

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 5414484 (England and Wales)  
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1109262

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2023  
FOR HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**

**For the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

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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 accounts have been prepared in accordance with the recommendations of the Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS 102).

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Objectives and aims**

Home-Start Central Bedfordshire (HSCB) offers support, friendship and practical help to parents and children. To help give children the best possible start in life, HSCB supports parents as they grow in confidence, strengthen their relationships with their children and widen their links with the local community.

The objects for which Home-Start Central Bedfordshire was established are:

- to safeguard, protect and preserve the good health, both mental and physical of children and parents of children
- to prevent cruelty to or maltreatment of children
- to relieve sickness, poverty and need amongst children and parents of children
- to promote the education of the public in better standards of childcare within the areas of Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes.

In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

**Charitable activities**

HSCB offers a unique service, recruiting and training volunteers - who are usually parents themselves —to visit families at home to offer informal, friendly and confidential support.

In addition to our family support work we also work to reduce the impact of domestic abuse through preventative education and through providing one to one support and group work for survivors of domestic abuse.

**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**Family Support Service**

We support parents as they learn to cope, improve their confidence and build better lives for their children. The benefits of our support include improved health and well-being and better family relationships.

HSCB recruits, trains and manages volunteers with parenting experience to support vulnerable families. After attending an initial six session Preparation Course Home- Start volunteers are carefully matched with a family, and visit for a period of time with a planned set of outcomes to work towards.

We provide early help support to families but also work with families where children are “child in need” or on a child protection plan.

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**For the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

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We work in partnership with a number of other agencies and receive referrals from other professionals such as Health Visitors, Social Care, Children's Centres and schools.

A volunteer is carefully matched with the family giving regard to such matters as their own skills, experience and availability. They will visit the family in their home for two to three hours each week.

The type of support depends on the family's needs.

This could be:

- Emotional support to help parents find ways to manage and resolve problems
- Listening visits for parents with mental ill health
- Encouragement and support to attend Children's Centres and local resources
- Assistance with attending medical appointments
- Advocacy
- Assistance and mentoring with managing children's behaviour
- Modelling good parenting
- Embedding parenting strategies e.g after attending parenting programmes
- Assistance and mentoring with developing household routines
- Assistance and mentoring with cleaning and decluttering the house
- Help with budgeting, nutrition and meal planning, cooking and making the home safe
- School readiness
- Support both in and after leaving Refuge for parents and children who have fled domestic abuse

As a non-statutory organization many families find being supported by a parent volunteer less threatening and stigmatizing. Research has shown that our support increases parental confidence in bringing up children, enables families to access local services, reduces isolation for parents and children and generally increases resilience in families making a lasting impact.

**Home-Visiting Support**

Referrals for home visiting volunteers were fewer than normal, probably due to things still returning to normal after the pandemic. There have been a number of staff changes in other agencies over the year.

This was concerning as we know that many families were struggling with anxiety and also the increased cost of living. However, we have worked hard to promote our service and we are slowly returning to a more typical level of referrals.

We have a robust monitoring and evaluation system based on the Outcomes Star which tracks each family's journey of change to ensure that the support given is sufficient and correct. The type of support given may change at review. This year the main reasons for wanting support were coping with mental ill health (child and parents) and managing children's behaviour and parenting

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**For the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

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children with SEND needs.

The five parameters tracked were parent's health and well-being, children's health and well-being, more confident and positive parenting and improvements in the family home.

**What service users said:**

My volunteer "has literally changed my life. I have never had support from another adult, she suggests things, offers advice and so much practical help. I love her honesty and how straightforward she is. She is a great source of support."

"I have loved S visiting, she's been amazing... it feels like a family friend visiting, someone I can trust...I have never felt judged, she is just so lovely, she has made a such difference to our lives, so thankful for the support, having here when we did, to build my confidence up, ability to get ahead."

**At 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023:**

**146 Central Bedfordshire families were referred for home visiting support.**

42 families had volunteer support

73 families received office support

31 families were waiting to be matched

**40 families from Luton were referred for home visiting support**

**At 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023**

8 families had volunteer support

32 families received office support

We made the decision to close our Luton home visiting service when the current grant came to an end. This was due to not receiving many appropriate referrals and that there was a similar service starting up in Luton for families with young children.

**The SEND Parent Mentor project** is a small project funded by Central Beds Council. Parents of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities received an average of 6 weeks support by trained volunteers who were also parents of SEND children, with the objectives of offering emotional support and practical help and knowledge around the pathways and services available.

The project continues to grow in popularity and we have been unable to keep up with demand. Families are therefore waiting for a long time on the waiting list.

However, we have been able to offer our Being a Parent of an Autistic Child course to some families while they are waiting.

**What service users said:**

My volunteer "was very helpful, gave me lots of websites and charities to find out information and courses to look at. She understood completely what it's like being a parent to a child with adhd. I felt like I wasn't alone and that others are in the same boat. We had a good laugh as well."

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

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“It was nice to talk to someone on a level who gets the day to day struggle, she was lovely, we got on really well, she was approachable and always easy to chat to, she followed up previous conversations, remembered what had been said, we made a connection.”

**On 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023**

**110 families were referred for support**

77 families were waiting for support

19 families had received volunteer support

14 had received office support

**Domestic Abuse Services**

**The Need**

It is estimated that one in four women and one in six men will experience domestic abuse at some point in their lifetime. This may include years of psychological abuse.

Children are often the silent victims of domestic abuse. In homes where domestic violence occurs, 90% of children are in the same or next room during an incident.

*A further 62% of children living with domestic abuse are directly harmed by the perpetrator of the abuse, in addition to the harm caused by witnessing the abuse of others. In Central Bedfordshire alone, in 2015 there were 3,238 police incidents of domestic abuse recorded - over eight incidents reported per day. An estimated 350 children live with high risk domestic abuse and a further 300 living with medium risk abuse that are currently visible to services. “Central Bedfordshire Council Domestic Abuse Strategy 2016-20*

**Our response**

Alongside our home visiting service for women and their children in Refuge and after leaving Refuge we also continued to deliver the Own My Life programme.

