



North Somerset

Making a Difference for Families and Children

Annual Report 2024/2025

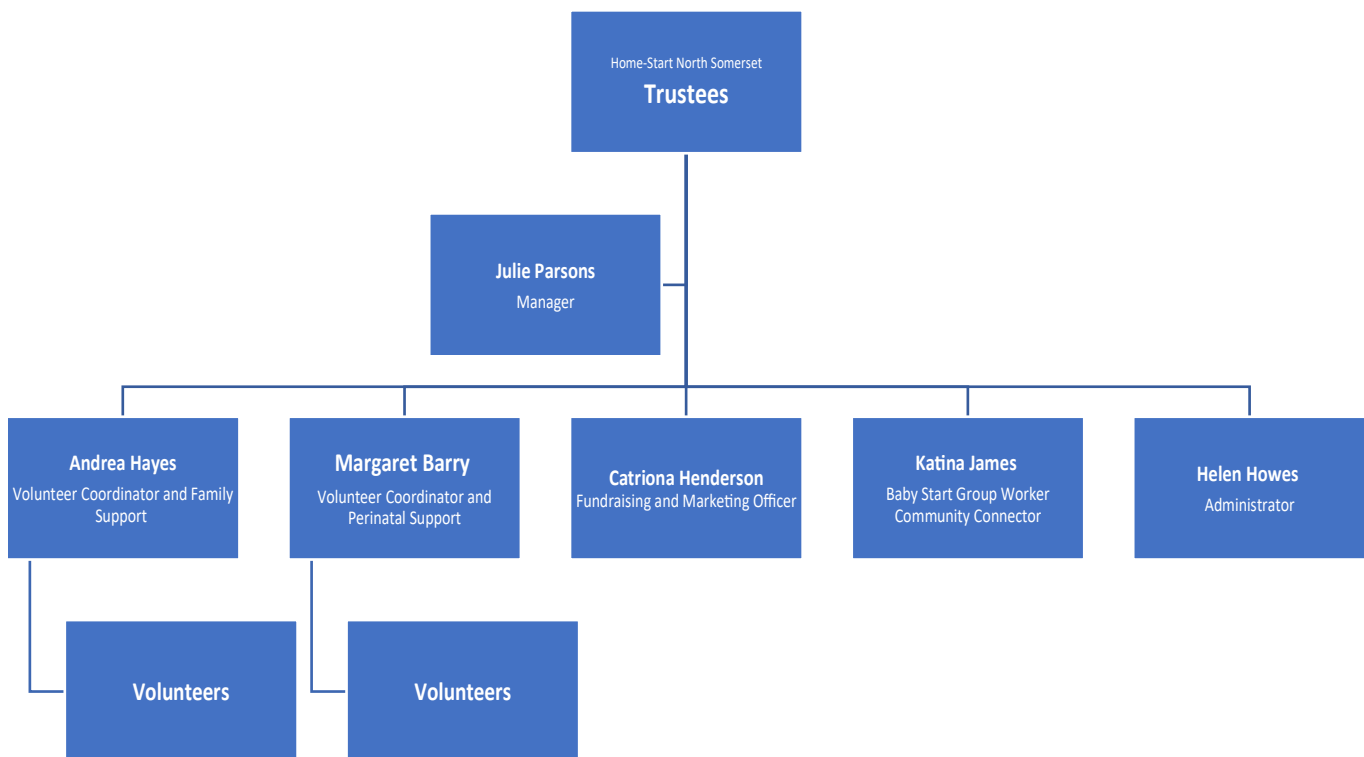
This year Home-Start North Somerset has supported 67 families with 91 children through home-visiting and peri-natal support groups



Home-Start North Somerset, Badger House, Oldmixon Crescent, Weston-super-Mare, BS24 9AY
T: 07771 179007 E: info@home-startnorthsomerset.org.uk

Board of Trustees

Kate Milton	Chair of Trustees (appointed December 2023)
Dali Sidebottom	Trustee
Ian Cooper	Treasurer (resigned 7 th November 2024)
Charles Wright	Trustee (3 rd January 2025)
Colville Greaves	Trustee (Resigned 1 st October 2024)
Joyce Murray	Trustee (Resigned 1 st September 2025)
Nicole Day	Trustee
Judith Tomlinson	Trustee
Jane Sleigh	Volunteer Representative



Home-Start North Somerset

Home-Start North Somerset is a voluntary organisation that supports families who are experiencing difficulties and have at least one child under the age of five. We recruit and train volunteers who support families within their own home offering non-judgemental, confidential support, friendship and practical assistance specifically tailored to the family's needs.

