HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE

England & Wales · Charity number 1113432

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	05659978
Registered	2006-03-27
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Homestart Herefordshire Unit 1A Thorn Business Park Rotherwas Hereford HR2 6JT
Phone	01432371212
Email	admin@hsherefordshire.onmicrosoft.com
Website	www.home-starttherefordshire.co.uk

Activities

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

Activities: Offer regular support, friendship and practical help to families with young chidren, who are under stress. Volunteers visit families in their own homes, helping to prevent family crisis and breakdown.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Services
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People

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Geography

- **Area of benefit:** HEREFORDSHIRE AND ITS ENVIRONS
- Herefordshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£209,238	£198,768	-	-
2024-03-31	£155,333	£180,661	-	-
2023-03-31	£178,892	£165,385	-	-
2022-03-31	£146,734	£152,006	-	-
2021-03-31	£163,285	£143,607	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Jan Frances	Chair	2018-06-21
Catherine Lloyd		2024-04-05
Jeremy Stobart		2018-11-29
Kerry Postlewhite		2025-01-30
Philippa Wride		2020-02-03
Stephen Joseph Goodridge		2025-09-25
Virginia Taylor		2020-06-26

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HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1113432

Accounts

HOME START
Herefordshire

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST MARCH 2025

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2025

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Reference and Administrative information

Trustees

Andy Walkden	Chair
Jan Frances	Vice Chair
Jeremy Stobart	Treasurer
Catherine Lloyd	Safeguarding *(Appointed 11 April 2024)*
Philippa Wride	
Virginia Taylor	
David Welton	
Kerry Postlewhite	*(Appointed 30 January 2025)*
Helen Tank	Safeguarding *(Resigned 1 October 2024)*

Scheme Manager Mandie Preece

Principle address and registered office
Lakeside Offices
Suite 1, Unit A
Thorn Business Park
Rotherwas
Hereford
HR2 6JT

Company registered number: 5659978
Charity registration number: 1113432

Bankers
Lloyds TSB
High Town
Hereford
HR1 2AE

COIF Charity Funds
80 Cheapside
London
EC2V 6DZ

Independent Examiner
Andrew Houston
RJ Francis & Co
Chartered Accountants and registered Auditors
Marshall Business Centre
Faraday Road
Hereford

Trustees' Report

The Trustees, who are directors for the purpose of company law, present their annual report together table company for the year ending 31st March 2025.

Our Aims and Objectives

We are a charity that wants children and young people to have the best start in life. Our mission is to provide the support to achieve this. Home-Start Herefordshire (HSH) aims to help families build better lives for their children by recruiting, training and supervising volunteers who offer support, friendship and practical help to families experiencing difficulties. We provide support across the county and to all families referred to us.

The difficulties our families experience are often complex and reflect the issues facing families identified in county research:

- challenging and anti-social behaviour;
- mental health issues affecting both parents and children;
- children in poverty;
- domestic abuse;
- school absenteeism and low academic achievement;
- substance abuse; and
- overcrowded housing conditions.

Many of these issues have worsened since COVID-19 and continue to have an impact on the families we support as well as being exacerbated by the cost of living crisis.

As a charitable company, HSH is dependent on funding from grant aid, contractual agreements, and fundraising. Funding uncertainty in terms of public finance constraints and the short-term nature of other funding sources is a major issue, and HSH needs to continually review its priorities and service delivery.

Charity Structure

HSH is a charitable company limited by guarantee. It is governed by a board of Trustees, the minimum number of Trustees being five and the maximum twelve. Trustees act according to the Memorandum and Articles of Association that set out the objects of HSH and how it should operate.

HSH regularly advertises for new Trustees, suitable candidates are invited to submit an application form, and this is followed by an interview. Candidates who remain interested and whom HSH wish to recruit are invited to attend a board meeting as an observer. The last stage of the recruitment process is for existing Trustees to vote on inviting a candidate to join the board. Upon acceptance of a formal invite to join the board, the candidate/ new Trustee then undergoes an induction process that includes the philosophy and structure of the Home-Start federation and the role and responsibilities of being a Trustee.

HSH employs a staff team to deliver the charity's day-to-day activities. A Scheme Manager performs co-ordination between the board of trustees and the staff team. Including the Scheme Manager, there were eight employees in the staff team and seven trustees as of 31st March 2025.

The HSH service is, in the main, delivered by a team of volunteers who non-judgementally work directly with families to help them overcome those challenges that daily life can throw up. A staff team of three co-ordinators train and support volunteers in their role. As of 31st March 2025, HSH had 61 volunteers on its books.

The Strategic Plan

HSH maintains a strategic plan, which was last updated in 2021. Through this and its underpinning plans, the day-to-day activities of HSH are coordinated to deliver the objectives of the charity. The strategic plan has seven priorities, these are:

1. Service Development – integrating new technologies and innovations into the service.
2. Staff, volunteers and trustee development and succession planning.
3. Diversity - within HSH staff and trustees, and with families and groups in the community who might find themselves "easy to ignore".
4. Expanding partnerships and collaboration with other agencies.
5. Increasing public profile.
6. Financial resilience.
7. Maintaining delivery of a quality service to families.

Each priority is underpinned by an action plan that breaks down what HSH will do into SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-Bound) objectives. Since the action plan was first drafted in 2021, HSH has been working to make progress against these priorities. Underpinning the action plan is the operational plan delivered by the scheme manager, which directs the daily and weekly activities of the staff team.

Achievements and Performance

The financial year 2024 -2025 has been an eventful period marked by some notable changes. The final quarter of the year saw a flurry of activity to prepare the organisation for a significant new development – the launch of the Baby Steps Project, which began accepting referrals from 1 April 2025 and complements our traditional role of supporting families throughout the county. The Baby Steps initiative is specifically designed to assist care-experienced parents and parents-to-be aged 16 – 25 and is being delivered via our volunteering model which remains unchanged and effective.

The exciting launch of 'Baby Steps' has coincided with the end of our volunteer befriending contract with Herefordshire Council, which had been in place for 20 years. Although this is a sad occurrence after a long and positive relationship, we continue to respond to both professional and self-referrals, ensuring our services remain accessible to everyone who needs our help across the county.

We want to express our gratitude to Mandie and the staff team for their tireless efforts in launching the new and innovative project, alongside the Herefordshire Community Foundation, which is funding Baby Steps for the next three years. We are also thankful to the Herefordshire Community Foundation for their support over the past months, which has enabled Home-Start Herefordshire to demonstrate how our delivery model can assist young families facing unique challenges.

Internally, Home-Start Herefordshire has performed exceptionally well in Home-Start UK's Quality Assurance monitoring, receiving recognition for our family support services and our governance and leadership. Thank you to everyone involved – trustees, staff, and family visiting volunteers – for their ongoing commitment to maintaining the high quality of Home-Start's services.

This year, we welcomed two new trustees, Catherine Lloyd and Kerry Postlewhite, while bidding farewell to a long-serving trustee, Helen Tank, who has moved away from Herefordshire for family reasons. We thank Helen for her significant contributions over the years, and we will miss her invaluable counsel and advice. Catherine has competently taken over the Safeguarding Lead from Helen and will be a tremendous asset to Home-Start Herefordshire. Our newest recruit, Kerry, brings extensive experience in raising the profile of organisations

within the charity sector.

With regards to furthering public benefit, HSH aims are to:

- inspire more people to volunteer for us and support our core offer
- enhance the support we provide families in terms of providing a stronger 'voice' for families
- endeavour to improve access to early years services and compassionate support for families
- improve inclusion and diversity across the county, and
- enhance the collective impact of the Home-Start network for the benefit of the wider community.

Financial Review

Treasurer's Report

The financial year 24/25 has been a distinct improvement on 23/24. However, it should be noted that two major contracts were concluded at the end of this financial year, namely the Council and Vennture contracts. We have high hopes for our new Baby Steps project, and we have a number of exciting prospects coming through as we move through 2025 into 2026. So, we have a challenging but exciting year to come.

Regarding the 2024/2025 result, there has been an increase in expenditure this year, primarily due to increased staff costs, which were budgeted for (Total Expenditure - 23/24: £ 180,661, 24/25: £198,768). This has been more than offset by a greater improvement in income, and particularly a marked uptick in restricted income, albeit the improvement in Core income has also been significant (Total Income- 23/24: £155,333, 24/25: £209,238). (Restricted income- 23/24: £82,000, 24/25: £113,980) (Core income- 23/24: £73,333, 24/25: £95,258)

So, we have a surplus for the year 24/25 of £10,470. (Note: In 23/34, our reserves reduced from £79,501 to £54,173, a reduction in reserves of £25,328). Our overall reserves for the end of 24/25 have increased to £64,643. It should also be noted that as two of our major contracts have come to an end in 24/25, Trustees have agreed that it is prudent to start the 25/26 financial year with a 'clean' sheet. Thus, our 'historic' restricted reserves deficit from last year of £23,332, and the restricted funds deficit of £10,287 for 24/25 for two funds/contracts ending in 24/25 (Total of both figures: £33,619), have been paid down to zero by moving funds from our unrestricted reserves. This means we carry forward a surplus of £8,824 in our restricted reserves and a surplus of £55,819 in our unrestricted reserves, to the 25/26 financial year.

So, a good result, but we still have some way to go to achieve our ideal reserves position. Our budget for 25/26 has given us a funding target which is achievable but will still be challenging.

As ever, my praise goes out to Mandie and her hard-working team for their achievements. 25/26 will be a significant change for the charity, as some substantial, long-standing contracts have come to an end. However, with new projects coming on stream (such as Baby Steps), our staff continue to grow their knowledge and skill set and are rising to the new challenges being set.

Our current unrestricted reserves provide only minimum cover for emergencies, such as shortfalls in funding or unexpected expenditure. The Trustees continue to believe that reserves equivalent to six months' expenditure, i.e., circa £100,000 (based on current expenditure levels), are the optimum required to ensure continuity of operations and will continue to work towards this goal. Although the current reserves provide for just under three and a half months of expenditure cover (2023/2024: 3.5 months), although not ideal, the Trustees believe this is sufficient to meet the minimum requirements to continue operations.

These are still difficult times. Inflation remains high, with staffing costs continuing to rise at a higher level than the years preceding the Covid pandemic, keeping up with the cost of living, and energy costs are also on the rise again. The public sector continues to struggle with funding models and how to deal with budget black holes that are starting to appear more and more.

With the end of the Council contract, we are now seeing the effect of the loss of HSH's involvement in Council-funded family support on the provision of, particularly preventative, support across Herefordshire. Ultimately, this might benefit HSH should the powers that be realise that there is a widening 'gap' in the holistic application of preventative help and support in Herefordshire, but in the short term, it is local families who are feeling the brunt of these decisions.

Grants were received from Eveson Charitable Trust, Herefordshire Council, The Department of Education, BBC Children in Need, EF Bulmer Trust, Hereford Together Fund, SR & PH Southall Trust, Kington United Charities, William A Cadbury, Mumford Memorial Trust, The Herefordshire Community Foundation, as well as donations from HFT Forklifts, Rathbone Moral Aid Charity, HAYES Travel, Waitrose & Partners, John Lewis & Partners, Pontrilas Developments, Hereford City Rotary Club, Cadent and friends who make regular donations. TRP Sealing also kindly lends its boardroom for Trustee and Volunteer meetings. We are grateful for their support. In addition, money was received in the form of donations from individuals and the proceeds from fundraising events. We are grateful to the donors for their generosity and to all those involved in fundraising events for their hard work and commitment.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (also directors of HSH for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statement in accordance with United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable laws and regulations.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the company's financial position, enabling them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the company's assets and, hence, for taking reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on 27 November 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

J. Frances

Jan Frances, Acting Chair

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2025

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

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

Having satisfied myself that the 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 the charity's accounts as 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 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a "true and fair" view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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

A A Houston FCA
Chartered Accountant
Independent Examiner

13th November 2025

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (including income and expenditure account)
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2025

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2025**	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Income and Endowments				
Donations and legacies	90,804	-	90,804	66,843
Charitable activities	-	113,980	113,980	82,000
Other trading activities	905	-	905	2,604
Investment Income	3,189	-	3,189	2,202
Other income	360	-	360	1,684
Total Income	95,258	113,980	209,238	155,333
Expenditure				
Expenditure on fundraising:	86	-	86	405
Expenditure on charitable activities	82,270	115,443	197,713	179,315
Support Costs	969	-	969	941
Total Expenditure	83,325	115,443	198,768	180,661
Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds	11,933	(1,463)	10,470	(25,328)
Reconciliation of Funds				
Total funds brought forward	77,505	(23,332)	54,173	79,501
Transfer between funds	(33,619)	33,619	-	-
Total Funds Carried Forward	55,819	8,824	64,643	54,173

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

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

BALANCE SHEET YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2025

	Notes		2025 £	2024 £
Fixed Assets				
Tangible Fixed Assets	17		1,225	820
Current Assets				
Debtors	18		6,666	-
Investments	19		9,531	9,955
Cash at bank and in hand			51,476	46,994
			67,673	56,949
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	20		4,255	3,596
Net Current Assets			63,418	53,353
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		£	64,643	54,173
Funds of the Charity				
Restricted Funds			8,824	(23,332)
Unrestricted Funds			55,819	77,505
Total Charity Funds	22	£	64,643	54,173

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

Directors' responsibilities:

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

(b) the directors acknowledge their responsibilties 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 special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved and signed by the trustees and authorised for issue on 27 November 2025

J. Frances.

Jan Frances, Acting Chair

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2025

1. **General Information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is Lakeside Offices, Suite 1, Unit 1a. Thorn Business Park, Rotherwas, Hereford, HR2 6JT.

2. **Statement of Compliance**

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102. The 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) (Charities SORP) and the 2006 Act.

3. **Accounting policies**

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

There are no material judgements or key sources of estimation uncertainty.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for a particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one or two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

3. Accounting policies (continued)

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

(a) income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.

(b) legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.

(c) income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.

(d) income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources Expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liabiltiy is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

(a) expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.

(b) expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.

(c) other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Tangible Assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequenty stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

3. Accounting policies (continued)

Tangible Assets (continued)
An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

Depreciation
Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Fixtures and fittings	15% reducing balance

Impairment of Fixed Assets
A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that are largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquistion date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

Financial Instruments
A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

3. Accounting policies (continued)

Financial Instruments (continued)
Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the intial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

Defined Contribution Plans
Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

4. Limited by Guarantee
The charity is a charity limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital, each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding Nil towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

5. Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2025**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2024
Donations	£	£	£	£
Individual Donations	7,016	7,016	9,696	9,696
Institutional Donations	83,788	83,788	56,050	56,050
Gifts				
Gifts aid reclaimed	-	-	1,097	1,097
	90,804	90,804	66,843	66,843

6. Charitable Activities

	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2025**	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Grants receivable	113,980	113,980	82,000	82,000

7. Other Trading Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2025**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Local fundraising and street collection income	905	905	2,604	2,604

8. Investment Income

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2025**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Other investment income	3,189	3,189	2,202	2,202

9. Other Income

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2025**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Cleaning income	360	360	431	431
Miscellaneous income	-	-	1,253	1,253
	360	360	1,684	1,684

10. Costs of Raising Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2025**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising	86	86	405	405

11. Expenditure on Charitable activities by Fund Type

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2025**
	£	£	£
Charitable activities	82,356	115,443	197,799
Support costs	969	-	969
	83,325	115,443	198,768

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£
Charitable activities	80,439	98,876	179,315
Support costs	941	-	941
	81,380	98,876	180,256

12. Expenditure on Charitable activities by Activity Type

	Activities Undertaken Directly	Support Costs	**Total Funds 2025**	Total Fund 2024
	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities	87,578	110,221	197,799	179,315
Governance costs	969	-	969	941
	88,547	110,221	198,768	180,256

13. Net Income/(Expenditure)

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

	2025	2024
	£	£
Depreciaton of tangible fixed assets	256	232

14. Independent Examination Fees

Fees payable to the independent examiner for:

Independent examination of the financial state	948	900

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2025

15. Staff Costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	163,310	149,594
Employer contributions to pension plans	5,971	5,006
	169,281	154,600

The average head count of employees during the year was 8 (2024: 8). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2025	2024
	No.	No.
Number of staff - type 1	8	8

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2022: Nil).

16. Trustee Remuneration and Expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

17. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Fixtures and Fittings
	£
Cost	
At 1 April 2024	5,993
Additions	263
At 31 March 2024	6,256
Depeciation	
At 1 April 2024	4,775
Charge for the year	256
At 31 March 2025	5,031
Carrying Amount	
At 31 March 2025	1,225
At 31 March 2024	1,218

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2025

18. Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade Debtors	6,666	-

19. Investments

Other Investments	9,531	9,955

20. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade Creditors	3,325	2,696
Accruals and Deferred Income	930	900
	4,255	3,596

21. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans
The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £5,971 (2024: £5,006).

22. Analysis of Charitable Funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfer Between Funds	**At 31 March 2025**
	£	£	£		£
General Funds	77,505	95,258	83,325	(33,619)	55,819

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure		At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£		£
General Funds	85,957	73,333	81,785	-	77,505

22. Analysis of Charitable Funds *(continued)*

Restricted Funds

	At 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfer Between Funds	**At 31 March 2025**
Restricted Fund	(23,332)	113,980	115,443	33,619	8,824

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2024
Restricted Fund	(6,456)	82,000	98,876	(23,332)

23. Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2025**
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,032	193	1,225
Investments	9,531	-	9,531
Current assets	49,511	8,631	58,142
Creditors less than one year	(4,255)	-	(4,255)
Net Assets	55,819	8,824	64,643

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	611	209	820
Investments	9,955	-	9,955
Current assets	70,535	(23,541)	46,994
Creditors less than one year	(3,596)	-	(3,596)
Net Assets	77,505	(23,332)	54,173

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1113432

Accounts



ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24

HOME START Herefordshire

Charity No. 1113432
Company No. 5659978

Andy Walkden
Chair of Trustees



Looking back, it has been a relatively quiet year for Home-Start Herefordshire (HSH). Last July we had a Garden Party, inviting people who have helped us to thank them for their support. We were pleased to welcome the then-current High Sheriff Robert Robinson and his wife Sue to the event. Robert's focus for his tenure in office was "Life Chances", and he spoke eloquently about the impact of the first three years of a child's life on their future, something very close to the interests of HSH.

There was little change in the staff and trustees of HSH; however, we were all sad to hear about Judy Hooley's passing. I first met Judy when she was acting as a volunteer representative on the Trustee Board, and I was always impressed with the insights she was able to give the trustees into the thoughts and concerns of the family visiting volunteers.

Looking to the future, 2024/25 will be a busy year. Most recently we have been negotiating with local charities, Vennture and The CLD Trust, to form a partnership to help young children and families. HSH will deliver School Readiness interventions as part of an overall initiative to provide school-based support for children and families. This is an exciting development, and we look forward to further partnership working in the future.

Two other work areas will be Quality Assurance and the Strategic Plan. The first is implementing the quality assurance procedures being introduced by Home-Start UK – these will ensure HSH remains fit for purpose; the second is redrafting HSH's Strategic Plan – this will guide our decision-making and priorities for the next four years.

