVA)** programmes have once again delivered excellent outcomes. Demand for our recovery programme remains exceptionally high, with a waiting list for groups stretching to three years. In response, we secured funding to provide **triage support** to clients awaiting a place on both the recovery and CAPVA programmes. This has enabled us to carry out risk assessments and develop tailored safety and support plans, ensuring no family is left without guidance during this waiting period. We anticipate working through the current waiting list within the next 12 months (to March 2026), and from 1 April 2025, we will aim to offer every referred client a safety and support plan from the outset.

This year also saw some internal changes, as two members of staff took maternity leave. To ensure continuity, we engaged a qualified **independent social worker** to support staff supervision and management during this time. Despite the temporary reduction in capacity, the team remained resilient and effective. We were particularly proud to **retain our SafeLives Leading Lights accreditation** following reinspection in September 2024 - an important external endorsement of the safety, quality, and impact of our domestic abuse services.

Our peer-led **Lotus Blossom** programme continues to grow. This year, we trained three new facilitators, bringing our total to seven. Together, they delivered five peer support groups, reaching 42 clients. We were also proud to launch our first **paid Trainee IDVA** post, and to recruit **Amy**, one of our trained peer facilitators, into the role, demonstrating our commitment to progression and leadership within the survivor community.

At our AGM in January, we said farewell to long-standing trustee **Mark Brewer**. We thank him warmly for his dedication and service.

Led by CEO **Kate** and supported by our skilled and committed team and board of trustees, we remain focused on delivering high-quality, trauma-informed services that empower women and families to live safer, more secure lives. We are deeply grateful to our funders for their continued support, which makes this vital work possible.

Jayne Rice-Oxley
Chair of the Board of Trustees

FINANCIAL REVIEW

For the year under review, total income was **£268,516** and total expenditure was **£275,188**, resulting in a **net deficit of £6,672**. This reduced total reserves to **£136,524** at year end, comprising:

- **Unrestricted reserves:** £131,052 (including £94,549 designated reserves)
- **Restricted reserves:** £35,472

At 1 April 2024, we entered the year with a planned deficit budget of **£42,000** (compared to **£70,000** the year before). By the beginning of 2025-26 the planned deficit had been reduced to **£30,000**. Our track record of completely, or almost, breaking even by year-end gives us confidence. However, we remain alert to the challenging financial climate: the number of independent grant providers is reducing, inflation remains high, and expenditure may need to flex in response.

LOTUS FAMILIES

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

In recognition that some of our current contracts are no longer full cost recovery due to inflationary pressures, trustees took the proactive decision not to replace a staff member who left in Q4. This ensured we did not take on unfunded costs and demonstrates our commitment to safeguarding the charity's financial stability. Importantly, this decision was balanced with a strong focus on staff wellbeing: workloads were monitored closely, and additional support was provided by our services manager to protect the resilience and safety of both staff and services.

Expenditure in 2024-25 was once again closely aligned to the budget projection agreed at the start of the year, reflecting careful financial planning and control. Trustees and the CEO remain committed to actively managing both income and costs, with the aim of breaking even by year-end.

The trustees continue to monitor reserves carefully. Our reserves policy is reviewed annually to ensure it remains proportionate to the size and scale of the charity. We aim to hold free reserves equivalent to **three to six months of operating costs**, providing resilience against income fluctuations and unexpected demands. At year-end, unrestricted reserves of £131,052 sat within this target range, including designated reserves to support organisational sustainability and mitigate financial risk.

We continue to take a **digital-first approach** wherever possible, reducing travel and premises costs, improving accessibility for clients across East Sussex and Brighton & Hove, and supporting sustainability. As a small charity delivering specialist, high-risk work, our overheads are naturally higher than some larger organisations. We aim to keep these at around **30% of total expenditure**, a level that supports safe practice, strong governance, and robust infrastructure, while ensuring most funds go directly to front-line delivery.

Our financial management is underpinned by strong internal controls, including dual authorisation on payments, oversight from an independent accountant, and regular monitoring by the CEO and Board of Trustees. These safeguards ensure transparency, accountability, and prudent use of charitable funds.

Looking ahead, we remain focused on diversifying our income streams, pursuing multi-year funding opportunities, and strengthening partnerships to ensure that Lotus Families remains resilient and able to meet growing demand.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Lotus Families is a small, women-centred charity based in East Sussex, dedicated to preventing violence against women and girls (VAWG) and supporting long-term recovery from trauma. Since 1996, we have provided specialist services for women with children living across East Sussex and Brighton & Hove, grounded in the six core principles of trauma-informed care. Many of our team members bring lived experience, ensuring a deep understanding of the challenges our clients face.

Our services are designed to foster emotional and physical safety, with predictable, structured, and non-judgemental support tailored to each client. We focus on building trust, offering transparent communication and consistent relationships to help survivors re-establish stability.

We currently deliver three key services:

1. Domestic Abuse Recovery Programme

This core service supports women who are rebuilding their lives after domestic abuse. We use a person-centred, trauma-informed model to help clients recover their sense of agency, safety, and self-worth.

Key components include:

- **One-to-one and group-based IDVA-led support**, providing space to process trauma, build resilience, and develop strategies for safety and independence.
- **Safety and recovery planning**, co-produced with the client to reduce short- and long-term risk.
- **Parenting support**, helping women understand how trauma may affect parenting and interrupting intergenerational cycles of abuse.

All services are delivered with transparency and collaboration, ensuring each woman's voice is heard and respected in shaping their support.

2. Child-to-Parent Violence (CPV) Support Programme

This programme supports parents and carers experiencing violence or abuse from their children, many of whom are also survivors of domestic abuse themselves. A trauma-informed lens allows us to see CPV not as isolated behaviour, but as part of a complex family dynamic shaped by adversity.

LOTUS FAMILIES

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

We support families with holistic, non-judgemental interventions grounded in empathy, cultural awareness, and mutual respect, recognising the intersection of trauma, poverty, disability, and other structural inequalities.

3. Peer-Led Recovery Support (Lotus Blossom)

Peer support is a cornerstone of our model. Our trained facilitators - former clients - deliver group-based recovery services for women starting their healing journey. These groups foster community, empowerment, and belonging, showing survivors that change is possible.

By enabling survivors to step into leadership roles, we reinforce choice, agency, and voice, essential pillars of long-term recovery and self-determination.

Lotus Families remains committed to being a learning organisation. Our staff receive ongoing training in trauma-informed practice, including specialist training in sexual violence and YPVA (Young Person's Violence Advisor) support.

Over the course of 2024-25, we employed 8 staff (2 on maternity leave), 5 subcontracted professionals, 7 trustees and 7 volunteers, some fulfilling multiple roles. Our operational culture continues to emphasise transparency, safety, and collaboration at every level, including within governance and staffing.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Throughout 2024-25, Lotus Families continued to deliver life-changing, trauma-informed services to women and families affected by domestic and familial abuse. Our approach is rooted in safety, both physical and psychological, and in fostering trusting, collaborative relationships that support recovery at each client's pace.

Key achievements include:

- **71 women** engaged with our Domestic Abuse Recovery Programme, indirectly reaching **81 children**, demonstrating the far-reaching impact of safe, empowering support on family systems.
- **30 parents and carers** accessed our Child-to-Parent Violence (CPV) programme, supporting **65 children** - a reflection of our commitment to responding to trauma within the whole family.
- **67 clients** received one-to-one IDVA support while attending group programmes, helping them remain safe, emotionally supported, and connected.
- **One trans and non-binary IDVA referral** was received, the service reflecting our commitment to inclusive, gender-aware support.
- We launched our first **paid Trainee IDVA role**, filled by Amy, a former client and peer support facilitator, embodying the power of peer-led empowerment and long-term recovery.
- Our peer-led Lotus Blossom programme grew to **seven trained facilitators**, who delivered **five support groups** and supported **42 women**, embedding the principle of survivor leadership and community connection.

We also completed **SafeLives Leading Lights reaccreditation in September 2024**, affirming the trustworthiness, quality, and safety of our services.

Client feedback continues to show strong outcomes:

- **97%** improved mental health and wellbeing
- **99%** improved social support and connection
- **95%** reduction in risk of harm
- **92%** reported a positive impact on their children
- **100%** of applicable clients reported improved relationships with partners or significant others
- **95%** of clients reported an overall positive impact

These outcomes reflect our team's expertise, the consistency of our trauma-informed approach, and the enduring strength of survivors when provided with the right tools, compassion, and support.

LOTUS FAMILIES

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

THE FUTURE

Our focus for 2025–26 is to sustain and grow our trauma-informed services while ensuring every woman and family referred receives timely, safe, and empowering support. From April 2025, we aim to offer all clients a triage assessment and personalised safety and support plan upon referral, addressing urgent needs while they await a place on our group programmes.

To do this, we will continue to seek investment in areas that support both service quality and organisational sustainability. This includes securing unrestricted or full-cost recovery grants to stabilise our core delivery and expand our Recovery Programme, enabling us to reduce the current three-year waiting list and reach more women sooner. These additional groups will help survivors rebuild confidence, regain control, and connect with others - key protective factors against repeat victimisation.

We are also committed to investing in our digital infrastructure, including ethical AI tools and improved data systems, to streamline operations and enhance monitoring. Staff wellbeing and professional development remain a top priority, with plans to secure funding for IDVA, ISVA and YPVA training, clinical supervision, and wellbeing initiatives that strengthen retention and resilience.

We will explore consultancy support to embed our new front-end risk-led model and advocate for greater funding collaboration and community engagement to promote awareness of our new name and amplify our specialist voice. While we are a resilient and resourceful organisation, continued partnership and strategic investment are essential to meet growing demand and ensure the long-term wellbeing of survivors and our team.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Lotus Families is governed by a committed Board of Trustees, who work in accordance with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association. The Board provides leadership, sets strategic objectives, and ensures that the charity continues to deliver safe, effective, and sustainable services for survivors of abuse and their families.

Day-to-day operations are delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, supported by a small but highly skilled team of mainly part-time staff. Together, they ensure that our services remain trauma-informed, accessible, and responsive to the needs of women, children, trans, and non-binary people affected by domestic abuse, as well as parents and carers experiencing child-to-parent violence.

The Board met formally on four occasions during the year, receiving detailed reports from the CEO, staff, and accountant to ensure robust oversight of both service delivery and financial management. In addition, the Personnel Subcommittee met regularly to advise on staffing matters, reflecting our commitment to governance and the wellbeing of our team.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The trustees regularly review the major risks to which the charity is exposed, paying particular attention to financial matters, child and adult safeguarding issues, reputational risk, and personal safety. The trustees are satisfied that the policies in place to manage and mitigate identified risks are appropriate.

Trustees take an active role in identifying and addressing the risks associated with running a specialist domestic abuse charity. At each meeting, the Board reviews the major risks we face, including financial pressures, safeguarding of children and adults, reputational risk, and staff and volunteer safety. Policies and procedures are regularly updated to ensure risks are well managed, and the Board is satisfied that appropriate measures are in place to safeguard both our beneficiaries and our organisation.

APPRECIATION

We are deeply grateful to everyone who has played a part in enabling Lotus Families to provide life-changing support across East Sussex and Brighton & Hove. This year, hundreds of women and families affected by abuse have been able to take vital steps towards recovery, safety, and independence, at no cost to themselves, thanks to the generosity and commitment of others.

LOTUS FAMILIES

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

We particularly thank:

- **Our Peer Support facilitators:** women with lived experience who volunteer their time to run recovery follow-on groups, creating safe spaces of hope, connection, and resilience.
- **Our funders:** whose financial support and belief in our work allow us to deliver specialist domestic abuse recovery and child-to-parent violence programmes that meet real community need.
- **Individuals, local traders, organisations, and community fundraisers:** whose donations and efforts help us reach families who might otherwise face isolation and harm alone.
- **Our partner agencies:** for their collaboration, training, and information-sharing, which strengthen the network of support available to survivors.
- **Our staff team:** whose hard work, dedication, and professionalism ensure every service we deliver is trauma-informed, of high quality, and makes the best possible use of the funds entrusted to us.

Together, with trustees, staff, volunteers, funders, and partners, we continue to make recovery possible and to work towards a future free from domestic abuse.

LOTUS FAMILIES

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

Registered Company Number

05368531

Registered Charity Number

1108855

Registered office

Newhaven Enterprise Centre

Denton Island

Newhaven

East Sussex

BN9 9BA

Trustees

Ms A Bacchoo

Mr M A Brewer

Ms G Gray

Ms K Montgomery

Miss C E Moon

Ms B L Reid

Ms J M P Rice-Oxley

Ms C T Titherly

Resigned 24 June 2025

Resigned 6 January 2025

Appointed 1 September 2025

Secretary

Chair

Resigned 29 July 2025

Independent examiner

Philip Woodgate, FCCA

Woodgate Accounting Services Limited

Chartered Certified Accountants

Unit 43, Newhaven Enterprise Centre

Newhaven

East Sussex

BN9 9BA

Chief Executive Officer

Ms K Lawrence

LOTUS FAMILIES

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

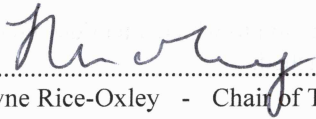
The trustees (who are also the directors of Lotus Families for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the 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 Charity 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 charitable company will continue in business.

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.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 29 October 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Jayne Rice-Oxley - Chair of Trustees

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF LOTUS FAMILIES

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Lotus Families

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Lotus Families (the charity) for the year ended 31st 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

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 Company 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 accounts to be reached.



Philip Woodgate, FCCA
Woodgate Accounting Services Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Unit 43, Newhaven Enterprise Centre
Newhaven
East Sussex
BN9 9BA

Date: 29 October 2025

LOTUS FAMILIES

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

	Not es	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	47,304	219,038	266,342	323,871
Other trading activities	3	-	-	-	-
Investment income	4	<u>2,174</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,174</u>	<u>2,035</u>
Total		49,478	219,038	268,516	325,906
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable Activities	5	<u>26,754</u>	<u>248,434</u>	<u>275,188</u>	<u>281,176</u>
Total		<u>26,754</u>	<u>248,434</u>	<u>275,188</u>	<u>281,176</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		22,724	(29,396)	(6,672)	44,730
Transfers between funds	15	<u>(33,228)</u>	<u>33,228</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		<u>(10,504)</u>	<u>3,832</u>	<u>(6,672)</u>	<u>44,730</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>141,556</u>	<u>1,640</u>	<u>143,196</u>	<u>98,466</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>131,052</u></u>	<u><u>5,472</u></u>	<u><u>136,524</u></u>	<u><u>143,196</u></u>

The statement of financial activities includes all the 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.