We have a core staff of six people and a board of voluntary trustees.

Mission Statement

Childhood makes a huge impact. We aim to make sure those years count so that a child's future is not limited and families can thrive.

Our vision is to be the leading independent family support charity in North Somerset. We aim to be a partner of choice for families and organisations, known for our reliable, responsive and respected quality service. Through families and volunteers working together, we aim to improve outcomes for all.

Respectful

We welcome and respect each other's views and are confidential in the way we work together and with others.

Supportive

We believe in supporting and developing everyone involved in our charity.

Inclusive

We value collaboration with partners and aim to work in an open and non-judgemental way, listening to feedback from those we work with.

Independent

We are true to our vision and make pro-active decisions that are in the best interest of our charity.

Ambitious

We strive for success and are enthusiastic to develop and sustain an excellent service.

Responsible

We are clear on our roles and take all responsibilities seriously making sure we question and challenge in order to make carefully considered decisions at an appropriate level.

Trustworthy

We are honest and can be trusted to meet our commitments ethically and responsibly.

Effective

We aim to work effectively and efficiently making careful use of all our resources.

Home-Start North Somerset

We are a local charity and have been working exclusively in North Somerset for 20 years to provide practical and emotional support to families with young children, who are experiencing difficulties. We are registered with the Charity Commission and Companies House. We are quality assured by Home-Start UK.

Our ambition is to:

- Develop a range of services from which families can choose
- Secure resources to maintain or increase the number of families supported
- Increase the support we provide to families through such things as groups and drop-ins.

We aim to:-

- Support families throughout the whole of North Somerset, offering support, friendship and practical assistance
- Visit families in their own homes, where the dignity and identity of each individual can be respected and protected
- Reassure parents that difficulties in bringing up children are not unusual, and encourage enjoyment in family life
- Develop a relationship with the family in which time can be shared and understanding can be developed; the approach is flexible to take account of different needs
- Encourage the parents' strengths and emotional well-being for the ultimate benefit of their own children
- Encourage families to widen their network of relationships and to use effectively the support and services available within the community.

We offer free, confidential support, friendship, and practical help to parents, with at least one child under 5 in North Somerset. Families are welcome to approach us themselves, or, with their consent, may be referred by a professional such as a health visitor who is known to them.

We recruit and train home-visiting volunteers, who all have parenting experience, and match them carefully with a family who has requested, or been referred for support. Each volunteer then regularly visits a family in their own home, offering emotional and practical support through difficult times for as long as it is needed. This friendly parent-to-parent support is a simple, yet effective, way of enabling families to get back on track and start to really enjoy family life again.

Service Report

It has been a challenging year for Home-Start North Somerset with a number of trustee resignations including the treasurer. The post was ably filled by Nicky Day but we were unable to find a permanent replacement. However the staff and volunteers continued their sterling work with families and children who benefitted enormously as demonstrated by their positive feedback.

Between April 2024 to March 2025, we supported 67 families via home visiting and one to one support with 91 children. 13 families were supported in the Baby Start group and 15 families were supported in the Mums in Mind group and 53 families were supported directly by the staff team.

Since April 2025 we have supported 50 families via home visiting with 73 children. Baby Start has supported 13 mums and babies in Pill. The staff team directly supported 48 families. In total since April 2024 until October 2025, we have supported 211 families.

We ran 2 volunteer prep courses in October 2024 and March 2025 with 12 new volunteers.

Over the past 20 years we have:

- trained and supported 346 home-visiting volunteers
- provided approx. 50,000 hours of voluntary support
- supported just over 1000 North Somerset families with 2000 children under 5 years old

Treasurers Report_

April 2024 to March 2025

During the financial year starting in April 2024, Home-Start North Somerset have benefited from the Lottery funding, as well valued grants from North Somerset and the ICB (NHS funding).

This has allowed the Charity to provide much needed support for local families.

The Trustees would like to thank the work of the smaller contributors, as their efforts are so personal to our charity.

To past and present, individual and regular, volunteers who donate to the charity: **thank you**

To the anonymous donor who supported our endeavour to recruit and train volunteers: **thank you.**

To the companies and clubs who have supported us: **Thank you.**

- BCclear Communication: £500
- Portishead Ladies Bowling Club: £1150
- Waitrose: £1500
- HomeSense and TKMaxx: £500
- Pure Office Portishead: £1130

To the indefatigable maker of chutneys, jams and mince pies and Christmas brooches: And all who assisted in these endeavours: **Thank you.**

Every pound raised, help us provide support to families in North Somerset.

I wish everybody who is connected with Home-Start North Somerset the best for the future, and thank the volunteers for their commitment and the staff and fellow trustees for their help in the past and present

Nicky Day
Financial Officer

Financial Statement and Examined Accounts available in a separate document

Group Family Feedback

"I really like attending the course as it gets me out of the house which is very good for my emotional wellbeing".

"Meeting other mums for advice improved my confidence with my baby and gave me new skills".

"Encouraged me to get out and helped bond with baby".

"It's been nice to have some routine in the week and see the same group of Mums. It's nice to know I'm not alone in certain stages of motherhood".

"I really enjoy meeting with other Mums. Chatting with others makes me feel better if I am having a difficult week".

"Gets us out of the house, adds structure to our week. Have made friends".

"It's good to have somewhere to go to meet other Mums, where it is friendly and calm".

"Yes, very it's nice to be around others in the same position".

"When I first started the group, I had no confidence and now getting to know the other mums I feel like I have come out of my shell".

"Nice to have a safe space to talk, no judgement. I've really liked the arts and crafts".

"I have found meeting new mums enjoyable and have found some real friends

Home-Visiting Family Feedback

"My son loves his walk to the park with the volunteer and if they go on another day he tells everyone that he goes there with his volunteer".

"I want to express that I felt at the beginning I was 'taking support away from another family if I accepted the help, but I am so glad I did as it has made all the difference to me and my family".

"Going with my volunteer to groups at the start helped build my confidence".

"I appreciate all help given and I am in a much better place now"

"I express gratitude to Homestart and my volunteer. Having someone to talk things through when I was anxious at the start helped normalise things in my mind. I am keen to help others who have found difficulties at the start.

"My volunteer is lovely".

Thank You!

...to all the volunteers, families, referrers, funders and friends of the scheme who supported have supported us this year and for the past 20 years.

Home-Start North Somerset
Badger House, Oldmixon Crescent, Weston-super-Mare, BS24 9AY
T: 07771 179007 E: info@home-startnorthsomerset.org.uk

Registered Charity No: 1111549

Company Number: 5555050



**Home-Start
North
Somerset**

March 31st, 2025

Financial Statements

Limited by Guarantee



Home-Start North Somerset Ltd.

(Limited by Guarantee)

Financial Statements

Year ended March 31st, 2025

Index	1
Trustees' annual report (incorporating the director's report)	2-4
Independent examiner's report to the Trustees	5
Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)	6-7
Notes to the financial statements	8-12



Home-Start North Somerset Ltd.

(Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Annual Report *(Incorporating the Director's Report)*

Year ended March 31st, 2025

The Trustees, who are also the Directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the Charity for the year ended **31 March 2025**.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Name	Home-Start North Somerset
Charity registration number	1111549
Company registration number	055550050
Principal office and registered office	Badger House, Old Mixon Crescent, Weston-Super-Mare, BS24 3HF

The Trustees	Positions	Date of Appointment	Date of Resignation
Nicole Day	Trustee	23 February 2016	
Dali Sidebottom	Trustee	01 September 2015	
Joyce Murray	Trustee	08 November 2022	
Judith Tomlinson	Trustee	28 November 2024	
Kate Milton	Trustee	12 December 2023	
Ian Cooper	Trustee	12 September 2022	07 November 2024
Colville Greaves	Trustee	09 January 2023	01 October 2024
Charles Wright	Trustee	01 November 2021	03 January 2025



Home-Start North Somerset Ltd. *(Limited by Guarantee)*

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

ARCARDIA (SOUTH WEST) LTD residing at UNIT 9, MORSTON COURT, AISECOME WAY, BS22
8NG

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The details of the structure and organization are included in the accompanying Annual Report.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Please see the Annual Report for the full objectives and activities of the charity.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Please see the Annual Report for the achievements and performance for the year ended **31st March 2025**.



Home-Start North Somerset Ltd.

(Limited by Guarantee)

Financial Review

The Financial statements show a deficit of **£7,456** for year ending **March 31st 2025**, compared to a surplus of **£17,000** for the year ending March 31st 2024. Further details of the financial position of the Charity are given in the Trustees report.