Whether it is quality or strategic plans, though, having a diverse pool of people is fundamental to HSH's continuing success. As always, I take this opportunity to thank everyone who supports us by helping to help the families and children of Herefordshire.

My first thanks are to Herefordshire Council and the other funders who understand the economic and social value of early intervention in families before their needs become complex. I thank our staff who work tirelessly to ensure that families are well supported through the volunteers they are matched with, and that no child's future is limited. Thirdly, I thank my fellow trustees who voluntarily give their time and expertise to the important task of providing strategic oversight of HSH's operations.

And lastly, but by no means least, I thank the home visiting volunteers and those other volunteers who help with fundraising, for example. I was deeply moved by a recent Home-Start UK video that brought home to me the lasting impact that volunteers have on families. It focussed on a volunteer and the family she had helped several years previously and illustrated how much those people's lives had turned out for the better. All I can ask of you all is to carry on being the amazing people you are.

Andy

Mandie Preece
Scheme Manager



It's amazing to think another year has passed and at such speed! It has been a year of change and, at times, challenges, with the cost-of-living crisis, national difficulties with volunteer recruitment, and the continuity of specific issues often seen in rural areas (isolation, loneliness, poverty) impacting our local families. Despite this, we have seen so many wonderful achievements and successes in terms of our service delivery and the effective and often life-changing support our service brings to some of the most vulnerable Herefordshire families.

Meeting needs

We couldn't do the work we do without our fabulous team of volunteers, who always approach the challenges experienced by families with confidence, compassion, and awareness, something that makes our service so special. Many families we support struggle with poor mental wellbeing, isolation, socio-economic difficulties, domestic abuse, physical and mental health challenges, and struggles with children's behaviour, or have felt ignored or disempowered by other services and sources of support previously. Our volunteers see the uniqueness of every family, and by listening to their expectations and needs, many families feel empowered and confident to make meaningful and positive changes for the first time. The work that our volunteers do isn't always easy but the dedication and care they show really does make a difference to the families we support.

Volunteer Recruitment and Training

Due to the national challenges in volunteer recruitment, we have had to develop new and innovative ways of attracting potential volunteers. After feedback from some potential volunteers around barriers to accessing training (days/times/family commitments), we have recently successfully trialled hybrid training courses, which offered a combination of both online and face-to-face evening sessions. With this positive change, we have been able to recruit and train an additional 15 volunteers to join our wonderful team!

Collaborative Early Intervention and Prevention Work

Many vulnerable families within Herefordshire struggle to access specialist services when they need them most, increasing the risk of poor outcomes for parents and children. This year, through the continuation of our volunteer-delivered early intervention and prevention support, we have been able to provide a multi-agency, family-centred approach whereby we work in collaboration with local and national agencies, organisations, and services to connect families to the additional systems of support they need. By working collaboratively over the last 12 months, we have assisted 91 families (174 children) to access further and specialised support when they needed it, helping remove some of the barriers in seeking help and preventing or reducing the impact of crisis.

As an organisation, Home-Start Herefordshire is extremely grateful for the ongoing support of our volunteers, trustees, friends, and all our stakeholders through 2023/24. This enables us to continue to provide our vital service in times of challenge and hardship. We are positive for the future and will continue to show our resilience and aptitude in the face of adversity to provide support for those families that need it most.

With grateful thanks

Mandie

Alexandra James
President



Another year passes, and still, Home-Start Herefordshire looms high in my life. I want to take this opportunity to thank the team who keep us all on the straight and narrow. For all the courses they provide to keep us up to speed and to the volunteers whose compassion and kindness give families the courage and knowledge to move forward.

Your President

Alexandra

Jan Doran
Volunteer Rep



As a volunteer representative, I have actively connected with numerous volunteers over the past twelve months, whether chatting over coffee, attending a support meeting, or participating in in-house training sessions. I ensure that any suggestions or queries raised are effectively communicated to Mandie.

I have also participated in external training (such as Cybersecurity and The Neurodiversity Lens) to enhance my knowledge, and I've been encouraging other volunteers to take up similar learning opportunities.
I also remain dedicated to providing ongoing support to families whenever the need arises.

Jan

Tam Thomas
Family Group Coordinator



With funding from The Mumford Memorial Trust and Kington United Charities, we are able to meet on Monday mornings. Invited families join us in the Parish Room, Kington, for a little bit of me time and fun activities for children and their carers. A warm welcome is guaranteed, and our volunteers Amber, Caroline and Elaine are always ready with a hot drink, cakes, snacks, and TLC for all. We sing, we play, we try different crafts, we read, we dance. During the school holidays, we try to get outdoors with buggy walks, picnics, and playing in the parks.

On a recent picnic/walk, I told the families I was writing a piece for the annual report and asked their thoughts. The answers went like this - "My safe place", " Don't like the singing", "Always welcome - never judged", " Fun, Laughter, Friendship", "My happy place, just love watching them play", "Help and support", "hot coffee - never time at home, always goes cold", "Crafts, as never time at home", "I have made lots of friends", "lots of support and new ideas", "Please, no more walks in the rain", "Great help at Christmas with lovely gifts". I hope this gives you an idea of what our family group is all about.

Tam

The Team

Trustees



Andy Walkden
Chair



Jan Frances
Vice Chair



Jeremy Stobart
Treasurer



Helen Tank
Safeguarding Trustee



Philippa Wride
Trustee



Virginia Taylor
Trustee



David Welton
Trustee

Staff



Mandie Preece
Scheme Manager



Kay Gray
Lamplight Administrator



Karen Marriott
Scheme Administrator



Imogen Potter
Coordinator



James Teppin
Coordinator



Sally Jones
Coordinator



Tina Rowlands
Marketing & Volunteer Recruitment Coordinator



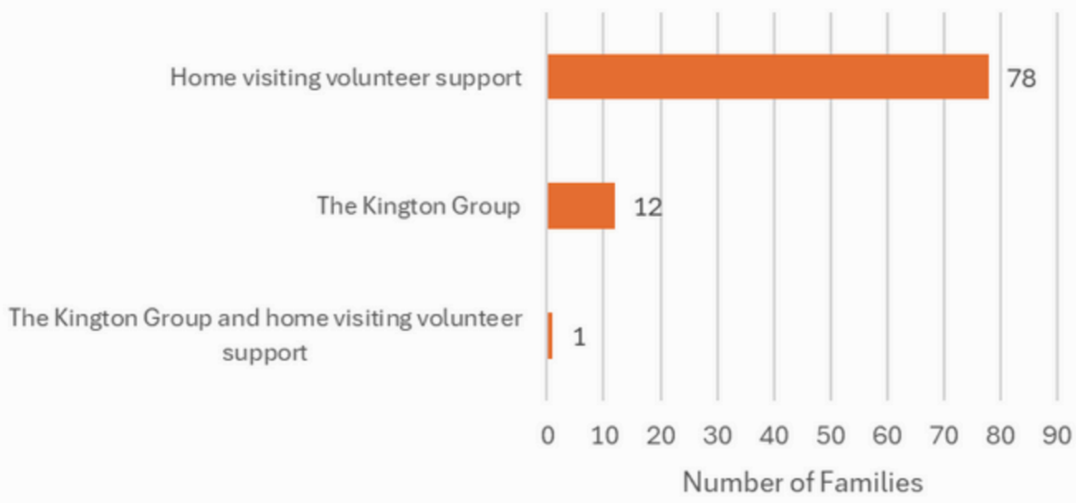
Tam Thomas
Family Group Coordinator

Facts

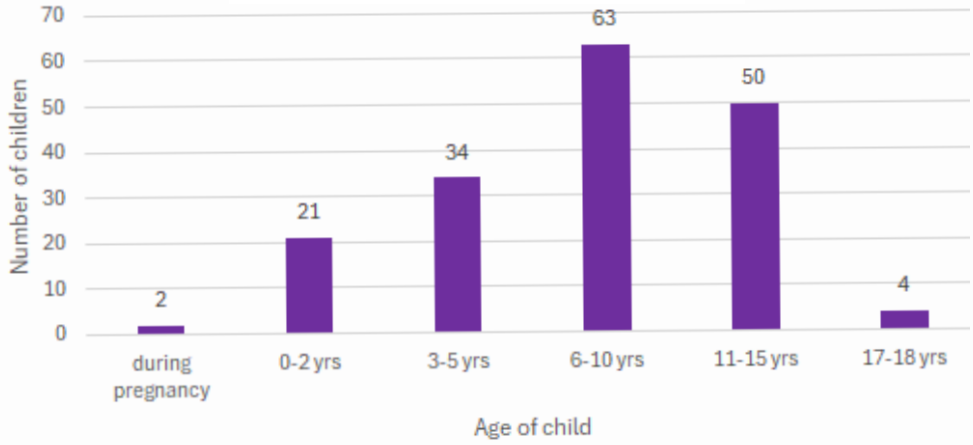
91 families supported

174 children supported

Families supported in 2023/24 through the following services



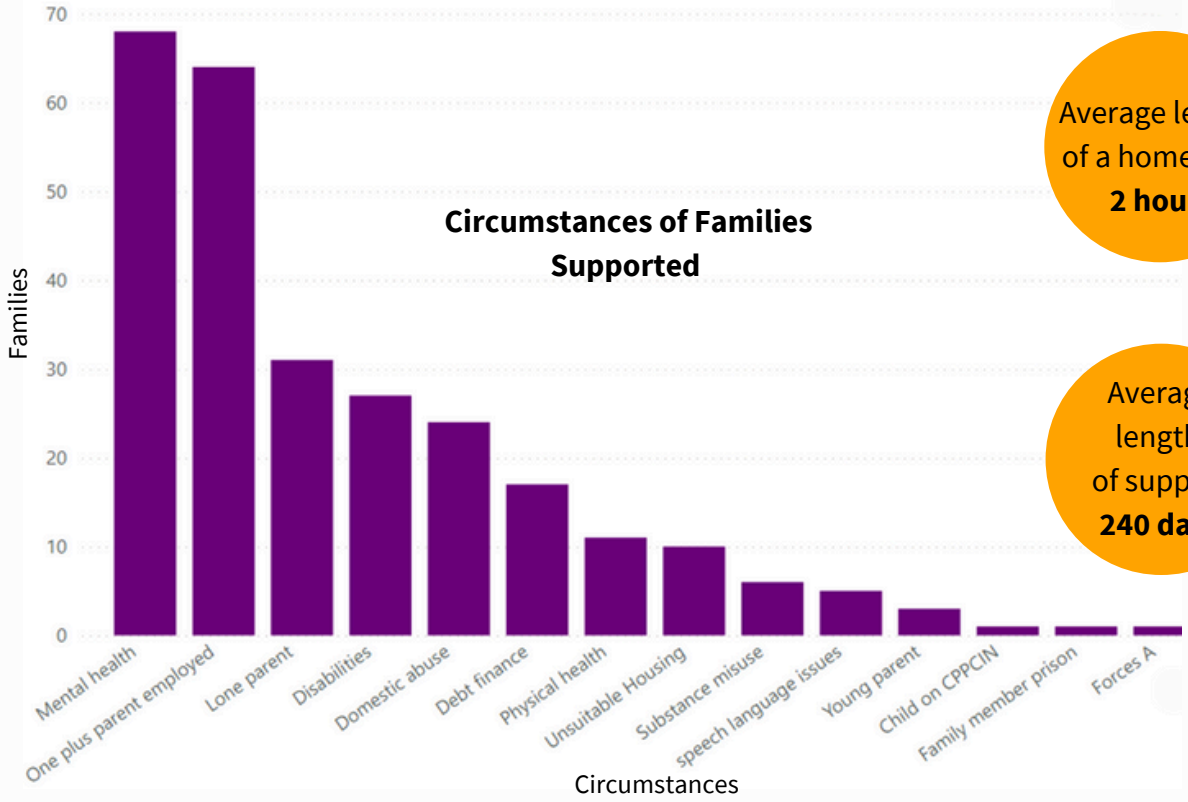
Number of children supported



40 active volunteers + **24** resting volunteers

Average length of a home visit **2 hours**

Circumstances of Families Supported



Average length of support **240 days**

Jeremy Stobart
Treasurer



In financial terms, 2023/2024 has been a difficult year. There has been a marked increase in expenditure this year, mainly due to higher than expected staff costs (22/23: £139,682, 23/24: £154,600). This has particularly skewed losses in restricted activities due to allocations being a percentage of over three-year historical revenues, and sadly, income from these activities has remained static whilst expenditure/staff costs have increased significantly. However, the reduction in unrestricted income has also been a significant factor (22/23: £92,382, 23/24: £73,332. Total expenditure has increased this year to £180,661 (2023: £165,385). Total income (core and restricted combined) was significantly decreased last year at £155,333 (2023: £178,982).

So, the unfortunate corollary of the above has been a deficit for the year on core/unrestricted activities of £8,452 (2023: £12,383 surplus). In addition, our restricted reserves have also worsened with a deficit this year of (16,876), so our overall restricted reserves deficit has increased from negative £6,456 to negative £23,332. So, our overall reserves have decreased to £54,173 (2023: £79,501).

On a more positive note, we are more hopeful for the coming year. A new contract working with Vennture should provide a much needed bolster to our cash position as well as help with the amortisation of staff costs. Along with some significant new unrestricted income streams, the outlook for 24/25 is looking rosier.

As ever, my praise goes out to Mandie and her hard-working team for their achievements. This has very much been a year of cementing in skills and knowledge for the newish staff team, and hopefully, this will assist in moving the charity towards more stable ground in financial terms.

Our current unrestricted reserves only provide minimum cover for emergencies such as shortfalls in funding or unexpected expenditures. The Trustees continue to believe that reserves equivalent to 6 months expenditure, i.e. circa £90,000 (based on current expenditure levels), are the optimum required to ensure continuity of operations and will continue to work towards this goal. Although the current reserves currently provide for just over 3.5 months of expenditure cover (2023: 5.5 months), although not ideal, the Trustees believe this is sufficient to meet the minimum requirements to continue operations.

These are still difficult times. The public sector continues to struggle with funding models and providing a steady stream of referrals. As I mentioned in last year's report, the cost of living crisis has not gone away. Although there are signs of improvement, the cost of living, energy costs, and inflation allied with depressed financial markets will continue to have an effect on us all, and everyone, including Home-Start Herefordshire, will continue to feel the squeeze in the years to come.

Amounts were received from Eveson Charitable Trust, Herefordshire Council, BBC Children in Need, EF Bulmer Trust, Herefordshire Community Foundation, HFT Forklifts, Rathbone Moral Aid Charity, HAYES Travel, Victoria Charitable Foundation, Ned Potter Limited, SR & PH Southall Trust, Kington United Charities, Waitrose & Partners, John Lewis & Partners, Pontrilas Developments, William A Cadbury, Philip Witcomb, The Mumford Memorial Trust, Hereford City Rotary Club and friends who make regular donations. TRP Sealing, ASDA and SIMTECH also kindly loan out their boardrooms for trustee and volunteer meetings and Sunshine Radio and Haines Watts for the donation of toys at Christmas. We are grateful for their support. In addition, money was received in the form of donations from individuals and the proceeds from fundraising events. We are grateful to the donors for their generosity and to all those involved in fundraising events for their hard work and commitment.

Jeremy

2023/24 Accounts

	Year ending 31 March 2024 (£)	Year ending 31 March 2023 (£)
Incoming resources		
Donations	4,745	5,990
Fundraising income	2,604	1,876
Grants	143,776	166,094
Other income	4,208	5,022
Total	**155,333**	**178,982**
Resources expended		
Staff and volunteer costs	154,600	139,682
Fundraising costs	405	0
Office costs	14,305	13,310
Scheme expenses	6,706	5,798
Governance costs	940	2,205
Other costs	3,705	4,390
Total	**180,661**	**165,385**
Net movement in funds		
Unrestricted funds	(8,452)	12,383
Restricted funds	(16,876)	1,124
Funds as of 31 March 2024		
Unrestricted funds	77,505	85,957
Restricted funds	(23,332)	(6,456)

Events

We held a wonderful Garden Party in Byford to give thanks to all our volunteers, friends and supporters

















Thank you to all our volunteers, friends and supporters who have been there for us this year









Events

Maggie's Challenge

Longtime supporter Maggie Matthews challenged herself to complete 800,000 steps, swim 80,000 metres and cycle 800 kilometres all in time for her milestone 80th birthday in 2023.





She exceeded her goals in all areas.



1,070,408 steps



80,200 metres swam



828.5 kilometres cycled



Events




Craft Sale






HOME START
Herefordshire
Supporting families in Herefordshire




HOME START
Herefordshire
Supporting families in Herefordshire


HOME START
Herefordshire
Supporting families in Herefordshire
To find out more about what we do and how you can volunteer, visit www.home-startherefordshire.co.uk or contact us on 01432 371212


HOME START
Herefordshire
Supporting families in Herefordshire




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Herefordshire
Supporting families in Herefordshire


HOME START
Herefordshire
Supporting families in Herefordshire


support and friendship for families
HOME START
Herefordshire
What does Home-Start Herefordshire do?

Thank you to our supporters

Herefordshire Council

The EVESON Trust

NED POTTER LTD

ASDA Foundation

TRP

Pontrilas DEVELOPMENTS LTD

Sunshine RADIO

BBC CHILDREN IN NEED

SIMTECH MANAGING DIGITAL RISK

Haines Watts

Hays Travel

ARMED FORCES COVENANT

Rotary Hereford City

William A Cadbury Chariatble Trust

E F BULMER TRUST

Herefordshire COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

WAITROSE & PARTNERS

The Mumford Memorial Trust

JOHN LEWIS & PARTNERS

Kington United Charities

SR and PH Southall Trust

THE VICTORIA CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Phillip Witcomb

Rathbone Moral Aid Charity

RJ FRANCIS & Co
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS & REGISTERED AUDITORS

MARSHALL BUSINESS CENTRE
FARADAY ROAD
HEREFORD
HR4 9NS
TEL: 01432 266 630
email: admin@rjfrancis.co.uk
web: www.rjfrancis.co.uk

Private & Confidential
Mrs K Marriott
Home-Start Herefordshire
Suite 1 Unit 1a
Thorn Business Park Rotherwas
Hereford
HR2 6JT

Our ref: AH/rh

11 September 2024

Dear Karen

RE: HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Following our recent contact, please find enclosed a set of the final accounts marked for signature and return. I would be grateful if at the annual general meeting, the chair could sign this set of accounts on page 5 and 8 where indicated and if this set could be returned as your formal authority to submit the abbreviated charity accounts to Companies House. We assume, as in previous years, you are filing the set required at the charity commission.

Separately, I enclose one bound and unbound copy of the accounts for your retention.

Finally, I enclose a copy of the letter of representation, which has previously been forwarded to you by email. As advised on my previous email I would be grateful if this letter could be put on the charity's headed paper and again signed at the annual general meeting and returned to us, in respect of the independent examination for this year.

If you have any queries in relation to the above request, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

Andrew Houston

Enc.