LOTUS FAMILIES (REGISTERED NUMBER: 05368531)**BALANCE SHEET 31ST MARCH 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	12	750	-	750	400
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	6,110	-	6,110	30,947
Cash at bank		<u>174,978</u>	<u>6,147</u>	<u>181,125</u>	<u>212,020</u>
		181,088	6,147	187,235	242,967
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(50,786)</u>	<u>(675)</u>	<u>(51,461)</u>	<u>(100,171)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>130,302</u>	<u>5,472</u>	<u>135,774</u>	<u>142,796</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>131,052</u>	<u>5,472</u>	<u>136,524</u>	<u>143,196</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>131,052</u>	<u>5,472</u>	<u>136,524</u>	<u>143,196</u>
FUNDS	16				
Unrestricted funds - General				36,503	47,007
Unrestricted funds – Designated				<u>94,549</u>	<u>94,549</u>
Unrestricted funds - Total				131,052	141,556
Restricted funds				<u>5,472</u>	<u>1,640</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>136,524</u>	<u>143,196</u>

LOTUS FAMILIES (REGISTERED NUMBER: 05368531)

BALANCE SHEET - CONTINUED
AT 31ST MARCH 2025

The company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st March 2025.

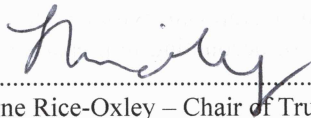
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each 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 charitable company.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 29 October 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:



.....
Jayne Rice-Oxley – Chair of Trustees



.....
Christine Moon – Trustee

Company registration number 05368531

LOTUS FAMILIES

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

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, 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.

Going concern

Due to support from funders and supporters the trustees at the time of approving the financial statements have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Income

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

Donations are accounted for as they are received by the charity. Donations received in the year that relate to specific purposes have been included in restricted funds.

Grants are recognised on an accrual's basis, accounted for in relation to the period to which they relate. Where grants are received during the year under review but relate to a later period, the amount is deferred.

Investment income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

All other income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

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

Governance costs included as part of the charitable expenditure include costs of the preparation and examination of the statutory accounts, the costs of trustee's meetings and the cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Computer equipment - 25% reducing balance

LOTUS FAMILIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

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.

Fund accounting

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 the 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.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Donations	904	5,678
Grants	<u>265,438</u>	<u>318,193</u>
	<u>266,342</u>	<u>323,871</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Small Grants and Awards	400	1,375
Albert Hunt	-	4,000
Chalk Cliff Trust	-	5,000
Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Foundation	-	5,000
Garfield Weston	15,000	7,500
Henry Smith Charity	-	43,700
KFC Foundation	2,500	-
Lewes District Council	6,171	8,228
Lloyds Bank Foundation	25,000	25,000
Masonic Charitable Fund	-	5,000
National Lottery Awards for All	35,000	9,843
National Lottery Community Fund	-	47,601
Nationwide Community Fund	29,795	7,449
NatWest Circle Fund	4,000	-
Sussex Community Foundation	-	5,000
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner (DA Recovery Programme)	22,642	67,924
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner (CAPVA Programme)	94,856	49,573
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner (extra CAPVA & DART staff training/licence)	18,000	20,000
The MSE Charity	6,074	-
Wealden District Council	<u>6,000</u>	<u>6,000</u>
	265,438	318,193

LOTUS FAMILIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Fundraising events	-	-
Trading Income	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2025	2024
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>2,174</u>	<u>2,035</u>

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct costs (See note 6)	Support Costs (See note 7)	Totals
	£	£	£
Personnel costs	211,252	-	211,252
Direct service costs	30,327	-	30,327
Occupancy costs	1,488	-	1,488
Administration costs	20,269	-	20,269
Corporate costs	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	250	250
Governance costs	-	11,602	11,602
	<u>263,336</u>	<u>11,852</u>	<u>275,188</u>

LOTUS FAMILIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

6. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Staff costs	211,252	232,399
Rent	1,488	1,430
Insurance	2,205	799
Telephone	645	1,128
Postage and stationery	17	540
Sundries	268	565
Volunteer's expenses	-	-
Training, room hire and expenses	2,051	2,979
IT services	6,785	11,948
Staff travel and courses	6,092	6,325
Home-Start UK fee	-	3,568
Publicity and marketing	113	113
Professional fees	29,540	7,086
DBS costs	-	38
Assets expensed	1,630	1,885
Licence costs	1,250	2,194
	<u>263,336</u>	<u>272,997</u>

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Finance	Depreciation	Governance	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Computer equipment	-	250	-	250
Governance costs	<u>64</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,538</u>	<u>11,602</u>
	<u>64</u>	<u>250</u>	<u>11,538</u>	<u>11,852</u>

Accountancy fees include £1,304 (2024 - £1,340) in respect of the independent examination of these financial statements and £10,234 (2024 - £6,571) in respect of other accountancy services.

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

Finance

	2025	2024
	Governance	Governance
	Costs	Costs
	£	£
Bank charges	<u>64</u>	<u>134</u>

LOTUS FAMILIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

7. SUPPORT COSTS continued

Depreciation

	2025	2024
	Computer Equipment £	Computer Equipment £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>250</u>	<u>179</u>

Governance costs

	2025	2024
	Governance Costs £	Governance Costs £
Accountancy fees	11,538	7,911
Legal and professional fees	-	-
Board expenses	-	-
	<u>11,538</u>	<u>7,911</u>

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2025	2024
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	250	134
Other operating leases	<u>1,488</u>	<u>1,430</u>

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st March 2025 nor for the year ended 31st March 2024.

Trustees' expenses

During the year, no (2024 – none) trustees received reimbursement of travel and other related expenses amounting to £nil (2024 - £nil). At the Balance Sheet date, an amount of £nil (2024 - £nil) was owed to trustees in respect of these expenses.

LOTUS FAMILIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

10. STAFF COSTS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	<u>211,252</u>	<u>232,399</u>
	<u>211,252</u>	<u>232,399</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2025	2024
Total	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	113,253	210,618	323,871
Other trading activities	-	-	-
Investment income	<u>2,035</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,035</u>
Total	115,288	210,618	325,906
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Personnel costs	39,741	192,658	232,399
Direct service costs	11,901	21,686	33,587
Occupancy costs	800	630	1,430
Depreciation	134	-	134
Administration costs	2,013	-	2,013
Corporate costs	3,568	-	3,568
Governance costs	<u>8,045</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,045</u>
Total	<u>66,202</u>	<u>214,974</u>	<u>281,176</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITRE	49,086	(4,356)	44,730
Transfer between funds	(2,538)	2,538	-
Net movement in funds	46,548	(1,818)	44,730
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	95,008	3,458	98,466
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>141,556</u>	<u>1,640</u>	<u>143,196</u>

LOTUS FAMILIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Computer equipment £
COST	
At 1st April 2024	2,232
Additions	<u>600</u>
At 31st March 2025	<u>2,832</u>
DEPRECIATION	
At 1st April 2024	1,832
Charge for year	<u>250</u>
At 31st March 2025	<u>2,082</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st March 2025	<u>750</u>
At 31st March 2024	<u>400</u>

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	-	2,057
Other debtors	2768	-
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>3,342</u>	<u>28,890</u>
	<u>6,110</u>	<u>30,947</u>

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	226	4,276
Social security and other taxes	3,710	283
Accruals and deferred income	45,521	91,257
Accrued expenses	2,244	3,532
Other creditors	(240)	823
	<u>51,461</u>	<u>100,171</u>

LOTUS FAMILIES**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025****15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1/4/24 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/25 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	47,007	22,724	(33,228)	36,503
Designated fund - Contingency reserve	<u>94,549</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>94,549</u>
	141,556	22,724	(33,228)	131,052
Restricted funds				
KFC Foundation	-	(938)	938	-
Lewes District Council	-	(3,864)	3,864	-
National Lottery Awards For All	1,640	(90)	-	1,550
National Lottery Community Fund	-	(240)	240	-
National Lottery EDI	-	(1,913)	1,913	-
Nationwide Community Fund	-	2,517	-	2,517
Nat West Circle Fund	-	2,080	-	2,080
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	-	(26,273)	26,273	-
The MSE Charity	-	(675)	-	(675)
	1,640	(29,396)	33,228	5,472
	<u>1,640</u>	<u>(29,396)</u>	<u>33,228</u>	<u>5,472</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>143,196</u>	<u>(6,672)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>136,524</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	49,478	(26,754)	22,724
Designated fund – Contingency reserve	-	-	-
	<u>49,478</u>	<u>(26,754)</u>	<u>22,724</u>
Restricted funds			
KFC Foundation	2,500	(3,438)	(938)
Lewes District Council	6,171	(10,035)	(3,864)
National Lottery Awards For All	35,000	(35,090)	(90)
National Lottery Community Fund	-	(240)	(240)
National Lottery EDI	-	(1,913)	(1,913)
Nationwide Community Fund	29,795	(27,278)	2,517
Nat West Circle Fund	4,000	(1,920)	2,080
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	135,498	(161,771)	(26,273)
The MSE Charity	6,074	(6,749)	(675)
	<u>219,038</u>	<u>(248,434)</u>	<u>(29,396)</u>
Total funds	<u>268,516</u>	<u>(275,188)</u>	<u>(6,672)</u>

Contingent liability for closure – an amount of £94,549 (2024: £94,549) has been carried forward to be designated for the purpose of covering all statutory and legal obligations should the charity have ceased operations.

LOTUS FAMILIES**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025****15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued****Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1/4/23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	459	49,086	(2,538)	47,007
Designated fund - Contingency reserve	<u>94,549</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>94,549</u>
	95,008	49,086	(2,538)	141,556
Restricted funds				
Lewes District Council	-	(24)	24	-
National Lottery Awards For All	-	1,640	-	1,640
National Lottery Community Fund	-	-	-	-
Nationwide Community Fund	-	-	-	-
Nat West Circle Fund	3,458	(4,313)	855	-
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	-	(1,659)	1,659	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	3,458	(4,356)	2,538	1,640
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>98,466</u>	<u>44,730</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>143,196</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	115,288	(66,202)	49,086
Designated fund – Contingency reserve	-	-	-
	<u>115,288</u>	<u>(66,202)</u>	<u>49,086</u>
Restricted funds			
Lewes District Council	8,228	(8,252)	(24)
National Lottery Awards For All	9,843	(8,203)	1,640
National Lottery Community Fund	47,601	(47,601)	-
Nationwide Community Fund	7,449	(7,449)	-
Nat West Circle Fund	-	(4,313)	(4,313)
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	137,497	(139,156)	(1,659)
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	210,618	(214,974)	(4,356)
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>325,906</u>	<u>(281,176)</u>	<u>44,730</u>

LOTUS FAMILIES

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

16. PENSION COMMITMENTS

The charitable company contributes to employees' defined contribution pension schemes. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the company to the schemes and amounted to £9,578 (2024 - £10,822).

17. OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

Should the charity have ceased operations as at 31 March 2025, the trustees estimate that expenditure totalling £94,549 (2024 - £94,549) would have to be made out of funds existing at that date to ensure that all statutory and legal obligations relating to staff and property under the charity's control are satisfied in full.

18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

During the year, donations were received from trustees amounting to £nil (2024 - £5). Trustees' expenses are detailed in note 9.

Remuneration paid to key management personnel during the year (including national insurance and pension costs) amounted to £51,802 (2024 - £49,264).

19. MEMBERS LIABILITY

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

Lotus Families

England & Wales - Charity number 1108855

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 05368531 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1108855

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024
FOR
LOTUS FAMILIES (FORMERLY HOME-START EAST SUSSEX)
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

Woodgate Accounting Services Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Unit 43, Newhaven Enterprise Centre
Newhaven
East Sussex
BN9 9BA

LOTUS FAMILIES (FORMERLY HOME-START EAST SUSSEX)

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 6
Independent Examiner's Report	7
Statement of Financial Activities	8
Balance Sheet	9 to 10
Notes to the Financial Statements	11 to 20

LOTUS FAMILIES (FORMERLY HOME-START EAST SUSSEX)

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's Memorandum and Articles, the Companies Act 2006 and the provisions of 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).

CHAIR'S OVERVIEW 2023/24

I am pleased to introduce the Home-Start East Sussex Annual Report and Financial Statements for 2023/24

The charity has had a very successful year with the domestic abuse recovery programme and child to parent violence (CAPVA) programme continuing to see excellent outcomes. They both continue to be in high demand, and we are currently managing three year waiting lists. We secured funding for triage support for those on the CAPVA waiting list, which will enable us to carry out safety and support plans for those families who are waiting for a place. We have applied for funding to provide the same service for those waiting for the domestic abuse recovery programme.

The *Lotus Blossom* programme trains ex-clients of our domestic abuse recovery programme to become peer support facilitators. This year we trained three further facilitators, increasing our cohort to seven. They have delivered five peer support groups throughout the year, supporting 28 clients and, by the end of the year, we were able to create our first paid Trainee IDVA post and we hope to recruit from among the peer support facilitators. We have also secured funding for two pilot schemes: *Managing Money Safely in Relationships*; and *Teenage Healthy Relationships*. We hope that both will increase the spectrum of support and education that we can provide to families in East Sussex.

To reflect this wider spectrum of service provision, and our expertise in domestic and familial violence, the board resolved that it was time to forge ahead with our own identity as a charity supporting women, children and families with specialism in domestic abuse. We will leave the Home-Start UK federation on 1st April 2024 and become known as Lotus Families, the namesake of our longest-standing service. We thank everyone at Home-Start UK for helping to make this a smooth transition.

In January at our AGM, we said goodbye to two board members, Helen Edwards and Maureen Jackson, both of whom had been involved not only as trustees but also volunteers on our home-visiting service. We thank them for their contribution and wish them the very best for the future. We appointed Becky Reid and Gail Gray to the board. Becky had been with us for a year as an observer and mentee, having joined us through the UK Board Apprentice scheme set up by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. We were pleased that Becky decided to stay on with us as at the end of the scheme. Gail brings over 30 years of experience in the charity sector, specialising in supporting women and families. I wish them both a very warm welcome and look forward to working with them over the coming years.

Our knowledgeable, skilled and professional team of staff, led by CEO Kate, along with our dedicated board of trustees, are committed to providing gold standard early intervention and recovery services, empowering women to make their families safer and more secure. We are grateful to our funders who continue to make this possible.

Jayne Rice-Oxley
Chair of the Board of Trustees

FINANCIAL REVIEW

We were delighted to start working this year with Charlie Livings from Chariot House, who has so much charity experience and a qualification in charity accounting. Their knowledge has ensured that our financial performance is being efficiently and effectively controlled and monitored.

Our domestic abuse Recovery service and child to parent violence (CAPVA) service remained in high demand during 2023-24 and we were battling long waiting lists. Throughout the year our fundraising efforts meant that we not only met our deficit budget, but we also successfully managed to secure further direct funding for:

- an extra evening CAPVA programme to meet the needs of working parents
- the licence and staff/volunteer preparation training to run a NSPCC DART programme in future years once we have secured delivery funding
- a CAPVA IDVA who can carry out safety & support plans with clients/families on our CAPVA waiting list. By 2025-26 we plan to have transitioned to a triage model.
- more Community Engagement & EDI hours to ensure that we are meeting the needs of clients with disabilities.

LOTUS FAMILIES (FORMERLY HOME-START EAST SUSSEX)

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

This extra funding meant that our income was higher than initially budgeted. In addition, we received funding in 2023-24 to deliver two new pilot services in 2024-25: Managing Money Safely in Relationships and Relationship Goals: Healthy Relationships for Teenagers.