**Own My Life**

Own My Life is a ten week programme. The purpose of the course is to educate and empower women who have been subject to domestic abuse to regain ownership of their own lives.

We continued to run the course online in an evening as women reported that this makes it more accessible. It enables women to join from all around the county, including those who are working during the day or have children.

We ran three Own My Life courses between April 2022 and March 2023.

**24 women** attended Own My Life. The women were parents to 38 children. Significant increases in emotional and physical health were reported.

**What service users said:**

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**For the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

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“The last 10 weeks have helped to build my courage, strength and determination to heal and continue on this journey and I feel really blessed to have been able to have been a part of it with you and the wonderful women who have also taken part over the weeks.”

“The content of the course - the videos, the work we do together, the wide spectrum of topics covered, the way it is all approached. It is done with such care, imagination and wit for a topic so painful and dark for us all. It makes you realise you are not alone.”

There was a need for new programme to replace Freedom Programme which Central Bedfordshire Council run. Women often move on from Freedom Programme to Own My Life. We were asked to be part of a group to write a new course “Rebuild” which has now been completed.

**Domestic Abuse Prevention**

Domestic abuse is endemic in society and we therefore feel it is important to look at prevention beginning with teaching children about healthy relationships.

**Helping Hands**

Helping Hands is a six week course developed by Women’s Aid for children aged between 7 and 11.

The objectives of the course are for children

- to understand their right to a safe home environment,
- develop resilience and good self-esteem,
- to realise how their behaviour affects others and
- to learn to manage strong feelings without violence and gain a knowledge of non-violent problem-solving skills.

We were really pleased to continue to run Helping Hands courses this year. We ran two courses in Dunstable and Leighton Buzzard primary schools.

We are thankful to the Rotary Club of Sandy who funded a further four programmes in Sandy Primary schools. The schools choose the children they think would benefit the most from the programme. This has included children who have experienced domestic abuse at home, children who are living in difficult situations as well as children who have low self-esteem and confidence or struggle to manage their emotions.

We have had a number of enquiries from other schools who are booked in from April.

**40 children** took part in the Helping Hands programme.

**Empowering Parents, Empowering Communities**

Over the year we continued to deliver the Empowering Parents Empowering Communities programme (EPEC) on behalf of Central Bedfordshire Council.

(EPEC) is a programme from the Centre for Parent and Child Support, South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust. EPEC parenting courses are led by local parent facilitators who have

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**For the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

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completed accredited EPEC training and receive ongoing training, supervision and support to ensure safe, high quality, and effective practice.

Parents attend eight weekly two-hour sessions. During these sessions, parents learn strategies for improving the quality of their interactions with their child, reducing negative child behaviour and increasing their efficacy and confidence in parenting. The sessions involve group discussions, demonstrations, role play and homework assignments.

EPEC is underpinned by rigorous research and practice evidence showing a significant impact on children's social, emotional and behavioural outcomes, parenting, family resilience and social capital. The programme encourages engagement in other local services and wider community resources. EPEC has been independently rated as an effective, low cost parenting programme (EiF, 2016, AIFS, 2015).

**Impact**

- Improved parenting and family resilience through teaching well-evidenced parenting strategies and methods.
- Greater understanding of managing family stress.
- Increased social capital and employability through training parent group facilitators.

We have continued to deliver both the Being a Parent and Being a Parent of a Child with Autism programmes online as parents expressed that this made it more accessible. As Central Bedfordshire is a large area it is difficult to find a convenient place to run a face-to-face group.

The Being a Parent of an Autistic Child course has proved to be particularly popular. Using an online evening delivery as well as daytime has also meant that more parents are able to attend without the need for childcare.

Number parents attending Being a Parent	20
Number of parents attending Being a Parent of a Child with Autism	42
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>62</b>

**What our service users said:**

"Engaging with others going through similar experiences made me relax easier and therefore more open to learn and hear different techniques I could try. The fact it's run by people with lived experience adds to this also. Secondly, having other parents on there with me gave me lots of ideas I maybe hadn't tried yet to manage the challenging behaviours that my son presents" (Being a Parent of an Autistic Child)

"The group leaders were very understanding and I felt they were not just teaching a course but helping to give a positive parenting experience through their own experiences which has helped me see/understand parenting a lot more and discover new ways to deal with a variety of challenges." (Being a Parent)

**Focus Group Facilitation**

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**For the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

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We were asked by Central Bedfordshire Council to run seven Focus Groups as part of their consultation process for the new Family Information Directory. 28 people took part in this. 12 parents took part in two Focus Groups that we ran for Inspiring Music.

### **Child Poverty**

The cost-of-living crisis this year has made life very difficult financially for many families. We have been busy passing on donations of clothes, toys and presents to families as well as use financial donations to be able to buy necessary goods such as bedding and blankets.

We were particularly pleased to be able to buy a bike for a 7 year old boy who in the process of moving foster homes had his bike stolen.

One of our families, where the father was recovering from a very serious illness, was also the recipient of a Magical Christmas donated by John Lewis which was much appreciated.

Working in partnership with the Building Resilience in Families multi agency Panel in Dunstable we were also able to distribute supermarket vouchers to families in need.

We are thankful to BT for donating a number of Chrome books for lending to families in need.

### **Volunteers**

#### **Volunteer training**

Volunteers are at the very heart of our service delivery. We ran a further 3 Preparation (induction) Courses, one online and two in person. This year a further **22** volunteers joined our team.

No of volunteers in Central Beds	82
No of volunteers in Luton	14
No of SEND volunteers	9
No of EPEC volunteers	9
Own My Life volunteer	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>115</b>

Our volunteers come from a wide range of social, educational and employment backgrounds. They are also from different age groups and cultures. Many use volunteering as a way into work or education particularly in the fields of social care, nursing and midwifery.

Our volunteers attend a 24 hour Preparation Course before being placed with families which includes training on safeguarding, domestic abuse, confidentiality and equal opportunities and also attend a mandatory yearly safeguarding update and ongoing training. They complete diary sheets after each visit and have 6-8 weekly supervision with a paid Coordinator. There are regular ongoing training sessions throughout the year both in house and also from outside speakers.