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST MARCH 2024

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024

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Independent examiner's report to the trustees	*6*
Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)	*7*
Balance Sheet	*8*
Notes to the financial statements	*9 - 17*

Reference and Administrative information

Trustees	
Andy Walkden	Chair
Jeremy Stobart	Treasurer
Helen Tank	Safeguarding
Jan Frances	
Philippa Wride	
Virginia Taylor	
David Welton	
Scheme Manager	Mandie Preece
Principle address and registered office	Lakeside Offices Unit 1 Suite A Thorn Business Park Rotherwas Hereford HR2 6JT
Company registration number	5659978
Charity registration number	1113432
Bankers	Lloyds TSB High Town Hereford HR1 2AE COIF Charity Funds 80 Cheapside London EC2V 6DZ
Independent Examiner	Andrew Houston RJ Francis & Co Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors Marshall Business Centre Faraday Road Hereford HR4 9NS

Trustees' Report

The Trustees, who are directors for the purpose of company law, present their annual report together table company for the year ending 31st March 2024.

Our Aims and Objectives

We are a charity that wants children and young people to have the best start in life. Our mission is to provide the support to achieve this. Home-Start Herefordshire (HSH) aims to help families build better lives for their children by recruiting, training and supervising volunteers who offer support, friendship and practical help to families experiencing difficulties. We provide support across the county and to all families referred to us.

The difficulties our families experience are often complex and reflect the issues facing families identified in county research:

- challenging and anti-social behaviour;
- mental health issues affecting both parents and children;
- children in poverty;
- domestic abuse;
- school absenteeism and low academic achievement;
- substance abuse; and
- overcrowded housing conditions.

Many of these issues have worsened since COVID-19 and are also exacerbated by the cost of living crisis.

As a charitable company, HSH is dependent on funding from grant aid, contractual agreements, and fundraising. Funding uncertainty in terms of public finance constraints and the short-term nature of other funding sources is a major issue, and HSH needs to continually review its priorities and service delivery.

Charity Structure

HSH is a charitable company limited by guarantee. It is governed by a board of Trustees, the minimum number of Trustees being five and the maximum twelve. Trustees act according to the Memorandum and Articles of Association that set out the objects of HSH and how it should operate.

HSH regularly advertises for new Trustees, suitable candidates are invited to submit an application form, and this is followed by an interview. Candidates who remain interested and whom HSH wish to recruit are invited to attend a board meeting as an observer. The last stage of the recruitment process is for existing Trustees to vote on inviting a candidate to join the board. Upon acceptance of a formal invite to join the board, the candidate/ new Trustee then undergoes an induction process that includes the philosophy and structure of the Home-Start federation and the role and responsibilities of being a Trustee.

HSH employs a staff team to deliver the charity's day-to-day activities. A Scheme Manager performs co-ordination between the board of trustees and the staff team. Including the Scheme Manager, there were eight employees in the staff team and seven trustees as of 31st March 2024.

The HSH service is, in the main, delivered by a team of volunteers who non-judgementally work directly with families to help them overcome those challenges that daily life can throw up. A staff team of three co-ordinators train and support volunteers in their role. As of 31st March 2024, HSH had 64 volunteers on its books.

The Strategic Plan

HSH maintains a strategic plan, which was last updated in 2021. Through this and its underpinning plans, the day-to-day activities of HSH are coordinated to deliver the objectives of the charity. The strategic plan has seven priorities, these are:

1. Service Development – integrating new technologies and innovations into the service.
2. Staff, volunteers and trustee development and succession planning.
3. Diversity - within HSH staff and trustees, and with families and groups in the community who might find themselves "easy to ignore".
4. Expanding partnerships and collaboration with other agencies.
5. Increasing public profile.
6. Financial resilience.
7. Maintaining delivery of a quality service to families.

Each priority is underpinned by an action plan that breaks down what HSH will do into SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-Bound) objectives. Since the action plan was first drafted in 2021, HSH has been working to make progress against these priorities. Underpinning the action plan is the operational plan delivered by the scheme manager, which directs the daily and weekly activities of the staff team.

Achievements and Performance

Looking back, it has been a relatively quiet year for HSH. In July 2023, we had a Garden Party, inviting people who had helped HSH to thank them for their support. We were pleased to welcome the then-current High Sheriff Robert Robinson and his wife Sue to the event. There have been no changes in the staff team or trustee board to report. HSH was awarded a further 12 months of funding from Herefordshire Council to continue our Early Help service.

With regards to furthering public benefit, HSH aims are to:

- inspire more people to volunteer for us and support our core offer;
- enhance the support we provide families in terms of providing a stronger 'voice' for families endeavour to improve access to early years services and compassionate support for families;
- improve inclusion and diversity across the county; and
- enhance the collective impact of the Home-Start network for the benefit of the wider community.

This year, through the continuation of our volunteer-delivered early intervention and prevention support, we have provided a multi-agency, family-centred approach whereby we collaborate with local and national agencies, organisations, and services to connect families to the additional support they need. By working collaboratively over the last 12 months, we assisted 91 families (174 children) to access additional and specialised support when they needed it, helping remove some of the barriers in seeking help and preventing or reducing the impact of crisis.

Looking to the future, 2024/25 will be a busy year. Most recently HSH has been negotiating with Vennture and The CLD Trust to form a partnership to help young children and families. HSH will deliver School Readiness interventions as part of an overall initiative to provide school-based support for children and families. This is an exciting development for HSH, and we look forward to further partnership working in the future.

Two other work areas for HSH are quality assurance (QA) and strategic plan. The first is implementing the QA procedures as they are being introduced by Home-Start UK. These will ensure that HSH remains fit for purpose and continues to deliver quality service to families. The second is redrafting HSH's strategic plan and action plan (as mentioned above). This will guide our decision-making and actions towards achieving the seven priorities up until 2027.

Financial Review

In financial terms, 2023/2024 has been a difficult year. There has been a marked increase in expenditure this year, mainly due to higher than expected staff costs (22/23: £139,682, 23/24: £154,600). This has particularly skewed losses in restricted activities due to allocations being a percentage of over three-year historical revenues, and sadly, income from these activities has remained static whilst expenditure/staff costs have increased significantly. However, the reduction in unrestricted income has also been a significant factor (22/23: £92,382, 23/24: £73,332. Total expenditure has increased this year to £180,661 (2023: £165,385). Total income (core and restricted combined) was significantly decreased last year at £155,333 (2023: £178,982).

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On a more positive note, we are more hopeful for the coming year. A new contract working with Vennture should provide a much needed bolster to our cash position as well as help with the amortisation of staff costs. Along with some significant new unrestricted income streams, the outlook for 24/25 is looking rosier.

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Our current unrestricted reserves only provide minimum cover for emergencies such as shortfalls in funding or unexpected expenditures. The Trustees continue to believe that reserves equivalent to 6 months expenditure, i.e. circa £90,000 (based on current expenditure levels), are the optimum required to ensure continuity of operations and will continue to work towards this goal. Although the current reserves currently provide for just over 3.5 months of expenditure cover (2023: 5.5 months), although not ideal, the Trustees believe this is sufficient to meet the minimum requirements to continue operations.

These are still difficult times. The public sector continues to struggle with funding models and providing a steady stream of referrals. As I mentioned in last year's report, the cost of living crisis has not gone away. Although there are signs of improvement, the cost of living, energy costs, and inflation allied with depressed financial markets will continue to have an effect on us all, and everyone, including Home-Start Herefordshire, will continue to feel the squeeze in the years to come.

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Travel, Victoria Charitable Foundation, Ned Potter, SR & PH Southall Trust, Kington United Charities, Waitrose & Partners, John Lewis & Partners, Pontrilas Developments, William A Cadbury, Philip Witcomb, Mumford Memorial Trust, Hereford City Rotary Club and Friends who make regular donations. TRP Sealing, ASDA and SIMTECH also kindly loan out their boardrooms for Trustee and Volunteer meetings. We are grateful for their support. In addition, money was received in the form of donations from individuals and the proceeds from fundraising events. We are grateful to the donors for their generosity and to all those involved in fundraising events for their hard work and commitment.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (also directors of HSH for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statement in accordance with United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable laws and regulations.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the company's financial position, enabling them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the company's assets and, hence, for taking reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on 19 September 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

X X

Andy Walkden
Chair

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024

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

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

Having satisfied myself that the 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 the charity's accounts as 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 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a "true and fair" view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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

A A Houston FCA
Chartered Accountant
Independent Examiner

19th September 2024

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (including income and expenditure account)
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2024** £	Total Funds 2023 £
Income and Endowments					
Donations and legacies	*5*	66,843	-	66,843	83,154
Charitable activities	*6*	-	82,000	82,000	89,500
Other trading activities	*7*	2,604	-	2,604	1,876
Investment Income	*8*	2,202	-	2,202	952
Other income	*9*	1,684	-	1,684	3,410
Total Income		73,333	82,000	155,333	178,892
Expenditure					
Expenditure on fundraising:	*10*	405	-	405	121
Expenditure on charitable activities	*11,12*	80,439	98,876	179,315	163,059
Costs of raising donations and legacies	*11,12*	941	-	941	2,205
Total Expenditure		81,785	98,876	180,661	165,385
Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds		(8,452)	(16,876)	(25,328)	13,507
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total funds brought forward		85,957	(6,456)	79,501	65,994
Total Funds Carried Forward		77,505	(23,332)	54,173	79,501

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

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

BALANCE SHEET YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024

	Notes		**2024** £	2023 £
Fixed Assets				
Tangible Fixed Assets	*17*		820	740
Current Assets				
Debtors	*18*		-	-
Investments	*19*		9,955	9,052
Cash at bank and in hand			46,994	72,522
			56,949	81,574
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	*20*		3,596	2,813
Net Current Assets			53,353	78,761
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		£	54,173	79,501
Funds of the Charity				
Restricted Funds			(23,332)	(6,456)
Unrestricted Funds			77,505	85,957
Total Charity Funds	*22*	£	54,173	79,501

For the year ending 31st March 2024 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the 2006 Act relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

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

(b) the directors acknowledge their responsibilties 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 special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved and signed by the trustees and authorised for issue on 19th September 2024

Andy Walkden
Chair

1. **General Information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is Lakeside Offices, Suite 1, Unit 1a. Thorn Business Park, Rotherwas, Hereford, HR2 6JT.

2. **Statement of Compliance**

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102. The 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) (Charities SORP) and the 2006 Act.

3. **Accounting policies**

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

There are no material judgements or key sources of estimation uncertainty.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for a particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one or two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

3. Accounting policies (continued)

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

(a) income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.

(b) legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.

(c) income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.

(d) income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources Expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liabiltiy is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

(a) expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.

(b) expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.

(c) other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Tangible Assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequenty stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

3. Accounting policies (continued)

Tangible Assets (continued)

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Fixtures and fittings	-	15% reducing balance

Impairment of Fixed Assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that are largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquistion date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

Financial Instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

3. Accounting policies (continued)

Financial Instruments (continued)

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the intial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

Defined Contribution Plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

4. Limited by Guarantee

The charity is a charity limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital, each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding Nil towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

5. Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2024**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
Donations	£	£	£	£
Individual Donations	9,696	9,696	15,733	15,733
Institutional Donations	56,050	56,050	67,421	67,421
Gifts				
Gifts aid reclaimed	1,097	1,097	-	-
	66,843	66,843	83,154	83,154

6. Charitable Activities

	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2024**	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Grants receivable	82,000	82,000	89,500	89,500

7. Other Trading Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2024**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Local fundraising and street collection income	2,604	2,604	1,876	1,876

8. Investment Income

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2024**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Other investment income	2,202	2,202	952	952

9. Other Income

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2024**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Toy library	-	-	-	-
Cleaning income	431	431	392	392
Miscellaneous income	1,253	1,253	3,018	3,018
	1,684	1,684	3,410	3,410

10. Costs of Raising Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2024**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising	405	405	121	121

11. Expenditure on Charitable activities by Fund Type

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2024**
	£	£	£
Charitable activities	80,439	98,876	179,315
Support costs	941	-	941
	81,380	98,876	180,256

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£
Charitable activities	74,804	88,376	163,180
Support costs	2,205	-	2,205
	77,009	88,376	165,385

12. Expenditure on Charitable activities by Activity Type

	Activities Undertaken Directly	Support Costs	**Total Funds 2024**	Total Fund 2023
	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities	83,367	95,948	179,315	163,180
Governance costs	941	-	941	2,205
	84,308	95,948	180,256	165,385

13. Net Income/(Expenditure)

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

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciaton of tangible fixed assets	232	244

14. Independent Examination Fees

Fees payable to the independent examiner for:

Independent examination of the financial statements	900	900

15. Staff Costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	149,594	134,846
Employer contributions to pension plans	5,006	4,836
	154,600	139,682

The average head count of employees during the year was 8 (2023: 8). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
Number of staff - type 1	8	8

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2022: Nil).

16. Trustee Remuneration and Expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

17. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Fixtures and Fittings
Cost	£
At 1 April 2023	5,673
Additions	312
At 31 March 2023	5,985
Depeciation	
At 1 April 2022	4,933
Charge for the year	232
At 31 March 2023	5,165
Carrying Amount	
At 31 March 2023	820
At 31 March 2023	740

18. Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade Debtors	-	-

19. Investments

		2024	2023
Other Investments	$	9,955	9,052

20. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade Creditors	2,696	1,931
Accruals and Deferred Income	900	900
	3,596	2,831

21. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £5,006 (2023: £4,836).

22. Analysis of Charitable Funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	**At 31 March 2024**
	£	£	£	£
General Funds	85,957	73,333	81,785	77,505

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
General Funds	73,574	89,392	77,009	85,957

22. Analysis of Charitable Funds *(continued)*

Restricted Funds

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	**At 31 March 2024**
Restricted Fund	(6,456)	82,000	98,876	(23,332)

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2023
Restricted Fund	(7,580)	89,500	88,376	(6,456)

23. Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2024**
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	611	209	820
Investments	9,955	-	9,955
Current assets	70,535	(23,541)	46,994
Creditors less than one year	(3,596)	-	(3,596)
Net Assets	77,505	(23,332)	54,173

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	512	228	740
Investments	9,052	-	9,052
Current assets	79,206	(6,684)	72,522
Creditors less than one year	(2,813)	-	(2,813)
Net Assets	85,957	(6,456)	79,501

RJ FRANCIS & Co
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS & REGISTERED AUDITORS

MARSHALL BUSINESS CENTRE
FARADAY ROAD
HEREFORD
HR4 9NS
TEL: 01432 266 630
email: admin@rjfrancis.co.uk
web: www.rjfrancis.co.uk

Private & Confidential
Mrs K Marriott
Home-Start Herefordshire
Suite 1 Unit 1a
Thorn Business Park Rotherwas
Hereford
HR2 6JT

Our ref: AH/rh

11 September 2024

Dear Karen

RE: HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Following our recent contact, please find enclosed a set of the final accounts marked for signature and return. I would be grateful if at the annual general meeting, the chair could sign this set of accounts on page 5 and 8 where indicated and if this set could be returned as your formal authority to submit the abbreviated charity accounts to Companies House. We assume, as in previous years, you are filing the set required at the charity commission.

Separately, I enclose one bound and unbound copy of the accounts for your retention.

Finally, I enclose a copy of the letter of representation, which has previously been forwarded to you by email. As advised on my previous email I would be grateful if this letter could be put on the charity's headed paper and again signed at the annual general meeting and returned to us, in respect of the independent examination for this year.

If you have any queries in relation to the above request, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

Andrew Houston

Enc.

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST MARCH 2024

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024

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Reference and Administrative information

Trustees	
Andy Walkden	Chair
Jeremy Stobart	Treasurer
Helen Tank	Safeguarding
Jan Frances	
Philippa Wride	
Virginia Taylor	
David Welton	
Scheme Manager	Mandie Preece
Principle address and registered office	Lakeside Offices Unit 1 Suite A Thorn Business Park Rotherwas Hereford HR2 6JT
Company registration number	5659978
Charity registration number	1113432
Bankers	Lloyds TSB High Town Hereford HR1 2AE COIF Charity Funds 80 Cheapside London EC2V 6DZ
Independent Examiner	Andrew Houston RJ Francis & Co Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors Marshall Business Centre Faraday Road Hereford HR4 9NS

Trustees' Report

The Trustees, who are directors for the purpose of company law, present their annual report together table company for the year ending 31st March 2024.

Our Aims and Objectives

We are a charity that wants children and young people to have the best start in life. Our mission is to provide the support to achieve this. Home-Start Herefordshire (HSH) aims to help families build better lives for their children by recruiting, training and supervising volunteers who offer support, friendship and practical help to families experiencing difficulties. We provide support across the county and to all families referred to us.

The difficulties our families experience are often complex and reflect the issues facing families identified in county research:

- challenging and anti-social behaviour;
- mental health issues affecting both parents and children;
- children in poverty;
- domestic abuse;
- school absenteeism and low academic achievement;
- substance abuse; and
- overcrowded housing conditions.

Many of these issues have worsened since COVID-19 and are also exacerbated by the cost of living crisis.

As a charitable company, HSH is dependent on funding from grant aid, contractual agreements, and fundraising. Funding uncertainty in terms of public finance constraints and the short-term nature of other funding sources is a major issue, and HSH needs to continually review its priorities and service delivery.

Charity Structure

HSH is a charitable company limited by guarantee. It is governed by a board of Trustees, the minimum number of Trustees being five and the maximum twelve. Trustees act according to the Memorandum and Articles of Association that set out the objects of HSH and how it should operate.

HSH regularly advertises for new Trustees, suitable candidates are invited to submit an application form, and this is followed by an interview. Candidates who remain interested and whom HSH wish to recruit are invited to attend a board meeting as an observer. The last stage of the recruitment process is for existing Trustees to vote on inviting a candidate to join the board. Upon acceptance of a formal invite to join the board, the candidate/ new Trustee then undergoes an induction process that includes the philosophy and structure of the Home-Start federation and the role and responsibilities of being a Trustee.

HSH employs a staff team to deliver the charity's day-to-day activities. A Scheme Manager performs co-ordination between the board of trustees and the staff team. Including the Scheme Manager, there were eight employees in the staff team and seven trustees as of 31st March 2024.

The HSH service is, in the main, delivered by a team of volunteers who non-judgementally work directly with families to help them overcome those challenges that daily life can throw up. A staff team of three co-ordinators train and support volunteers in their role. As of 31st March 2024, HSH had 64 volunteers on its books.

The Strategic Plan

HSH maintains a strategic plan, which was last updated in 2021. Through this and its underpinning plans, the day-to-day activities of HSH are coordinated to deliver the objectives of the charity. The strategic plan has seven priorities, these are:

1. Service Development – integrating new technologies and innovations into the service.
2. Staff, volunteers and trustee development and succession planning.
3. Diversity - within HSH staff and trustees, and with families and groups in the community who might find themselves "easy to ignore".
4. Expanding partnerships and collaboration with other agencies.
5. Increasing public profile.
6. Financial resilience.
7. Maintaining delivery of a quality service to families.