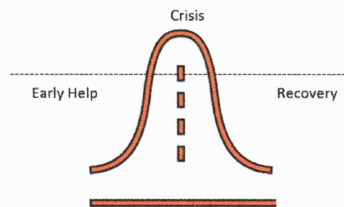
For the year under review, we are reporting income at £325,906, expenditure at £281,176 and a net surplus of £44,730. The surplus has increased our total reserves at year-end to £143,196, made up of unrestricted reserves of £47,007, restricted reserves of £1,640 and designated reserves of £94,549

We welcome the fact that we ended 2023-24 with a surplus as it means that at 1 April 2024 we had a 2024-25 deficit budget of only £42k. This is considerably lower than the deficit at the same time last year, which stood at £70k and which we managed to cover through successful fund-raising during the year. However, we are alert to the fact that the financial landscape remains challenging, and inflation is likely to stay high and our budget expenditure is subject to change.

Leaving aside the extra direct funding which was included in our overall income figure for the year, it is reassuring that 2023/24 expenditure is once again in line with the budget projection agreed at the start of the year. As always, the CEO and trustees will proactively work to increase income and reduce expenditure to break even by the end of the year.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Home-Start East Sussex is a small, local, independent charity founded in 1996 that is affiliated to SafeLives and Home-Start UK. Championing a Whole Family Approach, the charity offers East Sussex families early help and recovery services which improve safety, resilience and outcomes or reduce the chance of a problem getting worse or being repeated.



HSES recognises that our services are part of a network of services, processes and interactions which aim to help children, young people and families at the earliest opportunity or as soon as possible after crisis has passed. HSES is committed to working with external partners to transform local services and systems to achieve significant and sustained outcomes for East Sussex families facing complex challenges and problems.

HSES has been awarded SafeLives Leading Lights accreditation – the gold star standard for domestic abuse services. This means that all services have empowerment, resilience, and client safety at their core.

In 2023-24 Home-Start East Sussex ran three services and one wraparound service:

- Lotus non-crisis domestic abuse recovery programme: 6-week group that supports female victim-survivors to recover and move forward with their lives and keep themselves and their children safe in future.
- Lotus Blossom: Second year of the project developing Lotus follow-on groups facilitated by trained ex-Lotus clients
- Who's in Charge? programme: 9-week group that supports parents experiencing child to parent abuse and violence to help reduce family risk and improve parent-child relationships.
- We were also able to offer one-to-one IDVA support to clients attending our services that had experienced domestic abuse including child to parent violence. This included safety planning, advice relating to court, legal support, child contact, liaison with social services and schools, accessing health services, parenting children who may be traumatised by domestic abuse, benefits, housing, and emotional support. We also escalated clients to high-risk services if necessary.

Over the year Home-Start East Sussex had an average of 9 employees, three sub-contracted workers, 9 trustees and 5 volunteers. Some employees carried out more than one role.

LOTUS FAMILIES (FORMERLY HOME-START EAST SUSSEX)

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

- The Lotus Domestic Abuse Recovery programme supported 71 females across 5 programmes, reaching 96 children.
- Who's in Charge? child to parent violence programme supported 66 parents and carers across 4 programmes, reaching 102 children.
- We provided one-to-one IDVA support to 111 clients attending groups with 173 children.
- In 2023-24 we did not receive any referrals for our TNBI IDVA service
- Ex Domestic Abuse Recovery clients who had been trained to become Peer Support Facilitators delivered their first support groups.
- One staff member attended YPVA training. The YPVA pathway is for victims of domestic violence and abuse where the person is under 18. The YPVA worker is specifically trained and accredited to support young people at high risk of serious harm from domestic abuse.
- Upskilled two staff with Level 3 Safeguarding Lead training.
- All staff and volunteers attended the NSPCC DART training. Domestic Abuse, Recovering Together (DART™) helps children and mothers get back on track after experiencing domestic abuse.
- Prepared for SafeLives Leading Lights Reaccreditation
- Feedback from our clients confirmed that 94% felt their mental health and wellbeing had improved; 99% reported that their social support had improved; 94% felt their risk of harm had reduced; 96% felt the service had had a positive impact on their children; (if applicable) 98% of those applicable reported that the service had had a positive impact on their relationship with their partner.
- 95% overall positive outcomes across all services.

THE FUTURE

The long-term quality and security of our current services and the development of quality new services are our highest priority. In 2024/25 we will be:

- Changing the charity name to Lotus Families and promoting the new name.
- Upskilling staff to be able to confidently support sexual abuse victim-survivors.
- Ensuring our continued success by regular monitoring of our financial position, ongoing harnessing of our talented teams' skills and "can-do" attitude and remaining a learning organisation.
- Recruiting one of our ex-clients who became a peer support facilitator, into a Trainee IDVA role.
- Actively seeking more funding to run additional groups to meet the high demand.
- Identifying funding for the DART Programme.
- Delivering our new pilot projects; supporting children with healthy relationships and women with managing money safely in relationships.
- Reviewing local gaps in service provision and set up new pilot services that are within the scope of our Objects.

LOTUS FAMILIES (FORMERLY HOME-START EAST SUSSEX)

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Board of Trustees governs the charity in accordance with the company's Memorandum and Articles of Association; it sets the objectives and provides leadership and strategic direction. The Board delegates the day-to-day management of the charity to the Chief Executive Officer. She is assisted by a small team of mainly part time staff.

The Board of Trustees met on five occasions during the year and received regular reports from the Chief Executive Officer, staff, and accountant.

Three sub-committees dealing with matters of finance, community fundraising and personnel advise the Board as and when required. Each meets according to need and advises the Board in accordance with its respective terms of reference.

Risk Management

The trustees regularly review the major risks to which the charity is exposed, paying particular attention to financial matters, child and adult safeguarding issues, reputational risk, and personal safety. The trustees are satisfied that the policies in place to manage and mitigate identified risks are appropriate.

APPRECIATION

We conclude our report by thanking everyone involved in helping Home-Start East Sussex support those families living in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove who, for various reasons, struggle to cope with the challenges of everyday life. These families, at no cost to themselves, have benefitted greatly from, and valued, our support. A benefit made possible by the generous support, financial and in kind, received from the following donor groups.

- Our Peer Support facilitators who give freely of their time to facilitate domestic abuse recovery follow-on groups.
- Our various funders for their financial support and confidence in our ability to deliver a valuable benefit to the community.
- All the individuals, local traders, other organisations and fundraisers for their donations.
- Our partners from various agencies for their help with training and for sharing helpful information and advice on an on-going basis.

Our small team of paid staff, for their hard work, dedication and commitment in co-ordinating and managing the efforts of all to ensure that our charity delivers quality, trauma informed support and that all funds received spent wisely.

LOTUS FAMILIES (FORMERLY HOME-START EAST SUSSEX)

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

Registered Company Number
05368531

Registered Charity Number
1108855

Registered office
Newhaven Enterprise Centre
Denton Island
Newhaven
East Sussex
BN9 9BA

Trustees

Ms A Bacchoo
Mr M A Brewer
Mrs H Edwards
Ms G Gray
Mrs M P Jackson
Miss C E Moon
Ms J M P Rice-Oxley
Ms B L Reid
Ms C T Titherly

Resigned 23 January 2024
Appointed 23 January 2024
Resigned 23 January 2024

Chair
Appointed 23 January 2024

Independent examiner

Philip Woodgate, FCCA
Woodgate Accounting Services Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Unit 43, Newhaven Enterprise Centre
Newhaven
East Sussex
BN9 9BA

Chief Executive Officer

Ms K Lawrence

LOTUS FAMILIES (FORMERLY HOME-START EAST SUSSEX)

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

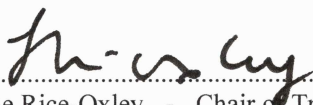
The trustees (who are also the directors of Lotus Families for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the 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 Charity 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 charitable company will continue in business.

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.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 24 July 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Jayne Rice-Oxley - Chair of Trustees

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
LOTUS FAMILIES (FORMERLY HOME-START EAST SUSSEX)**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Lotus Families

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Lotus Families (the charity) for the year ended 31st 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

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 Company 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 accounts to be reached.



Philip Woodgate, FCCA
Woodgate Accounting Services Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Unit 43, Newhaven Enterprise Centre
Newhaven
East Sussex
BN9 9BA

Date: 24 July 2024

LOTUS FAMILIES (FORMERLY HOME-START EAST SUSSEX)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2024 Total funds	2023 Total funds
	Not es	£	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	113,253	210,618	323,871	291,657
Other trading activities	3	-	-	-	-
Investment income	4	<u>2,035</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,035</u>	<u>384</u>
Total		115,288	210,618	325,906	292,041
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable Activities	5	<u>66,202</u>	<u>214,974</u>	<u>281,176</u>	<u>275,889</u>
Total		66,202	214,974	281,176	275,889
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)					
		49,086	(4,356)	44,730	16,152
Transfers between funds	15	<u>(2,538)</u>	<u>2,538</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS					
		46,548	(1,818)	44,730	16,152
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		95,008	3,458	98,466	82,314
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>141,556</u>	<u>1,640</u>	<u>143,196</u>	<u>98,466</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all the 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.

LOTUS FAMILIES (REGISTERED NUMBER: 05368531) (FORMERLY HOME-START EAST SUSSEX)**BALANCE SHEET 31ST MARCH 2024**

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2024 Total funds	2023 Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	12	400	-	400	534
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	30,947	-	30,947	2,057
Cash at bank		<u>210,380</u>	<u>1,640</u>	<u>212,020</u>	<u>105,027</u>
		241,327	1,640	242,967	107,084
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(100,171)	-	(100,171)	(9,152)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>141,156</u>	<u>1,640</u>	<u>142,796</u>	<u>97,932</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>141,556</u>	<u>1,640</u>	<u>143,196</u>	<u>98,466</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>141,556</u>	<u>1,640</u>	<u>143,196</u>	<u>98,466</u>
FUNDS	16				
Unrestricted funds - General				47,007	459
Unrestricted funds – Designated				<u>94,549</u>	<u>94,549</u>
Unrestricted funds - Total				141,556	95,008
Restricted funds				<u>1,640</u>	<u>3,458</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>143,196</u>	<u>98,466</u>

LOTUS FAMILIES (REGISTERED NUMBER: 05368531) (FORMERLY HOME-START EAST SUSSEX)

BALANCE SHEET - CONTINUED
AT 31ST MARCH 2024

The company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st March 2024.

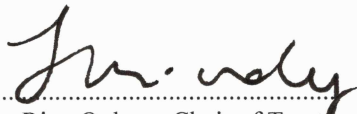
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for

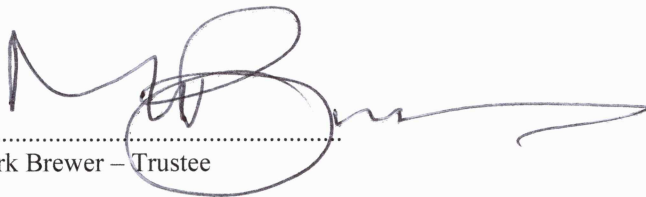
- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each 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 charitable company.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 24 July 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:



.....
Jayne Rice-Oxley – Chair of Trustees



.....
Mark Brewer – Trustee

Company registration number 05368531

LOTUS FAMILIES (FORMERLY HOME-START EAST SUSSEX)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, 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.

Going concern

Due to support from funders and supporters the trustees at the time of approving the financial statements have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Income

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

Donations are accounted for as they are received by the charity. Donations received in the year that relate to specific purposes have been included in restricted funds.

Grants are recognised on an accrual's basis, accounted for in relation to the period to which they relate. Where grants are received during the year under review but relate to a later period, the amount is deferred.

Investment income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

All other income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

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

Governance costs included as part of the charitable expenditure include costs of the preparation and examination of the statutory accounts, the costs of trustee's meetings and the cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Computer equipment - 25% reducing balance

LOTUS FAMILIES (FORMERLY HOME-START EAST SUSSEX)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

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.

Fund accounting

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 the 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.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations	5,678	21,138
Grants	<u>318,193</u>	<u>270,519</u>
	<u>323,871</u>	<u>291,657</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Small Grants and Awards	1,375	1,568
Albert Hunt	4,000	-
Chalk Cliff Trust	5,000	-
DCMS/Pears	-	5,000
Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Foundation	5,000	5,000
Garfield Weston	7,500	-
Henry Smith Charity	43,700	42,900
Lewes District Council	8,228	8,228
Lloyds Bank Foundation	25,000	27,250
Masonic Charitable Fund	5,000	5,000
National Lottery Awards for All	9,843	-
National Lottery Community Fund	47,601	35,000
Nationwide Community Fund	7,449	25,000
NatWest Circle Fund	-	5,000
Sussex Community Foundation	5,000	15,000
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner OSPCC3 (DA Recovery Programme)	67,924	-
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner OSPCC1 (CAPVA Programme)	49,573	49,573
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner OSPCC2 (extra CAPVA and DART staff training/licence)	20,000	40,000
Wealden District Council	<u>6,000</u>	<u>6,000</u>
	318,193	270,519

LOTUS FAMILIES (FORMERLY HOME-START EAST SUSSEX)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Fundraising events	-	-
Trading Income	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2024	2023
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>2,035</u>	<u>384</u>

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct costs (See note 6)	Support Costs (See note 7)	Totals
	£	£	£
Personnel costs	232,399	-	232,399
Direct service costs	33,587	-	33,587
Occupancy costs	1,430	-	1,430
Administration costs	2,013	-	2,013
Corporate costs	3,568	-	3,568
Depreciation	-	134	134
Governance costs	-	8,045	8,045
	<u>272,997</u>	<u>8,179</u>	<u>281,176</u>

LOTUS FAMILIES (FORMERLY HOME-START EAST SUSSEX)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

6. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Staff costs	232,399	232,569
Rent	1,430	1,944
Insurance	799	1,244
Telephone	1,128	2,452
Postage and stationery	540	1,295
Sundries	565	842
Volunteer's expenses	-	179
Training, room hire and expenses	2,979	2,570
IT services	11,948	4,857
Staff travel and courses	6,325	6,470
Home-Start UK fee	3,568	4,860
Publicity and marketing	113	240
Professional fees	7,086	6,427
DBS costs	38	398
Assets expensed	1,885	1,761
Licence costs	2,194	2,592
	<u>272,997</u>	<u>270,700</u>

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Finance £	Depreciation £	Governance £	Totals £
Computer equipment	-	134	-	134
Governance costs	<u>134</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,911</u>	<u>8,045</u>
	<u>134</u>	<u>134</u>	<u>7,911</u>	<u>8,179</u>

Accountancy fees include £1,340 (2023 - £1,260) in respect of the independent examination of these financial statements and £6,571 (2023 - £3,596) in respect of other accountancy services.

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

Finance

	2024 Governance Costs £	2023 Governance Costs £
Bank charges	<u>134</u>	<u>154</u>

LOTUS FAMILIES (FORMERLY HOME START EAST SUSSEX)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

7. SUPPORT COSTS continued

Depreciation

	2024 Computer Equipment £	2023 Computer Equipment £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>134</u>	<u>179</u>

Governance costs

	2024 Governance Costs £	2023 Governance Costs £
Accountancy fees	7,911	4,856
Legal and professional fees	-	-
Board expenses	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>7,911</u>	<u>4,856</u>

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024 £	2023 £
Depreciation - owned assets	134	179
Other operating leases	<u>1,430</u>	<u>1,944</u>

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st March 2024 nor for the year ended 31st March 2023.