**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
For the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

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**Training**

This year we have held a number of online sessions including Healthy Eating for Children and Being a Parent of a Child with Pathological Demand Avoidance.

**Our thanks to our volunteers without whom there would be no Home-Start.**

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**Financial Review**

We have been able to maintain funding from contracts with Central Bedfordshire Council for three of our projects. We do not know how long we will continue to be funded and have yearly contracts.

Since our volunteer costs have not returned to pre pandemic levels as yet we have not spent as much as expected and therefore have very good reserves.

However like all charities we are facing rising costs, particularly office costs such as energy. At the same time we are expecting demand for our services to grow as the economy weakens.

Our contract funding continues to be delivered very late and we therefore need to be able to have money in reserve to cover this.

We are very thankful for the kindness of individuals, groups and businesses which have enabled us to provide our other services and also to support with goods, clothing and food.

**Reserves policy**

The Trustees have considered the likely risks to the charity over the year and have designated reserves of £277,000 in order that the charity may be able to continue to operate or to wind down if appropriate. These include twelve months operating expenditure, pension fund deficit on closure, redundancy payments, equipment replacement and rent and relocation costs if it should be necessary to move our premises.

**Plans for the future**

We continue to seek other sources of income to improve the sustainability of our funding since we are heavily reliant on contracts with the local authority. However there has been no increase for many years. We are fortunate in having sufficient reserves to help us through this difficult time.

We are investing money into an improvement of our systems to enable us to be more efficient and ensure the effective stewardship of our volunteers, donors and service users. This should also have a positive effect on our long term sustainability.

The work of HSCB would not be possible without the generous support of organisations, trusts and individuals in giving grants, chrome books, quilts, toys and necessary items for our families in need to whom we are very grateful.

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**For the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

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A special thank you to our wonderful volunteers who donated both time and expenses.

**Future Plans and Risks**

Our main risk is from the current financial recession combined with increased operating costs. Recruiting volunteers is also becoming more difficult due to competition from both the voluntary and the statutory sectors.

More people are working longer hours due to economic pressure and therefore have less time available. In order to make it easier for people to volunteer we are being more flexible in the delivery of the initial training and ongoing training courses. We will also be considering other ways that people may be able to give their time.

As mentioned the financial recession is affecting many families. We will continue to work with other agencies in supporting those affected and to look for new ways to provide support as well as the tried and tested ways.

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**  
**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Structure and Governance**

HSCB is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 5<sup>th</sup> April 2005 (amended 9 June 2015). Including the activities of its predecessor organisation HSCB has been delivering family support services since its launch in 1984.

The members of the Board of Trustees of the Charity during the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 were:

Sue Fuchter Chair  
Enid Miller Treasurer  
Patricia Marchbank  
Alison Packer  
Peter Raza  
Nigel Taylor

All of the Trustees of the Charity are also directors of the charity and their responsibilities include all the responsibilities of directors under the Companies Acts and of Trustees under the Charities Act.

Day to day management of the charity is delegated to the Chief Executive Linda Johnson

**Company Secretary**

Linda Johnson

## HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

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#### Staff during the year ending March 2023

Staff	Role	Additional responsibilities
Linda Johnson	CEO	Own My Life
Janine Henderson	Coordinator South Beds	Coordinator Luton
Clare Diggins	Coordinator Mid Beds	Own My Life
Colette Fletcher	EPEC	Coordinator South Beds
Margaret McShane	Administrator	

#### Reference and Administrative details

##### Registered Company Number:

5414484 (Registered in England and Wales)

##### Registered Charity Number

1109262

##### Registered Office

The Annexe,  
Downside Neighbourhood Centre,  
Oakwood Ave.,  
Dunstable  
LU5 4AS

##### Independent Examiner

BW Wilson  
Chartered Accountant  
4 Saturn Close  
Leighton Buzzard  
LU7 3UU

##### Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd  
25 Kings Hill Avenue  
Kings Hill  
West Malling  
Kent  
ME19 4JQ

Cambridge and Counties Bank  
Charnwood Court  
New Walk  
Leicester  
LE1 6TE

Shawbrook Bank Ltd.  
Lutea House  
Warley Hill Business Park  
The Drive  
Great Warley  
Brentwood  
Essex  
CM13 3BE

Nationwide Building Society  
Kings Park Road  
Moulton Park  
Northampton  
NN3 6NW

**HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
For the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

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Hampshire Trust Bank  
55 Bishopsgate  
London  
EC2N 3AS

A company limited by guarantee  
Company Registration Number: 05414484  
Registered Charity Number: 1109262

**HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE**

**Report of the Trustees and  
Unaudited Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31 March 2023**

HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE (A company limited by guarantee)

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended 31 March 2023

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## **HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE**

(A company limited by guarantee) TRUSTEES' REPORT Year ended 31 March 2023 Reference and administrative details

The trustees of Home-Start Central Bedfordshire present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the recommendations of the Statement of Recommended Practice 2005-Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005) and in accordance with applicable laws.

### **Officers and professional advisers**

Trustees serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Mrs S E Fuchter

Mrs A Kelly (resigned 15/07/2022)

Mrs P A Marchbank

Mrs E M Miller

Mrs A M Packer

Mr P Raza

Mr N C Taylor

### **Secretary and administration**

Mrs L Johnson

The Annexe 3

Downside Neighbourhood Centre

Dunstable

LU5 4AS

### **Bankers**

CAF Bank Limited

25 Kings Hill Avenue

Kings Hill

West Malling

Kent,

ME19 4JQ

Cambridge & Counties Bank

Charnwood Court

New Walk

Leicester

LE1 6TE

Hampshire Trust Bank

55 Bishopsgate

London

EC2N 3AS

Nationwide Building Society

One Threadneedle Street

London

EC2R 8AW

Shawbrook Bank

Lutea House

Warley Hill Business Park

The Drive, Great Warley

Brentwood

CM13 3BE.

Redwood Bank

The Nexus Building Broadway

Letchworth Garden City

SG6 3TA

### **Independent examiner**

B W Wilson

Accountant

4 Saturn Close

Leighton Buzzard

## **HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE**

(A company limited by guarantee) **TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023**

### **Structure, governance and management**

The Charitable Company is controlled by the board of trustees within the terms of the governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes a company limited by guarantee under the terms of Memorandum and Articles of Association of 5 April 2005 (as amended 13 March 2015).