Each priority is underpinned by an action plan that breaks down what HSH will do into SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-Bound) objectives. Since the action plan was first drafted in 2021, HSH has been working to make progress against these priorities. Underpinning the action plan is the operational plan delivered by the scheme manager, which directs the daily and weekly activities of the staff team.

Achievements and Performance

Looking back, it has been a relatively quiet year for HSH. In July 2023, we had a Garden Party, inviting people who had helped HSH to thank them for their support. We were pleased to welcome the then-current High Sheriff Robert Robinson and his wife Sue to the event. There have been no changes in the staff team or trustee board to report. HSH was awarded a further 12 months of funding from Herefordshire Council to continue our Early Help service.

With regards to furthering public benefit, HSH aims are to:

- inspire more people to volunteer for us and support our core offer;
- enhance the support we provide families in terms of providing a stronger 'voice' for families endeavour to improve access to early years services and compassionate support for families;
- improve inclusion and diversity across the county; and
- enhance the collective impact of the Home-Start network for the benefit of the wider community.

This year, through the continuation of our volunteer-delivered early intervention and prevention support, we have provided a multi-agency, family-centred approach whereby we collaborate with local and national agencies, organisations, and services to connect families to the additional support they need. By working collaboratively over the last 12 months, we assisted 91 families (174 children) to access additional and specialised support when they needed it, helping remove some of the barriers in seeking help and preventing or reducing the impact of crisis.

Looking to the future, 2024/25 will be a busy year. Most recently HSH has been negotiating with Vennture and The CLD Trust to form a partnership to help young children and families. HSH will deliver School Readiness interventions as part of an overall initiative to provide school-based support for children and families. This is an exciting development for HSH, and we look forward to further partnership working in the future.

Two other work areas for HSH are quality assurance (QA) and strategic plan. The first is implementing the QA procedures as they are being introduced by Home-Start UK. These will ensure that HSH remains fit for purpose and continues to deliver quality service to families. The second is redrafting HSH's strategic plan and action plan (as mentioned above). This will guide our decision-making and actions towards achieving the seven priorities up until 2027.

Financial Review

In financial terms, 2023/2024 has been a difficult year. There has been a marked increase in expenditure this year, mainly due to higher than expected staff costs (22/23: £139,682, 23/24: £154,600). This has particularly skewed losses in restricted activities due to allocations being a percentage of over three-year historical revenues, and sadly, income from these activities has remained static whilst expenditure/staff costs have increased significantly. However, the reduction in unrestricted income has also been a significant factor (22/23: £92,382, 23/24: £73,332. Total expenditure has increased this year to £180,661 (2023: £165,385). Total income (core and restricted combined) was significantly decreased last year at £155,333 (2023: £178,982).

So, the unfortunate corollary of the above has been a deficit for the year on core/unrestricted activities of £8,452 (2023: £12,383 surplus). In addition, our restricted reserves have also worsened with a deficit this year of (16,876), so our overall restricted reserves deficit has increased from negative £6,456 to negative £23,332. So, our overall reserves have decreased to £54,173 (2023: £79,501).

On a more positive note, we are more hopeful for the coming year. A new contract working with Vennture should provide a much needed bolster to our cash position as well as help with the amortisation of staff costs. Along with some significant new unrestricted income streams, the outlook for 24/25 is looking rosier.

As ever, my praise goes out to Mandie and her hard-working team for their achievements. This has very much been a year of cementing in skills and knowledge for the newish staff team, and hopefully, this will assist in moving the charity towards more stable ground in financial terms.

Our current unrestricted reserves only provide minimum cover for emergencies such as shortfalls in funding or unexpected expenditures. The Trustees continue to believe that reserves equivalent to 6 months expenditure, i.e. circa £90,000 (based on current expenditure levels), are the optimum required to ensure continuity of operations and will continue to work towards this goal. Although the current reserves currently provide for just over 3.5 months of expenditure cover (2023: 5.5 months), although not ideal, the Trustees believe this is sufficient to meet the minimum requirements to continue operations.

These are still difficult times. The public sector continues to struggle with funding models and providing a steady stream of referrals. As I mentioned in last year's report, the cost of living crisis has not gone away. Although there are signs of improvement, the cost of living, energy costs, and inflation allied with depressed financial markets will continue to have an effect on us all, and everyone, including Home-Start Herefordshire, will continue to feel the squeeze in the years to come.

Amounts were received from Eveson Charitable Trust, Herefordshire Council, BBC Children in Need, EF Bulmer Trust, Herefordshire Community Foundation, HFT Forklifts, Rathbone Moral Aid Charity ,HAYES

Travel, Victoria Charitable Foundation, Ned Potter, SR & PH Southall Trust, Kington United Charities, Waitrose & Partners, John Lewis & Partners, Pontrilas Developments, William A Cadbury, Philip Witcomb, Mumford Memorial Trust, Hereford City Rotary Club and Friends who make regular donations. TRP Sealing, ASDA and SIMTECH also kindly loan out their boardrooms for Trustee and Volunteer meetings. We are grateful for their support. In addition, money was received in the form of donations from individuals and the proceeds from fundraising events. We are grateful to the donors for their generosity and to all those involved in fundraising events for their hard work and commitment.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (also directors of HSH for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statement in accordance with United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable laws and regulations.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the company's financial position, enabling them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the company's assets and, hence, for taking reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on 19 September 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

X X

Andy Walkden
Chair

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024

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

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

Having satisfied myself that the 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 the charity's accounts as 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 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a "true and fair" view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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

A A Houston FCA
Chartered Accountant
Independent Examiner

19th September 2024

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (including income and expenditure account)
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2024** £	Total Funds 2023 £
Income and Endowments					
Donations and legacies	*5*	66,843	-	66,843	83,154
Charitable activities	*6*	-	82,000	82,000	89,500
Other trading activities	*7*	2,604	-	2,604	1,876
Investment Income	*8*	2,202	-	2,202	952
Other income	*9*	1,684	-	1,684	3,410
Total Income		73,333	82,000	155,333	178,892
Expenditure					
Expenditure on fundraising:	*10*	405	-	405	121
Expenditure on charitable activities	*11,12*	80,439	98,876	179,315	163,059
Costs of raising donations and legacies	*11,12*	941	-	941	2,205
Total Expenditure		81,785	98,876	180,661	165,385
Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds		(8,452)	(16,876)	(25,328)	13,507
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total funds brought forward		85,957	(6,456)	79,501	65,994
Total Funds Carried Forward		77,505	(23,332)	54,173	79,501

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

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

BALANCE SHEET YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024

	Notes		**2024** £	2023 £
Fixed Assets				
Tangible Fixed Assets	*17*		820	740
Current Assets				
Debtors	*18*		-	-
Investments	*19*		9,955	9,052
Cash at bank and in hand			46,994	72,522
			56,949	81,574
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	*20*		3,596	2,813
Net Current Assets			53,353	78,761
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		£	54,173	79,501
Funds of the Charity				
Restricted Funds			(23,332)	(6,456)
Unrestricted Funds			77,505	85,957
Total Charity Funds	*22*	£	54,173	79,501

For the year ending 31st March 2024 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the 2006 Act relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

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

(b) the directors acknowledge their responsibilties 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 special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved and signed by the trustees and authorised for issue on 19th September 2024

Andy Walkden
Chair

1. **General Information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is Lakeside Offices, Suite 1, Unit 1a. Thorn Business Park, Rotherwas, Hereford, HR2 6JT.

2. **Statement of Compliance**

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102. The 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) (Charities SORP) and the 2006 Act.

3. **Accounting policies**

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

There are no material judgements or key sources of estimation uncertainty.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for a particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one or two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

3. Accounting policies (continued)

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

(a) income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.

(b) legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.

(c) income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.

(d) income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources Expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liabiltiy is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

(a) expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.

(b) expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.

(c) other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Tangible Assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequenty stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

3. Accounting policies (continued)

Tangible Assets (continued)

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Fixtures and fittings	-	15% reducing balance

Impairment of Fixed Assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that are largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquistion date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

Financial Instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

3. Accounting policies (continued)

Financial Instruments (continued)

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the intial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

Defined Contribution Plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

4. Limited by Guarantee

The charity is a charity limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital, each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding Nil towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

5. Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2024**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
Donations	£	£	£	£
Individual Donations	9,696	9,696	15,733	15,733
Institutional Donations	56,050	56,050	67,421	67,421
Gifts				
Gifts aid reclaimed	1,097	1,097	-	-
	66,843	66,843	83,154	83,154

6. Charitable Activities

	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2024**	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Grants receivable	82,000	82,000	89,500	89,500

7. Other Trading Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2024**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Local fundraising and street collection income	2,604	2,604	1,876	1,876

8. Investment Income

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2024**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Other investment income	2,202	2,202	952	952

9. Other Income

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2024**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Toy library	-	-	-	-
Cleaning income	431	431	392	392
Miscellaneous income	1,253	1,253	3,018	3,018
	1,684	1,684	3,410	3,410

10. Costs of Raising Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2024**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising	405	405	121	121

11. Expenditure on Charitable activities by Fund Type

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2024**
	£	£	£
Charitable activities	80,439	98,876	179,315
Support costs	941	-	941
	81,380	98,876	180,256

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£
Charitable activities	74,804	88,376	163,180
Support costs	2,205	-	2,205
	77,009	88,376	165,385

12. Expenditure on Charitable activities by Activity Type

	Activities Undertaken Directly	Support Costs	**Total Funds 2024**	Total Fund 2023
	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities	83,367	95,948	179,315	163,180
Governance costs	941	-	941	2,205
	84,308	95,948	180,256	165,385

13. Net Income/(Expenditure)

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

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciaton of tangible fixed assets	232	244

14. Independent Examination Fees

Fees payable to the independent examiner for:

Independent examination of the financial statements	900	900

15. Staff Costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	149,594	134,846
Employer contributions to pension plans	5,006	4,836
	154,600	139,682

The average head count of employees during the year was 8 (2023: 8). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
Number of staff - type 1	8	8

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2022: Nil).

16. Trustee Remuneration and Expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

17. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Fixtures and Fittings
Cost	£
At 1 April 2023	5,673
Additions	312
At 31 March 2023	5,985
Depeciation	
At 1 April 2022	4,933
Charge for the year	232
At 31 March 2023	5,165
Carrying Amount	
At 31 March 2023	820
At 31 March 2023	740

18. Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade Debtors	-	-

19. Investments

		2024	2023
Other Investments	$	9,955	9,052

20. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade Creditors	2,696	1,931
Accruals and Deferred Income	900	900
	3,596	2,831

21. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £5,006 (2023: £4,836).

22. Analysis of Charitable Funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	**At 31 March 2024**
	£	£	£	£
General Funds	85,957	73,333	81,785	77,505

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
General Funds	73,574	89,392	77,009	85,957

22. Analysis of Charitable Funds *(continued)*

Restricted Funds

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	**At 31 March 2024**
Restricted Fund	(6,456)	82,000	98,876	(23,332)

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2023
Restricted Fund	(7,580)	89,500	88,376	(6,456)

23. Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2024**
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	611	209	820
Investments	9,955	-	9,955
Current assets	70,535	(23,541)	46,994
Creditors less than one year	(3,596)	-	(3,596)
Net Assets	77,505	(23,332)	54,173

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	512	228	740
Investments	9,052	-	9,052
Current assets	79,206	(6,684)	72,522
Creditors less than one year	(2,813)	-	(2,813)
Net Assets	85,957	(6,456)	79,501

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1113432

Accounts

HOME START Herefordshire



Annual Report 2022/23

Charity No. 1113432
Company No.5659978

Alex James - President



I have always found it a privilege to enter a home wearing the Home-Start cap. We find ourselves walking into the inner sanctum of a very private place, and we are welcomed. Because our wonderful staff prepares us, the initial meeting is made easier, but after that, we have to make our own way. Of course, we have backup and wisdom from our team. Still, when we visit, we use our life knowledge, personalities, and expectations on top of all the training we have abided by. But it is our ourselves that create the relationship with the family. Many of us have had to pull on our own life experiences to untangle the problems our families face. We have the power of listening, caring, understanding, and, above all, kindness. I am not saying we are a bunch of saints; I most certainly am no saint. But I care. After a few visits, relationships develop, suggestions are made, happy hours together, and laughter begins to blossom. A few little kindnesses come between you and your family, and I return home happy.

So to all our wonderful volunteers, I know you are all like-minded kindred spirits and, like me, find our Home-Start journey a personal privilege too.

Andy Walkden - Chair of Trustees



Last year Home-Start Herefordshire (HSH) celebrated its 40th anniversary. I said at the AGM that one of my personal aims for HSH is to ensure that the organisation will be there to celebrate its 50th (even if I am not!). Why? Because the need for services HSH provides is increasing, not diminishing, children and families are facing more pressure than ever from daily life with the cost of living and other challenges.

HSH can only do what it does with the support of people who give us the gifts of their time, money, and expertise. So my first thank you is to everyone who helps make a difference to HSH so that we can make a difference to the families we support, ensuring no child's future is limited.

I would also like to thank all the organisations that fund the important work we do. As budgets are squeezed and charitable trusts see increasing demands, we are grateful for the funding we do get. Yet while early intervention and prevention are far more cost-effective in any scenario, the national trend is for interventions to be increasingly late and less cost-effective (10,000 more children in care in 2020 than in March 2013, 48% more child protection investigations over the same period (Source: "Too Little Too Late: Early Help and Early Intervention Spending in England" Action for Children 2022).

We realise the statutory sector, both for Herefordshire and beyond, has to manage increasingly complex cases with less resources, and the amount of money spent on early help/intervention is also in decline. If, as a country, we do not find a way to reverse this trend and increase support for early intervention, statutory children's services will be overwhelmed.

Over the next ten years, HSH is aware that raising awareness of our early intervention services is crucial to supporting children, families, and Herefordshire Council. As part of the Strategic Plan, we aim to inform people and organisations we work with or would like to work with about the Early Help/Early Intervention work and the cost benefits HSH delivers. We have started this process at our 40th AGM. For example, we welcomed as keynote speakers Sarah de Rohan, the then High Sheriff of Herefordshire, and Peter Grigg, Chief Executive of Home-Start UK.

This year we have added two new faces, David Welton and James Teppin, to the organisation. David has joined the Board of Trustees and brings a wealth of experience from running European-wide multi-million pound projects. James is the first male family coordinator for HSH and comes to us from a commercial background. I welcome both to HSH and look forward to working with them.

If I was asked what unites the people who work for HSH, both in paid and voluntary roles, it would be compassion and a desire to change the world into a better place for others. To our home-visiting volunteers, employees, and trustees, I thank you all for your time, energy, and for caring. Everybody does a fantastic job. However, this year I'd like to especially thank Mandie Preece, Scheme Manager, who is not always recognised for her important role in ensuring HSH remains viable and a crucial source of support for Herefordshire children and families.

Thank you.

Mandie Preece – Scheme Manager



2022 marked the 40th year of Home-Start Herefordshire, which gave us the perfect opportunity to celebrate and reflect upon all we have achieved working with Herefordshire families who need our unique support service. The difference we have made to the lives of families and children within our local community and the legacy that the support can provide is invaluable; as an organisation we are indebted to the kindness, generosity, and dedication that all staff, trustees, and volunteers have shown and the valuable contribution that each and every person has played in the past four decades.

It has been a challenging year for us as an organisation with many changes both internally (experienced staff retiring and recruitment of new staff, some challenges with volunteer recruitment) and externally (lasting impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and current difficulties with the cost of living) to manage effectively. However, I feel as an organisation we have risen to these challenges with determination and resilience, thus providing overall a very positive year supporting Herefordshire families.

Challenges of Cost of Living: Due to the current cost of living crisis, we have seen a greater number of families struggling financially and experiencing associated challenges such as poor mental health, isolation, and poverty. For these families, we have worked with several of our partner agencies (Citizen Advice, debt crisis support, the Department for Work and Pensions, countywide food banks, and utility providers), enabling access to the help, advice, and expertise they desperately need, i.e., help and advice with energy payments, warm weather grants, benefit checking, food and care packs, fuel payments, debt management advice, and warm weather clothing. Certain times of the year have been incredibly challenging for families struggling financially, with added costs at the start of school terms and holiday periods and struggles at Christmas.

We have been especially grateful to the following for their support over the festive period:

- BT kindly offered us 12 months of free Broadband and Chromebooks for those families experiencing digital exclusion. This has been invaluable for families to support children's education and homework, access resources, and provide a platform for connection with others.

- White Stuff provided emergency funding and gifts to struggling families for Christmas and the festive period, which have been very well received by many.

- Sunshine Radio provided us with many wonderful toys through their 'Christmas Toy Appeal'; this has meant that all our supported children received a toy for Christmas, reducing the worry for many parents and carers that their children would go without and providing lots of happiness for all.

Volunteer Model: With the lifting of Covid restrictions, we saw the return to our successful model of providing volunteer family support in the home. This support has been gratefully received by the families and volunteers eager to see each other face-to-face.

Volunteer Recruitment and Training: It has been a disappointing year regarding volunteer recruitment, with us only being able to successfully recruit a small number of new volunteers. However, we have seen several of our resting volunteers return to volunteering, enabling us to effectively support 87 families and 171 children. We have also continued through the delivery of online and in-person training sessions to up-skill our experienced volunteer team by providing new training on topics such as ADHD, Autism, Healthy Eating, Domestic Abuse, and Safeguarding refresher. This additional training has enabled our volunteers to approach the associated challenges experienced by families with confidence, compassion, and awareness while also enhancing their experience and expertise.

Increased number of children supported with complex additional needs: Over the past few years, resources and support services for children with complex additional needs have greatly reduced. As a result, our organisation has provided increased support for families struggling with children with SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disability). Our specialist volunteer team has been instrumental in ensuring some of our most vulnerable children receive the best possible help and support to enable them to reach their developmental milestones and ensure their feelings are considered, and their voices heard when planning for their future.

Despite the challenges of the past year, I am proud of what we have achieved as an organisation and I am looking forward to the year to come. Again thank you to all our past and present volunteers, staff, trustees, families, and supporters who have made our work possible. Although times have been tough, I am always inspired by the dedication and passion everyone has for the organisation and what we do.

Many, many thanks; we couldn't have done it without you all!

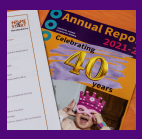
2022 marked 40 years of Home-Start Herefordshire, and we celebrated at our AGM






















































Thank you to all who attended the event

Tam Thomas - Family Group Coordinator



Monday mornings see families from Kington and the surrounding villages converge on the Kington Parish Room for a little bit of "Home-Start TLC" for a couple of hours. The kettle is on from 10 am, and toys and crafts are set up to entertain and keep our little ones happy and busy so that parents can sit down and enjoy a hot drink, chat and relax. We have a fabulous team of Home-Start volunteers in Amber, Caroline, Jan, and Elaine who go above and beyond to make sure everyone has a nice time, feels comfortable, and of course, has a good giggle!! They also entertain the children and offer support/shoulder to cry on and even vegetables from their gardens!

This year we have received funding from The Mumford Memorial Trust and Kington United Charities that has enabled us to visit our local play cafe and offer our families hot drinks and cake as a treat and meals for the children, which was very much appreciated. We have had picnics in the parks and walks by the river. However, our favourite outing was to Shobdon Airfield (when the sun shone), where we watched the planes, played football, had our picnics, and were even allowed to go in the Hangers and get up close to some of the aircraft. I hope all our families are left with lovely memories, and we look forward to meeting many new families in the new term for more fun and laughter.



Jan Doran - Volunteer Representative

As the Volunteer Representative to the Board of Trustees, I have had a lovely sociable year. So far, I have held seven informal coffee mornings in the market towns to meet fellow volunteers, attended most Support meetings to maximise meeting people, and met all new volunteers before they go out into the wider Home-Start world. These have all been very enjoyable times on my part, and enlightening to discover other people's impressions of Home-Start volunteering. I have fed back the ideas and concerns to Mandie, and we are working on them. I am looking at arranging some further times and venues to meet up soon, so keep an eye out for my emails. Feel free to attend any venue. Please come and meet up. Don't feel location bound.

I have completed eight modules of the Healthy Happy Home training course. I personally found the training valuable and interesting (lots of useful links and easy recipe ideas) and delivered in an accessible way. I look forward to seeing you all.

New recruits

James Teppin - Assistant Coordinator



One day I was shopping at my local Co-Op, and a poster caught my eye. It was asking for dads to volunteer for Home-Start Herefordshire. Hmmm, why Dads, I thought, surely a family support charity needs women? Well, perhaps some children do not have a positive father figure, I reasoned, or maybe it doesn't matter if you're a man; you could still help people. What a position of trust, what an honour, so I became a volunteer. Easier said than done during Covid, but the Home-Start team got me there. I instantly found the training fascinating, and the more I completed it, the more I realised I had found my career path, something I actually wanted to do.

I quickly signed up with the Open University for a course in social studies; it was a balancing act combining study, full-time work, and my family life with volunteering in the summer holidays. However, Home-Start Herefordshire was advertising for a new Assistant Coordinator, so I decided to apply. Retail's loss...

Well, what a whirlwind it has been. The Home-Start Herefordshire team couldn't have been more helpful, so friendly, and supportive. The job? Well, have you heard the phrase no two days the same? You have your day organised, then the phone rings, your emails ping, and yes, Mandie has a new family for you. But I wouldn't change it. I love it. And as for being the man on the team, I'm proud to be one of the girls.



David Welton - Trustee

I knew a little about Home-Start from a bystander's perspective. Still, I was unaware of the dedication and professionalism of everyone involved and exactly what support Home Start delivers daily to so many families and individuals. What I found within the Home-Start family is simply amazing!

Working as a Home-Start Herefordshire trustee has given me the opportunity to meet others working in the charity sector locally and across the county in differing originations. All greatly regard and admire what we do and the dedication of our volunteers and coordinators. Home-Start is seen as providing real and focused early support where needed and, in many cases, defusing and soothing situations well before they escalate. I am proud and privileged to be a trustee in our organisation.

Maggie Matthews - Fundraising Volunteer



During Maggie's 78th year, she decided to undertake a similar challenge to the one she set herself in her 50th year; 50 miles swim in the year, 50 mile walk in a week, and a 50 mile cycle on her 50th birthday. This year Maggie is completing her 80th birthday challenge to complete 800,000 steps, an 80,000 metre swim, and 800 km on a gym bike in a year. No mean feat, as a new knee at the start of the challenge meant that, inevitably, the start was delayed. However, March 2023 found the challenge on time and on target.

Support has been promised from various sources such as Cargill, The Lions, Tupsley Women's Institute, and the Fownhope, Marches, and Gateway Bridge Clubs. Friends and family have also been very generous, increasing the initial target of £800 total to £800 per charity. The chosen charities are dear and important to Maggie's heart, Home-Start Herefordshire, Mind and Carers in Herefordshire. Watch this space.

Other events this year



Hereford Lads Club Information Day



Cathedral Christmas Fair



New volunteers being trained



Sunshine Radio Christmas Toy Appeal



The Lower Deckers Sea Shanty evening



Bartestree Village Fete



Vouchers from Home-Start UK Cost of Living Crisis Appeal

Feedback

"Before I met B (volunteer), I felt excited but a bit nervous; she made me feel happy and important. I loved playing Frozen Unicorn. I now feel happier, and I feel bright. I really loved B. I didn't want her to leave, but I feel a lot better now. Thank you so much." (Child 8 yrs)

"The volunteer was lovely, welcoming, made an effort with the kids, and clearly wanted to be there for us." (Mum)

"G (volunteer) was funny, calm, kind, and happy. She made me feel happy, relaxed, safe, listened to and important." (Child 7 yrs)

"Thank you ever so much for your support and taking my son out and letting him express himself, it's really helped him open up and feel better about himself." (Mum)

"Before I met H (volunteer), I worried about secondary school and friends. I now feel safe and happy and listened to. H helped Mum as well because we now do more together. I enjoyed playing games and chatting with H; she has made a difference in my life." (Child 11 yrs)

Jeremy Stobart - Treasurer



In financial terms the 2022/2023 has been a reasonably satisfactory year. Although there has been a marked uptick in expenditure (approximately 9% on 21/22), there has been a greater increase in income, mainly from increases from existing institutional funders and/or new funding grants.

Total expenditure has increased this year at £165,385 (2022 : £152,006). This is mainly due to increased staff costs/pay rises. Total income (core and restricted combined) was significantly increased as mentioned above on last year at £178,982 (2022 : £146,734). This increase is slightly skewed by the fact that last year's income was down on 2021's income which was a slightly 'Freak' year due to Covid related 'Emergency Funding'. There was a surplus for the year on core/unrestricted activities of £12,383 (2022 : £1,408 surplus). In addition our restricted reserves have rallied slightly with a surplus of £1,124, so our overall restricted reserves deficit has reduced from negative £7,580 to negative £6,456. Our overall reserves have increased to £79,501 (2022: £65,994). Note that within the overall reserves figure above, £20,750 of this is designated, by funders, towards operations in 2023/2024. Thus cleared undesignated funds stand at £58,751

As ever my praise goes out to Mandie and her hard-working and fairly newly installed team for their achievements, not just financially but operationally as well, in keeping costs down and drawing in additional income streams.

Our current unrestricted reserves only provide minimum cover for emergencies such as shortfalls in funding or unexpected expenditure. The Trustees continue to believe that reserves equivalent to six months expenditure, i.e. circa £80,000, are the optimum required to ensure continuity of operations and will continue to work towards this goal. Although the current reserves provide for just under six months of expenditure cover (2021: 5.5 months, just under 4.5 months taking into account designated funds), the Trustees believe this is sufficient to meet the minimum requirements to continue operations.

These are still difficult times. Although we have experienced a slightly less tumultuous year in respect of staffing and operations, we are starting to see greater challenges arise in the public sector with regards to funding models. Many companies and charities continue to struggle to fill staffing posts and we are not immune to this. The rise in the cost of living, energy costs, inflation allied with depressed financial markets will have an effect on us all, and everyone, including Home-Start will feel the squeeze in the coming year/s.

Amounts were received from Eveson Charitable Trust, Herefordshire Council, BBC Children in Need, EF Bulmer Trust, Herefordshire Community Foundation, HFT Forklifts, Rathbone Moral Aid Charity, The SR & PH Southall Charitable Trust, Kington United Charities, Tesco Community Grants, Asda Foundation, Waitrose & Partners, John Lewis & Partners, Pontrilas Developments, William A Cadbury, Philip Witcomb, White Stuff, Mumford Memorial Trust, Brailsford Charity, Four Acre Trust, Hereford City Rotary Club and Friends who make regular donations. TRP Sealing, Adsa and SIMTECH also kindly loan out their boardrooms for Trustee and Volunteer meetings. We are grateful for their support. In addition money was received in the form of donations from individuals and the proceeds from fund raising events.

We are grateful to the donors for their generosity and to all those involved in fund raising events for their hard work and commitment.

Financial Summary

	Year Ending 31 March 2023 (£)	Year Ending 31 March 2022 (£)
Incoming Resources		
Donations	5,990	6,360
Fund raising income	1,876	1,256
Social work students	0	0
Grants	166,094	133,650
Other income	5,022	5,468
	178,982	**146,734**
Resources Expended		
Staff and volunteer costs	139,682	130,760
Fund raising costs	0	0
Office costs	13,310	11,327
Scheme expenses	5,798	2,533
Governance costs	2,205	1,280
Other costs	4,390	6,106
	165,385	**152,006**
Net movement in funds		
Unrestricted funds	12,383	1,408
Restricted funds	1,124	(3,864)
Funds at 31 March		
Unrestricted	85,957	73,574
Restricted	(6,456)	(7,580)

Thank you for your support:

ASDA Foundation, SIMTECH MANAGING DIGITAL RISK

The Brailsford Charity

Rotary Hereford City

Herefordshire COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

NED POTTER LTD

GROWING LOCAL

BT

WAITROSE & PARTNERS

E F BULMER TRUST

EVESON Trust

WHITE STUFF

Haines Watts

TESCO Community Grants

SR & PH Southall Trust

William A Cadbury Charitable Trust

BBC Children in Need

The Witcomb Fund

HFT Forklifts Limited

Hays Travel

Kington United Charities

The Rathbone Memorial Aid Charity

four acre trust

Herefordshire Council

TRP

Sunshine Radio

tmfactors expressautoparts

ARMED FORCES COVENANT

PROUDLY SUPPORTING THOSE WHO SERVE.

Mumford Memorial Trust

HOME START Herefordshire

Company Limited By Guarantee

Unaudited Financial Statements

For The Year Ended

31st March 2023

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

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Reference and Administrative information

Trustees	
Andy Walkden	Chair
Jeremy Stobart	Treasurer
Helen Tank	Safeguarding
Jan Frances	
Philippa Wride	
Virginia Taylor	
David Welton	(Joined March 2023)
Scheme Manager	Mandie Preece
Principal address and registered office	Lakeside Offices Unit 1 Suite A, Thorn Business Park Rotherwas Hereford HR2 6JT
Company registration number	05659978
Charity registration number	1113432
Bankers	Lloyds TSB High Town Hereford HR1 2AE COIF Charity Funds 80 Cheapside London EC2V 6DZ
Independent Examiner	Andy Bonnelle RJ Francis & Co Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors Incorporating Bonelle & Co Marshall Business Centre Faraday Road Hereford HR4 9NS

Trustees' Report

The Trustees, who are directors for the purpose of company law, present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ending 31st March 2023.

Objectives and Activities

We are a charity that wants children and young people to have the best start in life. Our mission is to provide the support to achieve this.

Home-Start Herefordshire (HSH) aims to help families build better lives for their children by recruiting, training and supervising volunteers who offer support, friendship and practical help to families experiencing difficulties. We aim to provide support across the county and to all families referred to us.

The difficulties our families experience are often complex and reflect the issues facing families identified in county research:

- challenging and anti-social behaviour;
- mental health issues affecting both parents and children;
- children in poverty;
- domestic abuse;
- school absenteeism and low academic achievement;
- substance abuse, and
- overcrowded housing conditions.

As a charitable company HSH is dependant for its funding on grant aid, contractual agreements and fund raising. Funding uncertainty both in terms of public finance constraints and the short-term nature of other funding sources is a major issue and HSH needs to continually review its priorities and service delivery.

Achievements and Performance

2022 marked the 40th year of Home-Start Herefordshire, which gave us the perfect opportunity to celebrate and reflect upon all we have achieved working with Herefordshire families who need our unique support service. The difference we have made to the lives of families and children within our local community and the legacy that the support can provide is invaluable; as an organisation, we are indebted to the kindness, generosity, and dedication that all staff, trustees, and volunteers have shown and the valuable contribution that each and every person has played in the past four decades.

It has been a challenging year for us as an organisation with many internal changes (experienced staff retiring and recruiting new staff, some challenges with volunteer recruitment) and external (lasting impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and current difficulties with the cost of living) to manage effectively. However, as an organisation, we have risen to

these challenges with determination and resilience, thus providing overall a very positive year supporting Herefordshire families.

Challenges of Cost of Living

Due to the current cost of living crisis, we have seen a greater number of families struggling financially and experiencing associated challenges such as poor mental health, isolation, and poverty. For these families, we have worked with several of our partner agencies (Citizens Advice, debt crisis support, the Department for Work and Pensions, countywide food banks, and utility providers), enabling access to the help, advice, and expertise they desperately need, i.e., help and advice with energy payments, warm weather grants, benefit checking, food and care packs, fuel payments, debt management advice, and warm weather clothing. Certain times of the year have been incredibly challenging for families struggling financially, with added costs at the start of school terms and holiday periods and struggles at Christmas. We have been extremely grateful to the following for their support over the festive period:

- BT kindly offered us 12 months of free Broadband and Chromebooks for those families experiencing digital exclusion. This has been invaluable for families to support children's education and homework, access resources, and provide a platform for connection with others.
- White Stuff provided emergency funding and gifts to struggling families for Christmas and the festive period, which have been very well received by many.
- Sunshine Radio provided us with many wonderful toys through their 'Christmas Toy Appeal'; this has meant that all our supported children received a toy for Christmas, reducing the worry for many parents and carers that their children would go without and providing lots of happiness.

Volunteer Model

With the lifting of Covid restrictions, we saw the return to our successful model of providing volunteer family support in the home. This support has been gratefully received by the families and volunteers eager to see each other face-to-face. However, we have also wanted to reflect on our pandemic experiences. So, we have built on what we learned by continuing to offer virtual lines of support for families. This has been particularly beneficial for those who struggle with social interaction and communication, and something we will continue to provide where needed.

Family Feedback

"Thank you ever so much for your support and for taking my son out and letting him express himself. It's really helped him open up and feel better about himself." (Mum)

"We as a family have really appreciated the support, particularly getting things in place to make things easier for my daughter at school." (Dad)

"The volunteer was lovely, welcoming, made an effort with the kids, and clearly wanted to be there for us." (Mum)

"Before I met H (volunteer), I worried about secondary school and friends. I now feel safe and happy and listened to. H helped Mum as well because we now do more together. I enjoyed playing games and chatting with H; she has made a difference in my life." (Child, 11 yrs)

"Before I met B (volunteer), I felt excited but a bit nervous; she made me feel happy and important. I loved playing Frozen Unicorn. I now feel happier, and I feel bright. I really loved B. I didn't want her to leave, but I feel a lot better now. Thank you so much." (Child, 8 yrs)

Volunteer Recruitment and Training

It has been a disappointing year regarding volunteer recruitment, with us only able to recruit a few new volunteers successfully. However, several of our resting volunteers have returned to volunteering, enabling us to support 87 families and 171 children effectively. We have also continued through the delivery of online and in-person training sessions to up-skill our experienced volunteer team by providing new training on topics such as ADHD, Autism, Healthy Eating, Domestic Abuse, and Safeguarding refresher. This additional training has enabled our volunteers to approach the associated challenges experienced by families with confidence, compassion, and awareness while enhancing their experience and expertise.

Increased number of children supported with complex additional needs

Over the past few years, resources and support services for children with complex additional needs have greatly reduced. As a result, our organisation has provided increased support for families struggling with children with SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities). Our specialist volunteer team has been instrumental in ensuring some of our most vulnerable children receive the best possible help and support to enable them to reach their developmental milestones and ensure their feelings are considered and their voices heard when planning for their future.

Despite the past year's challenges, we are proud of what we have achieved as an organisation, and we are looking forward to the coming year. Again, thank you to all our past and present volunteers, staff, trustees, families, and supporters who have made our work possible. Although times have been tough, we are always inspired by the dedication and passion everyone has for the organisation and what we do. Many, many thanks; we couldn't have done it without you all!

Financial Review

Jeremy Stobart – Treasurer

In financial terms, 2022/2023 has been a reasonably satisfactory year. Although there has been a marked uptick in expenditure (approximately 9% on 21/22), there has been a greater increase in income, mainly from increases from existing institutional funders and/or new funding grants. Total expenditure has increased this year to £165,385 (2022:£152,006). This is mainly due to increased staff costs/pay rises. Total income (Core and Restricted combined) was significantly increased as mentioned above, on last year at £178,982 (2022: £146,734). This increase is slightly skewed by the fact that last year's income was down on 2021's income, which was a slightly 'Freak' year due to Covid-related' Emergency Funding.' There was a surplus for the year on Core/unrestricted activities of £12,383 (2022: £1,408 surplus). In addition, our restricted reserves have rallied slightly with a surplus of £1,124, so our overall restricted reserves deficit has reduced from negative £7,580 to negative £6,456. So our overall reserves have increased to £79,501 (2022: £65,994). Note that within the overall reserves figure above, £20,750 is designated by funders towards operations in 2023/2024. Thus, cleared undesignated funds stand at £58,751. As ever, my praise goes out to Mandie and her hard-working and fairly newly installed team for their achievements, not just financially but operationally as well, in keeping costs down and drawing in additional income streams. Our current unrestricted reserves only

provide minimum cover for emergencies such as shortfalls in funding or unexpected expenditure. The Trustees continue to believe that reserves equivalent to six months' expenditure, i.e., circa £80,000, are the optimum required to ensure continuity of operations and will continue to work towards this goal. Although the current reserves provide for just under six months of expenditure cover (2021: 5.5 months, just under 4.5 months, taking into account designated funds), the Trustees believe this is sufficient to meet the minimum requirements to continue operations. These are still difficult times.

Although we have experienced a slightly less tumultuous year regarding staffing and operations, we are starting to see greater challenges arise in the public sector regarding funding models. Many companies and charities continue to struggle to fill staffing posts, and we are not immune to this. The rise in the cost of living, energy costs, and inflation allied with depressed financial markets will affect us all, and everyone, including Home-Start Herefordshire will feel the squeeze in the coming year/s. Amounts were received from Eveson Charitable Trust, Herefordshire Council, BBC Children in Need, EF Bulmer Trust, Herefordshire Community Foundation, HFT Forklifts, Rathbone Moral Aid Charity, The SR & PH Southall Charitable Trust, Kington United Charities, Tesco Community Grants, Asda Foundation, Waitrose & Partners, John Lewis & Partners, Pontrilas Developments (s), William A Cadbury, Philip Witcomb, White Stuff, Mumford Memorial Trust, Brailsford Charity, Four Acre Trust, Hereford City Rotary Club and Friends who make regular donations. TRP Sealing, ASDA, and SIMTECH also kindly loan their boardrooms for Trustee and Volunteer meetings. We are grateful for their support. In addition, money was received in the form of donations from individuals and the proceeds from fundraising events. We are grateful to the donors for their generosity and to all those involved in fundraising events for their hard work and commitment.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also directors of Home-Start Herefordshire for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statement in accordance with United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulation.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply

with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



Andy Walkden
Chair

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

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

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

Having satisfied myself that the 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 the charity's accounts as 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 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a "true and fair" view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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

A.D. Bonelle

Andrew Bonelle FCA
Chartered Accountant
Independent Examiner

Dated: 31st October 2023

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (including income and expenditure account)
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2023** £	Total Funds 2022 £
Income and Endowments					
Donations and legacies	5	83,154	-	83,154	65,862
Charitable activities	6	-	89,500	89,500	77,000
Other trading activities	7	1,876	-	1,876	1,256
Investment Income	8	952	-	952	1,043
Other income	9	3,410	-	3,410	1,573
Total Income		89,392	89,500	178,892	146,734
Expenditure					
Expenditure on fundraising:	10	121	-	121	-
Expenditure on charitable activities	11,12	74,683	88,376	163,059	150,726
Costs of raising donations and legacies	11,12	2,205	-	2,205	1,280
Total Expenditure		77,009	88,376	165,385	152,006
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds		12,383	1,124	13,507	(5,272)
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total funds brought forward		73,574	(7,580)	65,994	71,266
Total Funds Carried Forward		85,957	(6,456)	79,501	65,994

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

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

	Notes	**2023** £	2022 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	*17*	740	964
Current Assets			
Debtors	*18*	-	-
Investments	*19*	9,052	9,523
Cash at bank and in hand		72,522	58,338
		81,574	67,861
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	*20*	2,813	2,831
Net Current Assets		78,761	65,030
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		79,501	65,994
Funds of the Charity			
Restricted Funds		(6,456)	(7,580)
Unrestricted Funds		85,957	73,574
Total Charity Funds	*22*	79,501	65,994

For the year ending 31st March 2023 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the 2006 Act relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

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

(b) the directors acknowledge their responsibilties 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 special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved and signed by the trustees and authorised for issue on 31st October 2023, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Andy Walkden
Chair

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

1. **General Information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is Lakeside Offices, Suite 1, Unit 1a. Thorn Business Park, Rotherwas, Hereford, HR2 6JT.

2. **Statement of Compliance**

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102. The 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) (Charities SORP and the 2006 Act.

3. **Accounting policies**

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

There are no material judgements or key sources of estimation uncertainty.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for a particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one or two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

3. **Accounting policies (continued)**

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

(a) income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.

(b) legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.

(c) income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.

(d) income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources Expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liabiltiy is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

(a) expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.

(b) expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.

(c) other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Tangible Assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequenty stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

3. Accounting policies (continued)

Tangible Assets (continued)
An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

Depreciation
Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Fixtures and fittings	-	15% reducing balance

Impairment of Fixed Assets
A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that are largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquistion date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

Financial Instruments
A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

3. **Accounting policies (continued)**

Financial Instruments (continued)
Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the intial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

Defined Contribution Plans
Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

4. **Limited by Guarantee**
The charity is a charity limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital, each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding Nil towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

5. Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2023**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
Donations	£	£	£	£
Individual Donations	15,733	15,733	8,085	8,085
Institutional Donations	67,421	67,421	56,650	56,650
Gifts				
Gifts aid reclaimed	-	-	1,127	1,127
	83,154	83,154	65,862	65,862

6. Charitable Activities

	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2023**	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Grants receivable	89,500	89,500	77,000	77,000

7. Other Trading Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2023**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Local fundraising and street collection income	1,876	1,876	1,256	1,256

8. Investment Income

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2023**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Other investment income	952	952	1,043	1,043

9. Other Income

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2023**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Toy library	-	-	-	-
Cleaning income	392	392	274	274
Miscellaneous income	3,018	3,018	1,299	1,299
	3,410	3,410	1,573	1,573

10. Costs of Raising Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2023**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising	121	121	-	-

11. Expenditure on Charitable activities by Fund Type

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2023**
	£	£	£
Charitable activities	74,804	88,376	163,180
Support costs	2,205	-	2,205
	77,009	88,376	165,385

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£
Charitable activities	69,862	80,864	150,726
Support costs	1,280	-	1,280
	71,142	80,864	152,006

12. Expenditure on Charitable activities by Activity Type

	Activities Undertaken Directly	Support Costs	**Total Funds 2023**	Total Fund 2022
	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities	74,804	88,376	163,180	150,726
Governance costs	2,205	-	2,205	1,280
	77,009	88,376	165,385	152,006

13. Net Income/(Expenditure)

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

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciaton of tangible fixed assets	224	244

14. Independent Examination Fees

Fees payable to the independent examiner for:

Independent examination of the financial statements	900	900

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

15. Staff Costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	134,846	126,500
Employer contributions to pension plans	4,836	4,349
	139,682	130,849

The average head count of employees during the year was 8 (2022: 8). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Number of staff - type 1	8	8

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2022: Nil).

16. Trustee Remuneration and Expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

17. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Fixtures and Fittings
	£
Cost	
At 1 April 2022	5,673
Additions	
At 31 March 2023	5,673
Depeciation	
At 1 April 2022	4,709
Charge for the year	224
At 31 March 2023	4,933
Carrying Amount	
At 31 March 2023	740
At 31 March 2022	964

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

18. Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade Debtors	-	-

19. Investments

Other Investments	9,052	9,523

20. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade Creditors	1,913	1,931
Accruals and Deferred Income	900	900
	2,813	2,831

21. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans
The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £4836 (2022: £4349).

22. Analysis of Charitable Funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
General Funds	73,574	89,392	77,009	85,957

	At 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£
General Funds	74,982	69,734	71,142	73,574

22. Analysis of Charitable Funds *(continued)*

Restricted Funds

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	**At 31 March 2023**
Restricted Fund	(7,580)	89,500	88,376	(6,456)

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2022
Restricted Fund	(3,716)	77,000	80,864	(7,580)

23. Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2023**
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	512	228	740
Investments	9,052	-	9,052
Current assets	79,206	(6,684)	72,522
Creditors less than one year	(2,813)	-	(2,813)
Net Assets	85,957	(6,456)	79,501

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	685	279	964
Investments	9,523	-	9,523
Current assets	66,197	(7,859)	58,338
Creditors less than one year	(2,831)	-	(2,831)
Net Assets	73,574	(7,580)	65,994

HOME START Herefordshire

Company Limited By Guarantee

Unaudited Financial Statements

For The Year Ended

31st March 2023

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

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Reference and Administrative information

Trustees	
Andy Walkden	Chair
Jeremy Stobart	Treasurer
Helen Tank	Safeguarding
Jan Frances	
Philippa Wride	
Virginia Taylor	
David Welton	(Joined March 2023)
Scheme Manager	Mandie Preece
Principal address and registered office	Lakeside Offices Unit 1 Suite A, Thorn Business Park Rotherwas Hereford HR2 6JT
Company registration number	05659978
Charity registration number	1113432
Bankers	Lloyds TSB High Town Hereford HR1 2AE COIF Charity Funds 80 Cheapside London EC2V 6DZ
Independent Examiner	Andy Bonnelle RJ Francis & Co Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors Incorporating Bonelle & Co Marshall Business Centre Faraday Road Hereford HR4 9NS

Trustees' Report

The Trustees, who are directors for the purpose of company law, present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ending 31st March 2023.

Objectives and Activities

We are a charity that wants children and young people to have the best start in life. Our mission is to provide the support to achieve this.

Home-Start Herefordshire (HSH) aims to help families build better lives for their children by recruiting, training and supervising volunteers who offer support, friendship and practical help to families experiencing difficulties. We aim to provide support across the county and to all families referred to us.

The difficulties our families experience are often complex and reflect the issues facing families identified in county research:

- challenging and anti-social behaviour;
- mental health issues affecting both parents and children;
- children in poverty;
- domestic abuse;
- school absenteeism and low academic achievement;
- substance abuse, and
- overcrowded housing conditions.

As a charitable company HSH is dependant for its funding on grant aid, contractual agreements and fund raising. Funding uncertainty both in terms of public finance constraints and the short-term nature of other funding sources is a major issue and HSH needs to continually review its priorities and service delivery.

Achievements and Performance

2022 marked the 40th year of Home-Start Herefordshire, which gave us the perfect opportunity to celebrate and reflect upon all we have achieved working with Herefordshire families who need our unique support service. The difference we have made to the lives of families and children within our local community and the legacy that the support can provide is invaluable; as an organisation, we are indebted to the kindness, generosity, and dedication that all staff, trustees, and volunteers have shown and the valuable contribution that each and every person has played in the past four decades.

It has been a challenging year for us as an organisation with many internal changes (experienced staff retiring and recruiting new staff, some challenges with volunteer recruitment) and external (lasting impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and current difficulties with the cost of living) to manage effectively. However, as an organisation, we have risen to

these challenges with determination and resilience, thus providing overall a very positive year supporting Herefordshire families.

Challenges of Cost of Living

Due to the current cost of living crisis, we have seen a greater number of families struggling financially and experiencing associated challenges such as poor mental health, isolation, and poverty. For these families, we have worked with several of our partner agencies (Citizens Advice, debt crisis support, the Department for Work and Pensions, countywide food banks, and utility providers), enabling access to the help, advice, and expertise they desperately need, i.e., help and advice with energy payments, warm weather grants, benefit checking, food and care packs, fuel payments, debt management advice, and warm weather clothing. Certain times of the year have been incredibly challenging for families struggling financially, with added costs at the start of school terms and holiday periods and struggles at Christmas. We have been extremely grateful to the following for their support over the festive period:

- BT kindly offered us 12 months of free Broadband and Chromebooks for those families experiencing digital exclusion. This has been invaluable for families to support children's education and homework, access resources, and provide a platform for connection with others.
- White Stuff provided emergency funding and gifts to struggling families for Christmas and the festive period, which have been very well received by many.
- Sunshine Radio provided us with many wonderful toys through their 'Christmas Toy Appeal'; this has meant that all our supported children received a toy for Christmas, reducing the worry for many parents and carers that their children would go without and providing lots of happiness.

Volunteer Model

With the lifting of Covid restrictions, we saw the return to our successful model of providing volunteer family support in the home. This support has been gratefully received by the families and volunteers eager to see each other face-to-face. However, we have also wanted to reflect on our pandemic experiences. So, we have built on what we learned by continuing to offer virtual lines of support for families. This has been particularly beneficial for those who struggle with social interaction and communication, and something we will continue to provide where needed.

Family Feedback

"Thank you ever so much for your support and for taking my son out and letting him express himself. It's really helped him open up and feel better about himself." (Mum)

"We as a family have really appreciated the support, particularly getting things in place to make things easier for my daughter at school." (Dad)

"The volunteer was lovely, welcoming, made an effort with the kids, and clearly wanted to be there for us." (Mum)

"Before I met H (volunteer), I worried about secondary school and friends. I now feel safe and happy and listened to. H helped Mum as well because we now do more together. I enjoyed playing games and chatting with H; she has made a difference in my life." (Child, 11 yrs)

"Before I met B (volunteer), I felt excited but a bit nervous; she made me feel happy and important. I loved playing Frozen Unicorn. I now feel happier, and I feel bright. I really loved B. I didn't want her to leave, but I feel a lot better now. Thank you so much." (Child, 8 yrs)

Volunteer Recruitment and Training

It has been a disappointing year regarding volunteer recruitment, with us only able to recruit a few new volunteers successfully. However, several of our resting volunteers have returned to volunteering, enabling us to support 87 families and 171 children effectively. We have also continued through the delivery of online and in-person training sessions to up-skill our experienced volunteer team by providing new training on topics such as ADHD, Autism, Healthy Eating, Domestic Abuse, and Safeguarding refresher. This additional training has enabled our volunteers to approach the associated challenges experienced by families with confidence, compassion, and awareness while enhancing their experience and expertise.

Increased number of children supported with complex additional needs

Over the past few years, resources and support services for children with complex additional needs have greatly reduced. As a result, our organisation has provided increased support for families struggling with children with SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities). Our specialist volunteer team has been instrumental in ensuring some of our most vulnerable children receive the best possible help and support to enable them to reach their developmental milestones and ensure their feelings are considered and their voices heard when planning for their future.

Despite the past year's challenges, we are proud of what we have achieved as an organisation, and we are looking forward to the coming year. Again, thank you to all our past and present volunteers, staff, trustees, families, and supporters who have made our work possible. Although times have been tough, we are always inspired by the dedication and passion everyone has for the organisation and what we do. Many, many thanks; we couldn't have done it without you all!

Financial Review

Jeremy Stobart – Treasurer

In financial terms, 2022/2023 has been a reasonably satisfactory year. Although there has been a marked uptick in expenditure (approximately 9% on 21/22), there has been a greater increase in income, mainly from increases from existing institutional funders and/or new funding grants. Total expenditure has increased this year to £165,385 (2022:£152,006). This is mainly due to increased staff costs/pay rises. Total income (Core and Restricted combined) was significantly increased as mentioned above, on last year at £178,982 (2022: £146,734). This increase is slightly skewed by the fact that last year's income was down on 2021's income, which was a slightly 'Freak' year due to Covid-related' Emergency Funding.' There was a surplus for the year on Core/unrestricted activities of £12,383 (2022: £1,408 surplus). In addition, our restricted reserves have rallied slightly with a surplus of £1,124, so our overall restricted reserves deficit has reduced from negative £7,580 to negative £6,456. So our overall reserves have increased to £79,501 (2022: £65,994). Note that within the overall reserves figure above, £20,750 is designated by funders towards operations in 2023/2024. Thus, cleared undesignated funds stand at £58,751. As ever, my praise goes out to Mandie and her hard-working and fairly newly installed team for their achievements, not just financially but operationally as well, in keeping costs down and drawing in additional income streams. Our current unrestricted reserves only

provide minimum cover for emergencies such as shortfalls in funding or unexpected expenditure. The Trustees continue to believe that reserves equivalent to six months' expenditure, i.e., circa £80,000, are the optimum required to ensure continuity of operations and will continue to work towards this goal. Although the current reserves provide for just under six months of expenditure cover (2021: 5.5 months, just under 4.5 months, taking into account designated funds), the Trustees believe this is sufficient to meet the minimum requirements to continue operations. These are still difficult times.

Although we have experienced a slightly less tumultuous year regarding staffing and operations, we are starting to see greater challenges arise in the public sector regarding funding models. Many companies and charities continue to struggle to fill staffing posts, and we are not immune to this. The rise in the cost of living, energy costs, and inflation allied with depressed financial markets will affect us all, and everyone, including Home-Start Herefordshire will feel the squeeze in the coming year/s. Amounts were received from Eveson Charitable Trust, Herefordshire Council, BBC Children in Need, EF Bulmer Trust, Herefordshire Community Foundation, HFT Forklifts, Rathbone Moral Aid Charity, The SR & PH Southall Charitable Trust, Kington United Charities, Tesco Community Grants, Asda Foundation, Waitrose & Partners, John Lewis & Partners, Pontrilas Developments (s), William A Cadbury, Philip Witcomb, White Stuff, Mumford Memorial Trust, Brailsford Charity, Four Acre Trust, Hereford City Rotary Club and Friends who make regular donations. TRP Sealing, ASDA, and SIMTECH also kindly loan their boardrooms for Trustee and Volunteer meetings. We are grateful for their support. In addition, money was received in the form of donations from individuals and the proceeds from fundraising events. We are grateful to the donors for their generosity and to all those involved in fundraising events for their hard work and commitment.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also directors of Home-Start Herefordshire for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statement in accordance with United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulation.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply

with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



Andy Walkden
Chair

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

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

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

Having satisfied myself that the 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 the charity's accounts as 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 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a "true and fair" view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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

A.D. Bonelle

Andrew Bonelle FCA
Chartered Accountant
Independent Examiner

Dated: 31st October 2023

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (including income and expenditure account)
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2023** £	Total Funds 2022 £
Income and Endowments					
Donations and legacies	5	83,154	-	83,154	65,862
Charitable activities	6	-	89,500	89,500	77,000
Other trading activities	7	1,876	-	1,876	1,256
Investment Income	8	952	-	952	1,043
Other income	9	3,410	-	3,410	1,573
Total Income		89,392	89,500	178,892	146,734
Expenditure					
Expenditure on fundraising:	10	121	-	121	-
Expenditure on charitable activities	11,12	74,683	88,376	163,059	150,726
Costs of raising donations and legacies	11,12	2,205	-	2,205	1,280
Total Expenditure		77,009	88,376	165,385	152,006
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds		12,383	1,124	13,507	(5,272)
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total funds brought forward		73,574	(7,580)	65,994	71,266
Total Funds Carried Forward		85,957	(6,456)	79,501	65,994

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

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

	Notes	**2023** £	2022 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	*17*	740	964
Current Assets			
Debtors	*18*	-	-
Investments	*19*	9,052	9,523
Cash at bank and in hand		72,522	58,338
		81,574	67,861
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	*20*	2,813	2,831
Net Current Assets		78,761	65,030
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		79,501	65,994
Funds of the Charity			
Restricted Funds		(6,456)	(7,580)
Unrestricted Funds		85,957	73,574
Total Charity Funds	*22*	79,501	65,994

For the year ending 31st March 2023 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the 2006 Act relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

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

(b) the directors acknowledge their responsibilties 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 special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved and signed by the trustees and authorised for issue on 31st October 2023, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Andy Walkden
Chair

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

1. **General Information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is Lakeside Offices, Suite 1, Unit 1a. Thorn Business Park, Rotherwas, Hereford, HR2 6JT.

2. **Statement of Compliance**

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102. The 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) (Charities SORP and the 2006 Act.

3. **Accounting policies**

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

There are no material judgements or key sources of estimation uncertainty.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for a particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one or two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

3. **Accounting policies (continued)**

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

(a) income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.

(b) legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.

(c) income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.

(d) income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources Expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liabiltiy is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

(a) expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.

(b) expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.

(c) other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Tangible Assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequenty stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

3. Accounting policies (continued)

Tangible Assets (continued)
An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

Depreciation
Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Fixtures and fittings	-	15% reducing balance

Impairment of Fixed Assets
A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that are largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquistion date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

Financial Instruments
A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

3. **Accounting policies (continued)**

Financial Instruments (continued)
Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the intial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

Defined Contribution Plans
Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

4. **Limited by Guarantee**
The charity is a charity limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital, each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding Nil towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

5. Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2023**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
Donations	£	£	£	£
Individual Donations	15,733	15,733	8,085	8,085
Institutional Donations	67,421	67,421	56,650	56,650
Gifts				
Gifts aid reclaimed	-	-	1,127	1,127
	83,154	83,154	65,862	65,862

6. Charitable Activities

	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2023**	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Grants receivable	89,500	89,500	77,000	77,000

7. Other Trading Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2023**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Local fundraising and street collection income	1,876	1,876	1,256	1,256

8. Investment Income

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2023**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Other investment income	952	952	1,043	1,043

9. Other Income

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2023**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Toy library	-	-	-	-
Cleaning income	392	392	274	274
Miscellaneous income	3,018	3,018	1,299	1,299
	3,410	3,410	1,573	1,573

10. Costs of Raising Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2023**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising	121	121	-	-

11. Expenditure on Charitable activities by Fund Type

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2023**
	£	£	£
Charitable activities	74,804	88,376	163,180
Support costs	2,205	-	2,205
	77,009	88,376	165,385

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£
Charitable activities	69,862	80,864	150,726
Support costs	1,280	-	1,280
	71,142	80,864	152,006

12. Expenditure on Charitable activities by Activity Type

	Activities Undertaken Directly	Support Costs	**Total Funds 2023**	Total Fund 2022
	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities	74,804	88,376	163,180	150,726
Governance costs	2,205	-	2,205	1,280
	77,009	88,376	165,385	152,006

13. Net Income/(Expenditure)

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

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciaton of tangible fixed assets	224	244

14. Independent Examination Fees

Fees payable to the independent examiner for:

Independent examination of the financial statements	900	900

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

15. Staff Costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	134,846	126,500
Employer contributions to pension plans	4,836	4,349
	139,682	130,849

The average head count of employees during the year was 8 (2022: 8). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Number of staff - type 1	8	8

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2022: Nil).

16. Trustee Remuneration and Expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

17. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Fixtures and Fittings
	£
Cost	
At 1 April 2022	5,673
Additions	
At 31 March 2023	5,673
Depeciation	
At 1 April 2022	4,709
Charge for the year	224
At 31 March 2023	4,933
Carrying Amount	
At 31 March 2023	740
At 31 March 2022	964

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

18. Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade Debtors	-	-

19. Investments

Other Investments	9,052	9,523

20. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade Creditors	1,913	1,931
Accruals and Deferred Income	900	900
	2,813	2,831

21. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans
The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £4836 (2022: £4349).

22. Analysis of Charitable Funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
General Funds	73,574	89,392	77,009	85,957

	At 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£
General Funds	74,982	69,734	71,142	73,574

22. Analysis of Charitable Funds *(continued)*

Restricted Funds

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	**At 31 March 2023**
Restricted Fund	(7,580)	89,500	88,376	(6,456)

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2022
Restricted Fund	(3,716)	77,000	80,864	(7,580)

23. Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2023**
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	512	228	740
Investments	9,052	-	9,052
Current assets	79,206	(6,684)	72,522
Creditors less than one year	(2,813)	-	(2,813)
Net Assets	85,957	(6,456)	79,501

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	685	279	964
Investments	9,523	-	9,523
Current assets	66,197	(7,859)	58,338
Creditors less than one year	(2,831)	-	(2,831)
Net Assets	73,574	(7,580)	65,994

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1113432

Accounts

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st MARCH 2022

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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Home-Start Herefordshire
Reference and Administrative information

Trustees	
Andy Walkden	Chair
Jeremy Stobart	Treasurer
Helen Tank	Safeguarding
Vicki Murray	(resigned October 2021)
Jan Frances	
Philippa Granthier	
Virginia Taylor	
Scheme Manager	Mandie Preece
Principal address and registered office	Lakeside Offices Unit 1 Suite A, Thorn Business Park Rotherwas Hereford HR2 6JT
Company registration number	05659978
Charity registration number	1113432
Bankers	Lloyds TSB High Town Hereford HR1 2AE
	COIF Charity Funds 80 Cheapside London EC2V 6DZ
Independent Examiner	RJ Francis & Co Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors Incorporating Bonelle & Co Marshall Business Centre Faraday Road Hereford HR4 9NS

Home-Start Herefordshire
Trustees' report

The Trustees, who are directors for the purpose of company law, present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ending 31st March 2022.

Objectives and activities

We are a charity that wants children and young people to have the best start in life. Our mission is to provide the support to achieve this.

Home-Start Herefordshire (HSH) aims to help families build better lives for their children by recruiting, training and supervising volunteers who offer support, friendship and practical help to families experiencing difficulties. We aim to provide support across the county and to all families referred to us.

The difficulties our families experience are often complex and reflect the issues facing families identified in county research:

- challenging and anti-social behaviour;
- mental health issues affecting both parents and children;
- children in poverty;
- domestic abuse;
- school absenteeism and low academic achievement;
- substance abuse, and
- over crowded housing conditions.

As a charitable company HSH is dependant for its funding on grant aid, contractual agreements and fund raising. Funding uncertainty both in terms of public finance constraints and the short-term nature of other funding sources is a major issue and HSH needs to continually review its priorities and service delivery.

Achievements and Performance

Trying to rebuild after 2020 and the impacts of Covid19 has brought some unique challenges that have required us as an organisation to adopt creative, innovative and resourceful working approaches to allow the continuation of family support provision in Herefordshire. In this time, the demand upon our service has also increased due to the effects of the pandemic such as physical and mental health concerns and financial hardship, being experienced by many. We have also seen that due to long periods of lockdown many families have experienced increased feelings of isolation and loneliness, impacting upon their emotional health and wellbeing, as well as feeling the effects of the prolonged furlough schemes and school closures, which has led to some families requiring more intensive support and interventions.

With the lifting of lockdown and restrictions we were able to take steps to return to our traditional way of working by providing face-to-face visits within the family home. The

transition back to this approach was carefully managed to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all staff, volunteers and the families themselves.

Throughout the national lockdowns all Home-Start staff members worked from home, but with the easing of restrictions we gradually started to make moves back to the office. This has been done in a safe and manageable way. The return to the office environment has brought with it the benefit of the re-establishment of an efficient supportive team, sharing experience, knowledge and skills, to optimise our organisation aims. However we also recognised the benefits of home working, especially in regards to maintaining a good work-life balance and the flexibility needed within an organisation whose operation isn't always within the usual working hours. In light of this we have produced a new home working policy and aim to utilise this when appropriate.

We have successfully recruited and trained a small number of excellent new volunteers during 2021 but disappointingly the number of volunteers recruited was down considerably from previous years. This was expected somewhat due to the difficulties associated with the pandemic, but for the new volunteers we were able to recruit and train, an integration of both online and in-person training sessions made the course as smooth running as possible. We have also tried to continue the training and development of our existing volunteers, providing new knowledge on topics such as 'promoting good emotional wellbeing', 'supporting fathers', 'child exploitation and vulnerability (provided by West Mercia Police), and 'The Baby Brain', again provided with the health and safety of our volunteers at the forefront of our considerations. This has enabled our volunteers to approach the associated challenges experienced by families with confidence, compassion, and awareness, enhancing their experience and expertise.

Although face-to-face support wasn't possible during the height of the pandemic, with the lifting of restrictions many of our volunteers chose to resume their visits to their family's homes, providing the vital lifeline of practical and emotional support and guidance. This has been warmly received by many of our families, helping to improve feelings of loneliness and isolation which has greatly impacted many service users' health and wellbeing. We were also again able to provide the one to one mentoring support for local young people who may have been identified as displaying social and emotional concerns that impact their day to day lives. The resumption of this work has enabled positive improvements in the young person's self-worth, self-esteem, and self-confidence, as well as a reduction in any presenting problem behaviours and socio-emotional concerns; for many, being able to talk about their worries and emotions in-person has enabled greater engagement and openness. However it has also been recognised that for some, especially those who struggle to engage or have difficulties in social situations, virtual support has its benefits, and therefore where appropriate or wanted we have continued to provide this. As an organisation we have wanted to reflect on our experience of the pandemic and continue to build on what we learnt; by continuing to offer virtual lines of support where wanted or needed, this has enabled us to do this, as we have been able to see some positive learning from the delivery challenges we faced.

Although we have been able to see some sense of normality returning to our everyday lives it has also been bittersweet for Home-Start due to the retirement of our much loved and respected colleagues Barbara and Diane (HSH Coordinators), who have provided constant support, guidance, and encouragement to everyone who has worked with the organisation. We greatly respect their tireless commitment and dedication to the organisation, guidance and support to volunteers and the valuable difference they have made to 100s of families lives spanning over 30 years. They will be sorely missed, but everyone at Home-Start wishes them all the love and happiness for the future.

We also want to pay a special thank you to Vicki who has decided to step down as Trustee after 11 years of service. Vicki, like Diane and Barbara, has always been a very great supporter of the

organisation and we deeply appreciate everything she has done for Home-Start. She will be very much missed, but we wish her all the best for the future.

Looking to the future we have started to build an amazing new team with the arrival of Tina (Volunteer Recruitment and Marketing Coordinator), Imogen (Family and Volunteer Coordinator) and Karen (Administrator); they have already demonstrated their enthusiasm for their roles and the organisation overall and it has been a real pleasure to see their growth and development over the last year. We know that Home-Start Herefordshire is in very good hands, and we look forward to what we can achieve together as an organisation in providing our essential support services for Herefordshire families.

As an organisation, Home-Start Herefordshire is extremely grateful to our friends, funders and supporters for all their on-going support they have shown us through 2021, enabling us to continue to provide our vital service in times of austerity and hardship. We are positive for the future and will continue to show our resilience and aptitude in the face of adversity in order to provide support for those families that need it most.

Financial Review

In financial terms the 2021/2022 has been a reasonably satisfactory year. That said, the previous financial year (2020/2021) was our most successful in financial terms, mainly due to the high levels of emergency funding we received and reduced staffing costs/expenses. Although things were more 'fluid' this year in other areas such as personnel movements and operation, we have only seen a minor drop in overall reserves, which is unsurprising as last year was a 'freak' year in many ways . We seem to have come out of the Covid pandemic reasonably unscathed albeit income is below pre pandemic levels. That said expenditure has also been reduced to below pre pandemic levels as well.

Total expenditure has increased this year at £152,006 (2021:£143,607). This is mainly due to a number of staff movements/staff cross over this year and reduced staff expenses last year, as mentioned above. Total income (Core and Restricted combined) was down on last year at £146,734 (2021: £163,285). As mentioned above, a lot of this was due to the loss of Emergency funding which we acquired during Covid in 2020/2021 (To put this into context, in 2020/2021 we received nearly £22,000 additional funding from Emergency funding and the HSUK loneliness fund, alone). There was a small deficit for the year on Core/Unrestricted activities of £1,408 (2021: £27,024 surplus). However, our restricted reserves fell further into deficit by ££3,864 which means that our overall reserves have reduced to: £65,994 (2021: £71,266).

Post Covid was always going to be tricky and I alluded to this in last year's report. To show only a small dip in reserves has frankly been no mean feat. Taking the disappearance of emergency Covid funding along with us having replaced more than half our staff complement has made operations difficult, and so my praise goes out to Mandie and her hard-working and fairly newly installed team for their achievements, not just financially but operationally as well.

Our current unrestricted reserves only provide minimum cover for emergencies such as shortfalls in funding or unexpected expenditure. The Trustees continue to believe that reserves equivalent to 6 months expenditure, i.e. circa £80,000, are the optimum required to ensure continuity of operations and will continue to work towards this goal. Although the current reserves currently provide for just over 5 months of expenditure cover (2021: 5.5 months), the Trustees believe this is sufficient to meet the minimum requirements to continue operations.
These are still difficult times. Many companies and charities continue to struggle to fill staffing posts and we are not immune to this. The rise in the cost of living, energy costs, inflation allied

with depressed financial markets will have an effect on us all, and everyone, including Home-Start will feel the squeeze in the coming year/s.

Amounts were received from Eveson Charitable Trust, Herefordshire Council, BBC Children in Need, EF Bulmer Trust, Herefordshire Community Foundation, HFT Forklifts, Rathbone Moral Aid Charity, The Southall Trust, Kington United Charities, Tesco Community Grants, Asda Foundation, Waitrose & Partners, John Lewis & Partners, Masonic Charitable Foundation (BHBF), Pontrilas Developments (s), William A Cadbury, Pears Foundation, Philip Witcomb and Friends who make regular donations. We are grateful for their support. In addition money was received in the form of donations from individuals and the proceeds from fund raising events. We are grateful to the donors for their generosity and to all those involved in fund raising events for their hard work and commitment.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also directors of Home-Start Herefordshire for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statement in accordance with United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulation.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on 31st August 2022 and signed on their behalf by:



Andy Walkden
Chair

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF HOME-START HEREFORD
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022

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

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

Having satisfied myself that the 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 the charity's accounts as 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 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a "true and fair" view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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

A.D. Bonelle

Andrew Bonelle FCA
Chartered Accountant
Independent Examiner

Dated: 31st August 2022

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (including income and expenditure account)
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2022** £	Total Funds 2021 £
Income and Endowments					
Donations and legacies	*5*	65,862	-	65,862	78,529
Charitable activities	*6*	-	77,000	77,000	74,500
Other trading activities	*7*	1,256	-	1,256	6,130
Investment Income	*8*	1,043	-	1,043	1,783
Other income	*9*	1,573	-	1,573	2,343
Total Income		69,734	77,000	146,734	163,285
Expenditure					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of raising donations and legacies	*10*	69,862	80,864	150,726	-
Expenditure on charitable activities	*11, 12*	1,280	-	1,280	143,607
Total Expenditure		71,142	80,864	152,006	143,607
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds		(1,408)	(3,864)	(5,272)	19,678
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total funds brought forward		74,982	(3,716)	71,266	51,588
Total Funds Carried Forward		73,574	(7,580)	65,994	71,266

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

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	17	964	753
Current Assets			
Debtors	18	-	16,500
Investments	19	9,523	8,761
Cash at bank and in hand		58,338	47,040
		67,861	72,301
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	20	2,831	1,788
Net Current Assets		65,030	70,513
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		65,994	71,266
Net Assets			
Funds of the Charity			
Restricted Funds		(7,580)	(3,716)
Unrestricted Funds		73,574	74,982
Total Charity Funds	22	65,994	71,266

For the year ending 31st March 2022 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the 2006 Act relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

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

(b) the directors acknowledge their responsibilties 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 special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved and signed by the trustees and authorised for issue on 31st August 2022, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Andy Walkden
Chair

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022

1. **General Information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is Lakeside Offices, Suite 1, Unit 1a. Thorn Business Park, Rotherwas, Hereford, HR2 6JT.

2. **Statement of Compliance**

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102. The 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) (Charities SORP and the 2006 Act.

3. **Accounting policies**

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

There are no material judgements or key sources of estimation uncertainty.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for a particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one or two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

3. Accounting policies (continued)

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

(a) income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.

(b) legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.

(c) income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.

(d) income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources Expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liabiltiy is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

(a) expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.

(b) expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.

(c) other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Tangible Assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequenty stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

3. **Accounting policies (continued)**

Tangible Assets (continued)
An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

Depreciation
Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Fixtures and fittings	-	15% reducing balance

Impairment of Fixed Assets
A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that are largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquistion date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

Financial Instruments
A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

3. **Accounting policies (continued)**

Financial Instruments (continued)
Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the intial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

Defined Contribution Plans
Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

4. **Limited by Guarantee**
The charity is a charity limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital, each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding Nil towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022

5. Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2022**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2021
Donations	£	£	£	£
Donations from individuals	64,735	64,735	78,529	78,529
Gifts				
Gifts aid reclaimed	1,127	1,127	-	-
	65,862	65,862	78,529	78,529

6. Charitable Activities

	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2022**	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Grants receivable	77,000	77,000	74,500	74,500

7. Other Trading Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2022**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Local fundraising and street collection income	1,256	1,256	6,130	6,130

8. Investment Income

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2022**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Other investment income	1,043	1,043	1,783	1,783

9. Other Income

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2022**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Toy library	-	-	-	-
Cleaning income	274	274	155	155
Miscellaneous income	1,299	1,299	2,188	2,188
	1,573	1,573	2,343	2,343

10. Costs of Raising Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2022**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising	-	-	-	-

11. Expenditure on Charitable activities by Fund Type

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2022**
	£	£	£
Charitable activities	69,862	80,864	150,726
Support costs	1,280	-	1,280
	71,142	80,864	152,006

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£
Charitable activities	60,181	81,846	142,027
Support costs	1,580	-	1,580
	61,761	81,846	143,607

12. Expenditure on Charitable activities by Activity Type

	Activities Undertaken Directly	Support Costs	**Total Funds 2022**	Total Fund 2021
	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities	69,862	80,864	150,726	142,027
Governance costs	1,280	-	1,280	1,580
	71,142	80,864	152,006	143,607

13. Net Income/(Expenditure)

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

	2022	2021
	£	£
Depreciaton of tangible fixed assets	244	174

14. Independent Examination Fees

Fees payable to the independent examiner for:

Independent examination of the financial statements	900	840

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022

15. Staff Costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	126,500	118,763
Employer contributions to pension plans	4,349	4,123
	130,849	122,886

The average head count of employees during the year was 8 (2021: 8). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2022	2021
	No.	No.
Number of staff - type 1	8	8

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2021: Nil).

16. Trustee Remuneration and Expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

17. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Fixtures and Fittings
	£
Cost	
At 1 April 2021	5,218
Additions	455
At 31 March 2022	5,673
Depeciation	
At 1 April 2021	4,465
Charge for the year	244
At 31 March 2022	4,709
Carrying Amount	
At 31 March 2022	964
At 31 March 2021	753

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022

18. Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade Debtors	-	16,500

19. Investments

Other Investments	9,523	8,761

20. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade Creditors	1,931	988
Accruals and Deferred Income	900	800
	2,831	1,788

21. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans
The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £1123 (2021: £1123).

22. Analysis of Charitable Funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	**At 31 March 2022**
	£	£	£	£
General Funds	74,982	69,734	71,142	73,574

	At 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£
General Funds	47,958	88,785	61,761	74,982

22. Analysis of Charitable Funds *(continued)*

Restricted Funds

	At 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	**At 31 March 2022**
Restricted Fund	(3,716)	77,000	80,864	(7,580)

	At 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2021
Restricted Fund	3,630	74,500	(81,846)	(3,716)

23. Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2022**
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	685	279	964
Investments	9,523	-	9,523
Current assets	66,197	(7,859)	58,338
Creditors less than one year	(2,831)	-	(2,831)
Net Assets	73,574	(7,580)	65,994

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	416	337	753
Investments	8,761	-	8,761
Current assets	67,593	(4,053)	63,540
Creditors less than one year	(1,788)	-	(1,788)
Net Assets	74,982	(3,716)	71,266

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1113432

Accounts

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 MARCH 2021

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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Home-Start Herefordshire
Reference and Administrative information

Trustees	
Andy Walkden	Chair
Jeremy Stobart	Treasurer
Helen Tank	Safeguarding
Vicki Murray	
Jan Frances	
Philippa Granthier	Appointed 14 February 2020
Virginia Taylor	Appointed 26 June 2020
Scheme Manager	Mandie Preece
Principal address and registered office	Lakeside Offices Unit 1 Suite A, Thorn Business Park Rotherwas Hereford HR2 6JT
Company registration number	05659978
Charity registration number	1113432
Bankers	Lloyds TSB High Town Hereford HR1 2AE
	COIF Charity Funds 80 Cheapside London EC2V 6DZ
Independent Examiner	Andrew Bonelle FCA Chartered Accountants Bonelle and Co Ltd 1 Wyecliffe Terrace Bath Street Hereford HR1 2HG

Home-Start Herefordshire
Trustees' report

The Trustees, who are directors for the purpose of company law, present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ending 31st March 2020.

Objectives and Activities

We are a charity that wants children and young people to have the best start in life. Our mission is to provide the support to achieve this.

Home-Start Herefordshire (HSH) aims to help families build better lives for their children by recruiting, training and supervising volunteers who offer support, friendship and practical help to families experiencing difficulties. We aim to provide support across the county and to all families referred to us.

The difficulties our families experience are often complex and reflect the issues facing families identified in county research:

- challenging and anti-social behaviour
- mental health issues affecting both parents and children
- children in poverty
- domestic abuse
- school absenteeism and low academic achievement
- substance abuse and
- overcrowded housing conditions.

As a charitable company HSH is dependant for its funding on grant aid, contractual agreements and fund raising. Funding uncertainty both in terms of public finance constraints and the short-term nature of other funding sources is a major issue and HSH needs to continually review its priorities and service delivery.

Achievements and Performance

The year 2020 and its arrival of Covid19 was unprecedented and brought with it great fear, anxiety and worry to everyone. Some families in Herefordshire who were already vulnerable and struggling, found themselves at crisis point while others, who would previously said to have been coping fine, found themselves in situations of despair and hopelessness. Home-Start as an organisation had to rapidly and dramatically adapt its way of working, as the face-to-face volunteer befriending service we usually provided was no longer feasible in line with government guidelines and restrictions. Coupled with this we also experienced an increased need for our support services, as more families found themselves struggling due to the consequences of lockdown, isolation and poor health.

Organisation Adaption

As an organisation we have found that all members of staff, volunteers and trustees have adapted to the situation and continued to provide the best support possible for some of Herefordshire's most vulnerable and fragile families, who have faced financial and emotional difficulties in this

tough time. As our usual way of providing support was no longer feasible, our volunteers who usually did in the home family visits have been keeping contact with their family via video calls, phone calls and emails, maintaining the lifeline of support and preventing loneliness. This has also allowed the continuation of practical advice such as assisting families virtually with home learning, managing children's difficult behaviours and maintaining a good routine.
We have also supported families, both parents and children with the emotional toll of the lockdowns, by encouraging families to talk about how they are feeling and providing techniques to maintain family's good overall emotional health.

Remote Working

'Stay at Home' working and learning has been difficult for everyone, with unforeseen complications arising for Home-Start staff, volunteers and families alike. During the national lockdown all Home-Start staff members worked from home which did prove a difficulty due to the lack of equipment for participating in video/phone meetings i.e. microphone headsets, cameras and mobile phones. Funding allowed the purchase of such items, which ensured that staff were able to actively participate effectively in countywide meetings with other organisations such as schools and the council, provide volunteer supervision and support and contact families when needed. Home-Start also were able to purchase equipment to aid with remote service delivery. Due to the rural nature of some of the communities of North Herefordshire, many families residing in this area found themselves increasingly isolated due to national and local restrictions, preventing the usual running of their Home-Start run family group. Through the purchase of a tablet for our Group coordinator we were able to deliver weekly group sessions via video conferencing, in which the families had the opportunity to meet together (albeit remotely), sharing the highs and lows of lockdown and being able to share what their children had been doing/making at home. Our Group coordinator was also able to offer parenting support via themed sessions, as well as safety advice and sign-posting when needed and our experienced play leader joined the sessions, demonstrating some fun craft activities and story and rhyme sessions. This provided a much needed sense of social interaction and community to these families, enabling them to discuss their worries and concerns, as well as keeping in contact with friends.

Volunteer Guidelines and Assistance

To assist our volunteers with remote working we provided "Guidance for supporting from a distance" resource packs which covered practical tips for making effective support phone/video calls and emails, guidance for providing emotional support to families, activities for the children to do at home, methods of supporting the parents to implement good routine and behaviour management for the children, coping with stress and looking after own mental wellbeing, as well as useful contact numbers. These packs were greatly appreciated by the volunteers as, for some, distance support was quite a daunting prospect but felt they were able to confidently approach it with some of the strategies provided. Many families responded well to email and phone call support, especially those we have found previously hard to engage, as they felt able to spend time noting down their feelings at times which may be more convenient to them. We have also found that teenagers and young adults have also liked this type of support as some reported feeling more confident using technology to disclose their worries and concerns, rather than speaking to someone face-to-face. We have taken all this feedback on board and are going to ensure that this kind of support is available in the future when appropriate and wanted.

Volunteer Recruitment and Training

Volunteer recruitment was always going to have its challenges in a year where social distancing was essential. However, we can proudly say that we have been able to recruit and train 17 new volunteers throughout the year (2 'blended learning' prep courses- 40 hours of training each) in a safe way that abided by the national social distancing regulations. This involved flexibility on our part, by having to adapt some of training to online provision, as well as effective organisation in ensuring appropriate room allocation and PPE provision. It also showed the

generosity and selflessness of our newly recruited volunteers. By giving their time in the midst of a national pandemic and being patient with our new ways of working, we were able to train them to the same high standard of the rest of our volunteers, enabling service continuation and effective delivery.

Marketing and Social Media

Our Marketing and volunteer recruitment Coordinator regularly updated our social media pages enabling all supporters, staff, volunteers and families to stay informed about the continuing work of our organisation and ways of accessing our/other organisations support if required. In addition we also provided links to fun activities for children to do at home, as well as practical support for parents, in terms of parenting advice, stress management and coping strategies. Regular updates concerning national and local advice were also provided in regards to the Covid19 situation, with links to key messages from the Children's Commissioner, Adult and Children's Safeguarding, Public Health and the NHS, ensuring the provision of appropriate, accurate and informative information. In addition to this our President Alex James read and recorded stories for our families which we uploaded on social media, with feedback from many families stating their children's enjoyment of these sessions.

Emergency Supplies

Due to the financial strain brought about by self-isolation, shielding and job losses some of our families in the past year have reached the point of extreme hardship and many of these have struggled to put food on the table. Home-Start liaised with the countywide food banks on behalf of these families ensuring they were provided with food and toiletries, as well as items such as baby formula, nappies and pet food when required. In addition an ex-service user kindly raised funds throughout the year via their family business in order to purchase food parcels of fresh produce which we could distribute to the families in need. In collaboration we were also able to create Easter food and activity packs for all the children of the families supported by Home-Start, with additional items such as Easter chocolates and crafts which we distributed on Good Friday. Core funding also allowed us to repeat this at Christmas with the purchase and distribution of a toy to all children of the families supported by Home-Start, along with small gifts for the parents/carers, ensuring no child was left without on Christmas day.

Emotional Support

In light of the pandemic, the worries and concerns of the children we support have been seen to change, and thus we as an organisation have adapted accordingly. Many of our children were expressing anxiety surrounding the current global situation in terms of concerns about mortality, and illness, while others were expressing lack of self-confidence issues, and social anxiety due to increased time spent at home. Our volunteers were able to rationalise some of these fears for the children by providing age-appropriate facts relating to the pandemic, enabling the child to understand their fears more appropriately, reducing the occurrence of catastrophising thoughts and its consequent anxiety. Furthermore many of volunteers were able to work with the confidence issues some of our children were having by encouraging more positive thinking patterns, identifying the negative self-thoughts and countering them by identifying positive traits and encouraging self-care. This work was especially beneficial for some of our young people who without the distraction of school, friends and extra-curriculum activities found themselves in a cycle of negative self-thinking. By encouraging the development of a healthy routine, (virtual) social contact and engagement in positive activities and hobbies, many of our young people reported an improvement in their self-esteem and confidence.

Educational Support

Due to the closure of schools, many children were struggling with home schooling, whether that was practically (i.e. having the equipment such as laptops to complete the online tasks set by many schools or engaging in the work at home) or emotionally (i.e. stress of not having a teacher to assist them, to increased anxiety when they were unable to understand the work set). This

could lead to tension within the family home, often resulting in conflict between the child and their parents/carers. Home-Start was able to assist remotely with this, by providing virtual volunteer support to assist and guide home schooling, encourage child engagement with their lessons and provide practical tips for parents to improve children's challenging behaviours. Many of our volunteers provided additional support sessions on top of the average two hours/weekly they would usually provide in recognition of the difficulties the children were experiencing. Home-Start was also able to liaise with the schools if it was felt by the child that they were falling behind/weren't coping with the work set, and this enabled the schools to recognise the struggles and provide additional resources and support. This has allowed better engagement for many of our children in their home learning, improving their productivity and ensuring a continuation with their education. We also recognised the importance of more vulnerable children attending school if places were available, supporting parents to access this provision if they so wished, and liaising with schools about the child's progress at home/school to ensure the child was supported adequately. This ensured the needs of the child were met and that they were safeguarded effectively.

Family Feedback

"I am extremely grateful for the support provided by Home-Start I have been amazed by how much the service has offered me and my children especially during the difficult lockdown period"

"I found Home-Start really invaluable during a difficult time in my life, especially with the added pressure of lockdown; I now feel more confidence in my own ability and strengths."

"HS support has made a massive difference to me –I no longer feel so alone. I can't believe how much you've helped me. The food parcels and clothing were an enormous help"

"B (volunteer)'s support and vast knowledge/advice has been immeasurable. His manner and professionalism is outstanding, not only has he encouraged and supported the children to rebuild and develop their confidence but he has also enabled our son to rebuild his self worth and confidence and for that we are truly grateful"

Plans For The Future

We are positive for the future and will continue to show our resilience and aptitude in the face of adversity in order to provide support for those families that need it most.

- Due to the Covid19 pandemic future plans will need to adapt and change as we come out of lockdown and beyond

- HSH maintains a rolling 5-year Strategic Plan. This plan has identified priority objectives for the period which largely involve service delivery, succession planning and organisational development. Further details of these objectives can be found on our website and the significant shorter-term plans are as follows:

- Develop and adapt services Post Covid - working on priority areas - Mental health, education, loneliness, isolation, debt and unemployment.

- To continue to review our current training programme & explore opportunities for the delivery of new accredited training as our current programme comes to an end.

- Ongoing cycle of Quality Assurance by self assessing 4 quality standards (Governance, People Management, Managing Information & Safeguarding/Child Protection).

- Review HSH Data Protection systems & procedures ensuring full compliance with GDPR especially with regards to remote working.

- Develop volunteer peer support opportunities as a forum for consultation & evaluation as well as support, advice and guidance. Develop our online volunteer forum.

- Develop the role of Family Representative to gain feedback from service users to inform future service delivery. Develop an online Family forum.

- Offer ongoing accreditation preparation and training opportunities for our volunteers, trustees & staff team.

- Maintain existing sources of income and continue to explore all opportunities for generating new funding to ensure that HSH remain both viable and able to at least maintain the current levels of service.

Financial Review

The 2020/2021 financial year has been a roller coaster year in terms of our finances largely due to the effects of Covid 19 and lockdown and the resultant effects on our operation, personnel and finances. Although there has been a reduction in almost all areas of expenditure over the year, our 'expected' Income was reduced in many areas. However, income was 'enhanced' by emergency funding and one-off grants from various national bodies/organisations.

Total expenditure was significantly reduced at £143,607 (2020:£155,212). Total income (Core and Restricted combined) was an increase on last year at £163,285 (2020: £154,844) There was a surplus for the year on Core/unrestricted activities of £27,024 (2020: £6,479 surplus). However, due to a delayed payment by the council going into the 2021/2022 accounts our restricted funds stood in deficit at (7,346), which reduced our overall reserves, at year end, to £71,264. Overall, I think we can feel relieved that we have come out with a fairly healthy surplus in these difficult times and this outcome is in no small part due to our hard (and smart) working staff, keeping costs down and drawing income in from wherever it can be found, so my thanks goes out to them as well as the work and support given by our volunteers throughout this turbulent year.

Our current unrestricted reserves only provide minimum cover for emergencies such as shortfalls in funding or unexpected expenditure. The Trustees continue to believe that reserves equivalent to 6 months expenditure, i.e. circa £80,000, are the optimum required to ensure continuity of operations and will continue to work towards this goal. Although the current reserves currently provide for just over 5.5 months of expenditure cover (2020: 3 months), the Trustees believe this is sufficient to meet the minimum requirements to continue operations.
However, the current climate, due to us coming out of lockdown and the legacy of Covid 19 and its ramifications, may exert greater pressure on funding and potentially our reserves.

Amounts were received from Eveson Charitable Trust, Herefordshire Council, BBC Children in Need, The HSUK Lonliness Fund, EF Bulmer Benevolent Fund, Hereford Community Foundation, HFT Forklifts, Pontrilas Development, Rathbone Moral Aid Charity, The Southall Trust, Kington United Charities, Tesco, Tampon Tax Community Fund, Asda Foundation,

Waitrose & Partners, John Lewis & Partners, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (Loneliness project), Masonic Charitable Foundation (BHBF), William A Cadbury, Philip Witcomb and Friends who make regular donations. We are grateful for their support. In addition money was received in the form of donations from individuals and the proceeds from fund raising events. We are grateful to the donors for their generosity and to all those involved in fund raising events for their hard work and commitment.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also directors of Home-Start Herefordshire for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statement in accordance with United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulation.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on 24th September 2021 and signed on their behalf by:



Andy Walkden
Chair

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF HOME-START HEREFORD
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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

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

Having satisfied myself that the 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 the charity's accounts as 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 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a "true and fair" view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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

A.D. Bonelle

Andrew Bonelle FCA
Chartered Accountant
Independent Examiner
Bonelle and Co Ltd
1 Wyecliffe Terrace
Bath Street
Hereford
HR1 2HG

Dated: 24th September 2021

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (including income and expenditure account)
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2021** £	Total Funds 2020 £
Income and Endowments					
Donations and legacies	5	78,529	-	78,529	65,089
Charitable activities	6	-	74,500	74,500	85,568
Other trading activities	7	6,130	-	6,130	1,123
Investment Income	8	1,783	-	1,783	402
Other income	9	2,343	-	2,343	2,662
Total Income		88,785	74,500	163,285	154,844
Expenditure					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of raising donations and legacies	10	-	-	-	23
Expenditure on charitable activities	11, 12	61,761	81,846	143,607	155,189
Total Expenditure		61,761	81,846	143,607	155,212
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds		27,024	(7,346)	19,678	(368)
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total funds brought forward		47,958	3,630	51,588	51,956
Total Funds Carried Forward		74,982	(3,716)	71,266	51,588

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

HOME-START HEREFORDSHIRE
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	17	753	927
Current Assets			
Debtors	18	16,500	2,528
Investments	19	8,761	7,259
Cash at bank and in hand		47,040	44,223
		72,301	54,010
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	20	1,788	3,349
Net Current Assets		70,513	50,661
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		71,266	51,588
Net Assets			
Funds of the Charity			
Restricted Funds		(3,716)	3,630
Unrestricted Funds		74,982	47,958
Total Charity Funds	22	71,266	51,588

For the year ending 31 March 2021 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the 2006 Act relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

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

(b) the directors acknowledge their responsibilties 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 special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved and signed by the trustees and authorised for issue on XXXXXX, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Andy Walkden
Chair

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1. **General Information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is Lakeside Offices, Suite 1, Unit 1a. Thorn Business Park, Rotherwas, Hereford, HR2 6JT.

2. **Statement of Compliance**

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102. The 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) (Charities SORP and the 2006 Act.

3. **Accounting policies**

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

There are no material judgements or key sources of estimation uncertainty.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for a particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one or two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

3. **Accounting policies (continued)**

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

(a) income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.

(b) legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.

(c) income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.

(d) income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources Expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liabiltiy is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

(a) expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.

(b) expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.

(c) other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Tangible Assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequenty stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

3. **Accounting policies (continued)**

Tangible Assets (continued)
An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

Depreciation
Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Fixtures and fittings	-	15% reducing balance

Impairment of Fixed Assets
A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that are largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquistion date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

Financial Instruments
A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

3. **Accounting policies (continued)**

Financial Instruments (continued)
Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the intial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

Defined Contribution Plans
Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

4. **Limited by Guarantee**
The charity is a charity limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital, each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding Nil towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

5. Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2021**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Donations				
Donations from individuals	78,529	78,529	63,563	63,563
Gifts				
Gifts aid reclaimed	-	-	1,526	1,526
	78,529	78,529	65,089	65,089

6. Charitable Activities

	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2021**	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Grants receivable	74,500	74,500	85,568	85,568

7. Other Trading Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2021**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Local fundraising and street collection income	6,130	6,130	1,123	1,123

8. Investment Income

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2021**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Other investment income	1,783	1,783	402	402

9. Other Income

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2021**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Toy library	-	-	-	-
Cleaning income	155	155	641	641
Miscellaneous income	2,188	2,188	2,021	2,021
	2,343	2,343	2,662	2,662

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

10. Costs of Raising Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	**Total Funds 2021**	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising	-	-	23	23

11. Expenditure on Charitable activities by Fund Type

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total Funds 2021**
	£	£	£
Charitable activities	60,181	81,846	142,027
Support costs	1,580	-	1,580
	61,761	81,846	143,607

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£
Charitable activities	61,634	92,415	154,049
Support costs	1,140	-	1,140
	62,774	92,415	155,189

12. Expenditure on Charitable activities by Activity Type

	Activities Undertaken Directly	Support Costs	**Total Funds 2021**	Total Fund 2020
	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities	60,181	81,846	142,027	154,049
Governance costs	1,580	-	1,580	1,140
	61,761	81,846	143,607	155,189

13. Net Income/(Expenditure)

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

	2021	2020
	£	£
Depreciaton of tangible fixed assets	174	214

14. Independent Examination Fees

Fees payable to the independent examiner for:

Independent examination of the financial statements	840	780

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

15. **Staff Costs**

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2020	2019
	£	£
Wages and salaries	118,763	128,514
Employer contributions to pension plans	4,123	4,133
	122,886	132,647

The average head count of employees during the year was 8 (2019: 8). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2021	2020
	No.	No.
Number of staff - type 1	8	8

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2020: Nil).

16. **Trustee Remuneration and Expenses**

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

17. **Tangible Fixed Assets**

	Fixtures and Fittings
	£
Cost	
At 1 April 2020	5,084
Additions	-
At 31 March 2021	5,084
Depeciation	
At 1 April 2020	4,157
Charge for the year	174
At 31 March 2021	4,331
Carrying Amount	
At 31 March 2021	753
At 31 March 2020	927

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

18. Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade Debtors	16,500	2,528

19. Investments

Other Investments	8,761	7,259

20. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade Creditors	988	2,549
Accruals and Deferred Income	800	800
	1,788	3,349

21. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans
The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £4079 (2020: £4079).

22. Analysis of Charitable Funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£
General Funds	47,958	88,785	61,761	74,982

	At 1 April 2019	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2020
	£	£	£	£
General Funds	41,479	69,276	62,797	47,958

22. **Analysis of Charitable Funds** *(continued)*

Restricted Funds

	At 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2021
Restricted Fund	3,630	74,500	(81,846)	(3,716)

	At 1 April 2019	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2020
Restricted Fund	10,477	85,568	(92,415)	3,630

23. **Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	416	337	753
Investments	8,761	-	8,761
Current assets	67,593	(4,053)	63,540
Creditors less than one year	(1,788)	-	(1,788)
Net Assets	74,982	(3,716)	71,266

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	519	408	927
Investments	7,259	-	7,259
Current assets	43,529	3,222	46,751
Creditors less than one year	(3,349)	-	(3,349)
Net Assets	47,958	3,630	51,588