Trustees' expenses

During the year, no (2023 – none) trustees received reimbursement of travel and other related expenses amounting to £nil (2023 - £nil). At the Balance Sheet date, an amount of £nil (2023 - £nil) was owed to trustees in respect of these expenses.

LOTUS FAMILIES (FORMERLY HOME-START EAST SUSSEX)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

10. STAFF COSTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	<u>232,399</u>	<u>232,569</u>
	<u>232,399</u>	<u>232,569</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
Total	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	103,856	187,801	291,657
Other trading activities	-	-	-
Investment income	<u>384</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>384</u>
Total	104,240	187,801	292,041
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Personnel costs	52,066	180,502	232,568
Direct service costs	9,730	8,622	18,352
Occupancy costs	1,944	-	1,944
Depreciation	179	-	179
Administration costs	10,313	2,663	12,976
Corporate costs	4,860	-	4,860
Governance costs	<u>3,948</u>	<u>1,062</u>	<u>5,010</u>
Total	83,040	192,849	275,889
NET INCOME	21,200	(5,048)	16,152
Transfer between funds	(8,506)	8,506	-
Net movement in funds	12,694	3,458	16,152
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	82,314	-	82,314
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>95,008</u>	<u>3,458</u>	<u>98,466</u>

LOTUS FAMILIES (FORMERLY HOME-START EAST SUSSEX)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Computer equipment £
COST	
At 1st April 2023	2,232
Additions	<u>-</u>
At 31st March 2024	<u>2,232</u>
 DEPRECIATION	
At 1st April 2023	1,698
Charge for year	<u>134</u>
At 31st March 2024	<u>1,832</u>
 NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st March 2024	<u>400</u>
At 31st March 2023	<u>534</u>

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	2,057	2,057
Other debtors	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>28,890</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>30,947</u>	<u>2,057</u>

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	4,276	685
Social security and other taxes	283	5,150
Accruals and deferred income	91,257	-
Accrued expenses	3,532	1,260
Other creditors	823	2,057
	<u>100,171</u>	<u>9,152</u>

LOTUS FAMILIES (FORMERLY HOME-START EAST SUSSEX)**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024****15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1/4/23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	459	49,086	(2,538)	47,007
Designated fund - Contingency reserve	<u>94,549</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>94,549</u>
	95,008	49,086	(2,538)	141,556
Restricted funds				
Lewes District Council	-	(24)	24	-
National Lottery Awards For All	-	1,640	-	1,640
National Lottery Community Fund	-	-	-	-
Nationwide Community Fund	-	-	-	-
Nat West Circle Fund	3,458	(4,313)	855	-
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	-	(1,659)	1,659	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	3,458	(4,356)	2,538	1,640
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>98,466</u>	<u>44,730</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>143,196</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	115,288	(66,202)	49,086
Designated fund – Contingency reserve	-	-	-
	<u>115,288</u>	<u>(66,202)</u>	<u>49,086</u>
Restricted funds			
Lewes District Council	8,228	(8,252)	(24)
National Lottery Awards For All	9,843	(8,203)	1,640
National Lottery Community Fund	47,601	(47,601)	-
Nationwide Community Fund	7,449	(7,449))	-
Nat West Circle Fund	-	(4,313)	(4,313)
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	137,497	(139,156)	(1,659)
	<u>210,618</u>	<u>(214,974)</u>	<u>(4,356)</u>
Total funds	<u>325,906</u>	<u>(281,176)</u>	<u>44,730</u>

Contingent liability for closure – an amount of £94,549 (2023: £94,549) has been carried forward to be designated for the purpose of covering all statutory and legal obligations should the charity have ceased operations.

LOTUS FAMILIES (FORMERLY HOME START EAST SUSSEX)**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024****15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued****Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1/4/22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	11,314	21,200	(32,055)	459
Designated fund - Contingency reserve	<u>71,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,549</u>	<u>94,549</u>
	82,314	21,200	(8,506)	95,008
Restricted funds				
DCMS/Pears	-	(1,363)	1,363	-
Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Foundation	-	(4,007)	4,007	-
Lewes District Council	-	87	(87)	-
National Lottery Community Fund	-	114	(114)	-
Nationwide Community Fund	-	(1,142)	1,142	-
Nat West Circle Fund	-	3,458	-	3,458
Sussex Community Foundation	-	(713)	713	-
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	-	(1,482)	1,482	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	-	(5,048)	8,506	3,458
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>82,314</u>	<u>16,152</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>98,466</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	104,240	(83,040)	21,200
Designated fund – Contingency reserve	-	-	-
Restricted funds			
DCMS/Pears	5,000	(6,363)	(1,363)
Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Foundation	5,000	(9,007)	(4,007)
Lewes District Council	8,228	(8,141)	87
National Lottery Community Fund	35,000	(34,886)	114
Nationwide Community Fund	25,000	(26,142)	(1,142)
Nat West Circle Fund	5,000	(1,542)	3,458
Sussex Community Foundation	15,000	(15,713)	(713)
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	89,573	(91,055)	(1,482)
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	187,801	(192,849)	(5,048)
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>292,041</u>	<u>(275,889)</u>	<u>16,152</u>

LOTUS FAMILIES (FORMERLY HOME-START EAST SUSSEX)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

16. PENSION COMMITMENTS

The charitable company contributes to employees' defined contribution pension schemes. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the company to the schemes and amounted to £10,822 (2023 - £11,900).

17. OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

Should the charity have ceased operations as at 31 March 2024, the trustees estimate that expenditure totalling £94,549 (2023 - £94,549) would have to be made out of funds existing at that date to ensure that all statutory and legal obligations relating to staff and property under the charity's control are satisfied in full.

18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

During the year, donations were received from trustees amounting to £5 (2023 - £145). Trustees' expenses are detailed in note 9.

Remuneration paid to key management personnel during the year (including national insurance and pension costs) amounted to £49,264 (2023 - £44,843).

19. MEMBERS LIABILITY

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

Lotus Families

England & Wales - Charity number 1108855

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 05368531 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1108855

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023
FOR
HOME-START EAST SUSSEX
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

Woodgate Accounting Services Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Unit 43, Newhaven Enterprise Centre
Newhaven
East Sussex
BN9 9BA

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 6
Independent Examiner's Report	7
Statement of Financial Activities	8
Balance Sheet	9 to 10
Notes to the Financial Statements	11 to 20

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's Memorandum and Articles, the Companies Act 2006 and the provisions of 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).

Chair's Overview 2022/23

I am pleased to introduce the Home-Start East Sussex Annual Report and Financial Statements for 2022-23 for the first time, having taken over as Chair from Christine Moon in January.

Christine stepped down after twelve years in the role having seen the organisation safely through many changes and challenging times and I am pleased that she has chosen to stay on as a board member. During the year we welcomed Anna Bachoo and Sarah Johnston-Ellis, both bringing a wealth of experience to the Board. Sadly, due to unforeseen circumstances Sarah stepped down in March but we are immensely grateful for her wisdom and astuteness for the short time that she was with us. It was also time to say goodbye to Derek Andrews, one of our longest-serving volunteers and trustees. I thank him for his significant contribution and wish both him and Sarah the very best for the future. I am pleased to be mentoring Becky Reid through the UK Board Apprentice scheme set up by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. This very worthwhile initiative to increase diversity and accessibility to board positions benefits both the mentee and the board to which they are attached.

There have been some significant staffing changes with Alex, our services manager, moving on to manage another local charity. Alex had been with us for 10 years as a volunteer and later an administrator and facilitator before taking responsibility for managing all our service delivery. We welcomed her replacement Clare in January.

The pandemic has seemingly indelibly changed the nature and method of delivery of the support we offer, and we have had to reassess our place in the community as a result. The families' needs and wishes as to how they receive support has evolved and we, and our resilient volunteers, have strived to adapt to these changes. There has been some limited return to face-to-face support but on the whole our services have remained online – and successfully so.

Last year Christine reported the difficulties we had in securing funding for *Being Mum*. It was hoped that its successor *Being Family* – a group programme supporting new parents with a wraparound volunteer home-visiting service – would be more successful. Sadly, the situation did not improve, and funders made it clear that home-visiting was no longer an attractive prospect for them. In addition, we faced dwindling referrals as local families chose to receive support in other ways. Consequently, we had to make the very difficult decision to close this programme, meaning we had to say goodbye to Danielle, the facilitator of that programme, as well as our dedicated team of volunteers. We remain open to providing this method of support in the future quite simply because it has routinely produced excellent outcomes. I want to thank our volunteers who, over the last 26 years, have given so much, and to the families we have supported from whom we have learned so much.

Lotus continues to run exceptionally well and provide a much-needed space for those recovering from domestic abuse. Our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Co-ordinator continued her work ensuring our services are as inclusive as possible. We have invested in developing our understanding of the needs of the LGBT+ community and we are now pleased to offer 1-2-1 Independent Domestic Violence Adviser support to trans and non-binary clients. We have continued to develop our *Lotus Blossom* programme, which trains those who have attended our *Lotus* programme to move on to become peer supporters to support our groups in the next phase of their recovery. We hope that the lived experience of our peer supporters will be the bedrock of this programme providing an opportunity for personal growth, to share valuable knowledge and to obtain transferable skills for their futures. Our successful *Who's in Charge?* programme, offering support to parents with abusive children, is very much in demand. We are hoping to secure funding soon to ensure that we can substantially reduce our three-year waiting list for this service.

With the closure of our longest running service, I will be leading the Board in refocusing and reviewing our strategic plan for the coming years. We remain resolutely committed to supporting families facing complex challenges with early intervention and recovery, bookending statutory services to achieve meaningful and sustainable outcomes. This would not be possible without an outstanding team led by our CEO, Kate, my fellow trustees and our funders to whom I offer my thanks and very best wishes for the year ahead.

Jayne Rice-Oxley

Chair of the Board of Trustees

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

2022-23 was another year where there continues to be an increasing need for our services, and I am pleased to report that our financial performance closely mirrors the budget that had been agreed by the Trustees at the start of this financial year.

In a challenging year including two changes of accountant, working within a tight budget has been difficult. However, maintaining an appropriate level of financial control has enabled Home-Start to move forward during this year in the knowledge that its financial performance is being controlled and monitored clearly. Sadly, this meant that the trustees had to agree to close our Being Family group and volunteer home-visiting to protect the wider charity.

For the year under review, we are reporting a net surplus of £16,152, which is a little lower than the budgeted figure. It is reassuring that expenditure is once again in line with the budget expectation, with income generation supporting the year's reasonable financial performance.

The net income has increased our total reserves at year-end to £98,466. At the time of writing, despite closing Being Family we still have a deficit budget of £70k. The CEO and trustees will work proactively to increase income and reduce expenditure to break even by the end of the year.

Finance Sub Committee

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Home-Start East Sussex is a small, local, independent charity founded in 1996 that is affiliated to SafeLives and Home-Start UK. Championing a Whole Family Approach, the charity offers East Sussex families early help and recovery services which improve safety, resilience and outcomes or reduce the chance of a problem getting worse or being repeated.

HSES recognises that our early help and recovery community support services are part of a network of services, processes and interactions which aim to help children, young people, and families at the earliest opportunity or as soon as possible after crisis has passed. HSES is committed to working with external partners to transform local services and systems to achieve significant and sustained outcomes for East Sussex families facing complex challenges and problems.

HSES has been awarded SafeLives Leading Lights accreditation – the gold star standard for domestic abuse services. This means that all services have empowerment, resilience, and client safety at their core.

In 2022-23 Home-Start East Sussex ran four services and one wraparound service:

- (i) Lotus non-crisis domestic abuse recovery programme: 6-week group that supports female victim-survivors to recover and move forward with their lives and keep themselves and their children safe in future.
- (ii) Lotus Blossom: First year of the project developing Lotus follow-on groups facilitated by trained ex-Lotus clients.
- (iii) Who's in Charge? programme: 9-week group that supports parents experiencing child to parent abuse and violence to help reduce family risk and improve parent-child relationships.
- (iv) Being Family programme: 6-week group for vulnerable new parents whose babies (0-12 months) are at risk of experiencing adverse childhood experiences with a wraparound one-to-one volunteer support service. Due to an ongoing lack of funding, sadly this service was closed at the year end.
- (v) We were also able to offer one-to-one IDVA support to clients attending our services that had experienced domestic abuse including child to parent violence. This included safety planning, advice relating to court, legal support, child contact, liaison with social services and schools, accessing health services, parenting children who may be traumatised by domestic abuse, benefits, housing, and emotional support. We also escalated clients to high-risk services if necessary.

Over the year Home-Start East Sussex employed an average of 10 staff, 1 sub-contracted worker, 7 trustees and 16 volunteers. Some staff carry out more than one role.

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

- The Lotus programme supported 113 females with 201 children, across 9 programmes.
- Who's in Charge? supported 44 parents and carers with 101 children, across 3 programmes.
- Being Family supported 18 primary carers and their 18 babies, across 3 programmes.
- We were able to provide one-to-one IDVA support to 107 clients with 183 children.
- One staff member gained the SafeLives Domestic Abuse Service Manager qualification, and two further staff began their SafeLives IDVA training.
- Continued partnership working with LGBT+ specialist charity Brighton Switchboard to develop a LGBT+ quality standard specifically for domestic abuse services.
- Feedback from our clients confirmed that 91% felt their mental health and wellbeing had improved, 92% reported that their social support had improved, 98% felt their risk of harm had reduced, 88% felt the service had had a positive impact on their children; (if applicable) 86% reported that the service had had a positive impact on their relationship with their partner.
- 91% overall positive outcomes across all services.

THE FUTURE

The long-term quality and security of our current services and the development of quality new services are our highest priority. In 2023-24 we will be:

- Reviewing the impact of the closure of Being Family – the volunteer home visiting element which is the core Home-Start approach.
- Supporting the delivery and monitoring of our first Lotus Blossom Peer Support Groups.
- Developing further our understanding of the considerations that are involved in delivering safe services to cis-female, transgender and non-binary clients. Our One-to-One IDVA service continues to be available to any transgender or non-binary resident of East Sussex or Brighton & Hove.
- Ensuring our continued success by regular monitoring of our financial position, ongoing harnessing of our talented teams' skills and "can-do" attitude and remaining a learning organisation.
- Actively seeking more funding to run additional "Who's in Charge?" groups in order to meet the high demand.
- Following ongoing monitoring of local gaps in service provision, we have applied for funding to support children of DA survivors.
- Reviewing local gaps in service provision and set up new pilot services that are within the scope of our Objects.

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Board of Trustees governs the charity in accordance with the company's Memorandum and Articles of Association; it sets the objectives and provides leadership and strategic direction. The Board delegates the day-to-day management of the charity to the Chief Executive Officer. She is assisted by a small team of mainly part time staff.

The Board of Trustees met on five occasions during the year and received regular reports from the Chief Executive Officer, staff, and accountant.

Two sub-committees dealing with matters of finance and personnel advise the Board as and when required. Each meets according to need and advises the Board in accordance with its respective terms of reference.

Risk Management

The trustees regularly review the major risks to which the charity is exposed, paying particular attention to financial matters, child and adult safeguarding issues, reputational risk, and personal safety. The trustees are satisfied that the policies in place to manage and mitigate identified risks are appropriate.

