

Wythenshawe Community Initiative Ltd

REPORT AND UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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Trustees' Report and Financial Statements for the period to 31 March 2023

Registered Charity Number

1112990

Company number

05564192

Principal Office:

Woodhouse Park Family Centre
7 Stoneacre Road
Wythenshawe
Manchester
M22 1BP

Trustees at the date this report was approved

Christine Greenhalgh (Chair)
Fiona Hatch (Treasurer)
Eula Mesquita
Sarah Lynch

Bankers

National Westminster Bank plc
Barclays Bank plc

Independent Examiner

S Weighell FCA
3 Wellgreen Close
Hale
Altrincham
WA15 8PT

Trustees' Report

The Trustees, two of whom are also directors for the purposes of company law, present their annual report together with the unaudited financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2022 which are also prepared to meet the requirements of a Directors' Report and Accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Trustees

The Trustees who served throughout the year and at the date of this report are listed on page 2.

Structure Governance and Management

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the Company are the directors named on page 1. In the event of the Company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the Company. The Charity's governance arrangements and structure are set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association. The Trustees are the Management Committee, which comprises the Chairperson, the Treasurer and the other trustees as listed on page 1. New Trustees are recruited from a range of groups including user groups and other interested members of the local community including professional people who come into contact with us, employees, ex-employees and representatives of the United Reformed Church, from which organisation we lease our premises.

The major risks to which the Charity is exposed, as identified by the Trustees, have been reviewed and systems, procedures and initiatives to manage those risks have been established, or are presently being considered, by the Trustees.

Objectives and Activities

The principal objectives of the Charity are:

- 1) Alleviating the hardship and distress of children resident in the area of benefit, caused by the break-up of marriage and family and to preserve and protect their good mental and physical health by providing and maintaining a centre and facilities.
- 2) Advancing the education of the public and providing facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life of those persons.

3) Relieving poverty, in particular by the provision of advice, information and support.

The Charity operates in Woodhouse Park in particular and the district of Wythenshawe in general.

We have had due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission in compliance with its duties under section 4 of the Charities Act 2006. The guidance sets out two key principles:

The organisation must have an identifiable benefit.

The benefit must be to the public or section of the public.

We confirm that we meet these requirements.

Principal Activities

Some highlights of the year....



We were honoured to be part of the inaugural GRUB Carnival at



Here's our after school club receiving a giant donation from John Lewis Cheadle.



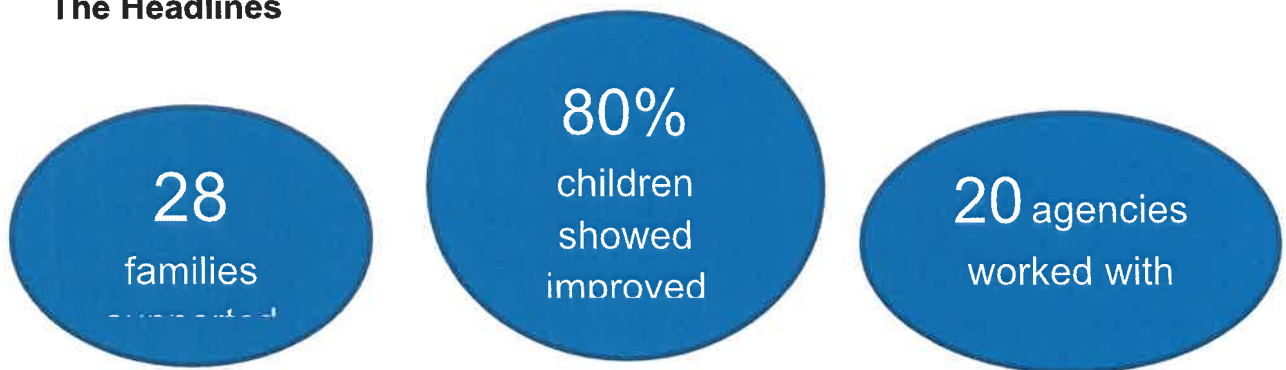
Chatting all things Family Centre with our friends at WFM Radio



We loved taking part in the Manchester Day Parade this year

Family Support – Bright Futures

The Headlines



The story



April - This month we were delighted to celebrate the first cohort of Bright Futures families and children and had a lovely garden party to recognise the hard work they have done over the past year. We also co-hosted a music session at Safespots in Wythenshawe, we all created a song and had musicians play the melody for us. We have also been running a weekly fitness group at the

Raddison gym which has been going well.

May - We celebrated Greater Manchester walking festival and hosted a joint walk with the women's group Fresh Start Smart. Bright Futures then hosted another meet in the afternoon at Woodhouse Park Lifestyle Centre. Asda donated healthy organic herbal tea and healthy fruit and snacks. We chatted, drank tea, we then did a guided relaxation and light stretch with the yoga matts. The families attended a course with the parent and carer forum to understand sensory processing. We were also invited to go to some sound healing sessions at the Dandelion Church.



June - We took a trip to Manchester Art Gallery where they put on an adult workshop with afternoon tea. We also had a lovely treat for the parents, enjoying a spa day and lunch.



In August we offered some amazing family trips. We went to Southport, Bewilderwood, Gulliver's World, outdoor family fitness fun, CAFT Adventure Farm, as well as a family forest session with City of Trees. We also did some family swimming sessions at the Raddison gym. We have done walks, and some lovely garden yoga sessions with the children.

October - Parents continued to enjoy the walks, coffee meet ups, and swims at the Raddison. The children attended a nature mindfulness session which they loved, with most children commenting that they felt calmer after the session.