Day to day management is the responsibility of the Chief Executive.

### **Risk assessment and management**

The trustees review the major risks to which the Charity is exposed and ensure that the appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. Areas reviewed include:

- Lease of premises, office equipment and furniture
- Staff and redundancy costs
- Contract relationships
- Insurable risks, including public liability, employer's liability and property contents
- Precautions against the possibility of dishonesty.

### **Objectives and activities Charitable objects**

- Safeguard, protect and preserve the good health, both mental and physical of children and parents of children;
- Prevent cruelty to or maltreatment of children;
- Relieve sickness, poverty and need amongst children and parents of children;
- Promote the education of the public in better standards of childcare within in the areas of Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes

### **Achievement and performance Charitable activities**

The core activity for the year remained that of making available our trained and supervised volunteers to give free, nonjudgemental and confidential support to families in their own homes.

### **Financial Review**

However, like all charities we are facing rising costs, particularly office costs such as energy. At the same time we are expecting demand for our services to grow as the economy weakens.

Specific donations have been used to restart Helping Hands in schools.

Our running costs such as staff and volunteer mileage expenses have once again been greatly reduced due to the pandemic which we have added to our reserves.

Our main funding which is from the local authority continues to be insecure and the contracts are for one year only. Payments are also very delayed resulting in a need to keep reserves to cover this.



## HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

(A company limited by guarantee) TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023

Income for the year totalled £230,460 (2022: £207,050) and expenditure £188,631 (2022: £176,383) resulting in a surplus of £41,829 (2022: surplus £30,667)

### Plans for the future

We continue to seek other sources of income to improve the sustainability of our funding since we are heavily reliant on contracts with the local authority. However there has been no increase for many years. We are fortunate in having sufficient reserves to help us through this difficult time.

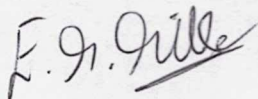
We are investing money into the improvement of our systems to enable us to be more efficient and ensure the effective stewardship of our volunteers, donors and service users. This should also have a positive effect on our long-term sustainability.

### Plans for the future

The Trustees have considered the likely risks to the charity over the year and have designated reserves of £277,000 as last year in order that the charity may be able to continue to operate or to wind down if appropriate. These include twelve months' operating expenditure, pension fund deficit on closure, redundancy payments, equipment replacement and rent and relocation costs if it was necessary to move our premises.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 9 November 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Mrs E M Miller



**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

**TO THE TRUSTEES OF HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE** (a company limited by guarantee).  
Charity number 1109262. Company number 05414484

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 5 to 13.

**Respective responsibilities of trustee and examiner**

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's gross income did not exceed £250,000.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act.
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

B W Wilson  
Accountant  
4 Saturn Close  
Leighton Buzzard  
Bedfordshire



LU7 3UU

9 November 2023

**HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE (A company limited by guarantee)**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

Year ended 31 March 2023

			2023	2022
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	Note	£	£	£
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
<b>Incoming resources from generated funds</b>				
Voluntary income		208,310	17,889	226,199
Investment income	3	4,261	-	4,261
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>212,571</b>	<b>17,889</b>	<b>230,460</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>				
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Family support		166,943	17,889	184,832
Governance costs		3,799		3,799
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<b>170,742</b>	<b>17,889</b>	<b>188,631</b>
Net incoming resources and movement in funds		41,829	-	41,829
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		454,593		454,593
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>496,422</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>496,422</b>

**HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**31 March 2023**

		Unrestricted	Restricted	2023	2022
		funds	funds	Total	Total
	Note	£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>	6	-	-	-	-
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors and prepayments	7	94	-	94	-
Cash at bank in hand		499,341	-	499,341	483,812
		<u>499,435</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>499,435</u>	<u>483,812</u>
<b>CREDITORS:</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(3,013)	(-)	(3,013)	(29,219)
		<u>496,422</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>496,422</u>	<u>454,593</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
		<u>496,422</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>496,422</u>	<u>454,593</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>					
		<u>496,422</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>496,422</u>	<u>454,593</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>					
		<u>496,422</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>496,422</u>	<u>454,593</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>					
Unrestricted funds	9			496,422	454,593
				<u>496,422</u>	<u>454,593</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023, in accordance with s476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) Ensuring that the company keeps accounting records that comply with s386 and s387 of the Companies Act 2006 and;

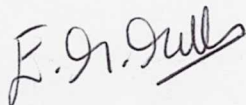


- (b) Preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of s394 and s395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements 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 small charitable companies and the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 9 November 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

Mrs E M Miller

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'E. M. Miller', with a horizontal line drawn through the middle of the signature.

**HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE (A company limited by guarantee)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Year ended 31 March 2023**

**1 Status of Charitable Company**

The Charitable Company is limited by guarantee. Each member of the company has undertaken to contribute up to £1 to the Charity Company's assets should it be wound up.

**2 Accounting policies**

**Accounting convention**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards, the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2005 (SORP 2005).

**Incoming resources**

Incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charitable Company is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Donated facilities are included at the value to the Charitable Company where this can be quantified and a third party is bearing the cost.

Grant income and grants for expenses are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities and income and expenditure account in the year in which they are receivable.

**Resources expended**

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been apportioned to activities on a basis of time spent.

Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the Charitable Company and include an appropriate apportionment of management overheads.

**Governance costs**

Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the Charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

These costs include costs an allocation relating to support costs.

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are those funds which may be used towards meeting the objectives of the Charitable Company at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charitable Company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of restricted funds is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

**Pension costs**

The Charitable Company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the Charitable Company's pension scheme and are charged to the Statement of Charitable Activities in the period to which they relate.

**Tangible fixed assets**

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

Office furniture and equipment	100% on cost
--------------------------------	--------------

**HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE (A company limited by guarantee) NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023**

**2 Accounting policies (continued) Taxation**

The Charitable Company, as a registered charity, is not liable to taxation. The Charitable Company cannot recover value added tax, and the expenditure where applicable is therefore included gross of the related value added tax.