APPRECIATION

We conclude our report by thanking everyone involved in helping Home-Start East Sussex support those families living in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove who, for various reasons, struggle to cope with the challenges of everyday life. These families, at no cost to themselves, have benefitted greatly from, and valued, our support. A benefit made possible by the generous support, financial and in kind, received from the following donor groups.

- Our volunteers who give freely of their time to provide one-to-one support service to families attending Being Family.
- Our Peer Supporters who give freely of their time to facilitate Lotus follow-on groups.
- Our various funders for their financial support and confidence in our ability to deliver a valuable benefit to the community.
- All the individuals, local traders, other organisations, and fundraisers for their donations.
- Our partners from various agencies for their help with training and for sharing helpful information and advice on an on-going basis
- Our small team of paid staff, for their hard work, dedication, and commitment in co-ordinating and managing the efforts of all to ensure that our charity remains fit for purpose and all funds received are spent wisely.

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

Registered Company Number

05368531

Registered Charity Number

1108855

Registered office

Enterprise Centre

Denton Island

Newhaven

East Sussex

BN9 9BA

Trustees

Mr D A Andrews

Resigned 15 February 2023

Mr M A Brewer

Mrs H Edwards

Mrs M P Jackson

Miss C E Moon

Ms J M P Rice-Oxley

Chair

Ms C T Titherly

Independent examiner

Philip Woodgate, FCCA

Woodgate Accounting Services Limited

Chartered Certified Accountants

Unit 43, Newhaven Enterprise Centre

Newhaven

East Sussex

BN9 9BA

Chief Executive Officer

Ms K Lawrence

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

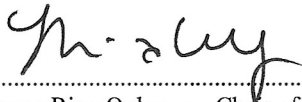
The trustees (who are also the directors of Home-Start East Sussex for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the 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 Charity 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 charitable company will continue in business.

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.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 18 July 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Jayne Rice-Oxley - Chair of Trustees

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
HOME-START EAST SUSSEX**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Home-Start East Sussex

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Home-Start East Sussex (the charity) for the year ended 31st 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

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 Company 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 accounts to be reached.



Philip Woodgate, FCCA
Woodgate Accounting Services Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Unit 43, Newhaven Enterprise Centre
Newhaven
East Sussex
BN9 9BA

Date: 18 July 2023

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
	Notes				
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	103,856	187,801	291,657	176,138
Other trading activities	3	-	-	-	-
Investment income	4	<u>384</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>384</u>	<u>28</u>
Total		104,240	187,801	292,041	176,166
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable Activities	5	<u>83,040</u>	<u>192,849</u>	<u>275,889</u>	<u>161,312</u>
Total		83,040	192,849	275,889	161,312
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		21,200	(5,048)	16,152	14,854
Transfers between funds	15	<u>(8,506)</u>	<u>8,506</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		12,694	3,458	16,152	14,854
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>82,314</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>82,314</u>	<u>67,460</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>95,008</u></u>	<u><u>3,458</u></u>	<u><u>98,466</u></u>	<u><u>82,314</u></u>

The statement of financial activities includes all the 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 EAST SUSSEX (REGISTERED NUMBER: 05368531)**BALANCE SHEET 31ST MARCH 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	12	534	-	534	712
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	2,057	-	2,057	-
Cash at bank		<u>101,569</u>	<u>3,458</u>	<u>105,027</u>	<u>172,864</u>
		103,626	3,458	107,084	172,864
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(9,152)	-	(9,152)	(91,262)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>94,474</u>	<u>3,458</u>	<u>97,932</u>	<u>81,602</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>95,008</u>	<u>3,458</u>	<u>98,466</u>	<u>82,314</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>95,008</u>	<u>3,458</u>	<u>98,466</u>	<u>82,314</u>
FUNDS	16				
Unrestricted funds				95,008	82,314
Restricted funds				<u>3,458</u>	-
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>98,466</u>	<u>82,314</u>

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX (REGISTERED NUMBER: 05368531)

BALANCE SHEET - CONTINUED
AT 31ST MARCH 2023

The company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st March 2023.

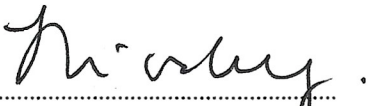
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

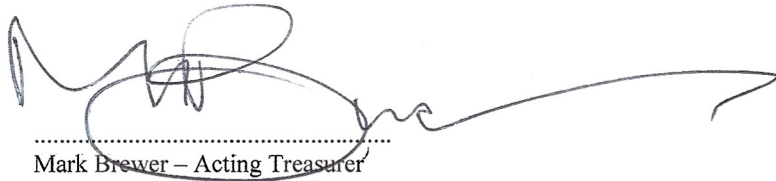
- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each 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 charitable company.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 18 July 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:



.....
Jayne Rice-Oxley – Chair of Trustees



.....
Mark Brewer – Acting Treasurer

Company registration number 05368531

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, 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.

Going concern

Due to additional support from funders, supporters and government assistance following the outbreak of COVID-19 the trustees at the time of approving the financial statements have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Income

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

Donations are accounted for as they are received by the charity. Donations received in the year that relate to specific purposes have been included in restricted funds.

Grants are recognised on an accrual's basis, accounted for in relation to the period to which they relate. Where grants are received during the year under review but relate to a later period, the amount is deferred.

Investment income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

All other income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

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

Governance costs included as part of the charitable expenditure include costs of the preparation and examination of the statutory accounts, the costs of trustee's meetings and the cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Computer equipment - 25% reducing balance

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

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.

Fund accounting

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 the 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.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Donations	21,138	-
Grants	<u>270,519</u>	<u>176,138</u>
	<u>291,657</u>	<u>176,138</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Small Grants and Awards	1,568	5,132
Allen Lane Foundation	-	1,000
DCMS/Pears	5,000	-
Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Foundation	5,000	-
Edward Gosling	-	1,000
Garfield Weston	-	7,500
Henry Smith Charity	42,900	42,100
Caring for Families	-	3,996
Lewes District Council	8,228	-
Lloyds Bank Foundation	27,250	-
Masonic Charitable Fund	5,000	5,000
National Lottery Awards for All	-	4,844
National Lottery Community Fund	35,000	-
Nationwide Community Fund	25,000	25,000
NatWest Circle Fund	5,000	2,500
People's Postcode Trust	-	20,000
Sussex Community Foundation	15,000	-
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	89,573	45,066
The Kelly Family	-	4,000
Wealden District Council	<u>6,000</u>	<u>9,000</u>
	270,519	176,138

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Fundraising events	-	-
Trading Income	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2023	2022
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>384</u>	<u>28</u>

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct costs (See note 6)	Support Costs (See note 7)	Totals
	£	£	£
Personnel costs	232,568	-	232,568
Direct service costs	18,352	-	18,352
Occupancy costs	1,944	-	1,944
Administration costs	12,976	-	12,976
Corporate costs	4,860	-	4,860
Depreciation	-	179	179
Governance costs	-	5,010	5,010
	<u>270,700</u>	<u>5,189</u>	<u>275,889</u>

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

6. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Staff costs	232,569	128,410
Contractors	-	2,564
Rent	1,944	2,289
Insurance	1,244	1,019
Light and heat	-	-
Telephone	2,452	1,548
Postage and stationery	1,295	728
Sundries	842	735
Volunteer's expenses	179	45
Training, room hire and expenses	2,570	1,033
Repairs, maintenance, and cleaning	-	-
IT services	4,857	1,604
Staff travel and courses	6,470	4,479
Home-Start UK fee	4,860	2,612
Publicity and marketing	240	3,609
Professional fees	6,427	-
Christmas event	-	413
DBS costs	398	406
Assets expensed	1,761	5,631
Licence costs	2,592	2,628
	<u>270,700</u>	<u>159,753</u>

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Finance	Depreciation	Governance	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Computer equipment	-	179	-	179
Governance costs	<u>154</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,856</u>	<u>5,010</u>
	<u>154</u>	<u>179</u>	<u>4,856</u>	<u>5,189</u>

Accountancy fees include £1,260 (2022 - £1,200) in respect of the independent examination of these financial statements and £3,596 (2022 - £nil) in respect of other accountancy services.

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

Finance

	2023	2022
	Governance	Governance
	Costs	Costs
	£	£
Bank charges	<u>154</u>	<u>122</u>

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

7. SUPPORT COSTS continued

Depreciation

	2023	2022
	Computer Equipment	Computer Equipment
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>179</u>	<u>237</u>

Governance costs

	2023	2022
	Governance Costs	Governance Costs
	£	£
Accountancy fees	4,856	1,200
Legal and professional fees	-	-
Board expenses	-	-
	<u>4,856</u>	<u>1,200</u>

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	179	237
Other operating leases	<u>1,944</u>	<u>2,289</u>

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st March 2023 nor for the year ended 31st March 2022.

Trustees' expenses

During the year, no (2022 – none) trustees received reimbursement of travel and other related expenses amounting to £nil (2023 - £nil). At the Balance Sheet date, an amount of £nil (2022 - £nil) was owed to trustees in respect of these expenses.

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

10. STAFF COSTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	<u>232,569</u>	<u>128,410</u>
	<u>232,569</u>	<u>128,410</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
Total	<u>10</u>	<u>7</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	70,732	105,406	176,138
Other trading activities	-	-	-
Investment income	<u>28</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>28</u>
Total	70,760	105,406	176,166
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Personnel costs	30,324	98,086	128,410
Direct service costs	787	2,855	3,642
Occupancy costs	2,964	619	3,583
Depreciation	237	-	237
Administration costs	8,999	12,507	21,506
Corporate costs	2,385	227	2,612
Governance costs	<u>1,313</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>1,322</u>
Total	<u>47,009</u>	<u>114,303</u>	<u>161,312</u>
NET INCOME	23,751	(8,897)	14,854
Transfer between funds	(2,064)	2,064	-
Net movement in funds	21,687	(6,833)	14,854
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	<u>60,627</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>67,460</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>82,314</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>82,314</u>

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Computer equipment £
COST	
At 1st April 2022	2,232
Additions	<u>-</u>
At 31st March 2023	<u>2,232</u>
DEPRECIATION	
At 1st April 2022	1,520
Charge for year	<u>178</u>
At 31st March 2023	<u>1,698</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st March 2023	<u>534</u>
At 31st March 2022	<u>712</u>

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	2,057	-
Other debtors	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>2,027</u>	<u>-</u>

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	685	2,406
Social security and other taxes	5,150	2,656
Accruals and deferred income	-	85,000
Accrued expenses	1,260	1,200
Other creditors	2,057	-
	<u>9,152</u>	<u>91,262</u>

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023****15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1/4/22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	11,314	21,200	(32,055)	459
Designated fund - Contingency reserve	<u>71,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,549</u>	<u>94,549</u>
	82,314	21,200	(8,506)	95,008
Restricted funds				
DCMS/Pears	-	(1,363)	1,363	-
Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Foundation	-	(4,007)	4,007	-
Lewes District Council	-	87	(87)	-
National Lottery Community Fund	-	114	(114)	-
Nationwide Community Fund	-	(1,142)	1,142	-
Nat West Circle Fund	-	3,458	-	3,458
Sussex Community Foundation	-	(713)	713	-
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	-	(1,482)	1,482	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	-	(5,048)	8,506	3,458
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>82,314</u>	<u>16,152</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>98,466</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	104,240	(83,040)	21,200
Designated fund – Contingency reserve	-	-	-
	<u>104,240</u>	<u>(83,040)</u>	<u>21,200</u>
Restricted funds			
DCMS/Pears	5,000	(6,363)	(1,363)
Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Foundation	5,000	(9,007)	(4,007)
Lewes District Council	8,228	(8,141)	87
National Lottery Community Fund	35,000	(34,886)	114
Nationwide Community Fund	25,000	(26,142)	(1,142)
Nat West Circle Fund	5,000	(1,542)	3,458
Sussex Community Foundation	15,000	(15,713)	(713)
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	89,573	(91,055)	(1,482)
	<u>187,801</u>	<u>(192,849)</u>	<u>(5,048)</u>
Total funds	<u>292,041</u>	<u>(275,889)</u>	<u>16,152</u>

Contingent liability for closure – an amount of £94,549 (2022: £71,000) has been carried forward to be designated for the purpose of covering all statutory and legal obligations should the charity have ceased operations.

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023****15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued****Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1/4/21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	26,627	23,751	(39,064)	11,314
Designated fund - Contingency reserve	<u>34,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>37,000</u>	<u>71,000</u>
	60,627	23,751	(2,064)	82,314
Restricted funds				
Sussex Community Foundation	6,833	(6,833)	-	-
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	-	(2,064)	2,064	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	6,833	(8,897)	2,064	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>67,460</u>	<u>14,854</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>82,314</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	70,760	(47,009)	23,751
Designated fund – Contingency reserve	-	-	-
Restricted funds			
Caring for Families	3,996	(3,996)	-
National Lottery Awards for All	4,844	(4,844)	-
Nationwide Community Fund	25,000	(25,000)	-
NatWest Circle Fund	2,500	(2,500)	-
People’s Postcode Lottery	20,000	(20,000)	-
Sussex Community Foundation	-	(6,833)	(6,833)
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	45,066	(47,130)	(2,064)
The Kelly Family	4,000	(4,000)	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	105,406	(114,303)	(8,897)
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>176,166</u>	<u>(161,312)</u>	<u>14,854</u>

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

16. PENSION COMMITMENTS

The charitable company contributes to employees' defined contribution pension schemes. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the company to the schemes and amounted to £11,900 (2022 - £3,795).

17. OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

Should the charity have ceased operations as at 31 March 2023, the trustees estimate that expenditure totalling £94,549 (2021 - £71,000) would have to be made out of funds existing at that date to ensure that all statutory and legal obligations relating to staff and property under the charity's control are satisfied in full.

18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

During the year, donations were received from trustees amounting to £145 (2022 - £282). Trustees' expenses are detailed in note 9.

Remuneration paid to key management personnel during the year (including national insurance and pension costs) amounted to £44,843 (2022 - £41,945).

19. MEMBERS LIABILITY

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

Lotus Families

England & Wales - Charity number 1108855

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 05368531 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1108855

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022
FOR
HOME-START EAST SUSSEX
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

Woodgate Accounting Services Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Unit 43, Newhaven Enterprise Centre
Newhaven
East Sussex
BN9 9BA

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 6
Independent Examiner's Report	7
Statement of Financial Activities	8
Balance Sheet	9 to 10
Notes to the Financial Statements	11 to 20

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's Memorandum and Articles, the Companies Act 2006 and the provisions of 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).

Chair's Overview 2021/22

I am pleased to introduce the Home-Start East Sussex Annual Report and Financial Statements for 2021/22 after two very challenging years.

A year ago, my overview noted the year had started with the first Covid lockdown and ended with the third. This report is being presented when all Covid restrictions have been eased and when we should be looking forward to better times. If only things were that easy. The negative impact of the lockdowns live on for many of our families and their existing challenges are now compounded by escalating inflation and greater than ever financial worries. Home-Start will be doing its best to offer support in these difficult times but let no one think it will be easy for our volunteers, our staff, or our families.