November - The parents attended some of the work going on with the SENSitive group. We all attended a workshop about sensory needs and how to get disability benefit related support. We also put our own SEND workshop on which was a huge success. Lots of local services, groups and our Bright Future parents attended. We also did a family/sibling fitness session with the fitness team from the Raddison which the children loved.

December was a busy month as we began to say goodbye to the children and families, finishing off work, and completing feedback as well as organising the end year parent meal and Christmas celebration party. We also opened the door to all the new families starting in the new year for an open day to let them know about what will be on offer for them as part of the project.

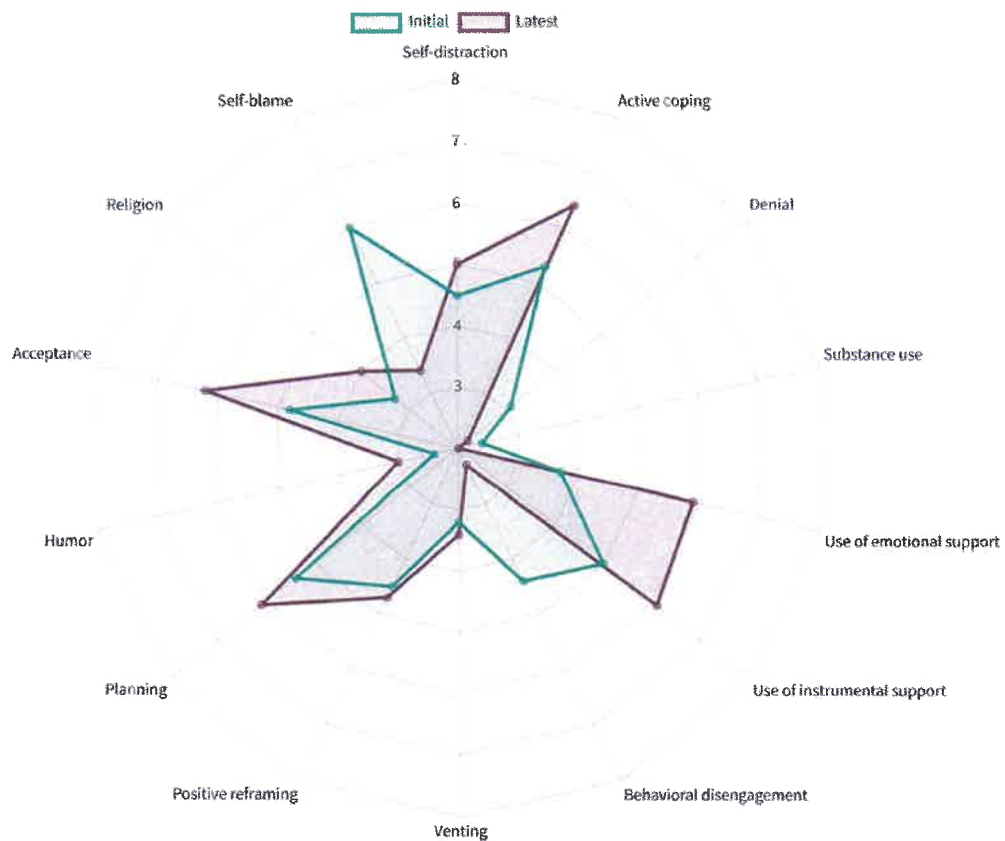


January saw us welcome a new cohort of families and we spent time doing introductions, tours of the centre and getting to know children and families. We held our first Bright Futures children's session which was really successful.

February - The children had by now all settled in and we spent some time incorporating National Children's Mental Health Day. We got to know the children and their needs as well identifying learning, which will be incorporated into the session planning to ensure the children get the individual support they need. The Bright Futures parent group upstairs was really well attended.

The Difference we made

We collated information using an impact data tool. We asked all parents to complete the questionnaire at the start of working with Bright Futures, and again at the end. This impact survey asks questions relating to coping strategies and resilience. The below data shows an overall improvement after working with Bright Futures for 12 months. Parents appear to be actively coping with their situation and using support more efficiently.



15 children out of the 18 families attended the Bright Future play support over the 12-month period. 12 children showed significant improvement in their overall wellbeing, emotionally and physically, they were more sociable, confident, and resilient and transition into high school well. Many of these children now are part of the Bright Futures Friends group and connect with each other still. Two children showed signs of no improvement or worsening of their situation. These children have SEND, and parents felt that high school worsened their engagement and wellbeing in general, so this was not necessarily a reflection on Bright Futures as other factors were at play. All but one parent when asked stated that they would work with Bright Futures again or recommend to a friend.

Case Study

The HF family were referred by a local primary school. G, their daughter, was struggling with confidence, self-esteem, low mood, and general concerns around her emotional and physical wellbeing at school and mum reported that all the family had gained weight during lockdown. G has a diagnosis of autism. G also struggles with coeliac disease, which was causing lots of stress and anxiety around eating. Mum reported she felt unsupported as she had her own mental and physical health needs.

We created a care plan around the family, and the key areas to look at were for G to build confidence, for the family to have quality time together, for mum to improve her physical well-being and to socialise and connect with other parents who are struggling with similar issues. A common theme which came up often from G during Bright Futures sessions, but also from mum, was worry over the transition to high school.

G attended all sessions during the 12-month period, and within 3 months we noticed a significant change in her engagement, going from being quiet, reserved, no eye contact, not eating at mealtimes and not using the toilet to a young person who was funny, witty, and sociable. By eating dinner each Friday at Bright Futures and accommodating G's dietary needs, and through discussions about healthy foods and educating the other children about food intolerances G began eating at each session with the group. Her anxiety seemed to have significantly dropped. Mum described 'the change is astonishing; it's been a lifeline'.