The Trustees are satisfied of the following:

- A. Following a financial viability review in July 2025, the Trustees explored a potential merger with Home Start Bristol & South Gloucestershire. After these discussions proved unsuccessful, the Board resolved in late October 2025 to propose the charity's closure by January 2026.
- B. The cash buffer maintained by the charity would be sufficient to cover liabilities in the event of cessation of the charity.
- C. Though this year's accounts have been prepared under the accruals/prepayment basis, comparison to last year's prepared on a cash basis results in no material difference.
- D. All funds received are spent on the charitable objectives of Home-start North Somerset as this is a prerequisite of grant donors.
- E. Micro-Entity Accounts for Home-Start North Somerset Ltd as exempted by Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 will be submitted for this period to Companies House by the relevant date.

The Trustees' annual report was approved on _____ and signed on behalf of the board.

Trustee

Trustee



Home-Start North Somerset Ltd. (Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company 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 your charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiners 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 accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. The accounts do not comply with the 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 accounts 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michelle Parsons'.

Michelle Parsons
Arcadia Chartered Tax Advisors & Accountants
Unit 9, Morston Court
Aisecome way
Weston Super Mare
BS22 8NG

Statement of Financial Activities *(Income and Expenditure Account)*

Year ended March 31st, 2025

		2025	2024
	Notes	Total Funds £	Total Funds £
<u>Income</u>			
Donations		8,167	5,528
Grants		116,480	147,993
Investment income	1	1,609	961
Total income		126,256	154,882
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Charitable activities	2	133,712	137,882
Total expenditure		133,712	137,882
Surplus / (Deficit)		(7,456)	17,000



Home-Start North Somerset Ltd.

(Limited by Guarantee)

Statement of Financial Activities (Statement of Financial Positions)

Year ended March 31st, 2025

		2025	2024
	Notes	£	£
Current assets			
Debtors	3	850	-
Cash at bank		55,913	66,305
		56,763	66,305
Creditors: amount falling due within one year	4	(2,021)	(4,107)
Net assets		54,742	62,198
Total charity funds	5	54,742	62,198



Home-Start North Somerset Ltd.

(Limited by Guarantee)

Statement of Financial Activities *(Notes to the Financial Statements)*

Year ended March 31st, 2025

Disclosure

For the year ended **31st March, 2025** the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The member has not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The director's knowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

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

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees' and authorized for issue on _____ and are signed on behalf of the board by;

Trustee

Trustee



Home-Start North Somerset Ltd.

(Limited by Guarantee)

Statement of Financial Activities (Notes to the Financial Statements)

Year ended March 31st, 2025

1. Income

Donations

	2025	2024
	Total Funds £	Total Funds £
Donations	8,167	5,928
Total Donations	8,167	5,928

Grants funding

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
	Total Funds £	Total Funds £
Community Connector	25,000	-
CCG	16,480	54,393
Local Authority	15,000	15,000
Leveling up	-	8,600
Garfield Weston	-	10,000
Lottery grant	60,000	60,000
Total Grants	116,480	147,993

Investment Income

Bank Interest	1,609	961
TOTAL INCOME	126,256	154,882



Home-Start North Somerset Ltd.

(Limited by Guarantee)

Statement of Financial Activities (Notes to the Financial Statements)

Year ended March 31st, 2025

2. Expenditure

Charitable activities

	2025	2024
Staff costs	105,063	107,492
Fund raising	602	1,714
Volunteer expenses	6,121	2,861
Administration	11,051	13,190
Premises	10,815	12,615
Finance	60	60
Total	133,712	137,882

Statement of Financial Activities (Notes to the Financial Statements)

Year ended March 31st, 2025

3. Debtors

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	850	-
Total Debtors	850	-

4. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	2,022	4,107
Social security and other taxes	-	-
Total Creditors	2,022	4,107



Home-Start North Somerset Ltd. (Limited by Guarantee)

Statement of Financial Activities (Notes to the Financial Statements)

Year ended March 31st, 2025

5. Analysis of Charitable funds balances

	At 1 st April 2024 £	INCOME £	EXPENDITURE £	AT 31 ST MARCH 2025 £
General Funds	62,198	126,256	133,712	54,742

	At 1 st April 2023 £	INCOME £	EXPENDITURE £	AT 31 ST MARCH 2024 £
General Funds	45,198	154,882	137,882	62,198



Home-Start North Somerset Ltd. (Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT

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as part of an independent examination; or
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