The year under review was characterised by the ever-changing landscape of pandemic restrictions. HSES staff had worked tirelessly the previous year to adapt our practices to enable support at a distance and although there were times toward the end of the year when we could have returned to home-visiting or holding groups in person instead of using Zoom, we took cautious approaches to ensure the safety of everyone involved. We face the coming year expecting to be able to offer more and more of our support in person yet still ensuring safety.

Though it was not an easy year, there are many positive things to report. Kate Lawrence, the CEO of HSES, was extremely successful in applying for funds from a large number of trusts and organisations – so much so that she has ensured the continuation and growth of our increasingly diverse range of support throughout the 2022/23 financial year and, in part, for subsequent years. New staff have been appointed to extend the scale and range of our work and to tackle the significant growth in administration that has accompanied it. The data contained later in this report indicates we received 455 referrals and worked with 288 individuals who needed our help; their sensitive personal data will be managed securely with meticulous accuracy and care by our new admin staff.

The year saw the introduction of our first funded one-to-one *IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Adviser)* service to enhance the group work established through the *Lotus* and *Who's in Charge?* programmes. Alongside this development, we began to plan for *Lotus Blossom* for individuals who have moved through *Lotus* and who now wish to become peer supporters for the future. This is now to be funded for five years from April 2022 thanks to National Lottery.

The *Being Mum* groups, established in 2020/21 provide support to first time mothers and their new-born babies, continued to be appreciated. Towards the end of the year, we had to confront the enduring difficulty in securing funds for the volunteer home-visiting service which is the bedrock of our early intervention services. We concluded that the best way forward was to amalgamate *Being Mum* with this service and to re-focus both to include groups and one-to one family support for primary carers with a baby under 12 months. The new approach, *Being Family*, is to be launched in April 2022 and we hope to have good news regarding funding by this time next year.

An Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Co-ordinator was appointed during the year to ensure that our services were reaching as wide a range of clients as possible and to advise on action that might be needed to achieve this. We identified the need to be more pro-active with certain groups and have partnered with Brighton Switchboard to develop and achieve recognised quality standards in respect of the LGBT+ community.

During the year, we welcomed Cheryl Titherly to the Board of Trustees and, sadly, we lost Sarah Last and Ken Starnes who needed to focus their lives on new areas of activity. Both had made significant contributions to Board business for some years and Ken had been the Honorary Treasurer since 2016. I offer my thanks to them both and to Derek Andrews, one of our longest-serving volunteers and trustee, who has stepped in on a temporary basis until we can appoint a new Treasurer.

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

It has been a busy and challenging year, but HSES has made good progress on a range of fronts. None of this would be possible without the dedication of the staff team with their “can do” approach, the loyal band of volunteers, our funders, and the trustees to all of whom I offer my thanks and very best wishes for the coming year.

Christine Moon
Chair, HSES

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The charity’s finances throughout the year have remained strong due to several key factors:

1. The extreme effort the CEO has given to aligning the needs of the scheme with the aims and criteria of an array of funders and thus delivering proposals which fulfil these requirements.
2. The CEO’s ability to manage staff, finance, and systems to ensure solvency and quality services are maintained even at the most challenging of times.
3. A strong Board of Trustees who are supportive of the CEO, acting as “critical friends” and focused on the long-term success of the scheme.

For the year under review, we are therefore reporting a net surplus of £14,854 and reserves at year-end, £82,314 are a solid financial base for 2022/23, even though our contingent liabilities have increased from £34,000 to £71,000 because of changing business needs.

Derek Andrews
Treasurer

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Home-Start East Sussex believes that every child and parent living in East Sussex should live in a safe and nurturing family where every member enjoys a positive life.

Home-Start East Sussex (HSES) is a small local independent registered charity affiliated to Home-Start UK and SafeLives who provide us with policy guidance and quality standards. Since 1996 the charity has supported and empowered over 2500 vulnerable and disadvantaged families/individuals. The purpose of the charity is to facilitate the increased safety, well-being, confidence, and independence of local families that have experienced adversity. The charity supports family members to build safer, stronger, and more resilient relationships, encouraging clients to make decisions, act for themselves and take back control of their lives. HSES has been awarded SafeLives Leading Lights accreditation – the gold star standard for domestic abuse services. This means that all our services have empowerment, resilience, and client safety at their core.

In 2021 – 22 Home-Start East Sussex ran four services and one wraparound service:

- (i) Lotus non-crisis domestic abuse recovery programme: 6-week group that supports female victim-survivors to recover and move forward with their lives, and keep themselves and their children safe in future
- (ii) Who’s in Charge? programme: 9-week group that supports parents experiencing child to parent abuse and violence to help improve parent-child relationships
- (iii) Being Mum programme: 6-week group for vulnerable new first time Mums whose babies are at risk of experiencing adverse childhood experiences
- (iv) Volunteer home-visiting service supporting vulnerable families with preschool children

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

We were also able to offer one-to-one IDVA support to clients attending our services that had experienced domestic abuse including child to parent violence. This included safety planning, advice relating to court, legal support, child contact, liaison with social services and schools, accessing health services, parenting children who may be traumatised by domestic abuse, benefits, housing, and emotional support. We also escalated clients to high-risk services such as The Portal and MARAC if necessary.

In 2021 – 22 Home-Start East Sussex had an average of 7 employees, one sub-contracted worker, 9 trustees and approx. 20 volunteers:

- Chief Executive - (Services Manager and Safeguarding Lead)
- Client Safety and Quality Assurance Manager
- Client Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator
- Volunteer Family Support Service Coordinator
- Whole Family IDVA's
- Programmes Facilitators
- Programmes Assistant
- Services Administrator
- Sub-contracted Financial Controller

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

- The Lotus programme supported 55 females with 110 children, across 5 programmes.
- Who's in Charge? supported 30 parents and carers with 77 children, across 3 programmes.
- Being Mum supported 44 mothers and their 44 babies, across 5 programmes.
- Volunteer family support service supported 81 children living in 40 families.
- We were able to provide one-to-one IDVA support to 119 clients with 234 children.
- Three staff members gained the SafeLives IDVA qualification.
- We worked in partnership with two Brighton University Masters students, who carried out an independent evaluation of our services to help us improve current services and develop quality new ones.
- Set up a formal partnership with LGBT+ specialist charity Brighton Switchboard to develop a LGBT+ quality standard specifically for domestic abuse services.
- Feedback from our clients confirmed that 92% felt their mental health and wellbeing had improved, 91% reported that their social support had improved, 94% felt their risk of harm had reduced, 84% felt the service had a positive impact on their children and 90% reported that the service had had a positive impact on their relationship with their partner.
- 90% overall positive outcomes across all services.

THE FUTURE

The long-term quality and security of our current services and the development of quality new services are our highest priority. In 2022 – 23 we will be:

- Piloting a group peer support service – Lotus Blossom Project. Lotus Blossom will be a peer support group for clients that have attended one of our 6-week Lotus groups. Ex Lotus clients will be trained to facilitate a follow-on group for other ex-Lotus clients.
- Extending our IDVA service so that any transgender or non-binary resident of East Sussex or Brighton & Hove can access it.
- Reviewing local gaps in service provision and set up new pilot services that are within the scope of our Objects.
- Ensuring our continued success by regular monitoring of our financial position, ongoing harnessing of our talented teams' skills and "can-do" attitude and remaining a learning organisation.

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Board of Trustees governs the charity in accordance with the company's Memorandum and Articles of Association; it sets the objectives and provides leadership and strategic direction. The Board delegates the day-to-day management of the charity to the Chief Executive Officer. She is assisted by a small team of mainly part time staff.

The Board of Trustees met via Zoom on five occasions during the year and received regular reports from the Chief Executive Officer, staff, and the Treasurer.

Three sub-committees dealing with matters of finance, community fundraising and personnel advise the Board as and when required. Each meets according to need and advises the Board in accordance with its respective terms of reference.

Risk Management

The trustees regularly review the major risks to which the charity is exposed, paying particular attention to financial matters, child and adult safeguarding issues, reputational risk, and personal safety. The trustees are satisfied that the policies in place to manage and mitigate identified risks are appropriate.

APPRECIATION

We conclude our report by thanking everyone involved in helping Home-Start East Sussex support those families living in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove who, for various reasons, struggle to cope with the challenges of everyday life. These families, at no cost to themselves, have benefitted greatly from, and valued, our support. A benefit made possible by the generous support, financial and in kind, received from the following donor groups.

- Our volunteers who give freely of their time to provide a home visiting support service to those in need
- Our various funders for their financial support and confidence in our ability to deliver a valuable benefit to the community
- All the individuals, local traders, other organisations, and fundraisers for their donations
- Our partners from various agencies for their help with training and for sharing helpful information and advice on an on-going basis
- Our small team of paid staff, for their hard work, dedication, and commitment in co-ordinating and managing the efforts of all to ensure that our charity remains fit for purpose and all funds received are spent wisely.

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

Registered Company Number

05368531

Registered Charity Number

1108855

Registered office

Enterprise Centre
Denton Island
Newhaven
East Sussex
BN9 9BA

Trustees

Mr D A Andrews

Mr M A Brewer

Mrs H Edwards

Mrs M P Jackson

Mrs S J Last

Miss C E Moon

Ms J M P Rice-Oxley

Mr K Starnes

Ms C T Titherly

Resigned 15 October 2021

Chair

Resigned 19 March 2022

Appointed 18 March 2021

Independent examiner

Philip Woodgate, FCCA
Woodgate Accounting Services Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Unit 43, Newhaven Enterprise Centre
Newhaven
East Sussex
BN9 9BA

Chief Executive Officer

Ms K Lawrence

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Home-Start East Sussex for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the 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 Charity 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 charitable company will continue in business.

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.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 22 September 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Miss C E Moon - Chair of Trustees

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
HOME-START EAST SUSSEX**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Home-Start East Sussex

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Home-Start East Sussex (the charity) for the year ended 31st 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).

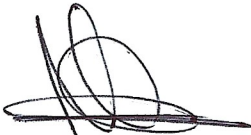
Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 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

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 Company 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 accounts to be reached.



Philip Woodgate, FCCA
Woodgate Accounting Services Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Unit 43, Newhaven Enterprise Centre
Newhaven
East Sussex
BN9 9BA

Date: 22 September 2022

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	70,732	105,406	176,138	144,956
Other trading activities	3	-	-	-	-
Investment income	4	<u>28</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>139</u>
Total		70,760	105,406	176,166	145,095
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable Activities	5	<u>47,009</u>	<u>114,303</u>	<u>161,312</u>	<u>125,148</u>
Total		47,009	114,303	161,312	125,148
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		23,751	(8,897)	14,854	19,947
Transfers between funds	15	<u>(2,064)</u>	<u>2,064</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		21,687	(6,833)	14,854	19,947
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		60,627	6,833	67,460	47,513
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>82,314</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>82,314</u>	<u>67,460</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all the 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 EAST SUSSEX (REGISTERED NUMBER: 05368531)**BALANCE SHEET 31ST MARCH 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	12	712	-	712	949
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	-	-	-	1,060
Cash at bank		<u>122,864</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>172,864</u>	<u>150,334</u>
		122,864	50,000	172,864	151,394
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(41,262)	(50,000)	(91,262)	(84,883)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>81,602</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>81,602</u>	<u>66,511</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>82,314</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>82,314</u>	<u>67,460</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>82,314</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>82,314</u>	<u>67,460</u>
FUNDS	16				
Unrestricted funds				82,314	60,627
Restricted funds				<u>-</u>	<u>6,833</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>82,314</u>	<u>67,460</u>

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX (REGISTERED NUMBER: 05368531)

BALANCE SHEET - CONTINUED
AT 31ST MARCH 2022

The company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st March 2022.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2021 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

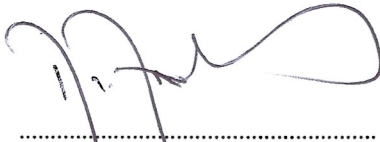
- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each 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 charitable company.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 22 September 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:



.....
Miss C E Moon – Chair of Trustees



.....
Mr D A Andrews – Treasurer

Company registration number 05368531

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, 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.

Going concern

Due to additional support from funders, supporters and government assistance following the outbreak of COVID-19 the trustees at the time of approving the financial statements have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Income

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

Donations are accounted for as they are received by the charity. Donations received in the year that relate to specific purposes have been included in restricted funds.

Grants are recognised on an accrual's basis, accounted for in relation to the period to which they relate. Where grants are received during the year under review but relate to a later period, the amount is deferred.

Investment income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

All other income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

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

Governance costs included as part of the charitable expenditure include costs of the preparation and examination of the statutory accounts, the costs of trustee's meetings and the cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Computer equipment - 25% reducing balance

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

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.

Fund accounting

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 the 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.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Donations	0	8,153
Grants	<u>176,138</u>	<u>136,803</u>
	<u>176,138</u>	<u>144,956</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Small Grants and Awards	5,132	1,704
Allen Lane Foundation	1,000	2,000
Children in Need	-	30,556
Comic Relief	-	2,600
Eastbourne Borough Council	-	3,500
Edward Gosling	1,000	4,000
Garfield Weston	7,500	7,500
Henry Smith Charity	42,100	-
Caring for Families	3,996	-
DCMS Loneliness Fund	-	5,000
DCMS/Pears	-	5,000
Masonic Charitable Fund	5,000	-
National Lottery Awards for All	4,844	5,828
National Lottery Emergency Response Fund	-	24,011
Nationwide Community Fund	25,000	-
NatWest Circle Fund	2,500	-
People's Postcode Trust	20,000	-
Sussex Community Foundation	-	10,000
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	45,066	20,000
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner Emergency Covid 19	-	6,104
The Kelly Family	4,000	-
Wealden District Council	<u>9,000</u>	<u>9,000</u>
	176,138	136,803

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Fundraising events	-	-
Trading Income	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2022	2021
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>28</u>	<u>139</u>

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct costs (See note 6)	Support Costs (See note 7)	Totals
	£	£	£
Personnel costs	128,410	-	128,410
Direct service costs	3,642	-	3,642
Occupancy costs	3,583	-	3,583
Administration costs	21,506	-	21,506
Corporate costs	2,612	-	2,612
Depreciation	-	237	237
Governance costs	-	1,322	1,322
	<u>159,753</u>	<u>1,559</u>	<u>161,312</u>

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

6. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Staff costs	128,410	83,065
Contractors	2,564	12,187
Rent	2,289	7,416
Insurance	1,019	924
Light and heat	-	16
Telephone	1,548	1,474
Postage and stationery	728	813
Sundries	735	203
Volunteer's expenses	45	42
Training, room hire and expenses	1,033	12,696
Repairs, maintenance, and cleaning	-	253
IT maintenance services	1,604	1,366
Staff travel and courses	4,479	49
Home-Start UK fee	2,612	1,731
Publicity and marketing	3,609	21
Christmas event	413	-
DBS costs	406	65
Assets expensed	5,631	1,215
Licence costs	2,628	-
	<u>159,753</u>	<u>123,536</u>

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Finance	Depreciation	Governance	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Computer equipment	-	237	-	237
Governance costs	<u>122</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,200</u>	<u>1,322</u>
	<u>122</u>	<u>237</u>	<u>1,200</u>	<u>1,559</u>

Accountancy fees include £1,200 (2021 - £1,200) in respect of the independent examination of these financial statements and £nil (2021 - £nil) in respect of other accountancy services.