Mum took part in all the family trips, courses and workshops on offer, and attended most of the family meet ups and walks. Even when she was having a bad day with her back and couldn't walk, we adapted as there was no pressure to walk and would sometimes just sit and have a cuppa and chat. Mum joined the fitness group, she couldn't attend any classes due to her limited mobility but would often go for a swim. Mum has since become a member and even now she is no longer with Bright Futures, regularly takes the children/herself for a swim. G also asked for a walking machine and seemed to be actively wanting to improve her overall wellbeing.

Bright Futures supported the school to manage things better and acted as the communication bridge between mum and school. Mum described how some simple changes for her and Georgia made a huge difference to their quality of life daily. We then also did some good transitional work with the high school. Mum stated she was blown away with how well she has transitioned into high school.

At the end of the work Mum stated that she's really loved Bright Futures and has met some great parents and G has met some fab friends. Mum feels her daughter is worlds apart from the child who started with Bright Futures. G is now confident, sociable, and attends school with no issues. When asked if she would recommend the service she stated "absolutely, it's been godsend Jade and the centre, I can't thank you all enough. They need more of this support everywhere".



Early Years – Stepping Stones Pre-school Playgroup

The Headlines

28% children
have English as
an additional

42%
Children with
SEND

The Story

April - Our child that was recently diagnosed with type 1 diabetes was finally able to return to us and it was lovely to welcome him back. We have worked hard to support him and each other to adjust to the necessary changes in our daily routine. One of our EAL children has made huge progress with her use of words recently, especially staff names. Mum is really pleased and grateful about this.

May Created books with all the children to take home. (Going on a bear hunt) This has been the children's favourite book, and we hope it will become a treasured memory for their future.

We took the children to visit the 3 local schools and talked about their transitions in preparation for their move to big school. They were all excited and able to talk about it the following day. The children have been trying lots of new salad items and vegetables each week. They have also been creating their own snacks every Thursday to boost their independence. During a specialist case meeting, one of our Mums said "I honestly don't know how I'd have got through the last few months without you all".

June/July - The children have been on lots of walks to the 3 local primary schools to help prepare them for transitions. We have incorporated using zebra crossings and safety awareness into these outings. And the group have really enjoyed getting to know the local environment.

September -The children returning from last term have been so kind and caring towards the new starters.

They have started to show the younger children "how we do things" without being prompted and some have even expressed empathy when one of the others is upset. Parents of the new children have commented on how happy they are at the speed they have settled in with us. This is definitely one of the advantages of being a small group and a strength that makes us stand out from other providers.



November - We have been working more closely with other professionals and we feel this has had a positive impact for our children both past and present. We visited a local primary school that one of our children has recently started to attend to meet with his teacher and the school SENCO. We shared the strategies that had helped us to support his emotional development and the school SENCO said "If only all early years providers were so thoughtful around children's transitions"



January - The children returned after the Christmas break as if they hadn't been away!! This is a clear indicator of the positive relationships they have already started to form here.

We have been focussing on primary colours and developing independence this term and the children have been trying lots of new sensory and taste experiences (some more successful than others)

3 of our current children and 2 who are in the induction process are all younger siblings of past attenders. As a team this makes us feel really proud that we have left a lasting impression on these parents/carers.

February - We used the focussed colour in our art work, hunted for it in the environment and even ate foods that colour at snack time. At the start of every half term we share the planned learning goals with parent/carers. This includes supporting activity/discussion ideas that can be used at home. This is to strengthen our partnership with parents, so that we are better equipped to enrich the children's experiences and improve their school readiness.

March - We welcomed a new child to our group at the beginning of the month. She initially really struggled to control her responses towards the other children. She has now settled in extremely well and is starting to build happy and strong relationships. It is lovely to see how far she has come in such a short time and how happy her Mum is with her progress. We have been exploring flowers and insects as part of our spring time theme



The Difference we make

We have received the end of year evaluations from parents/carers and the comments have all been extremely positive. When asked to rate the overall quality of the experience every one of them chose either excellent or good. Here are some of the comments we received.....

“The professional staff who are clearly committed to the caring and teaching of my child”

“How happy my daughter is to attend and how she talks about nursery in such a positive way”

“The staff are amazing and I can tell they take very good care of their pupils”

“It’s a very friendly environment with very good communication”

“It has helped him build his confidence and independence”

“All staff have been fantastic with A and his needs, I couldn’t have asked for any more from you all, thank you.”

“A calm and friendly environment, that is very safe....”

Early Years - Willowbank Homeless Refuge Creche

The Headlines

26
Children
attended

3
Refugees
supported

500
Hours of
creche

The story

April – We did lots of Easter crafts including, making some little easter baskets, easter egg hunts in the garden and we made little cornflake cakes, the children loved doing different things related to easter.

We have been prepping the garden for summer, we have put up our new greenhouse and started planting seeds to grow with the children. We have also been able to spend lots more time outside with the children as the weather is getting nicer.



May - This month we see families from two other refuges begin to use the creche, Apex house and Oak Lodge, and we have had 2 new families start with us. One of our families has moved from Willowbank to a different refuge but still travels to use us which is lovely.

We have also got some new strawberry plants for our green house and some new bedding plants for our large pots.

June - With the weather getting nicer we have enjoyed water play outside, the children have enjoyed splashing about and getting wet in the sunshine. We were also able to pick the strawberries that had grown. We had a walk down to the local library to see if they have anything available in during the six weeks holidays. It's also been nice to see our babies getting about on their feet up and walking. With the children getting older we have been able to offer more days for families as our ratios are evening out now.

July - This month we have been taking advantage of the sunny days and spending time in the garden doing water play, we have even managed to get a little paddling pool which the children have loved splashing about and dipping their feet in. The children have also enjoyed playing and making sandcastles in the sandpit.

We have also been trying the children with different foods for snack which has gone down well.

We will be saying goodbye to one of our families this month as they are moving to their new home, they will be missed by all of us.

August – We started our stay and play sessions as some of the parents were telling us they have been feeling lonely so we thought it would be the ideal time to start them. The first session went really well, it was a hot day so we did rainbow ice cubes on the messy play table, the little ones loved this and were splashing around after they had melted. It was also one of the children's first birthday so mum brought everyone some cake and we all sang happy birthday, it was lovely to be able to be a part of this as we have watched her grow all year.

We have also been able to have a walk around the shops with the children on some of our quieter days, the children love to go for walks and have a look at all the different things in the shops. We have also made some dens inside crèche with the older children, they loved getting all different blankets and covers on the mats and hiding and getting comfy.

September - This month we have settled all our new children into creche. They have all settled in really well and are enjoying sessions. We held our second stay and play session, we had five families attend and we did a messy play activity with limes, lemons and oranges for the children to taste. It was lovely to see the parents and children interacting with each other.

October This month we decorated the crèche with the children for Halloween, all the little ones enjoyed playing with all the bits from the box, walking round saying "HALLOWEENNNN"

We have been doing lots of Halloween crafts such as ghost and pumpkin foot and handprints and making our own pumpkins, we also made decorations to put in the reception area of Willowbank to make the building look more child friendly.

We had another stay and play with a Halloween theme, the children came down dressed up, we did pumpkin messy play and decorated cakes, and the support staff and Becki the manager joined us too. The children loved it just as much as the parents did.

November - This month we have had all the crèche room decorated, it looks so much nicer and fresh. We were unable to use the room so instead we took the children out to the local park for shorter session time but still enabled the session to run. The parents really appreciated this, and the children had lots of fun.

We also planted some bulbs with the children to come up for spring, the children really enjoyed this. We did have a visit from the local squirrels who came and dug up all our bulbs, but we did manage to save some and re plant them.

One of our children has really settled in well and we've noticed a massive difference in her confidence and progression, it's so lovely to see.

Dec - We started off December with doing lots of Christmas crafts including paper wreaths, handprint Christmas trees and footprint reindeers for the parents which they absolutely loved. We were lucky enough to have presents donated to us from a local childminder which meant we were able to give every child a present for Christmas. For our Christmas stay and play we made gloop consisting of cornflour, water and red and green food colouring in keeping with the Christmas theme.

February We have tried lots of new messy play ideas including crushed biscuits, spaghetti and dried cereals, the children had fun feeling and tasting the different textures. We celebrated Pancake Day by making pancakes and using different toppings to decorate, this went down really well. We have now started baby day twice a week which is going well with all babies settling in great and enjoying the freedom to play. One parent has said how much the baby enjoys coming down to creche and has asked for extra days.

March - This month baby day has been really consistent with all babies attending and really enjoying the session, the parents are even asking for more days to have their children in creche. This is always nice to hear as this means the parents are comfortable leaving their baby in our care. Our monthly stay and plays have really picked up with us having a really busy creche with all parents attending and having fun with their children and also getting to socialise and interact with the other parents which they are really enjoying.

Play – After-School Club & Playscheme

The headlines



The story

April - Our Easter playscheme went really well and the children had the best time at Chester Zoo. We had the Flying Seagull circus come to visit us again and they gave us an amazing performance and the children got to take part in some circus skills.

We have had a child getting really emotional recently and has been saying some not very nice things about herself, she is also really struggling to make friends and has been getting really angry at staff members. I have addressed this by speaking to dad and suggesting she be referred to our Bright Future sessions as we have seen a real difference in her lately.

Afterschool Club Council

What you have enjoyed about Afterschool club this month: Playing with my friends, Everything, hammer beads. Playscheme!! The trip I've never been to the zoo before it was so exciting.

What you would like to happen next month in Afterschool Club: Pyjama day, ice cream day, more sand, different food.

Good news story: Ava surprised the Flying seagulls by jumping through the hoop which was held up really high.



May – Two of our Polish children brought in some “fruit soup” that had been made at home for us all to try, they had also written out the recipe for us – we plan for them to make this when we return from the holidays.

We have had a child join from Ukraine who speaks very little English, we struggled to communicate and the children wanted to be able to talk to her so I have printed off some common phrases in Russian so the children have able to talk to her.



We have enjoyed our weekly Monday cooking sessions. A quote from a parent on Facebook "When she comes home from club with this 😊 They are absolutely amazing there Playing Out in Wythenshawe. This week she has been taught to cook pasta with meatballs & now to tie her shoe laces! Thank you so much guys, your all amazing (sic)"

June - Afterschool Club Council:

What you have enjoyed about Afterschool club this month: Water fights, football, painting, playing with friends, meeting new people, eating, cars, bridge, drawing.

What you would like to happen next month in Afterschool Club: Football nets, grass to play, house area, more toys.

Good news story: The ice cream after the Manchester day parade , Scored a top corner goal in football.

A quote from one of the new children attending "this is the best day ever"

July & August - Our playscheme ran incredibly well. We did lots of activities which included, create your own salad bar, face painting, making our own bug hotels, lots of messy play and lots of food activities.

We had one little boy who made sure to water our tomato plants every day to keep them alive and he was finally able to pick the tomatoes over playscheme.

"Great place, great girls, fantastic atmosphere! We appreciate you guys so much, thank you"

September - We have recently received some funding to provide dinners every night, this is going down really well and the children love coming every session and asking "what's for dinner today."

We have added two new Junior volunteers and they have both been fab, they stay at the end of the session to help clean up and also stay for our end of session evaluation where they are able to give their input.

We have had one child who has been leaving school early each week to attend but has recently been told she now needs to attend her science lesson so is not allowed to leave any more which she was very upset about. When I found this out, I spoke to dad and said she would be given a guaranteed place each Wednesday, so she didn't have to leave school early to make it here on time.



October - Our spooktacular Halloween parties went down a treat, some children had even been dressed and ready to go since 9am when the party didn't start till 4pm! We enjoyed apple bobbing, Halloween bingo, scavenger hunt and lots of party food! Our favourite part of each day was watching the children find the treats inside our gruesome boxes which made for some strange facial expressions.

We are loving our big family dinners as usual, we have the best chats during dinner time!

We celebrated Black History Month. We created our own medicines in honour of the amazing and wonderful nurse Mary Seacole, designed our own steering wheels in

honour of Lewis Hamilton and learned all about influential black people over the course of history.

November - We have had lots of rainy weather which means PlayStation out for games of Fifa - lots of opportunity for turn taking and team work! Last week we really enjoyed playing some group games. We played a big game of footballs girls v boys which the girls won! Taking some inspiration from the Lionesses' recent Euro win!

We also enjoyed making our Christmas decorations for our Winter Wonderland theme!

Afterschool Club Council:

What you have enjoyed about Afterschool club this month: Painting the windows in the quiet room, different foods, playing outside, Christmas crafts, drawing, football.

What you would like to happen next month in Afterschool Club: More toys, more outside equipment, more snowflakes, a day to wear pjs, xmas puppet show, new football net, better surface to play football on.

Good news story: Chloe got her certificates in swimming. St Anthonys performed their Christmas carol concert and all the staff came.

December - January – Happy Lunar New Year - We celebrated by making our own red money envelopes and using chopsticks to eat noodles for dinner. Everyone was very excited to be using chopsticks and many surprised themselves by being able to use them easily. We had lots of fun in the snow and ice, using our giant cones and seesaws as sledges! We had a movie night with hot chocolate, picnic food and the best Christmas film ELF.

Our Christmas parties went down really well and the children loved showing off their party clothes.

Afterschool Club Council:

What you have enjoyed about Afterschool club this month: Christmas party, playing with friends, the food, making the rainbow for the wall

What you would like to happen next month in Afterschool Club: Valentines party, no arguing in football , more cars and Lego, clay activities, fruit tea, making bracelets

*Good news story: Summer did a Christmas mission where she donated food to local food banks and people who needed it, she managed to get enough donations that it filled her entire living room. She also picked the family centre as one of her places to donate to which was lovely. She ended up being in the Manchester evening news for her cause.
belt.*



February - We celebrated children's mental health week. One of our priorities in Afterschool club is children's mental health, so each week we encourage activities that improve children's well-being and overall happiness. During children's mental health week, we really focused on highlighting the importance of recognising children's mental health. We created our own people and compared them against each other, focussing on the similarities and differences we have.



This year's theme was 'LET'S CONNECT'. During a session we looked at what connects us with the people on the session. We came up with many good connections such as "school, friendly, eye colour, communication, and sports". We made sure to have lots of mindfulness activities available for the children to do, such as sensory playdough, threading pasta, and painting.

March - We were proud to celebrate Neurodiversity Celebration Week. Many of our children who attend our Afterschool have a close connection with Neurodiversity week and it was important to us to celebrate it and recognise the misconceptions about neurological differences.

We took the children through a quick overview of the very complex brain and we made this a hands on approach where the children made brains from play dough and learnt all about flight or fight. We had posters dotted around the room with



information on Neurodiversity and some children even made posters themselves. The children especially liked seeing the different celebrities who had dyslexia and were surprised by some, especially the authors.

We also celebrated International Women's Day!

We did a scavenger hunt to find inspirational women that were hidden around the centre.

We talked about groundbreaking women in different careers and the children were really interested in learning about each woman.

The difference we made

We think this quote says it all in terms of what we want to achieve through our play provision.

"My daughter Matilda has been coming for many years now, this year has been especially tough for her, we honestly believe your kindness, welcoming, friendship & most of all your love for all children's smiling faces have got her through this year. Every day is the same conversation *can I go to club please*.. she really loves you all. Thank you Charlotte & team for making my daughter smile again."

Our Response to the Cost of Living Crisis



Over the last 6 months we have provided a free hot meal for every child attending our After School Club thanks to funding from Wythenshawe Community Housing Group and donations from SVP and Wythenshawe 409th Scouts Group and Summer's Mission. Parents have reported this helps reduce pressure on them financially and practically.



We also introduced the Family Centre Social, which runs every Friday morning and is open to all the local community to drop in for a free warm drink, hot breakfast and a warm welcome, as well as advice and support. We invite other agencies to come in and share information with our families.

Some of the services we have welcomed include:

- The fabulous Green Doctors from Groundwork who joined us with loads of advice and tips for saving money on those ever increasing energy bills.
- Helen Beesley from National Literacy Trust with lots of info & resources to help improve literacy skills and support our children with reading and writing.
- We also hosted visits from Wood Street Mission, the Healthy Weight team, Legal First Aid family law advice service and Careers in Teaching.



Over the winter months we ran a Winter Warmer campaign to put together packs of equipment to give to families over the winter to help with heating bills and the cost of living. In total we gave out 30 packs which included things like energy saving lightbulbs, thick duvets, hot water bottles etc.



We also, again through funding from WCHG, offered an **Emergency Family Fund** to offer vital support to individuals and families struggling to purchase practical things like essential household items, winter clothing or school uniform.

And we continued to use our **Facebook page** to share relevant information from our partners in the area.



Building Strong Foundations for Stronger Families

This year we will be launching our ambitious campaign, Building Strong Foundations for Stronger Families, to buy, refurbish and eventually remodel our home, Woodhouse Park Family Centre, so that we can meet ever increasing demand and achieve our ultimate aim of being the first port of call for families in Wythenshawe.

We have been supporting our community for almost 30 years, during which time, we have provided help to over 6,000 families. Founded for local people by local people, our ambition has always been to make a positive difference in our community. In these difficult times there is huge demand for all our services and our community tells us that we have never been more needed. It is vital for us, therefore, to be able to have a space that allows us to expand our existing services and develop new ones ensuring we can meet the very real and increasing needs of our local families.

Woodhouse Park Family Centre offers an environment where we can provide access to services and care to any of the families and children of Wythenshawe who need us. We operate within one of the most deprived wards in the country with over 40 % of children living in poverty and an increasing number of families relying on foodbanks to survive. Our vision is to improve the economic and emotional wellbeing of the Wythenshawe community and to increase people's confidence and aspirations to help them make better lives for them and their families.

In order to remain in the area we need to buy our building – until recently we have been able to lease it for a nominal rent. We also want to refurbish it, both to help us deliver more and better services, and to cover some of our costs through room hire.

With austerity impacting more and more families, 41.8 % of children in Manchester are living in poverty, and government funding being cut year on year, coupled with the lingering impact of COVID, the need for our services is greater than ever.

So we have one Big ambition - to raise the money to secure our building and make the changes that will mean we can help thousands more families.

Our building is one of our strengths in terms of its location –right in the heart of the community – and its feel – we receive frequent comments from users and visitors of how welcoming and homely the Centre feels. However, its layout massively restricts our capacity to expand services or deliver new ones. We'd love to transform the building to make it fit for purpose and environmentally sustainable whilst retaining our famed Family Centre welcome. This campaign will be our main focus over the next year as we plan for the future.



2022/23 supporters

Of course none of the work outlined above would be possible without the funding and support provided by a wide variety of funders, businesses and individuals and we offer our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the following organisations and individuals who have helped us make such a difference to children and families this year.

Corporate supporters

John Lewis

Waitrose

Standard Scaffolding/Balvac/National
Highways

Equilibrium

Delta Solutions

Lynch Consulting

Radisson Blu Manchester
Airport

SSP UK - The Food Travel
Experts



Grant Funders

The National Lottery Community Fund – Reaching Communities

Wythenshawe Community Housing Group

AutoTrader

Smallwood Trust

Manchester City Council

Individual Fundraisers/Donations

The Shatarsky family

‘In Kind’ Donations of time, products or services

The Clayton Hotel Manchester Airport

Manchester Libraries

Wythenshawe Community Housing Group

Inspire/Gunner Cooke

City in the Community

Manchester Airport Community Engagement team

Costain

Nationwide Management Services

Helen's Childcare

409th Scouts Wythenshawe

SVP Wythenshawe



Partnerships

Manchester International Festival - Our expertise in our local community has been recognised by Manchester International Festival who are working with us as a community partner to ensure the Wythenshawe community is represented in the development of their new arts facility, Factory International.



Manchester Play Network – We continue to be an active member of the Manchester Play Partnership, which brings together play providers across the city to share best practice and advocate for play. This year we all worked together to put a great multi-agency PlayDay celebration event in Whitworth Park to help raise awareness if Manchester City Council's Our Year campaign to put children at the heart of decision making across the city! It was so good to see so many families playing & having fun together and all thanks to amazing partnership work led by Manchester Play Network which we're proud to be part of) & supported by Manchester City Council

Women of Wythenshawe - We're proud to be a part of the new Women In Wythenshawe network aimed at supporting women across Wythenshawe who are experiencing gender poverty and related issues to help create a voice and bring about structural and decision-making change. We look forward to supporting a group of women from here at the Centre to take part in this network and become an independent group going forwards.



Filming Well – We hosted a Filming Well course run by Together One who aim to support emotional well being and good mental health through the use of the arts.



Manchester Day parade!

We're very proud of all the children who took part in the Manchester Day Parade and were an absolute credit to the Centre, demonstrating just how amazingly creative, friendly and welcoming the Wythenshawe community is!

Massive thanks to Liz Gilleard and her colleagues at the Clayton Hotel who arranged for packed lunches and transport to be provided which made a massive difference on the day!

And also big thanks to Hannah from [Walk the Plank](#) for all her help and guidance creating our wonderful props.

We would also like to thank Sue Weighell of Delta Solutions for providing her accountancy services.

In addition, we are indebted to the United Reformed Church (North West) Trust for granting us the continued use of our premises without charge.

Financial Review

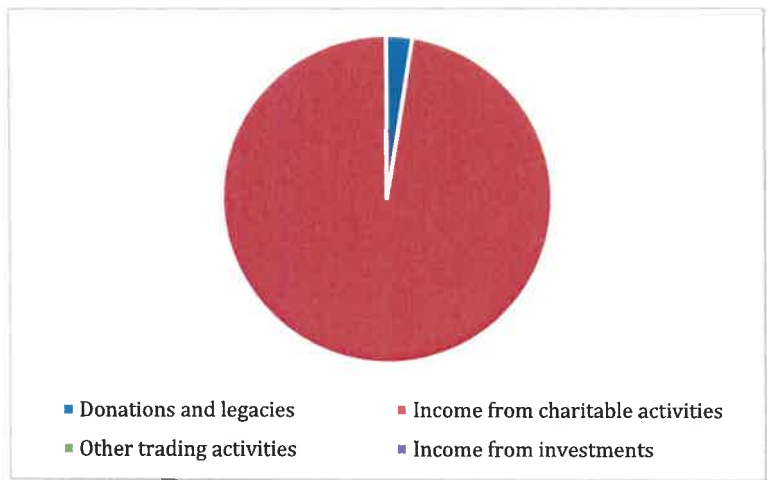
The Trustees review the financial position of the charity as part of the regular Trustee meetings and are satisfied that the income of the fund is sufficient to meet annual operating expenditure.

Results for the year

Incoming resources were £204,017 and total expenditure was £218,414 There was a reduction in funds of £14,397.

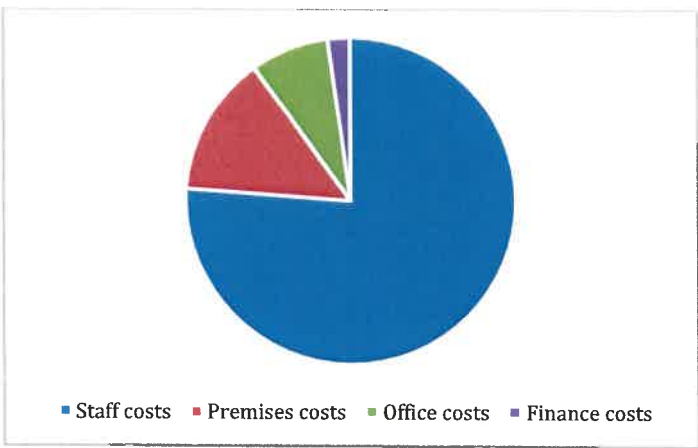
Where do our funds come from?

Income of £204,017....



How do we spend our money?

Expenditure of £218,414.....



Reserves Policy

As required by the Charity Commission the Trustees have adopted the following reserves policy:

1. We will maintain the sum of £12,000, or such amount as is determined from time to time by the Management Committee, as a contingency fund (designated reserve) for the sole purpose of bridging a gap in the receipt of funding income.
2. In addition to the above sum we will recognise as a restricted reserve at the end of our financial year any income, received by us for the purpose of funding a specific post, activity or expense, to the extent that the income has not been used for that purpose during the year.
3. Subject to meeting the ongoing expenditure needs of the organisation we will aim to maintain our unrestricted funds at a level equivalent to six months' worth of current running costs.

Finally, for the avoidance of doubt the Trustees confirm that at the year end:

1. no restricted funds are in deficit
2. no funds were held by the Trustees as Custodian Trustees.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

In the attached accounts set out on pages 32 to 39, the Trustees have prepared financial statements for the period up to 31 March 2023. In preparing such statements the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume the Foundation will continue in its operational existence.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at the time the financial position of the Foundation and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Foundation and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The report was approved by the trustees on 04/12/2023 and signed on its behalf by:



S. A. Lynch
S. A. Lynch (Dec 13, 2023 22:05 GMT)

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/members of Wythenshawe Community Initiative Limited

On accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 Charity No 1121682

Set out on pages 32 to 39

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2023

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination.
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.

Signed:

S Weighell
[S Weighell \(Dec 14, 2023 06:36 GMT\)](#)

Date:

14/12/2023

Name:

Susan Weighell FCA

Relevant professional qualification:

Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales

Address:

3 Wellgreen Close, Hale, Altrincham, WA15 8PT

Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2023

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	funds	funds	funds	Total funds	Total funds
		£	£	£	2023	2022
		£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:						
Income from charitable activities	2	8,102	1,000	0	9,102	171,337
Donations and legacies	4	111,760	83,035	0	194,795	4,092
Other trading activities	5	120	0	0	120	0
Income from investments	3	0	0	0	0	0
Total income		119,982	84,035	0	204,017	175,429
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities	6	123,107	95,308	0	218,414	185,910
Total expenditure		123,107	95,308	0	218,414	185,910
Net income/(expenditure)		(3,125)	(11,273)	0	(14,397)	(10,481)
Transfers between funds		(11,757)	11,757	0	0	0
Net movement in funds		(14,881)	484	0	(14,397)	(10,481)
Total funds brought forward		-35	4,641	12,000	16,606	27,087
Total funds carried forward		(14,916)	5,125	12,000	2,209	16,606

Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2023

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023

	Notes	2023	2022
		£	£
Fixed Assets	8	2	2
Current Assets			
Debtors	9	10,764	9,085
Cash at bank and in hand		13,342	37,226
		<u>24,105</u>	<u>46,311</u>
Current Liabilities			
Creditors and accruals	10	21,898	29,707
Net current assets		2,207	16,604
Net assets		<u>2,209</u>	<u>16,606</u>
The funds of the charity			
Designated funds	11	12,000	12,000
Restricted income funds	12	5,125	4,640
Unrestricted funds	13	(14,916)	(34)
Total charity funds		<u>2,209</u>	<u>16,606</u>


The directors are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

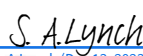
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2016 With respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the trustees on 04/12/2023 and signed on its behalf by


Chair


S. A. Lynch (Dec 13, 2023 22:05 GMT)
Trustee

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2023

1) Accounting policies

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the Company are the directors named on page 1. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the Charity.

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The Charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis. There are no material uncertainties in respect of the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for the foreseeable future, based on latest strategic plans and financial budgets.

b) Income Recognition

Income from grants and donations is recognised once the Charity has entitlement to the income, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from creche facilities is recognised as earned as the related services are provided.

Interest receivable on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

c) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

Governance costs include those incurred in the governance of the charity and its assets and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements, including the independent examiner's fees and legal costs.

d) Depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is charged so as to write down the value of the assets over their expected useful lives at the following rates:

Computer equipment - 20% per annum straight line

Office equipment - 20% per annum straight line

e) Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

f) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand and deposits with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or the date of opening the deposit or similar account.

g) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amounts after allowing for any trade discounts due.

h) Fund Accounting

Funds held by the Charity can be one of:

- i) Unrestricted general funds – which can be used in accordance with the Foundation's objects at the discretion of the Trustees;
- ii) Designated funds- which are funds set aside by the Trustees out of unrestricted general funds for specific future purposes or projects; or
- iii) Restricted funds – which are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the Foundation. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further details of each fund are shown in notes 11,14 and 16.

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2023

2) Income from charitable activities

Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Designated funds	Total funds 2023	Prior Period Total funds 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Referral fees	0			0	1,230
Contact fees	0			0	1,749
Toddler Group Voluntary contributions	712			712	454
Playscheme fees	1,200			1,200	2,900
PL Playscheme	30,500			30,500	10,000
EY Stepping Stones				0	28,029
Play Group fees	6,551			6,551	1,543
Grants	35,522	0.00		35,522	5,000
Mobile creche	38,275			38,275	0
PL ASC				0	9,920
TNL Bright Sparks		56,611		56,611	16,213
Early years funding (Local authority)		26,424		26,424	0
Total	112,760	83,035	0	195,795	77,038
	0	0		0	

3) Investment income

Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Designated funds	Total funds 2023	Prior Period Total funds 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
None received	0			0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0

4) Donations

Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Designated funds	Total funds 2023	Prior Period Total funds 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Donations	7,102	1,000		8,102	4,092
Total	7,102	1,000	0	8,102	4,092

5) Other trading activities

Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Designated funds	Total funds 2023	Prior Period Total funds 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Rent received	120			120	0
Total	120	0	0	120	0

6) Expenditure on from charitable activities

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Designated funds	Total funds 2023	Prior Period Total funds 2022
		£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs		87,501	82,600		170,100	82,600
Rates		6,987	1,171		8,158	1,171
Insurance		2,300	385		2,685	385
Repairs and maintenance		792	133		924	133
Light and heat		4,800	804		5,605	804
Operating lease payments		0	0		0	0
Cleaning and gardening		560	94		654	94
Equipment		4,874	1,954		6,828	1,954
Postage and stationery		1,224	220		1,443	220
Bank charges		358	60		418	60
Audit and accountancy		2,772	464		3,236	464
Telephone		2,933	642		3,575	642
Subscriptions		370	62		432	62
Publicity and advertising		0	0		0	0
Travel		59	202		261	202
Activities and trips		2,297	5,306		7,603	5,306
Sundry		21	4		25	4
Refreshments		2,773	603		3,376	603
Training		0	189		189	189
Hardship vouchers		2,486	416		2,902	0
Interest paid		1	0		1	0
Total		123,106.76	95,307.58	0	218,414	94,891

7) Net (expenditure)/income is stated after charging

		2023	2022
		£	£
Independent examination	540	540	540
Total	540	540	540

8) Fixed Assets

	Office Equipment	Computer Equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023	691	2,194	2,885
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023	690	2,193	2,883
Net book value			
At 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023	1	1	2

9) Debtors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Prepayments and trade debtors	10,764	9,085
Total	10,764	9,085

10) Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Accruals and deferred income	2,568	8,969
Pension and Paye/Nic due	18,529	19,388
Trade creditors	715	1,350
Total	21,812	29,707

11) Statement of funds

	Brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfer between funds £	Carried forward £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds	12,000	0	0	0	12,000
Restricted funds	4,641	84,035	(95,308)	11,757	5,125
Unrestricted funds	(35)	119,982	(123,107)	(11,757)	(14,916)
Total	16,606	204,017	(218,414)	0	2,209

12) Restricted funds

	NIF Equipment £	Building Fund £	EY SS - LA Funding £	FS BF TNL RC £	Total £
Brought forward	4,641	0	0	0	4,641
Income	0	1,000	26,424	56,611	84,035
Expenditure	(516)	0	(38,181)	(56,611)	(95,307)
Transfers from other funds	0	0	11,757	0	11,757
Carried forward	4,125	1,000	0	0	5,126

13) Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses and cost of key management personnel

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries including social security	162,081	152,509
Pension costs	8,019	3,844
Total	170,100	156,353

No employee had employee benefits in excess of £60,000

The Charity's Trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from the Charity or its subsidiary during the year. The trustees were not reimbursed any expenses by the Charity during the year. No trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the Charity.

The key management personnel of the Charity comprise the Trustees. The employee benefits of the key management personnel of the Charity were Nil.

14) Staff numbers

	2023	2022
	£	£
Number of employees	14	12
Total	14	12

15) Designated reserves

The balance on the designated reserve represents amounts set aside to cover salaries (for one month) in the event of a gap in the receipt of grants

16) Related party transactions

The Company has a wholly owned subsidiary, Planet Child's Play Community Interest Company, which incorporated on 15 August 2013

One of the trustees (Ms C Greenhalgh) is a Director of Planet Child's Play

At the end of the year Planet Child's Play was owed £nil (2021:nil) by the charity






WCI Final 2023 accounts

Final Audit Report

2023-12-14

Created:	2023-12-12
By:	S Weighell (sue@delta-solutions.org.uk)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAJPaClomdfxi3qB1A43B5dtZYq_utshKQ

"WCI Final 2023 accounts" History

-  Document created by Sue Weighell (sue@delta-solutions.org.uk)
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-  Signer sarah.lynch@lynchconsult.com entered name at signing as S. A.Lynch
2023-12-13 - 10:05:55 PM GMT- IP address: 2.24.187.254
-  Document e-signed by S. A.Lynch (sarah.lynch@lynchconsult.com)
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-  Signer Sue Weighell (sue@delta-solutions.org.uk) entered name at signing as S Weighell
2023-12-14 - 6:36:55 AM GMT- IP address: 31.51.226.221
-  Document e-signed by S Weighell (sue@delta-solutions.org.uk)
Signature Date: 2023-12-14 - 6:36:57 AM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 31.51.226.221
-  Agreement completed.
2023-12-14 - 6:36:57 AM GMT