**Interest receivable**

Interest on deposit and other accounts is allocated to income in the year in which it is receivable.

**3 Investment income**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Bank interest	4,261	1,752
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

**4 Trustees remuneration and benefits**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2023 (2022: nil)

Trustees were reimbursed expenses incurred during the year.

**5 Staff costs**

	2022	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	106,048	103,489
Other pension costs	8,811	8,630
	<u>114,859</u>	<u>112,119</u>

HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE (A company limited by guarantee) NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023

6	Fixed assets	Office	furniture & equipment Cost
	At 1 April 2022		14,205
	Additions		-
			<hr/>
	At 31 March 2023		14,205
			<hr/>
	Depreciation		
	At 1 April 2022		14,205
	Charge for year		-
			<hr/>
	At 31 March 2023		14,205
			<hr/>
	Net book value at 31 March 2023		-
			<hr/> <hr/>
	Net book value at 31 March 2022		-
			<hr/> <hr/>

7	Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	2023 £	2022 £
	Prepayments	94	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>

8	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2023 £	2022 £
	Payroll taxes (PAYE & NIC)	(1,661)	(1,536)
	Grants prepaid	(-)	(18,559)
	Other creditors	(1,352)	(9,124)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		(3,013)	(29,219)
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE (A company limited by guarantee)



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023

9 Movement in funds

	At 1 April 2022 £	Net movement in year £	At 31 March 2023 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	454,593	41,829	496,422
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
	Incoming Resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in year £
Helping Hands	2,050	2,050	-
Beds and Luton CF Luton Project	1,519	1,519	-
Beds Police - Helping Hands	1,000	1,000	-
Own My Life	495	495	-
CBC Focus Groups	7,835	7,835	-
HS UK Grants	4,990	4,990	-
	<u>17,889</u>	<u>17,889</u>	<u>-</u>

10 Pension commitments

The company participates in the "TPT Retirement Solutions – The Growth Plan", a multi-employer scheme which provides benefits to some 638 non-associated participating employers. The scheme is a defined benefit scheme in the UK. It is not possible for the company to obtain sufficient information to enable it to account for the scheme as a defined benefit scheme. Therefore it accounts for the scheme as a defined contribution scheme.

The scheme is subject to the funding legislation outlined in the Pensions Act 2004 which came into force on 30 December 2005. This, together with documents issued by the Pensions Regulator and Technical Actuarial Standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council, set out the framework for funding defined benefit occupational pension schemes in the UK.

The scheme is classified as a 'last-man standing arrangement'. Therefore the company is potentially liable for other participating employers' obligations if those employers are unable to meet their share of the scheme deficit following withdrawal from the scheme. Participating employers are legally required to meet their share of the scheme deficit on an annuity purchase basis on withdrawal from the scheme.

A full actuarial valuation for the scheme was carried out at 30 September 2020. This valuation showed assets of £800.3m, liabilities of £831.9m and a deficit of £31.6m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the Trustee has asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme as follows:

**HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE (A company limited by guarantee) NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023**

**10 Pension commitments (continued)**

A full actuarial valuation for the scheme was carried out at 30 September 2020. This valuation showed assets of £800.3m, liabilities of £831.9m and a deficit of £31.6m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the Trustee has asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme as follows:

Deficit contributions

From 1 April 2019 to 31 January 2025: £3,312,000 per annum (payable monthly)

Unless a concession has been agreed with the Trustee the term to 31 January 2025 applies.

Note that the scheme's previous valuation was carried out with an effective date of 30 September 2017. This valuation showed assets of £794.9m, liabilities of £926.4m and a deficit of £131.5m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the Trustee has asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme as follows:

Deficit contributions

From 1 April 2019 to 30 September 2025: £11,243,000 per annum (payable monthly and increasing by 3% each on 1st April)

The recovery plan contributions are allocated to each participating employer in line with their estimated share of the Series 1 and Series 2 scheme liabilities.

Where the scheme is in deficit and where the company has agreed to a deficit funding arrangement the company recognises a liability for this obligation. The amount recognised is the net present value of the deficit reduction contributions payable under the agreement that relates to the deficit. The present value is calculated using the discount rate detailed in these disclosures. The unwinding of the discount rate is recognised as a finance cost.

**PRESENT VALUES OF PROVISION**

Present value of provision	31 March 2023	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
	£ 166	£ 260	£ 1,017

**RECONCILIATION OF OPENING AND CLOSING PROVISIONS**

	Year ending 31 March 2023	Year ending 31 March 2022
	£	£
Provision at start of period	260	1,017
Unwinding of the discount factor (interest expense)	5	6
Deficit contribution paid	(95)	(257)
Remeasurements - impact of any change in assumptions	(4)	(6)
Remeasurements - amendments to the contribution schedule	-	(500)
Provision at end of period	166	260

**HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE (A company limited by guarantee)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023**

**10 Pension commitments (continued)**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE IMPACT**

	Period Ending 31 March 2023	Period Ending 31 March 2022
	£	£
Interest expense	5	6
Remeasurements – impact of any change in assumptions	(4)	(6)
Remeasurements – amendments to the contribution schedule	-	(500)
Contributions paid in respect of future service*	8,014	7,784
Costs recognised in income and expenditure account	8,611	8,042

\*includes defined contribution schemes and future service contributions (i.e. excluding any deficit reduction payments) to defined benefit schemes which are treated as defined contribution schemes.

**ASSUMPTIONS**

	31 March 2023	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
	% per annum	% per annum	% per annum
Rate of discount	5.52	2.35	.66

The discount rates shown above are the equivalent single discount rates which, when used to discount the future recovery plan contributions due, would give the same results as using a full AA corporate bond yield curve to discount the same recovery plan contributions.

The following schedule details the deficit contributions agreed between the company and the scheme at each year end period:

**DEFICIT CONTRIBUTIONS SCHEDULE**

Year ending	31 March 2023	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
	£	£	£
Year 1	95	95	257
Year 2	79	95	265
Year 3	-	79	273
Year 4	-	-	234

The company must recognise a liability measured as the present value of the contributions payable that arise from the deficit recovery agreement and the resulting expense in the income and expenditure account i.e. the unwinding of the discount rate as a finance cost in the period in which it arises.