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

Finance

	2022	2021
	Governance	Governance
	Costs	Costs
	£	£
Bank charges	<u>122</u>	<u>96</u>

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

7. SUPPORT COSTS continued

Depreciation

	2022	2021
	Computer Equipment £	Computer Equipment £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>237</u>	<u>316</u>

Governance costs

	2022	2021
	Governance Costs £	Governance Costs £
Accountancy fees	1,200	1,200
Legal and professional fees	-	-
Board expenses	-	-
	<u>1,200</u>	<u>1,200</u>

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2022	2021
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	237	316
Other operating leases	<u>2,289</u>	<u>7,416</u>

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st March 2022 nor for the year ended 31st March 2021.

Trustees' expenses

During the year, no (2021 – none) trustees received reimbursement of travel and other related expenses amounting to £nil (2021 - £nil). At the Balance Sheet date, an amount of £nil (2021 - £nil) was owed to trustees in respect of these expenses.

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

10. STAFF COSTS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	<u>128,410</u>	<u>83,065</u>
	<u>128,410</u>	<u>83,065</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2022	2021
Total	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	32,357	112,599	144,956
Other trading activities	-	-	-
Investment income	<u>139</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>139</u>
Total	32,496	112,599	145,095
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Personnel costs	11,216	71,898	83,114
Direct service costs	2,004	22,921	24,925
Occupancy costs	890	7,466	8,356
Depreciation	316	-	316
Administration costs	225	5,185	5,410
Corporate costs	-	1,731	1,731
Governance costs	<u>1,096</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>1,296</u>
Total	<u>15,747</u>	<u>109,401</u>	<u>125,148</u>
NET INCOME	16,749	3,198	19,947
Transfer between funds	(3,635)	3,635	-
Net movement in funds	13,114	6,833	19,947
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	<u>47,513</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>47,513</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>60,627</u>	<u>6,833</u>	<u>67,460</u>

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Computer equipment £
COST	
At 1st April 2021	2,232
Additions	<u>-</u>
At 31st March 2022	<u>2,232</u>
DEPRECIATION	
At 1st April 2021	1,283
Charge for year	<u>237</u>
At 31st March 2022	<u>1,520</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st March 2022	<u>712</u>
At 31st March 2020	<u>949</u>

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	-	-
Other debtors	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>-</u>	<u>1,060</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,060</u>

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	2,406	1,023
Social security and other taxes	2,656	3,708
Accruals and deferred income	85,000	78,496
Accrued expenses	1,200	1,663
Other creditors	-	(7)
	<u>91,262</u>	<u>84,883</u>

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022****15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1/4/21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	26,627	23,751	(39,064)	11,314
Designated fund - Contingency reserve	<u>34,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>37,000</u>	<u>71,000</u>
	60,627	23,751	(2,064)	82,314
Restricted funds				
Caring for Families	-	-	-	-
National Lottery – Awards for All	-	-	-	-
Nationwide Community Fund	-	-	-	-
NatWest Circle Fund	-	-	-	-
People’s Postcode Trust	-	-	-	-
Sussex Community Foundation	6,833	(6,833)	-	-
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	-	(2,064)	2,064	-
The Kelly Family	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	6,833	(8,897)	2,064	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>67,460</u>	<u>14,854</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>82,314</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	70,760	(47,009)	23,751
Designated fund – Contingency reserve	-	-	-

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Restricted funds			
Caring for Families	3,996	(3,996)	-
National Lottery – Awards for All	4,844	(4,844)	-
Nationwide Community Fund	25,000	(25,000)	-
NatWest Circle Fund	2,500	(2,500)	-
People’s Postcode Trust	20,000	(20,000)	-
Sussex Community Foundation	-	(6,833)	(6,833)
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	45,066	(47,130)	(2,064)
The Kelly Family	4,000	(4,000)	-
	<u>105,406</u>	<u>(114,303)</u>	<u>(8,897)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>176,166</u>	<u>(161,312)</u>	<u>14,854</u>

Contingent liability for closure – an amount of £71,000 (2021: £34,000) has been carried forward to be designated for the purpose of covering all statutory and legal obligations should the charity have ceased operations.

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1/4/20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	13,513	16,749	(3,635)	26,627
Designated fund - Contingency reserve	<u>34,000</u>	-	-	<u>34,000</u>
	47,513	16,749	(3,635)	60,627
Restricted funds				
Children in Need	-	123	(123)	-
Comic Relief	-	(530)	530	-
Eastbourne Borough Council	-	(103)	103	-
DCMS Loneliness Fund	-	(59)	59	-
DCMS/Pears	-	(59)	59	-
National Lottery Awards for All	-	18	(18)	-
National Lottery Emergency Response Fund	-	(417)	417	-
Sussex Community Foundation	-	6,833	-	6,833
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	-	(2,608)	2,608	-
	-	3,198	3,635	6,833
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>47,513</u>	<u>19,947</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>67,460</u>

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	32,496	(15,747)	16,749
Designated fund – Contingency reserve	-	-	-
Restricted funds			
Children in Need	30,556	(30,433)	123
Comic Relief	2,600	(3,130)	(530)
Eastbourne Borough Council	3,500	(3,603)	(103)
DCMS Loneliness Fund	5,000	(5,059)	(59)
DCMS/Pears	5,000	(5,059)	(59)
National Lottery Awards for All	5,828	(5,810)	18
National Lottery Emergency Response Fund	24,011	(24,428)	(417)
Sussex Community Foundation	10,000	(3,167)	6,833
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	<u>26,104</u>	<u>(28,712)</u>	<u>(2,608)</u>
	112,599	(109,401)	3,198
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>145,095</u>	<u>(125,148)</u>	<u>19,947</u>

16. PENSION COMMITMENTS

The charitable company contributes to employees' defined contribution pension schemes. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the company to the schemes and amounted to £3,795 (2021 - £3,361).

17. OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

Should the charity have ceased operations as at 31 March 2022, the trustees estimate that expenditure totalling £71,000 (2021 - £34,000) would have to be made out of funds existing at that date to ensure that all statutory and legal obligations relating to staff and property under the charity's control are satisfied in full.

18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

During the year, donations were received from trustees amounting to £282 (2021 - £1,624). Trustees' expenses are detailed in note 9.

Remuneration paid to key management personnel during the year (including national insurance and pension costs) amounted to £41,945 (2021 - £41,858).

19. MEMBERS LIABILITY

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

Lotus Families

England & Wales - Charity number 1108855

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 05368531 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1108855

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021
FOR
HOME-START EAST SUSSEX
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

Woodgate Accounting Services Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Unit 43, Newhaven Enterprise Centre
Newhaven
East Sussex
BN9 9BA

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 6
Independent Examiner's Report	7
Statement of Financial Activities	8
Balance Sheet	9 to 10
Notes to the Financial Statements	11 to 20

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's Memorandum and Articles, the Companies Act 2006 and the provisions of 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).

Chair's Overview 2020-21

It will come as no surprise to know that this report covers an extremely difficult year for Home-Start East Sussex (HSES). It began with the first period of pandemic lockdown and concluded mid-way through the third. Throughout the year, staff and volunteers responded positively and creatively re-inventing our face-to-face and group-based services to provide family support at a distance. Their exceptional commitment to the families and their ability to reconfigure that support using modern communications technology cannot be emphasised too strongly nor too highly praised.

As soon as the initial lockdown was declared in March 2020, the staff decided they would be content to work from home and redesign delivery models to keep our vital family support ongoing. They moth-balled the office at Newhaven and by September 2020 had decided that being home-based was neither detrimental to the service nor to their wellbeing and that we should vacate the office permanently by the end of the year.

The *Volunteer Family Support Service* was perhaps the most difficult to re-invent since it had depended previously on our volunteers visiting families in their homes on a weekly basis. In this way, they could readily engage with the difficulties being faced by those families and work with them directly to try to seek solutions – sometimes working through ideas, sometimes by helping in a practical way. At a distance, hands-on practical help was obviously impossible and thus the aim of the service was slightly redefined to offer “a listening ear for parents and practical advice, signposting and referring to other services to reduce the impact the pandemic has on the children”. It is pleasing and impressive that the target of 45 families was exceeded by our volunteers using regular email and phone contact alone. Support was extended to incorporate more immediate needs such as ensuring the families had adequate food supplies. As I write, we are starting to offer a blended service involving some direct family contact and continuing distance support where appropriate.

The *Lotus Domestic Abuse Recovery Service* had previously involved staff working weekly in community locations with groups of women who had suffered abuse and were seeking to recover and move forward with their lives and those of their children. We were initially funded to run five groups across the county over the year. However, in response to the high demand for the service, we were able to secure emergency Covid response funding in order to deliver another five Zoom-based programmes. Our senior facilitator, Alex Salmon, was joined by new staff Rachel Morrison and Jordan Hollis and student social worker Deborah Rogerson to meet this demand, ensuring that 107 women could participate in the ten groups, indirectly supporting their 188 children. While some participants regretted the groups no longer met in person, many found the online sessions preferable especially those with high anxiety, or if they found travel time, travel expense or child-care a barrier to attendance. It was pleasing that 97% of the participants offered positive feedback on the new experience.

Following successful funding bids, new services were started during the year. Again, Zoom was used to bring the groups together and over 90% of the participants recorded positive outcomes.

Being Mum brought together first-time mothers to deal with the challenges and changes faced by their new responsibilities and relationships. 40 new mothers and their 40 babies were supported in four groups. These groups were particularly valued in this pandemic year. In the first wave, women had the trauma of giving birth in hospital without their partners present and without being able to see their midwife properly under the protective clothing. Once at home, social distancing rules meant that support from midwives, health visitors and family members was not available to these new mothers. The women attending the groups reported feeling isolated and alone and thus very much looked forward to their weekly group sessions.

HSES also secured emergency Covid support funding to respond to the number of parents who disclosed that the pandemic had led to an increased level of abuse and violence from their teenage children. In January 2021 our first *Who's in Charge?* group saw the bringing together of parents attempting to improve emotional connections with and respond assertively to their abusive older children.

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

It was a year in which funders recognised there was a need, greater than ever, for services such as that provided by HSES and we were able to benefit from grants from a range of bodies and trusts and stay solvent into the coming year. Alongside the operational challenges, I'm delighted to report that new services were planned for the coming year and that funding for these has been sought successfully. We are therefore looking forward to new and stimulating activity which will complement and extend the services already offered.

These have been testing times, but everyone involved in HSES – volunteers, staff, funders, trustees and our families - has done their utmost to ensure continuity of the services and positive outcomes. On behalf of the Board of Trustees I offer my most sincere thanks to you all.

Christine Moon
Chair, HSES

FINANCIAL REVIEW

In many ways the positive situation we have been able to report at the end of this financial year reflects the practical financial controls we have established, and continue to maintain. HSES is therefore in a reasonably strong position to support the controlled growth as we address a continuing requirement for the range of services we seek to provide.

Our Chair has, quite rightly, identified the incredible level of support from our funders during this difficult year. However, much of this could not have been achieved without the realistic planning and thoughtful attention to detail by our Chief Executive Officer and her team. When considering the future, in such a challenging year, conflicting situations have often needed to be addressed, and difficult decisions made, as we sought to develop the realistic plans needed to support our clients.

For the year under review we are reporting a net surplus of £19,947. Our reserves at year-end, £67,460 are a solid financial base from which we are able to consider and develop our future plans and strategies, in order to address the continuing need for our services.

Ken Starnes
Treasurer

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Home-Start East Sussex believes that every child and parent living in East Sussex should live in a safe and nurturing family where every member enjoys a positive life.

Home-Start East Sussex (HSES) is a small local independent registered charity affiliated to Home-Start UK and SafeLives who provide us with policy guidance and quality standards. Since 1996 the charity has supported and empowered over 2000 vulnerable and disadvantaged families/individuals. The purpose of the charity is to facilitate the increased safety, well-being, confidence and independence of local families that have experienced adversity. The charity supports family members to build safer, stronger, and more resilient relationships, encouraging clients to make decisions, act for themselves and take back control of their lives. In spring 2020 HSES was awarded SafeLives Leading Lights accreditation – the gold star standard for domestic abuse services. This means that all services have empowerment, resilience and client safety at their core.

In 2020 – 21 Home-Start East Sussex ran four services and one new wraparound service:

- (i) Lotus non-crisis domestic abuse recovery programme: 6-week group that supports women victim-survivors to recover and move forward with their lives, and keep themselves and their children safe in future
- (ii) Who's in Charge? programme: 9-week group that supports parents experiencing child to parent abuse and violence to help improve parent-child relationships
- (iii) Being Mum programme: 6-week group for vulnerable new first time Mums whose babies are at risk of experiencing adverse childhood experiences
- (iv) volunteer home-visiting service supporting vulnerable families with preschool children

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

We were also able to offer one-to-one IDVA support to clients attending our services that had experienced domestic abuse including child to parent violence. This included safety planning, advice relating to court, legal support, child contact, liaison with social services and schools, accessing health services, parenting children who may be traumatised by domestic abuse, benefits, housing and emotional support. We also escalated clients to high risk services such as The Portal and MARAC if necessary.

In 2020 – 21 Home-Start East Sussex had 6 employees (4.5 FTE) on sub-contracted worker and approx. 20 volunteers:

- Chief Executive - (Services Manager and Safeguarding Lead)
- Lead facilitators
- Programmes Assistants
- Volunteer Family Support Service Coordinator
- Sessional administrator
- Sub-contracted Financial Controller

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

- The Lotus programme supported 107 women with 188 children, across 10 programmes.
- Who's in Charge? supported 13 parents and carers with 25 children within our pilot first programme.
- Being Mum supported 36 mothers and their 36 babies, across three programmes.
- Volunteer family support service supported 99 children living in 45 families.
- We were able to provide one-to-one IDVA support to 44 clients with 84 children.
- Three staff members started working towards an IDVA qualification.
- We worked with four Brighton University Masters students to help us improve current services and develop quality new ones.
- Set up a formal partnership with LGBT+ specialist charity Brighton Switchboard to develop a LGBT+ quality standard specifically for domestic abuse services.
- Feedback from our clients confirmed that 99% had built skills that would help them in the future, 99% felt less isolated after connecting with others, 97% felt more confident in their role within the family, 91% felt that their mental health had improved.
- 94% overall positive outcomes across all services.
- By the end of the year we had successfully secured multi-year funding for our Lotus and Who's in Charge? Services.

THE FUTURE

The long-term quality and security of our current services and the development of quality new services are our highest priority. In 2021 – 22 we will be:

- Piloting a group peer support service.
- Securing significant funding for a whole family IDVA service.
- Possibly amalgamating our Being Mum service with our volunteer family service and securing multiyear funding.
- Reviewing local gaps in service provision and set up new pilot services that are within the scope of our Objects.
- Ensuring our continued success by regular monitoring of our financial position, ongoing harnessing of our talented teams skills and “can-do” attitude and remaining a learning organisation.
- Recruiting a Diversity & Inclusion Coordinator who will ideally be from a minoritised community themselves. They will (i) coordinate our partnership with LGBT+ specialist charity Brighton Switchboard to develop a LGBT+ quality standard specifically for domestic abuse services (ii) develop stronger relationships with BAME groups and others supporting minoritised communities to ensure that our services are reaching diverse communities.

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Board of Trustees governs the charity in accordance with the company's Memorandum and Articles of Association; it sets the objectives and provides leadership and strategic direction. The Board delegates the day-to-day management of the charity to the Chief Executive Officer. She is assisted by a small team of mainly part time staff.

The Board of Trustees met via Zoom on six occasions during the year and received regular reports from the Chief Executive Officer, staff and the Treasurer.

Two sub-committees dealing with matters of finance and personnel advise the Board as and when required. Each meets according to need and advises the Board in accordance with its respective terms of reference.

Risk Management

The trustees regularly review the major risks to which the charity is exposed, paying particular attention to financial matters, child and adult safeguarding issues, reputational risk and personal safety. The trustees are satisfied that the policies in place to manage and mitigate identified risks are appropriate.

APPRECIATION

We conclude our report by thanking everyone involved in helping Home-Start East Sussex support those local families who, for various reasons, struggle to cope with the challenges of everyday life. These families, at no cost to themselves, have benefitted greatly from, and valued, our support. A benefit made possible by the generous support, financial and in kind, received from the following donor groups.

- Our volunteers who give freely of their time to provide a home visiting support service to those in need
- Our various funders for their financial support and confidence in our ability to deliver a valuable benefit to the community
- All the individuals, local traders, other organisations and fundraisers for their donations
- Our partners from various agencies for their help with training and for sharing helpful information and advice on an on-going basis
- Our small team of paid staff, for their hard work, dedication and commitment in co-ordinating and managing the efforts of all to ensure that our charity remains fit for purpose and all funds received spent wisely.

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

Registered Company Number

05368531

Registered Charity Number

1108855

Registered office

Enterprise Centre
Denton Island
Newhaven
East Sussex
BN9 9BA

Trustees

Mr D A Andrews
Mr M A Brewer
Mrs H Edwards
Mrs M P Jackson
Mrs S J Last
Miss C E Moon
Ms J M P Rice-Oxley
Mr K Starnes
Ms J M Szalay
Mr J W Thurley

Chair

Resigned 18/09/20

Resigned 21/01/21

Company Secretary

Ms K Lawrence

Independent examiner

Philip Woodgate, FCCA
Woodgate Accounting Services Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Unit 43, Newhaven Enterprise Centre
Newhaven
East Sussex
BN9 9BA

Chief Executive Officer

Ms K Lawrence

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

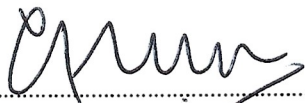
The trustees (who are also the directors of Home-Start East Sussex for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity 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 charitable company will continue in business.

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 16 September 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Miss C E Moon - Chair of Trustees

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
HOME-START EAST SUSSEX**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Home-Start East Sussex

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Home-Start East Sussex (the charity) for the year ended 31st March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

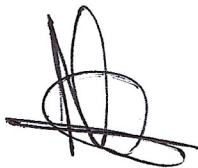
Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements as carried out under section 145 of the Charities 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

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 Company 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 accounts to be reached.



Philip Woodgate, FCCA
Woodgate Accounting Services Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Unit 43, Newhaven Enterprise Centre
Newhaven
East Sussex
BN9 9BA

Date: 17 September 2021

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 funds £	Total 2020 funds £
	Not es				
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	32,357	112,599	144,956	91,824
Other trading activities	3	-	-	-	577
Investment income	4	<u>139</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>139</u>	<u>234</u>
Total		32,496	112,599	145,095	92,635
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable Activities	5	<u>15,747</u>	<u>109,401</u>	<u>125,148</u>	<u>106,187</u>
Total		<u>15,747</u>	<u>109,401</u>	<u>125,148</u>	<u>106,187</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		16,749	3,198	19,947	(13,552)
Transfers between funds	15	<u>(3,635)</u>	<u>3,635</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		13,114	6,833	19,947	(13,552)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>47,513</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>47,513</u>	<u>61,065</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>60,627</u></u>	<u><u>6,833</u></u>	<u><u>67,460</u></u>	<u><u>47,513</u></u>

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX (REGISTERED NUMBER: 05368531)

BALANCE SHEET 31ST MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible assets	12	949	-	949		1,265
CURRENT ASSETS						
Debtors	13	1,060	-	1,060		21,060
Cash at bank		<u>83,005</u>	<u>67,329</u>	<u>150,334</u>		<u>50,080</u>
		84,065	67,329	151,394		71,140
CREDITORS						
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(24,387)	(60,496)	(84,883)		(24,892)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>59,678</u>	<u>6,833</u>	<u>66,511</u>		<u>46,248</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>60,627</u>	<u>6,833</u>	<u>67,460</u>		<u>47,513</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>60,627</u>	<u>6,833</u>	<u>67,460</u>		<u>47,513</u>
FUNDS	16					
Unrestricted funds				60,627		47,513
Restricted funds				<u>6,833</u>		-
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>67,460</u>		<u>47,513</u>

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX (REGISTERED NUMBER: 05368531)

BALANCE SHEET - CONTINUED
AT 31ST MARCH 2021

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st March 2021.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2020 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each 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 charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to charitable small companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 16 September 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:



.....
Miss C E Moon – Chair of Trustees



.....
Mr K Starnes – Treasurer

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The charity has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemptions in preparing these financial statements, as permitted by FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland':

- the requirements of Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows;
- the requirements of Section 3 Financial Statement Presentation paragraph 3.17(d).

Going concern

Due to additional support from funders, supporters and government assistance following the outbreak of COVID-19 the trustee's at the time of approving the financial statements have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Income

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

Donations are accounted for as they are received by the charity. Donations received in the year that relate to specific purposes have been included in restricted funds.

Grants are recognised on an accruals basis, accounted for in relation to the period to which they relate. Where grants are received during the year under review but relate to a later period, the amount is deferred.

Investment income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

All other income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, 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 accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

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

Governance costs included as part of the charitable expenditure include costs of the preparation and examination of the statutory accounts, the costs of trustees meetings and the cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Computer equipment - 25% reducing balance

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Taxation

The Charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK Corporation Tax purposes. Accordingly the Charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes. No direct tax charges have arisen in the charity.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2021	2020
	£	£
Donations	8,153	7,239
Grants	<u>136,803</u>	<u>84,585</u>
	<u>144,956</u>	<u>91,824</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Small Grants and Awards	1,704	6,997
Allen Lane Foundation	2,000	3,000
Chalk Cliff Trust	-	5,000
Children in Need	30,556	30,556
Comic Relief	2,600	-
Eastbourne Borough Council	3,500	-
Edward Gosling	4,000	-
Garfield Weston	7,500	-
Henry Smith Charity	-	10,000
DCMS Loneliness Fund	5,000	-
DCMS/Pears	5,000	-
National Lottery Awards for All	5,828	-
National Lottery Emergency Response Fund	24,011	-
People's Postcode Trust	-	17,032
Sussex Community Foundation	10,000	3,000
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	20,000	-
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner Emergency Covid 19	6,104	-
Wealden District Council	<u>9,000</u>	<u>9,000</u>
	<u>136,803</u>	<u>84,585</u>

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2021 £	2020 £
Fundraising events	-	-
Trading Income	-	<u>577</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>577</u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2021 £	2020 £
Deposit account interest	<u>139</u>	<u>234</u>

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct costs (See note 6) £	Support Costs (See note 7) £	Totals £
Personnel costs	83,114	-	83,114
Direct service costs	24,925	-	24,925
Occupancy costs	8,356	-	8,356
Administration costs	5,410	-	5,410
Corporate costs	1,731	-	1,731
Depreciation	-	316	316
Governance costs	-	1,296	1,296
	<u>123,536</u>	<u>1,612</u>	<u>125,148</u>

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

6. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2021	2020
	£	£
Staff costs	83,065	71,200
Contractors	12,187	7,106
Rent	7,416	7,416
Insurance	924	879
Light and heat	16	210
Telephone	1,474	1,384
Postage and stationery	813	893
Sundries	203	420
Volunteer's expenses	42	1,994
Training, room hire and expenses	12,696	2,466
Repairs, maintenance and cleaning	253	171
IT maintenance services	1,366	912
Staff travel and courses	49	3,664
Home-Start UK fee	1,731	1,731
Publicity and marketing	21	250
Christmas event	-	469
DBS costs	65	382
Assets expensed	1,215	1,340
	<u>123,536</u>	<u>102,887</u>

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Finance	Depreciation	Governance	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Computer equipment	-	316	-	316
Governance costs	<u>96</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,200</u>	<u>1,296</u>
	<u>96</u>	<u>316</u>	<u>1,200</u>	<u>1,612</u>

Accountancy fees include £1,200 (2020 - £1,200) in respect of the independent examination of these financial statements and £nil (2020 - £nil) in respect of other accountancy services.

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

Finance

	2021	2020
	Governance	Governance
	Costs	Costs
	£	£
Bank charges	<u>96</u>	<u>60</u>

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

7. SUPPORT COSTS continued

Depreciation

	2021 Computer Equipment £	2020 Computer Equipment £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>316</u>	<u>422</u>

Governance costs

	2021 Governance Costs £	2020 Governance Costs £
Accountancy fees	1,200	1,200
Legal and professional fees	-	-
Board expenses	-	<u>1,618</u>
	<u>1,200</u>	<u>2,818</u>

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2021 £	2020 £
Depreciation - owned assets	316	422
Other operating leases	<u>7,416</u>	<u>7,416</u>

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st March 2021 nor for the year ended 31st March 2020.

Trustees' expenses

During the year, no (2020 – ten) trustees received reimbursement of travel and other related expenses amounting to £nil (2020 - £1,619). At the Balance Sheet date, an amount of £nil (2020 - £697) was owed to trustees in respect of these expenses.

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021****10. STAFF COSTS**

	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	<u>83,065</u>	<u>71,200</u>
	<u>83,065</u>	<u>71,200</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2021	2020
Total	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	44,236	47,588	91,824
Other trading activities	577	-	577
Investment income	<u>234</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>234</u>
Total	45,047	47,588	92,635
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Personnel costs	37,532	37,332	74,864
Direct service costs	2,031	9,535	11,566
Occupancy costs	7,637	868	8,505
Depreciation	422	-	422
Administration costs	697	5,524	6,221
Corporate costs	-	1,731	1,731
Governance costs	<u>2,668</u>	<u>210</u>	<u>2,878</u>
Total	50,987	55,200	106,187
NET (EXPENDITURE)	(5,940)	(7,612)	(13,552)
Transfer between funds	19,453	(19,453)	-
Net movement in funds	13,513	(27,065)	(13,552)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	34,000	27,065	61,065
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>47,513</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>47,513</u>

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Computer equipment £
COST	
At 1st April 2020	2,232
Additions	<u>-</u>
At 31st March 2021	<u>2,232</u>
DEPRECIATION	
At 1st April 2020	967
Charge for year	<u>316</u>
At 31st March 2021	<u>1,283</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st March 2021	<u>949</u>
At 31st March 2020	<u>1,265</u>

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	-	20,000
Other debtors	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>1,060</u>	<u>1,060</u>
	<u>1,060</u>	<u>21,060</u>

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade creditors	1,023	2,706
Social security and other taxes	3,708	986
Accruals and deferred income	78,496	20,000
Accrued expenses	1,663	1,200
Other creditors	(7)	-
	<u>84,883</u>	<u>24,892</u>

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/4/20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	13,513	16,749	(3,635)	26,627
Designated fund - Contingency reserve	<u>34,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,000</u>
	47,513	16,749	(3,635)	60,627
Restricted funds				
Children in Need	-	123	(123)	-
Comic Relief	-	(530)	530	-
Eastbourne BC	-	(103)	103	-
DCMS Loneliness Fund	-	(59)	59	-
DCMS/Pears	-	(59)	59	-
National Lottery Awards for All	-	18	(18)	-
National Lottery Emergency Response Fund	-	(417)	417	-
Sussex Community Foundation	-	6,833	-	6,833
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,608)</u>	<u>2,608</u>	<u>-</u>
	-	3,198	3,635	6,833
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>47,513</u>	<u>19,947</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>67,460</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	32,496	(15,747)	16,749
Designated fund – Contingency reserve	-	-	-

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Restricted funds			
Children in Need	30,556	(30,433)	123
Comic Relief	2,600	(3,130)	(530)
Eastbourne BC	3,500	(3,603)	(103)
DCMS Loneliness Fund	5,000	(5,059)	(59)
DCMS/Pears	5,000	(5,059)	(59)
National Lottery Awards for All	5,828	(5,810)	18
National Lottery Emergency Response Fund	24,011	(24,428)	(417)
Sussex Community Foundation	10,000	(3,167)	6,833
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	26,104	(28,712)	(2,608)
	<u>112,599</u>	<u>(109,401)</u>	<u>3,198</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>145,095</u>	<u>(125,148)</u>	<u>19,947</u>

Contingent liability for closure – an amount of £34,000 has been carried forward to be designated for the purpose of covering all statutory and legal obligations should the charity have ceased operations.

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1/4/19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/20 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	-	(5,940)	19,453	13,513
Designated fund - Contingency reserve	<u>34,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,000</u>
	34,000	(5,940)	19,453	47,513
Restricted funds				
Children in Need	2,333	(2,440)	107	-
Chalk Cliff Trust	9,732	-	(9,732)	-
Henry Smith Charity	10,000	-	(10,000)	-
Hastings & Rother CCG	5,000	(3,270)	(1,730)	-
People's Postcode Trust	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,902)</u>	<u>1,902</u>	<u>-</u>
	27,065	(7,612)	(19,453)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>61,065</u>	<u>(13,552)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>47,513</u>

HOME-START EAST SUSSEX

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	29,045	(46,365)	(17,320)
Restricted funds			
Children in Need	29,961	(36,332)	(6,371)
Wealden District Council	-	(5,794)	(5,794)
Homity Trust	-	(290)	(290)
Awards for All	-	(1,555)	(1,555)
Chalk Cliff Trust	5,000	(268)	4,732
Santander	-	(930)	(930)
Henry Smith Charity	10,000	-	10,000
Foreshaw Trust	4,499	(4,382)	117
Brenda Ford	10,000	(11,887)	(1,887)
Hastings & Rother CCG	5,000	-	5,000
Homity Trust	<u>2,680</u>	<u>(2,255)</u>	<u>425</u>
	67,140	(63,693)	3,447
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>96,185</u>	<u>(110,058)</u>	<u>(13,873)</u>

16. PENSION COMMITMENTS

The charitable company contributes to employees' defined contribution pension schemes. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the company to the schemes and amounted to £3,361 (2020 - £2,966).

17. OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

Should the charity have ceased operations as at 31 March 2021, the trustees estimate that expenditure totalling £34,000 (2020 - £34,000) would have to be made out of funds existing at that date to ensure that all statutory and legal obligations relating to staff and property under the charity's control are satisfied in full.

18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

During the year, donations were received from trustees amounting to £1,624 (2020 - £1,141). Trustees' expenses are detailed in note 9.

Remuneration paid to key management personnel during the year (including national insurance and pension costs) amounted to £41,858 (2020 - £41,858).

19. MEMBERS LIABILITY

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.