It is these contributions that have been used to derive the company's balance sheet liability.

**HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE (A company limited by guarantee)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023**

- 11 Contingent liability**  
Should withdrawal from the employer pension scheme take place, the employer's share of the deficit to be funded would crystallise. As at 30 September 2022 the liability would be £5,013. (30 September 2021 £7,166)
- 12 Controlling party**  
There is no ultimate controlling party.
- 13 Company limited by guarantee**  
Home Start Central Bedfordshire is a company limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital.



**HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE (A company limited by guarantee)**  
**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES Year ended 31 March 2023**

2023      2022

£              £

**INCOMING RESOURCES**

Voluntary Income		
Core funding grant	139,000	115,000
Other grants	67,889	73,155
Donations and sales	19,310	16,583
	—	—
	226,199	205,298
Investment income	4,261	1,752
	—	—
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>230,460</b>	<b>207,050</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		
Charitable activities		
Staff costs	106,048	103,489
Pension costs and life assurance	8,811	8,630
Rent and rates	1,180	9278
Insurance and security	1,528	1,435
Repairs and renewals	-	-
Telephone	5,397	5,371
Postage and stationery	1,188	1,249
Staff recruitment	-	-
Hardship fund	306	64
Staff expenses	1,530	579
Volunteer expenses	460	92
Volunteer support	640	1,464
Volunteer training	241	149
Refreshments	334	159
Training	234	722
Bank charges	144	192
Computer expenses	962	1,143
Project costs:	8,187	11,131
Publicity and fund-raising expenses	5,914	639
Marketing	39,600	24,000

Cleaning	2,106	2,047
Miscellaneous	-	-
Fixtures and fittings	22	179
	—	—
	184,832	172,012
	—	—
Governance costs		
Legal fees	48	48
Committee expenses	24	32
Home-Start annual and accreditation fees	3,727	4,291
PQASSO fee & audit	-	-
Sundries (AGM costs)	-	-
	—	—
	3,799	4,371
	—	—
Total resources expended	188,631	176,383
	—	—
Net income	41,829	30,667
	—	—

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

A company limited by guarantee  
Company Registration Number: 05414484  
Registered Charity Number: 1109262

**HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE**

**Report of the Trustees and  
Unaudited Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31 March 2023**

HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE (A company limited by guarantee)

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended 31 March 2023

CONTENTS

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Trustees' report	1
Independent examiner's report	4
Statement of financial activities	5
Balance sheet	6
Notes to the financial statements	7



## **HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE**

**(A company limited by guarantee) TRUSTEES' REPORT Year ended 31 March 2023 Reference and administrative details**

The trustees of Home-Start Central Bedfordshire present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the recommendations of the Statement of Recommended Practice 2005-Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005) and in accordance with applicable laws.

### **Officers and professional advisers**

Trustees serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Mrs S E Fuchter

Mrs A M Packer

Mrs A Kelly (resigned 15/07/2022)

Mr P Raza

Mrs P A Marchbank

Mr N C Taylor

Mrs E M Miller

### **Secretary and administration**

Mrs L Johnson

The Annexe 3

Downside Neighbourhood Centre

Dunstable

LU5 4AS

### **Bankers**

CAF Bank Limited

25 Kings Hill Avenue

Kings Hill

West Malling

Kent,

ME19 4JQ

Cambridge & Counties Bank

Charnwood Court

New Walk

Leicester

LE1 6TE

Hampshire Trust Bank

55 Bishopsgate

London

EC2N 3AS

Nationwide Building Society

One Threadneedle Street

London

EC2R 8AW

Shawbrook Bank

Lutea House

Warley Hill Business Park

The Drive, Great Warley

Brentwood

CM13 3BE.

Redwood Bank

The Nexus Building Broadway

Letchworth Garden City

SG6 3TA

### **Independent examiner**

B W Wilson

Accountant

4 Saturn Close

Leighton Buzzard

## **HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE**

(A company limited by guarantee) **TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023**

### **Structure, governance and management**

The Charitable Company is controlled by the board of trustees within the terms of the governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes a company limited by guarantee under the terms of Memorandum and Articles of Association of 5 April 2005 (as amended 13 March 2015).

Day to day management is the responsibility of the Chief Executive.

### **Risk assessment and management**

The trustees review the major risks to which the Charity is exposed and ensure that the appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. Areas reviewed include:

- Lease of premises, office equipment and furniture
- Staff and redundancy costs
- Contract relationships
- Insurable risks, including public liability, employer's liability and property contents
- Precautions against the possibility of dishonesty.

### **Objectives and activities Charitable objects**

- Safeguard, protect and preserve the good health, both mental and physical of children and parents of children;
- Prevent cruelty to or maltreatment of children;
- Relieve sickness, poverty and need amongst children and parents of children;
- Promote the education of the public in better standards of childcare within in the areas of Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes

### **Achievement and performance Charitable activities**

The core activity for the year remained that of making available our trained and supervised volunteers to give free, nonjudgemental and confidential support to families in their own homes.

### **Financial Review**

However, like all charities we are facing rising costs, particularly office costs such as energy. At the same time we are expecting demand for our services to grow as the economy weakens.

Specific donations have been used to restart Helping Hands in schools.

Our running costs such as staff and volunteer mileage expenses have once again been greatly reduced due to the pandemic which we have added to our reserves.

Our main funding which is from the local authority continues to be insecure and the contracts are for one year only. Payments are also very delayed resulting in a need to keep reserves to cover this.

## HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

(A company limited by guarantee) TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023

Income for the year totalled £230,460 (2022: £207,050) and expenditure £188,631 (2022: £176,383) resulting in a surplus of £41,829 (2022: surplus £30,667)

### Plans for the future

We continue to seek other sources of income to improve the sustainability of our funding since we are heavily reliant on contracts with the local authority. However there has been no increase for many years. We are fortunate in having sufficient reserves to help us through this difficult time.

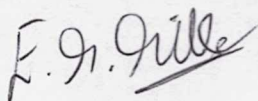
We are investing money into the improvement of our systems to enable us to be more efficient and ensure the effective stewardship of our volunteers, donors and service users. This should also have a positive effect on our long-term sustainability.

### Plans for the future

The Trustees have considered the likely risks to the charity over the year and have designated reserves of £277,000 as last year in order that the charity may be able to continue to operate or to wind down if appropriate. These include twelve months' operating expenditure, pension fund deficit on closure, redundancy payments, equipment replacement and rent and relocation costs if it was necessary to move our premises.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 9 November 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Mrs E M Miller





#### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

**TO THE TRUSTEES OF HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE** (a company limited by guarantee).  
Charity number 1109262. Company number 05414484

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 5 to 13.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustee and examiner**

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's gross income did not exceed £250,000.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act.
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

B W Wilson  
Accountant  
4 Saturn Close  
Leighton Buzzard  
Bedfordshire



LU7 3UU

9 November 2023

**HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE (A company limited by guarantee)**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

Year ended 31 March 2023

			2023	2022
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	Note	£	£	£
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
<b>Incoming resources from generated funds</b>				
Voluntary income		208,310	17,889	226,199
Investment income	3	4,261	-	4,261
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>212,571</b>	<b>17,889</b>	<b>230,460</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>				
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Family support		166,943	17,889	184,832
Governance costs		3,799		3,799
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<b>170,742</b>	<b>17,889</b>	<b>188,631</b>
Net incoming resources and movement in funds		41,829	-	41,829
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		454,593		454,593
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>496,422</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>496,422</b>

**HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**31 March 2023**

		Unrestricted	Restricted	2023	2022
		funds	funds	Total	Total
	Note	£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>	6	-	-	-	-
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors and prepayments	7	94	-	94	-
Cash at bank in hand		499,341	-	499,341	483,812
		<u>499,435</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>499,435</u>	<u>483,812</u>
<b>CREDITORS:</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(3,013)	(-)	(3,013)	(29,219)
		<u>496,422</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>496,422</u>	<u>454,593</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
		<u>496,422</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>496,422</u>	<u>454,593</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>					
		<u>496,422</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>496,422</u>	<u>454,593</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>					
		<u>496,422</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>496,422</u>	<u>454,593</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>					
Unrestricted funds	9			496,422	454,593
				<u>496,422</u>	<u>454,593</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023. in accordance with s476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

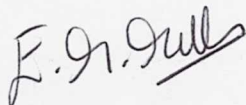
- (a) Ensuring that the company keeps accounting records that comply with s386 and s387 of the Companies Act 2006 and;

- (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 the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of s394 and s395 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 small charitable companies and the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 9 November 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

Mrs E M Miller

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'E. M. Miller', with a horizontal line drawn through the middle of the signature.



**HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE (A company limited by guarantee)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Year ended 31 March 2023**

**1 Status of Charitable Company**

The Charitable Company is limited by guarantee. Each member of the company has undertaken to contribute up to £1 to the Charity Company's assets should it be wound up.

**2 Accounting policies**

**Accounting convention**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards, the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2005 (SORP 2005).

**Incoming resources**

Incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charitable Company is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Donated facilities are included at the value to the Charitable Company where this can be quantified and a third party is bearing the cost.

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All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been apportioned to activities on a basis of time spent.

Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the Charitable Company and include an appropriate apportionment of management overheads.

**Governance costs**

Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the Charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

These costs include costs an allocation relating to support costs.

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are those funds which may be used towards meeting the objectives of the Charitable Company at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charitable Company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of restricted funds is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

**Pension costs**

The Charitable Company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the Charitable Company's pension scheme and are charged to the Statement of Charitable Activities in the period to which they relate.

**Tangible fixed assets**

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

Office furniture and equipment	100% on cost
--------------------------------	--------------



**HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE (A company limited by guarantee) NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023**

**2 Accounting policies (continued) Taxation**

The Charitable Company, as a registered charity, is not liable to taxation. The Charitable Company cannot recover value added tax, and the expenditure where applicable is therefore included gross of the related value added tax.

**Interest receivable**

Interest on deposit and other accounts is allocated to income in the year in which it is receivable.

**3 Investment income**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Bank interest	4,261	1,752
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

**4 Trustees remuneration and benefits**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2023 (2022: nil)

Trustees were reimbursed expenses incurred during the year.

**5 Staff costs**

	2022	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	106,048	103,489
Other pension costs	8,811	8,630
	<u>114,859</u>	<u>112,119</u>

HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE (A company limited by guarantee) NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023

6	Fixed assets	Office	furniture & equipment Cost
	At 1 April 2022		14,205
	Additions		-
			<hr/>
	At 31 March 2023		14,205
			<hr/>
	Depreciation		
	At 1 April 2022		14,205
	Charge for year		-
			<hr/>
	At 31 March 2023		14,205
			<hr/>
	Net book value at 31 March 2023		-
			<hr/> <hr/>
	Net book value at 31 March 2022		-
			<hr/> <hr/>

7	Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	2023 £	2022 £
	Prepayments	94	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>

8	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2023 £	2022 £
	Payroll taxes (PAYE & NIC)	(1,661)	(1,536)
	Grants prepaid	(-)	(18,559)
	Other creditors	(1,352)	(9,124)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		(3,013)	(29,219)
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE (A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023

9 Movement in funds

	At 1 April 2022 £	Net movement in year £	At 31 March 2023 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	454,593	41,829	496,422
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
	Incoming Resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in year £
Helping Hands	2,050	2,050	-
Beds and Luton CF Luton Project	1,519	1,519	-
Beds Police - Helping Hands	1,000	1,000	-
Own My Life	495	495	-
CBC Focus Groups	7,835	7,835	-
HS UK Grants	4,990	4,990	-
	<u>17,889</u>	<u>17,889</u>	<u>-</u>

10 Pension commitments

The company participates in the "TPT Retirement Solutions – The Growth Plan", a multi-employer scheme which provides benefits to some 638 non-associated participating employers. The scheme is a defined benefit scheme in the UK. It is not possible for the company to obtain sufficient information to enable it to account for the scheme as a defined benefit scheme. Therefore it accounts for the scheme as a defined contribution scheme.

The scheme is subject to the funding legislation outlined in the Pensions Act 2004 which came into force on 30 December 2005. This, together with documents issued by the Pensions Regulator and Technical Actuarial Standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council, set out the framework for funding defined benefit occupational pension schemes in the UK.

The scheme is classified as a 'last-man standing arrangement'. Therefore the company is potentially liable for other participating employers' obligations if those employers are unable to meet their share of the scheme deficit following withdrawal from the scheme. Participating employers are legally required to meet their share of the scheme deficit on an annuity purchase basis on withdrawal from the scheme.

A full actuarial valuation for the scheme was carried out at 30 September 2020. This valuation showed assets of £800.3m, liabilities of £831.9m and a deficit of £31.6m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the Trustee has asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme as follows:

**HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE (A company limited by guarantee) NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023**

**10 Pension commitments (continued)**

A full actuarial valuation for the scheme was carried out at 30 September 2020. This valuation showed assets of £800.3m, liabilities of £831.9m and a deficit of £31.6m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the Trustee has asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme as follows:

**Deficit contributions**

From 1 April 2019 to 31 January 2025: £3,312,000 per annum (payable monthly)

Unless a concession has been agreed with the Trustee the term to 31 January 2025 applies.

Note that the scheme's previous valuation was carried out with an effective date of 30 September 2017. This valuation showed assets of £794.9m, liabilities of £926.4m and a deficit of £131.5m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the Trustee has asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme as follows:

**Deficit contributions**

From 1 April 2019 to 30 September 2025: £11,243,000 per annum (payable monthly and increasing by 3% each on 1st April)

The recovery plan contributions are allocated to each participating employer in line with their estimated share of the Series 1 and Series 2 scheme liabilities.

Where the scheme is in deficit and where the company has agreed to a deficit funding arrangement the company recognises a liability for this obligation. The amount recognised is the net present value of the deficit reduction contributions payable under the agreement that relates to the deficit. The present value is calculated using the discount rate detailed in these disclosures. The unwinding of the discount rate is recognised as a finance cost.

**PRESENT VALUES OF PROVISION**

Present value of provision	31 March 2023	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
	£ 166	£ 260	£ 1,017

**RECONCILIATION OF OPENING AND CLOSING PROVISIONS**

	Year ending 31 March 2023	Year ending 31 March 2022
	£	£
Provision at start of period	260	1,017
Unwinding of the discount factor (interest expense)	5	6
Deficit contribution paid	(95)	(257)
Remeasurements - impact of any change in assumptions	(4)	(6)
Remeasurements - amendments to the contribution schedule	-	(500)
Provision at end of period	166	260



**HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE (A company limited by guarantee)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023**

**10 Pension commitments (continued)**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE IMPACT**

	Period Ending 31 March 2023	Period Ending 31 March 2022
	£	£
Interest expense	5	6
Remeasurements – impact of any change in assumptions	(4)	(6)
Remeasurements – amendments to the contribution schedule	-	(500)
Contributions paid in respect of future service*	8,014	7,784
Costs recognised in income and expenditure account	8,611	8,042

\*includes defined contribution schemes and future service contributions (i.e. excluding any deficit reduction payments) to defined benefit schemes which are treated as defined contribution schemes.

**ASSUMPTIONS**

	31 March 2023	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
	% per annum	% per annum	% per annum
Rate of discount	5.52	2.35	.66

The discount rates shown above are the equivalent single discount rates which, when used to discount the future recovery plan contributions due, would give the same results as using a full AA corporate bond yield curve to discount the same recovery plan contributions.

The following schedule details the deficit contributions agreed between the company and the scheme at each year end period:

**DEFICIT CONTRIBUTIONS SCHEDULE**

Year ending	31 March 2023	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
	£	£	£
Year 1	95	95	257
Year 2	79	95	265
Year 3	-	79	273
Year 4	-	-	234

The company must recognise a liability measured as the present value of the contributions payable that arise from the deficit recovery agreement and the resulting expense in the income and expenditure account i.e. the unwinding of the discount rate as a finance cost in the period in which it arises.

It is these contributions that have been used to derive the company's balance sheet liability.

**HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE (A company limited by guarantee)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023**

- 11 Contingent liability**  
Should withdrawal from the employer pension scheme take place, the employer's share of the deficit to be funded would crystallise. As at 30 September 2022 the liability would be £5,013. (30 September 2021 £7,166)
- 12 Controlling party**  
There is no ultimate controlling party.
- 13 Company limited by guarantee**  
Home Start Central Bedfordshire is a company limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital.

**HOME-START CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE (A company limited by guarantee)**  
**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES Year ended 31 March 2023**

2023      2022

£              £

**INCOMING RESOURCES**

Voluntary Income		
Core funding grant	139,000	115,000
Other grants	67,889	73,155
Donations and sales	19,310	16,583
	—	—
	226,199	205,298
Investment income	4,261	1,752
	—	—
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>230,460</b>	<b>207,050</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		
Charitable activities		
Staff costs	106,048	103,489
Pension costs and life assurance	8,811	8,630
Rent and rates	1,180	9278
Insurance and security	1,528	1,435
Repairs and renewals	-	-
Telephone	5,397	5,371
Postage and stationery	1,188	1,249
Staff recruitment	-	-
Hardship fund	306	64
Staff expenses	1,530	579
Volunteer expenses	460	92
Volunteer support	640	1,464
Volunteer training	241	149
Refreshments	334	159
Training	234	722
Bank charges	144	192
Computer expenses	962	1,143
Project costs:	8,187	11,131
Publicity and fund-raising expenses	5,914	639
Marketing	39,600	24,000

Cleaning	2,106	2,047
Miscellaneous	-	-
Fixtures and fittings	22	179
	—	—
	184,832	172,012
	—	—
Governance costs		
Legal fees	48	48
Committee expenses	24	32
Home-Start annual and accreditation fees	3,727	4,291
PQASSO fee & audit	-	-
Sundries (AGM costs)	-	-
	—	—
	3,799	4,371
	—	—
Total resources expended	188,631	176,383
	—	—
Net income	41,829	30,667
	—	—

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements