

HOME-START DUDLEY

England & Wales · Charity number 1115352

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [05603630](#)

Registered 2006-07-17

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 10 - 12 Charter Street
Brierley Hill
DY5 1LA

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Website www.home-startdudley.org.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 CARE WITHIN THE AREA OF DUDLEY AND ITS ENVIRONS.

Activities: To ensure and promote the wellbeing of children and their parents

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** DUDLEY AND ITS ENVIRONS.
- Dudley

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£63,744	£60,743	-	-
2024-03-31	£63,260	£59,576	-	-
2023-03-31	£62,913	£59,414	-	-
2022-03-31	£66,917	£56,734	-	-
2021-03-31	£65,710	£64,702	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Colin Taft		2016-09-29
Jane Southwell		2015-11-18
MARTIN BERRINGTON		2018-09-20
MARY ELIZABETH JANE TURNER		
Peter John Dyson		2015-04-15

Accounts

Document Details

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Signature Details

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Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025
for
Home-Start Dudley
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Lewis Smith & Co.
Chartered Certified Accountants
The Old Doctor's House
74 Grange Road
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2AW

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

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The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Constitution, Object, Status and Policies

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 26 October 2005. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. Home-Start Dudley was formerly a charity governed by a constitution.

Home-Start Dudley was set up to provide volunteer-led support, friendship and practical help to families with young children. Home-Start believes that children need a happy and secure childhood and that parents play the key role in giving their children a good start in life and helping them achieve their full potential. Home-Start's beneficiaries are families who need some extra support to cope with the stresses and strains of bringing up children while experiencing additional pressures arising from issues such as poor mental health, physical illness and disability, raising a child as a lone parent, relationship breakdown, domestic abuse, housing issues and homelessness, poverty, isolation.

The objects of the charity are:

- To safeguard, protect and preserve the good health, both physical and mental, of children and parents of children
- To prevent cruelty or maltreatment of children
- To relieve sickness, poverty and need amongst children and parents of children
- To promote the education of the public in better standards of childcare

To achieve the charity's purpose for its' beneficiaries, Home-Start Dudley continues to maintain its core service providing support to families with at least one child under 5 years old. This support, typically made available to families for around two hours a week, has been delivered in the family home and in local community settings. In order to deliver the core service the charity has recruited, trained and managed volunteers from within local communities.

Our volunteers, who usually have parenting experience, appreciate the stresses and strains families with young children can face. They provide regular home-visiting support to referred families.

Families are referred to us by health visitors and health service providers, professionals from the children and families sector and community organisations. Families also self-refer into our service. We run special family groups and hold social events for families when funding allows.

Although an independent scheme, Home-Start Dudley is affiliated to Home Start UK.

The charity is organised so that the management committee meets regularly to manage its affairs and formulate the charity's policies.

Public Benefit Statement

In planning the activities for the year, the trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and planning our future activities. The Trustees are satisfied that the objects are in the public interest and that the benefit relates to the objects of the Charity. Our charitable activities focus on the support of families and are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit.

The charity operates within Dudley Borough and the benefit is available free of charge, to families with at least one child under 5 resident in Dudley Borough. The number of families we are able to help is linked to funding and service capacity.

The charity is very grateful to its volunteers and funders, without whom the charity would not exist.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Development, activities and achievements this year

Over the last year, Home-Start Dudley has provided home-visiting support for referred families living in Dudley borough with at least one child under five years of age. Families have accessed our service for a variety of reasons: our support for families has responded to a wide range of needs and issues impacting family life, reflective of the holistic family focused service Home-Start Dudley provides.

Through our home-visiting service, for the year ending 31st March 2025, the charity has supported 37 families: this includes 79 children, 9 of whom had a disability and 5 of whom had additional needs and 4 parents with a disability. These families were supported by our team of home visiting volunteers and Home-Start staff.

As a service, we operate referral routes that support access for families: families can self-refer or be referred by a third party (third party referrals come from a wide range of sources including Health Visitors, Family Hubs, Early Education Providers and Early Years services, universal health services and organisations/agencies working with children and families). We also work in partnership or collaboration with a range of statutory agencies, professionals and third sector providers as part of assisting families to access essential, beneficial support; promoting and protecting the wellbeing and welfare of parents and children.

To increase the ease with which families, professionals, partners, volunteers, supporters, donors and others can engage with Home-Start Dudley we have invested in enhancing our online presence during the year. Our website helps the people and communities we serve connect with our charity, with the services and opportunities we provide for Dudley borough. It is a vital and valuable source of information, provides immediate access to families and professionals requesting Home-Start support and enables potential volunteers to express interest in and apply for volunteer roles. As an online platform, it is effective in assisting Home-Start Dudley to achieve wide reach to those who need our support and those who want to support us.

The core service delivery model for families is built around volunteer peer-to-peer relational support. Families receive regular support tailored to their circumstances, focused on mutually agreed support needs and priorities. During the financial year, families have been offered face-to-face support (typically taking place in the family home) and, where appropriate, an element of remote support has also been incorporated into their individual support plan. This approach aids accessibility and provides enhanced flexibility throughout a family's journey of support.

Alongside this provision, supported families have accessed our early education resources, toy and story bag library and zoo visit resources during the reporting year. Families have received children's activity/school readiness packs, bedtime bags to promote positive bedtime routines, early literacy and healthy sleep, family oral health information and resource packs and Book Trust packs. These resources support children's learning and development, school readiness, health and emotional and mental well-being. As part of our core service, we support families access to grants for emergency essentials (e.g. Children in Need Emergency Essentials programme, Baron Davenport, Buttle Trust, Household Support Fund) and working in partnership with local businesses, organisations and donors has also enabled families to benefit from support with emergency household grocery packages, useful family friendly items, family toiletries/care products, children's clothing/shoes, FoodBank and BabyBank assistance and children's toys/gifts at special or festive times of year.

Our Dudley Zoo pass was made available to supported families, enabling families to visit the zoo and enjoy quality time together outside of the family home.

Home-Start support is whole-family focused. It considers family circumstances and responds to the needs and interests of children and parents. Each family is unique: we recognise this and personalise the support we offer. We aim to help families make the most of family life, assisting them to navigate their day-to-day demands, pressures and challenges. While each family is individual, families often experience commonality of issues and challenges. Over recent years family life has been taking place against a consistent backdrop of mounting financial pressure and economic strain, insecurity of employment, tensions around work-life balance, housing issues, challenges accessing health care and mental health support, lack of affordable/available childcare, pressure to ensure children are able to participate in and make the most of education/learning and managing the impact of interaction with the digital sphere on individual and family life and wellbeing.

Against such a backdrop, in doing their best to navigate these pressures, as well as the societal expectations of parents and the expectations parents have of themselves, parents can feel overwhelmed, lonely and isolated at times (these are feelings shared by many of the parents' Home-Start supports). It can be difficult to feel confident as a parent - confident that you are doing a 'good enough job', that you have the skills and knowledge to help your children grow and navigate the world at each stage of their young lives, that you have the resilience to get through the tough times, especially if you are experiencing poor mental/physical health, have a limited support network or are raising a young family as a lone parent (just over two-thirds of parents we supported were living with their children in a one-parent household; nearly three quarters of parents supported had experience of poor mental health). Through our peer-based relational parenting support, we have helped parents to grow in confidence and manage the demands of raising young children. Over 97% of the parents we supported reported they felt more confident in themselves as a parent and in their parenting skills; almost 60% told us Home-Start support meant they felt less isolated and nearly 85% said it had helped with feeling more confident around day-to-day life skills. Two thirds of parents told us that support had had a positive impact on their children's learning and development and on family dynamics/relationships and time together.

As our support is holistic, combining practical and emotional support across key areas of family life, we have been able to help parents manage their mental health, improve the family's sense of mental and emotional wellbeing, support children's health, learning and development, promote engagement with positive play and enrichment opportunities (including using our Dudley Zoo & Castle pass throughout the year and an outing to Himley Under 5's Day in June), assist families to benefit from accessing local groups, key services, community spaces and child-focused provision and help families manage pressures connected to the financial and practical aspects of running and maintaining the family home and daily life.

Integral to provision of our core home visiting support for families are the volunteers who generously give their time, energy and commitment. During the year, our volunteers supported families and undertook relevant available training. We are very grateful to our team of volunteers who have supported local families as a Home-Start Dudley volunteer. For the reporting year our volunteer team consisted of 24 volunteers.

As a charity, we recognise the right and importance of every child to have the opportunity to thrive. As part of our commitment to Dudley children and families, during the year we have worked with our valued statutory and non-statutory partners to help families connect, engage with and access the services and support they need to navigate and overcome challenges and issues. Working together helps Dudley's local offer for families respond to and meet the needs of our parents, caregivers, young people and children, supporting day-to-day family life, health and wellbeing.

We very much appreciate the ongoing support of CHADD, with whom we share an office base in Brierley Hill. We express our thanks to CyberSharp IT, Black Country Food Bank, Waitrose Stourbridge, Himley Road Methodist Church, CHADD and Xandor Automotive for their interest, support and generosity.

Home-Start Dudley would like to thank everyone who has supported the charity over the last year and been part of helping Home-Start Dudley make a positive difference to Borough families. We appreciate the contribution of all our trustees, volunteers, staff and many supporters and stakeholders to the work of the charity. We also acknowledge the support received from Home-Start UK and the Home-Start network.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The Statement of Financial Activities shows total income of £63,744 (2024 - £63,260) and expenditure of £60,743 (2024 - £59,576) resulting in a net income for the year of £3,001 (2024 - £3,684).

The funds carried forward to the next financial year are £82,986 (2024 - £79,985). Of these funds £77,872 (2024 - £77,181) are unrestricted reserves made up as follows:

£15,429 (2024 - £14,237) are general unrestricted funds

£27,500 (2024 - £27,500) are designated funds set aside as reserves (see reserves policy below)

£4,943 (2024 - £5,444) are unrestricted reserves relating to Dudley MBC grants.

£30,000 (2024 - £30,000) are an unrestricted strategic development reserve.

The remaining funds are restricted reserves of £5,114 (2024 - £2,804).

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

The management committee has agreed a reserve of £27,500 should be kept which it considers to be sufficient to cover potential short-term changes in funding strategies and winding-up costs if necessary. This consists of a provision for statutory redundancy payments and contract cancellation charges plus an appropriate contingency for other closure costs. As at year ended 31 March 2025, we believe this reserve to be sufficient to cover at least five months of operating costs and our total reserves sufficient to cover over a years worth of operating costs. The directors' long-term aspiration is to continue to build unrestricted reserves whenever the opportunity affords to allow for rises in costs, increases in planned activity and fluctuations in funding to ensure sufficient cash flow.

FUTURE PLANS

The future landscape appears to be characterised by a hardening economic climate and intensifying social pressures, creating challenges and pressures for families and communities, local services, civil society and the overall support infrastructure we all rely on. It places strain on people, places, organisations and systems - impacting at the individual and collective level. For many families and communities, it means continuing to experience ongoing and increasing challenges which impact on the quality of day-to-day and family life: the focus is on surviving when ideally it would be on thriving.

As a small independent local charity we are aware of the challenges this presents for the families and communities we support and for the individuals and organisations that are key to helping Home-Start Dudley provide support to families with young children living across Dudley borough. Working alongside Public Health and other Borough organisations we want to help parents give their children the best start in life, help families make the most of family life and help parents, their children, and our local communities to have a thriving and healthy future. Families need to be able to reach out for, access and receive support to help them through. Our service, working alongside and with other organisations, will seek to help families navigate the difficulties and challenges they are facing and overcome the issues they are experiencing, helping families face the future with as much assistance and resilience as possible.

It is also important for local people and communities to be able to come together to help one another. We recognise the difficult volunteering climate and the challenges people face in engaging with volunteering activity. We seek to provide volunteering opportunities that connect communities, promote social cohesion and support individual and community wellbeing and aim to be an inclusive organisation that reflects our diverse local communities and helps people access meaningful volunteering opportunities.

As is the case across the charity sector, Home-Start Dudley continues to focus on navigating a climate that is highly pressured and significantly challenging. These are difficult, volatile times, featuring unprecedented circumstances. We will continue to work with our funders to deliver a service that responds to local needs and with our partners to ensure service delivery effectively supports access to, routes into and provision of support for families. We seek to continue to make support and opportunities available to all families, whatever their shape, size or situation and to explore ways to both maintain and enhance our service provision during these tough socio-economic times.

As a small local charity, investing in our capacity and capability, strengthening our infrastructure and enhancing our sustainability is an ongoing objective. We endeavour to engage the support of those who would like to help the charity to further our objectives and carry out our important work with children and families. We are keen, when opportunity allows, to develop new partnerships with local organisations and businesses as part of an approach to supporting sustainability and aiding growth.

The trustees identify continuing to provide Home-Start Dudley support for families as a priority. To enable our charity to continue to serve our local communities going forward, we will:

- Continue to make our service available to families, adapting to changes in the operating environment
- Stay connected to families and stakeholders to make sure families continue to have the support they need
- Seek to involve local people in volunteering opportunities which support Home-Start Dudley's work with families, offering training, support and a volunteering role which enables individuals to make a meaningful contribution to the lives of local families
- Continue to work in close association with the local authority public health and children's services departments to help the charity continue to deliver service to local communities and respond to the needs of local families.

The charity sector landscape continues to present challenging conditions which show no sign of abating. Against this background, our mission remains to walk beside Dudley families, helping them to navigate daily family life, overcome challenges and live happy, healthy lives in happy, healthy homes. We are committed to being there for parents and children when they need us the most because childhood can't wait.

Since the end of the financial year, due to core funding challenges for 2025-26, the trustees are pursuing alternative sources of funding to ensure that the charity's activity may continue. At the year-end date, there were a little more than 12 months of overhead held in reserves to carry us through the next year should we be unsuccessful in the short term.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Board of Trustees

Trustees are all volunteers from a variety of backgrounds relevant to the work and management of the Charity. Trustees are appointed following completion of the recruitment process which includes a formal application, interview, satisfactory references, DBS and automatic disqualification checks.

The trustee board meets a minimum of four times per year in the financial year reported on, the trustees met 6 times. At these meetings trustees receive reports from the Scheme Manager who is responsible for the day-to-day operational management of the charity. The trustee board makes decisions, as appropriate, on the strategic direction, policy and governance of the Charity, as well as monitoring operational management.

Risk management

The present and future operating climate for charities is inherently uncertain. The trustees seek to identify and monitor risks and as far as possible and practicable, take action to mitigate those risks.

The security of funding, particularly core funding, continues to be the main area of risk. The charity remains heavily dependent on the continuation of the local authority SLA which at present supports the core costs of the charity. As we move into the future, we recognise that the way services are commissioned may change which has the potential to offer opportunities as well as challenges.

The other major risk is child protection and safeguarding, which is covered by scrupulous verification of references, safeguarding training, DBS checks and ensuring a suitable insurance cover is in place. The management committee continues to keep these risks under review.

Notifiable Incidents

The Trustees can confirm that there were no serious incidents or matters which needed to be reported to the Charity Commission during the period.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

05603630 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1115352

Registered office

10-12 Charter Street
Brierley Hill
West Midlands
DY5 1LA

Trustees

Mary Elizabeth Jean Turner	Chair
Peter John Dyson	Vice Chair
Jane Margaret Southwell	Trustee
Colin Martin Taft	Trustee
Martin Berrington	Trustee

Staff

Julia Bannister	Scheme Manager
Anna Worrall	Coordinator
Sue Ross	Administrator

Company Secretary

Julia Bannister

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Independent Examiner

Craig Alan Beale FCCA
Lewis Smith & Co.
Chartered Certified Accountants
The Old Doctor's House
74 Grange Road
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2AW

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

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

.....
Mary Elizabeth Jean Turner - Trustee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Home-Start Dudley ('the Company')

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts 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 Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the 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 accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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

Craig Alan Beale FCCA

Lewis Smith & Co.
Chartered Certified Accountants
The Old Doctor's House
74 Grange Road
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2AW

Date:

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.25 Total funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
	Notes				
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	1,339	-	1,339	157
Charitable activities	4				
Grants receivable		57,418	4,765	62,183	62,818
Investment income	3	222	-	222	178
Other income		-	-	-	107
Total		<u>58,979</u>	<u>4,765</u>	<u>63,744</u>	<u>63,260</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	5				
Charitable activities		56,439	2,455	58,894	57,874
Governance costs		1,849	-	1,849	1,702
Total		<u>58,288</u>	<u>2,455</u>	<u>60,743</u>	<u>59,576</u>
NET INCOME		691	2,310	3,001	3,684
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		77,181	2,804	79,985	76,301
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>77,872</u></u>	<u><u>5,114</u></u>	<u><u>82,986</u></u>	<u><u>79,985</u></u>

Balance Sheet31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.25 Total funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	10	-	614	614	2,804
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	11	288	-	288	681
Cash at bank and in hand		84,824	4,500	89,324	83,674
		<u>85,112</u>	<u>4,500</u>	<u>89,612</u>	<u>84,355</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	12	(7,240)	-	(7,240)	(7,174)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>77,872</u>	<u>4,500</u>	<u>82,372</u>	<u>77,181</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>77,872</u>	<u>5,114</u>	<u>82,986</u>	<u>79,985</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>77,872</u>	<u>5,114</u>	<u>82,986</u>	<u>79,985</u>
FUNDS	13				
Unrestricted funds				77,872	77,181
Restricted funds				<u>5,114</u>	<u>2,804</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>82,986</u>	<u>79,985</u>

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

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

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
Mary Elizabeth Jean Turner - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

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

The presentation currency of the financial statements is the Pound Sterling (£) and the figures are rounded to the nearest round pound.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

Income

Grants are accounted for when the charity is legally entitled to the amounts due. Grant income is deferred when a grant has been received before the year end for expenditure which must take place in the following year or where there is no entitlement to a grant until certain services have been provided and these have not been provided before the year end.

Any grants without conditions are not deferred even if the resources are received in advance of the expenditure on the activity funded by them. The timing of the related expenditure is at the discretion of the charity and income is not deferred simply because the related expenditure has not yet been incurred.

Donations and all other income are recognised when they are received.

Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense against the activity for which expenditure arose.

Debtors and creditors

Debtors and Creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Governance costs

Include costs of the preparation and examination of statutory accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Tangible fixed assets

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

Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Costs includes costs directly attributable to making the assets capable or operating as intended. These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds

Designated funds comprise of unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds

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

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

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

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Donations	1,339	157
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Deposit account interest	222	178
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Activity	31.3.25	31.3.24
		£	£
Grants	Grants receivable	62,183	62,818
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>

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

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
General grants	-	400
Dudley MBC grants	57,418	62,418
Other specific grants	4,765	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	62,183	62,818
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Support costs £	Totals £
Charitable activities	58,894	-	58,894
Governance costs	-	1,849	1,849
	<u>58,894</u>	<u>1,849</u>	<u>60,743</u>

6. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>2,190</u>	<u>2,190</u>

7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

Trustees' expenses

During the year no expenses were paid to any trustees (2024 - £145 paid to J Southwell). Any expenses paid were incurred in the role as trustee.

8. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Wages and salaries	43,670	42,714
Other pension costs	315	315
	<u>43,985</u>	<u>43,029</u>

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

	31.3.25	31.3.24
Number of employees	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

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

9. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	157	-	157
Charitable activities			
Grants receivable	62,818	-	62,818
Investment income	178	-	178
Other income	107	-	107
Total	<u>63,260</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>63,260</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Charitable activities	55,684	2,190	57,874
Governance costs	1,702	-	1,702
Total	<u>57,386</u>	<u>2,190</u>	<u>59,576</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	5,874	(2,190)	3,684
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	71,307	4,994	76,301
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>77,181</u>	<u>2,804</u>	<u>79,985</u>

10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025	<u>4,396</u>	<u>6,642</u>	<u>11,038</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2024	4,396	3,838	8,234
Charge for year	<u>-</u>	<u>2,190</u>	<u>2,190</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>4,396</u>	<u>6,028</u>	<u>10,424</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>614</u>	<u>614</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>2,804</u>	<u>2,804</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

11. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Prepayments	288	681
	<u>288</u>	<u>681</u>

12. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Accrued expenses	7,240	7,174
	<u>7,240</u>	<u>7,174</u>

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.24	Net movement in funds	At 31.3.25
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	14,237	1,192	15,429
Designated Funds	27,500	-	27,500
Dudley MBC Fund	5,444	(501)	4,943
Strategic Development Reserve	30,000	-	30,000
	<u>77,181</u>	<u>691</u>	<u>77,872</u>
Restricted funds			
Pears Foundation Grant	2,804	(2,190)	614
Other Specific Grants	-	4,500	4,500
	<u>2,804</u>	<u>2,310</u>	<u>5,114</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>79,985</u>	<u>3,001</u>	<u>82,986</u>

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	1,197	(5)	1,192
Dudley MBC Fund	57,782	(58,283)	(501)
	<u>58,979</u>	<u>(58,288)</u>	<u>691</u>
Restricted funds			
Pears Foundation Grant	-	(2,190)	(2,190)
Other Specific Grants	4,765	(265)	4,500
	<u>4,765</u>	<u>(2,455)</u>	<u>2,310</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>63,744</u>	<u>(60,743)</u>	<u>3,001</u>

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

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	8,394	843	5,000	14,237
Designated Funds	27,500	-	-	27,500
Dudley MBC Fund	5,413	5,031	(5,000)	5,444
Strategic Development Reserve	30,000	-	-	30,000
	71,307	5,874	-	77,181
Restricted funds				
Pears Foundation Grant	4,994	(2,190)	-	2,804
	76,301	3,684	-	79,985

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	843	-	843
Dudley MBC Fund	62,417	(57,386)	5,031
	63,260	(57,386)	5,874
Restricted funds			
Pears Foundation Grant	-	(2,190)	(2,190)
	63,260	(59,576)	3,684

The purpose of the funds are as follows:

Designated Funds

A reserve to cover any potential short-term changes in funding strategies and winding-up costs if necessary. The amount of this reserve is agreed by the management committee.

Dudley MBC

Funds to deliver the Home-Start service to families resident in Dudley Borough.

Strategic Development Reserve

A reserve provided for strategic and operational development purposes for use at the discretion of Home-Start Dudley.

Pears Foundation

This award has been made for the upgrade of ICT, storycise/toy library costs and family days out.

Other Specific Grants

These relate to grants received in the year for a specific purpose.

14. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2025.

15. GOING CONCERN

As noted in the trustee report, the accounts are prepared on the going concern basis as, at the year end date, there are more than 12 months of overhead held in reserves whilst the trustees pursue alternative funding sources to enable the charity's activity to continue.

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	1,339	157
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	222	178
Charitable activities		
Grants	62,183	62,818
Other income		
Refunds	-	107
Total incoming resources	63,744	63,260
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	43,670	42,714
Pensions	315	315
Rent	5,949	5,726
Insurance	1,136	1,070
Communication costs	739	705
Office costs	502	623
Sundries	73	113
Repairs and small equipment	5	100
Staff travel expenses	551	798
Volunteer expenses	913	993
Home-Start UK fees	1,138	1,134
Professional fees	753	700
Bank charges	60	60
Resources	205	213
Family assistance purchases	265	-
Passes and permits	430	420
Depreciation of computer equipment	2,190	2,190
	58,894	57,874
Support costs		
Governance costs		
Accountancy and independent examination fees	1,740	1,560
Committee and AGM costs	40	94
Companies House fees	34	13
Information Commissioner's Office	35	35
	1,849	1,702
Total resources expended	60,743	59,576
Net income	3,001	3,684

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 05603630 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1115352

Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024
for
Home-Start Dudley
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Lewis Smith & Co.
Chartered Certified Accountants
The Old Doctor's House
74 Grange Road
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2AW

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	19 to 20

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Constitution, Object, Status and Policies

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 26 October 2005. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. Home-Start Dudley was formerly a charity governed by a constitution.

Home-Start Dudley was set up to provide volunteer-led support, friendship and practical help to families with young children. Home-Start believes that children need a happy and secure childhood and that parents play the key role in giving their children a good start in life and helping them achieve their full potential. Home-Start's beneficiaries are families who need some extra support to cope with the stresses and strains of bringing up children while experiencing additional pressures arising from issues such as poor mental health, physical illness and disability, raising a child as a lone parent, relationship breakdown, domestic abuse, housing issues and homelessness, poverty, isolation.

The objects of the charity are:

- To safeguard, protect and preserve the good health, both physical and mental, of children and parents of children
- To prevent cruelty or maltreatment of children
- To relieve sickness, poverty and need amongst children and parents of children
- To promote the education of the public in better standards of childcare

To achieve the charity's purpose for its' beneficiaries, Home-Start Dudley continues to maintain its core service providing support to families with at least one child under 5 years old. This support, typically made available to families for around two hours a week, has been delivered in the family home and in local community settings. In order to deliver the core service the charity has recruited, trained and managed volunteers from within local communities.

Our volunteers, who usually have parenting experience, appreciate the stresses and strains families with young children can face. They provide regular home-visiting support to referred families.

Families are referred to us by health visitors and health service providers, professionals from the children and families sector and community organisations. Families also self-refer into our service. We run special family groups and hold social events for families when funding allows.

Although an independent scheme, Home-Start Dudley is affiliated to Home Start UK.

The charity is organised so that the management committee meets regularly to manage its affairs and formulate the charity's policies.

Public Benefit Statement

In planning the activities for the year, the trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and planning our future activities. The Trustees are satisfied that the objects are in the public interest and that the benefit relates to the objects of the Charity. Our charitable activities focus on the support of families and are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit.

The charity operates within Dudley Borough and the benefit is available free of charge, to families with at least one child under 5 resident in Dudley Borough. The number of families we are able to help is linked to funding and service capacity.

The charity is very grateful to its volunteers and funders, without whom the charity would not exist.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Development, activities and achievements this year

Over the last year, Home-Start Dudley has provided home-visiting support for referred families living in Dudley borough with at least one child under five years of age. Families have accessed our service for a variety of reasons: our support for families has responded to a wide range of needs and issues impacting family life, reflective of the holistic family focused service Home-Start Dudley provides.

Through our home-visiting service, for the year ending 31st March 2024, the charity has supported 35 families: this includes 82 children, 7 of whom had a disability and 5 of whom had additional needs and 10 parents with a disability, additional need or health condition. These families were supported by our team of home visiting volunteers and Home-Start staff.

As a service, we operate referral routes that support access for families: families can self-refer or be referred by a third party (third party referrals come from a wide range of sources including Health Visitors, Family Hubs, Early Education Providers and Early Years services, universal health services and organisations/agencies working with children and families). We also work in partnership or collaboration with a range of statutory agencies, professionals and third sector providers as part of assisting families to access essential, beneficial support; promoting and protecting the wellbeing and welfare of parents and children.

To increase the ease with which families, professionals, partners, volunteers, supporters, donors and others can engage with Home-Start Dudley we have invested in enhancing our online presence during the year. Our website helps the people and communities we serve connect with our charity, with the services and opportunities we provide for Dudley borough. It is a vital and valuable source of information, provides immediate access to families and professionals requesting Home-Start support and enables potential volunteers to express interest in and apply for volunteer roles. As an online platform, it is effective in assisting Home-Start Dudley to achieve wide reach to those who need our support and those who want to support us.

The core service delivery model for families is built around volunteer peer-to-peer relational support. Families receive regular support tailored to their circumstances, focused on mutually agreed support needs and priorities. During the financial year, families have been offered face-to-face support (typically taking place in the family home) and, where appropriate, an element of remote support has also been incorporated into their individual support plan. This approach aids accessibility and provides enhanced flexibility throughout a family's journey of support.

Alongside this provision, supported families have accessed our early education resources, toy and story bag library and zoo visit resources during the reporting year. Families have received children's activity packs, school readiness packs, bedtime bags to promote positive bedtime routines, early literacy and healthy sleep, family oral health information and resource packs, Book Trust packs and to mark Storytelling Week, a mini library of children's story books. These resources support children's learning and development, school readiness, health and emotional and mental well-being. As part of our core service, we support families access to grants for emergency essentials (e.g. Children in Need Emergency Essentials programme, Buttle Trust UK, Household Support Fund) and working in partnership with local businesses, organisations and donors has also enabled families to benefit from support with emergency household grocery packages, useful family friendly items, family toiletries/care products, children's clothing/shoes, FoodBank and Babybank assistance and children's toys/gifts at special or festive times of year.

Our Dudley Zoo pass was made available to supported families, enabling families to visit the zoo and enjoy quality time together outside of the family home. Families also attended a Home-Start Dudley trip to Brockwood Animal Sanctuary during the summer.

Our support focuses on the whole family, responding to the needs of parents and children. We have helped parents to grow in confidence and manage the demands of raising young children by providing peer-based parenting support, practical assistance and emotional support. Parenting, though incredibly rewarding, can also feel stressful, overwhelming and lonely at times. Unicef UK research on parental mental health for parents of children aged 0-4 years (published 2023), found that sixty-one per cent said they had concerns about their mental health, with those on lower incomes most likely to be affected. Difficulties mentioned by the parents included feeling overwhelmed (49%), anxious (43%), unsupported (36%) and lonely (26%) all or a lot of the time in the past 12 months. More than two-thirds (70%) of parents with babies and young children said it was getting harder every year to be a parent in Britain, while the same number felt that being a parent today was harder than it was for their parent's generation

Two-thirds of the parents we supported during the last twelve months were experiencing mental health issues, a third were lone parents and many expressed feeling isolated and lonely. Our regular peer relationship support has helped parents to manage their mental health, improve their sense of mental and emotional wellbeing, feel less lonely and isolated and benefit from accessing local groups, activities and services. Home-Start support has also helped parents with key areas of family life such as family finances and budgeting, family routines and day to day management and running of the family home. Support for families equally focused on responding to children's needs, promoting children's health, wellbeing, learning and development. This has involved child-centred activity in the home and local community settings, offering positive play, enrichment activities and learning experiences to support children's holistic development. We have also helped parents to access community-based services for children and early education provision. Our child-centred focus has helped parents and children enjoy quality time together and incorporated a range of approaches which supported children to develop early communication and school readiness skills (almost 50% of children supported were identified as needing speech and language support).

Integral to provision of our core home visiting support for families are the volunteers who generously give their time, energy and commitment. During the year our volunteers supported families and completed useful ongoing training made available through Home-Start and our external providers. Volunteers benefited from accessing valuable training from DMBC Public Health and our statutory partners, access to which is appreciated and very useful in helping volunteers provide effective, skilled support for families. Additional training attended included children's oral health, parent and infant emotional wellbeing, ICON, perinatal mental health, parent-infant relationships and safer sleep.

This year, following successful completion of our volunteer training course, we were pleased to welcome a new cohort to Home-Start Dudley's existing team of volunteers, meaning that for the reporting year our volunteer team consisted of 25 volunteers.

As a charity, we recognise the right and importance of every child to have the opportunity to thrive. As part of our commitment to Dudley children and families, during the year we have worked with our valued statutory and non-statutory partners to help shape local service offers, opportunities and programmes of support for families. We have supported Dudley's Child Friendly Dudley initiative, DMBC's Growing up in Dudley project, Dudley's 1001 days, Family Hubs and Start for Life programmes and the development of support directed at meeting the needs of fathers. We have also undertaken Home-Start UK Big Hopes, Big Future training, a school readiness programme which helps families to know how best to equip their children's education and development in the earliest years. This training will enable the families we support to benefit from the Big Hopes, Big Future programme, enhancing our contribution to a key Dudley borough health and wellbeing strategy objective of ensuring children are school ready by the time they start primary school.

We were grateful, to receive small grant assistance from DCVS as a contribution towards volunteer related training and support and very much appreciate the ongoing support of CHADD, with whom we share an office base in Brierley Hill. We express our thanks to CyberSharp IT, NHS 999, Waitrose Stourbridge, Himley Road Methodist Church and Xandor Automotive for their interest, support and generosity.

Home-Start Dudley would like to thank everyone who has supported the charity over the last year and been part of helping Home-Start Dudley make a positive difference to Borough families. We appreciate the contribution of all our trustees, volunteers, staff and many supporters and stakeholders to the work of the charity. We also acknowledge the support received from Home-Start UK and the Home-Start network.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The Statement of Financial Activities shows total income of £63,260 (2023 - £62,913) and expenditure of £59,576 (2023 - £59,414) resulting in a net income for the year of £3,684 (2023 - £3,499).

The funds carried forward to the next financial year are £79,985 (2023 - £76,301). Of these funds £77,181 (2023 - £71,307) are unrestricted reserves made up as follows:

£14,237 (2023 - £8,394) are general unrestricted funds

£27,500 (2023 - £27,500) are designated funds set aside as reserves (see reserves policy below)

£5,444 (2023 - £5,413) are unrestricted reserves relating to Dudley MBC

£30,000 (2023 - £30,000) are an unrestricted strategic development reserve.

The remaining funds are restricted reserves of £2,804 (2023 - £4,994).

Reserves policy

The management committee has agreed a reserve of £27,500 should be kept which it considers to be sufficient to cover potential short-term changes in funding strategies and winding-up costs if necessary. This consists of a provision for statutory redundancy payments and contract cancellation charges plus an appropriate contingency for other closure costs. As at year ended 31 March 2024, we believe this reserve to be sufficient to cover at least three months operating costs and our total reserves sufficient to cover nine months operating costs. The directors' long-term aspiration is to continue to build unrestricted reserves whenever the opportunity affords to allow for rises in costs, increases in planned activity and fluctuations in funding to ensure sufficient cash flow.

FUTURE PLANS

In these difficult times, we are aware of the shared experience of families with young children, individuals volunteering to help them and small, independent local charities such as ours as we all respond to the challenge of meeting daily demands and pressures.

This awareness brings into sharp relief the importance of preserving our service for parents and children, of ensuring we reach and continue to support as many families as possible. In the current climate, families are struggling, struggling to keep their heads above water, struggling to keep a roof over their heads, struggling to access the essential services and support they need, to stay well and to avoid crisis. Responding to the exigencies of day-to-day existence can call upon all available focus, energy, resources and reserves. Simply staying afloat or concentrating on putting one foot in front of another can cast a long shadow over everyday family life, impacting the present and dimming the future.

In the current political and socio-economic climate, as well as that of the recent and not-so-recent past, it can be difficult for any of us to look to and plan for the future. Every aspect of life and wellbeing is vulnerable to the impact of rising costs, squeezed finances, strained services and reducing access to help and support. Inequalities crystallise, life chances narrow, and future outcomes look less positive. The toll on the family can permeate every sphere of personal and family life: physical, emotional and mental; practical and financial; health and housing; employment and education. Children are the ones most affected.

Working alongside Public Health and other Borough organisations we want to help parents give their children the best start in life, help families make the most of family life and help parents, their children, and our local communities to have a thriving and healthy future. It is in times such as these that the type of support Home-Start provides is most urgently needed. Compassionate, responsive, regular, flexible and personalised peer support for families helps shine a light in periods of darkness and extends a lifeline in troubled times. Opportunities to volunteer, to connect with the community and experience making a positive difference help individuals stay engaged, active and healthy. Home-Start relationship-based peer support creates a sense of personal agency for families and volunteers, helping them be hopeful, deal with the demands of today and look towards a brighter tomorrow. In this way we aim to mitigate any adverse impact on children's physical, mental, emotional and social development and to support the health and wellbeing of parents, children, families and communities as a whole.

Our first priority is ensuring we are here for the families of today and there for the families of tomorrow. The pressures and vulnerabilities facing families have no current end in sight. Families need to be able to reach out for, access and receive support to help them through. Our service will seek to help families navigate the difficulties and challenges they are facing and overcome the issues they are experiencing, helping create a more positive future outlook.

Home-Start Dudley continues to focus on sustainability of the core service while considering opportunities to increase reach, provision and support for families. We will continue to work with our funders to deliver a service that responds to local needs and with our partners to ensure service integration effectively supports access to, routes into and provision of support for families. We remain keen to increase the support and opportunities available to all families, whatever their shape, size or situation and to explore ways to enhance our service provision by developing new projects and activity streams.

We are committed to enabling and encouraging volunteering and supporting connected communities. We seek to remove barriers to volunteering and aim to be an inclusive organisation that reflects our diverse local communities.

As a small local charity, investing in our capacity and capability, strengthening our infrastructure and enhancing our sustainability is an ongoing objective. We endeavour to engage the support of those who would like to help the charity to further our objectives and carry out our important work with children and families. We are keen to develop new partnerships with local organisations and businesses as part of an approach to supporting sustainability and aiding growth.

The trustees identify continuing to provide Home-Start Dudley support for families as a priority. To enable our charity to continue to serve our local communities going forward, we will:

- Continue to make our service available to families, adapting to changes in the operating environment
- Stay connected to families and stakeholders to make sure families continue to have the support they need

Home-Start Dudley

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

- Seek to involve local people in volunteering opportunities which support Home-Start Dudley's work with families, offering training, support and a volunteering role which enables individuals to make a meaningful contribution to the lives of local families
- Continue to work in close association with the local authority public health and children's services departments to help the charity continue to deliver service to local communities and respond to the needs of local families.

The charity sector landscape continues to present challenging terrain. There is little indication on the horizon that the difficult path being navigated will give way to an easier way ahead any time soon. Yet this is exactly when we most need to continue to move forward, stepping towards the future and the possibilities and opportunities it presents.

Our mission remains to walk beside Dudley families, helping them to navigate daily family life, overcome challenges and live happy, healthy lives in happy, healthy homes. We are committed to being there for parents and children when they need us the most because childhood can't wait.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Board of Trustees

Trustees are all volunteers from a variety of backgrounds relevant to the work and management of the Charity. Trustees are appointed following completion of the recruitment process which includes a formal application, interview, satisfactory references, DBS and automatic disqualification checks.

The trustee board meets a minimum of four times per year in the financial year reported on, the trustees met 6 times. At these meetings trustees receive reports from the Scheme Manager who is responsible for the day-to-day operational management of the charity. The trustee board makes decisions, as appropriate, on the strategic direction, policy and governance of the Charity, as well as monitoring operational management.

Risk management

The present and future operating climate for charities is inherently uncertain. The trustees seek to identify and monitor risks and as far as possible and practicable, take action to mitigate those risks.

The security of funding, particularly core funding, continues to be the main area of risk. The charity remains heavily dependent on the continuation of the local authority SLA which at present supports the core costs of the charity. As we move into the future, we recognise that the way services are commissioned may change which has the potential to offer opportunities as well as challenges.

The other major risk is child protection and safeguarding, which is covered by scrupulous verification of references, safeguarding training, DBS checks and ensuring a suitable insurance cover is in place. The management committee continues to keep these risks under review.

Notifiable Incidents

The Trustees can confirm that there were no serious incidents or matters which needed to be reported to the Charity Commission during the period.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

05603630 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1115352

Home-Start Dudley

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Registered office

10-12 Charter Street
Brierley Hill
West Midlands
DY5 1LA

Trustees

Mary Elizabeth Jean Turner	Chair
Peter John Dyson	Vice Chair
Jane Margaret Southwell	Trustee
Colin Martin Taft	Trustee
Martin Berrington	Trustee

Staff

Julia Bannister	Scheme Manager
Anna Worrall	Coordinator
Sue Ross	Administrator

Company Secretary

Julia Bannister

Independent Examiner

Craig Alan Beale FCCA
Lewis Smith & Co.
Chartered Certified Accountants
The Old Doctor's House
74 Grange Road
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2AW

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

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

.....
Mary Elizabeth Jean Turner - Trustee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Home-Start Dudley ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts 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 Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the 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 accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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

Craig Alan Beale FCCA

Lewis Smith & Co.
Chartered Certified Accountants
The Old Doctor's House
74 Grange Road
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2AW

Date:

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		157	-	157	375
Charitable activities					
Grants receivable		62,818	-	62,818	62,418
Investment income	2	178	-	178	120
Other income		107	-	107	-
Total		<u>63,260</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>63,260</u>	<u>62,913</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	3				
Charitable activities		55,684	2,190	57,874	57,721
Governance costs		1,702	-	1,702	1,693
Total		<u>57,386</u>	<u>2,190</u>	<u>59,576</u>	<u>59,414</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		5,874	(2,190)	3,684	3,499
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		71,307	4,994	76,301	72,802
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>77,181</u></u>	<u><u>2,804</u></u>	<u><u>79,985</u></u>	<u><u>76,301</u></u>

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	-	2,804	2,804	4,994
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	681	-	681	258
Cash at bank and in hand		83,674	-	83,674	78,103
		<u>84,355</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>84,355</u>	<u>78,361</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(7,174)	-	(7,174)	(7,054)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>77,181</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>77,181</u>	<u>71,307</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>77,181</u>	<u>2,804</u>	<u>79,985</u>	<u>76,301</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>77,181</u>	<u>2,804</u>	<u>79,985</u>	<u>76,301</u>
FUNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				77,181	71,307
Restricted funds				2,804	4,994
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>79,985</u>	<u>76,301</u>

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

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

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

Home-Start Dudley

Balance Sheet - continued

31 March 2024

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on
and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
Mary Elizabeth Jean Turner - Trustee

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

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

The presentation currency of the financial statements is the Pound Sterling (£) and the figures are rounded to the nearest round pound.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

Income

Grants are accounted for when the charity is legally entitled to the amounts due. Grant income is deferred when a grant has been received before the year end for expenditure which must take place in the following year or where there is no entitlement to a grant until certain services have been provided and these have not been provided before the year end.

Any grants without conditions are not deferred even if the resources are received in advance of the expenditure on the activity funded by them. The timing of the related expenditure is at the discretion of the charity and income is not deferred simply because the related expenditure has not yet been incurred.

Donations and all other income are recognised when they are received.

Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense against the activity for which expenditure arose.

Debtors and creditors

Debtors and Creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Governance costs

Include costs of the preparation and examination of statutory accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Tangible fixed assets

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

Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Costs includes costs directly attributable to making the assets capable or operating as intended. These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds

Designated funds comprise of unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds

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

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

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

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Deposit account interest	178	120
	<u>178</u>	<u>120</u>

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Support costs (see note 4) £	Totals £
Charitable activities	57,874	-	57,874
Governance costs	-	1,702	1,702
	<u>57,874</u>	<u>1,702</u>	<u>59,576</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

4. SUPPORT COSTS

		Governance costs
		£
Governance costs		1,702
		<u> </u>

5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	2,190	1,648
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

Trustees' expenses

During the year, expenses of £145 (2023 - £Nil) were paid to J Southwell. These expenses were incurred in her role as trustee.

7. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Wages and salaries	42,714	42,657
Other pension costs	315	316
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	43,029	42,973
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

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

	31.3.24	31.3.23
Number of employees	3	3
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

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

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	375	-	375
Charitable activities			
Grants receivable	62,418	-	62,418
Investment income	120	-	120
Total	<u>62,913</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>62,913</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Charitable activities	54,365	3,356	57,721
Governance costs	1,693	-	1,693
Total	<u>56,058</u>	<u>3,356</u>	<u>59,414</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	6,855	(3,356)	3,499
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	64,452	8,350	72,802
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>71,307</u>	<u>4,994</u>	<u>76,301</u>

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024	<u>4,396</u>	<u>6,642</u>	<u>11,038</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2023	4,396	1,648	6,044
Charge for year	-	2,190	2,190
At 31 March 2024	<u>4,396</u>	<u>3,838</u>	<u>8,234</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>2,804</u>	<u>2,804</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>4,994</u>	<u>4,994</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Prepayments	681	258
	<u>681</u>	<u>258</u>

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Accrued expenses	7,174	7,054
	<u>7,174</u>	<u>7,054</u>

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.23	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.3.24
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	8,394	843	5,000	14,237
Designated Funds	27,500	-	-	27,500
Dudley MBC Fund	5,413	5,031	(5,000)	5,444
Strategic Development Reserve	30,000	-	-	30,000
	<u>71,307</u>	<u>5,874</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>77,181</u>
Restricted funds				
Pears Foundation Grant	4,994	(2,190)	-	2,804
	<u>76,301</u>	<u>3,684</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>79,985</u>

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	843	-	843
Dudley MBC Fund	62,417	(57,386)	5,031
	<u>63,260</u>	<u>(57,386)</u>	<u>5,874</u>
Restricted funds			
Pears Foundation Grant	-	(2,190)	(2,190)
	<u>63,260</u>	<u>(59,576)</u>	<u>3,684</u>

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

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	7,901	493	-	8,394
Designated Funds	25,000	-	2,500	27,500
Dudley MBC Fund	6,551	6,362	(7,500)	5,413
Strategic Development Reserve	25,000	-	5,000	30,000
	64,452	6,855	-	71,307
Restricted funds				
Pears Foundation Grant	8,350	(3,356)	-	4,994
TOTAL FUNDS	72,802	3,499	-	76,301

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	493	-	493
Dudley MBC Fund	62,420	(56,058)	6,362
	62,913	(56,058)	6,855
Restricted funds			
Pears Foundation Grant	-	(3,356)	(3,356)
TOTAL FUNDS	62,913	(59,414)	3,499

The purpose of the funds are as follows:

Designated Funds

A reserve to cover any potential short-term changes in funding strategies and winding-up costs if necessary. The amount of this reserve is agreed by the management committee.

Dudley MBC

Funds to deliver the Home-Start service to families resident in Dudley Borough.

Strategic Development Reserve

A reserve provided for strategic and operational development purposes for use at the discretion of Home-Start Dudley.

Pears Foundation

This award has been made for the upgrade of ICT, storycise/toy library costs and family days out.

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	157	375
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	178	120
Charitable activities		
Grants	62,818	62,418
Other income		
Refunds	107	-
Total incoming resources	63,260	62,913
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	42,714	42,657
Pensions	315	316
Rent	5,726	5,726
Insurance	1,070	1,014
Communication costs	705	622
Office costs	623	551
Sundries	113	101
Repairs and small equipment	100	28
Staff travel expenses	798	699
Volunteer expenses	993	800
Home-Start UK fees	1,134	1,205
Professional fees	700	516
Bank charges	60	72
Resources	213	169
Passes and permits	420	-
Pears grant expenses	-	1,597
Depreciation of computer equipment	2,190	1,648
	57,874	57,721
Support costs		
Governance costs		
Accountancy and independent examination fees	1,560	1,584
Committee and AGM costs	94	61
Carried forward	1,654	1,645

Home-Start Dudley

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
Governance costs		
Brought forward	1,654	1,645
Companies House fees	13	13
Information Commissioner's Office	35	35
	1,702	1,693
Total resources expended	59,576	59,414
Net income	3,684	3,499

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

HOME-START DUDLEY

England & Wales - Charity number 1115352

Accounts

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REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 05603630 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1115352

Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023
for
Home-Start Dudley
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Lewis Smith & Co.
Chartered Certified Accountants
The Old Doctor's House
74 Grange Road
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2AW

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

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Notes to the Financial Statements	11 to 17
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	18 to 19

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Constitution, Object, Status and Policies

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 26 October 2005. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. Home-Start Dudley was formerly a charity governed by a constitution.

Home-Start Dudley was set up to provide volunteer-led support, friendship and practical help to families with young children. Home-Start believes that children need a happy and secure childhood and that parents play the key role in giving their children a good start in life and helping them achieve their full potential. Home-Start's beneficiaries are families who need some extra support to cope with the stresses and strains of bringing up children while experiencing additional pressures arising from issues such as poor mental health, physical illness and disability, raising a child as a lone parent, relationship breakdown, domestic abuse, housing issues and homelessness, poverty, isolation.

The objects of the charity are:

- To safeguard, protect and preserve the good health, both physical and mental, of children and parents of children
- To prevent cruelty or maltreatment of children
- To relieve sickness, poverty and need amongst children and parents of children
- To promote the education of the public in better standards of childcare

To achieve the charity's purpose for its' beneficiaries, Home-Start Dudley continues to maintain its core service providing support to families with at least one child under 5 years old. This support, typically made available to families for around two hours a week, has been delivered in the family home and in local community settings. In order to deliver the core service the charity has recruited, trained and managed volunteers from within local communities.

Our volunteers, who usually have parenting experience, appreciate the stresses and strains families with young children can face. They provide regular home-visiting support to referred families.

Families are referred to us by health visitors and health service providers, professionals from the children and families sector and community organisations. Families also self-refer into our service. We run special family groups and hold social events for families when funding allows.

Although an independent scheme, Home-Start Dudley is affiliated to Home Start UK.

The charity is organised so that the management committee meets regularly to manage its affairs and formulate the charity's policies.

Public Benefit Statement

In planning the activities for the year, the trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and planning our future activities. The Trustees are satisfied that the objects are in the public interest and that the benefit relates to the objects of the Charity. Our charitable activities focus on the support of families and are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit.

The charity operates within Dudley Borough and the benefit is available free of charge, to families with at least one child under 5 resident in Dudley Borough. The number of families we are able to help is linked to funding and service capacity.

The charity is very grateful to its volunteers and funders, without whom the charity would not exist.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Development, activities and achievements this year

Over the last year, Home-Start Dudley has provided home-visiting support for referred families. Through this support, for the year ending 31st March 2023, the charity has supported 35 families: this includes 73 children, 4 of whom had a disability and 15 of whom had additional needs. These families were supported by 22 home visiting volunteers and Home-Start staff.

As a service, we operate referral routes that support access for families: families can self-refer or be referred by a third party (third party referrals come from a wide range of sources). We also work in partnership or collaboration with a range of statutory agencies, professionals and third sector providers as part of assisting families to access essential, beneficial support; promoting and protecting the wellbeing and welfare of parents and children.

The core service delivery model for families is built around volunteer peer-to-peer relational support. Families receive regular support tailored to their circumstances and focused on mutually agreed support needs and priorities. During the financial year, families have been offered face-to-face support (typically taking place in the family home) and, where appropriate, an element of remote support has also been incorporated into their individual support plan. This approach aids accessibility and provides enhanced flexibility throughout a family's journey of support.

Alongside this provision, supported families have accessed our toy and story bag library during the reporting year, received children's activity packs and to mark Storytelling Week, a mini library of children's story books. Our Dudley Zoo pass was also made available to supported families, enabling families to visit the zoo and enjoy quality time together outside of the family home. These resources support children's learning and development, school readiness and emotional and mental well-being. As part of our core service we support families access to grants for emergency essentials (e.g. Children in Need Emergency Essentials programme) and working in partnership with local businesses, organisations and donors during the financial year has also enabled families to benefit from support with emergency household grocery packages, useful family friendly items and children's toys/gifts at special or festive times of year.

Integral to provision of our core home visiting support for families are the volunteers who generously give their time, energy and commitment. This year, following successful completion of our volunteer training course, we were pleased to welcome a new cohort to Home-Start Dudley's existing team of volunteers, meaning that for the reporting year our team consisted of 31 volunteers.

During the year, we were grateful, as a result of a grant received through Home-Start UK/The Pears Foundation to be able to invest in our IT infrastructure, a key objective. This has greatly benefited the charity to operate in a digitally focused world, enhancing digital workplace capability and aiding capacity to deliver service via remote means.

Home-Start Dudley would like to thank everyone who has supported the charity over the last year and been part of helping Home-Start Dudley make a positive difference to Borough families. We appreciate the contribution of all our trustees, volunteers, staff and many supporters and stakeholders to the work of the charity. We also acknowledge the support received from Home-Start UK and the Home-Start network.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The Statement of Financial Activities shows total income of £62,913 (2022 - £66,917) and expenditure of £59,414 (2022 - £56,734) resulting in a net increase in funds carried forward of £3,499 (2022 - £10,183).

The funds carried forward to the next financial year are £76,301 (2022 - £72,802). £71,307 (2022 - £64,452) of these funds are unrestricted reserves made up as follows:

£8,394 (2022 - £7,901) are general unrestricted funds

£27,500 (2022 - £25,000) are designated funds set aside as reserves (see below)

£5,413 (2022 - £6,551) are unrestricted reserves relating to Dudley MBC

£30,000 (2021 - £25,000) are an unrestricted strategic development reserve.

The remaining funds are restricted reserves of £4,994 (2022 - £8,350).

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

The management committee has agreed a reserve of £27,500 should be kept (increased from £25,000 at the end of the previous year), which it considers to be sufficient to cover potential short-term changes in funding strategies and winding-up costs if necessary. This consists of a provision for statutory redundancy payments and contract cancellation charges plus an appropriate contingency for other closure costs. As at year ended 31 March 2023, we believe this reserve to be sufficient to cover three months operating costs and our total reserves sufficient to cover nine months operating costs. The directors' long-term aspiration is to continue to build unrestricted reserves whenever the opportunity affords to allow for rises in costs, increases in planned activity and fluctuations in funding to ensure sufficient cash flow.

FUTURE PLANS

The cost-of living crisis is reaching further and deeper into family homes and family lives, weighing heavily on parents, meaning worry and anxiety are never far from their minds. As the pressures on parents increase, the impact on children grows, touching their 'here and now'. Day-to-day options and opportunities are impinged. The present shapes today, informs tomorrow and influences the future.

Every aspect of life and wellbeing is vulnerable to the rising cost-of-effect: inequalities crystallise, life chances narrow, and future outcomes look less positive. The toll on the family can permeate every sphere of personal and family life: physical, emotional and mental; practical and financial; health and housing; employment and education. The pressures and vulnerabilities families are facing now and, based on current predictions, are expected to face for the foreseeable future, mean families need to be able to reach out for, access and receive support to help them through these trying times. Our service will seek to help families find their way through the difficulties and challenges they are facing and overcome the issues they are experiencing. In this way we aim to mitigate any adverse impact on children's physical, mental, emotional and social development and to support the health and wellbeing of parents, children and families as a whole.

Recognising the right and importance of every child to have the opportunity to thrive, the charity is committed to supporting Dudley's Child Friendly Dudley initiative and Dudley's 1001 days, Family Hubs and Start for Life programmes. Working alongside Public Health and other Borough organisations we want to help parents give their children the best start in life, help families make the most of family life and help parents, their children, and our local communities to have a thriving and healthy future. Our mission remains to walk beside Dudley families, helping them to navigate daily family life, overcome challenges and live happy, healthy lives in happy, healthy homes. We are committed to being there for parents and children when they need us the most because childhood can't wait.

The pressures on family life are significant. The pressures on universal and statutory services are significant. The pressures being experienced by local communities and wider society are significant. Charities like Home-Start Dudley provide a much needed, effective resource and response. We remain keen to increase the support and opportunities available to families and to explore ways to enhance our service provision. We are committed to enabling and encouraging volunteering and supporting connected communities. We would like to continue to invest in strengthening the charity and its' infrastructure. We aim to engage the support of those who would like to help the charity to further our objectives and carry out our important work with children and families.

The trustees identify continuing to provide Home-Start Dudley support for families as a priority.

To enable our charity to continue to serve our local communities going forward, we will:

- Continue to make our service available to families, adapting to changes in the operating environment
- Stay connected to families and stakeholders to make sure families continue to have the support they need
- Seek to involve local people in volunteering opportunities which support Home-Start Dudley's work with families, offering training, support and a volunteering role which enables individuals to make a meaningful contribution to the lives of local families
- Continue to work in close association with the local authority public health and children's services departments to help the charity continue to deliver service to local communities and respond to the needs of local families.

Recent years have featured a challenging operating environment for the charity sector: the current financial year was no exception; neither is the next financial year expected to be. Home-Start Dudley continues to focus on sustainability of the core service while considering opportunities to develop and increase provision and support for families.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Board of Trustees

Trustees are all volunteers from a variety of backgrounds relevant to the work and management of the Charity. Trustees are appointed following completion of the recruitment process which includes a formal application, interview, satisfactory references, DBS and automatic disqualification checks.

The trustee board meets a minimum of four times per year. In the financial year reported on, the trustees met 6 times. At these meetings trustees receive reports from the Scheme Manager who is responsible for the day-to-day operational management of the charity. The trustee board makes decisions, as appropriate, on the strategic direction, policy and governance of the Charity, as well as monitoring operational management.

Risk management

The present and future operating climate for charities is inherently uncertain. The trustees seek to identify and monitor risks and as far as possible and practicable, take action to mitigate those risks.

The security of funding, particularly core funding, continues to be the main area of risk. The charity remains heavily dependent on the continuation of the local authority SLA which at present supports the core costs of the charity. As we move into the future, we recognise that the way services are commissioned may change which has the potential to offer opportunities as well as challenges.

The other major risk is child protection and safeguarding, which is covered by scrupulous verification of references, safeguarding training, DBS checks and ensuring a suitable insurance cover is in place. The management committee continues to keep these risks under review.

Notifiable Incidents

The Trustees can confirm that there were no serious incidents or matters which needed to be reported to the Charity Commission during the period.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

05603630 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1115352

Registered office

10-12 Charter Street
Brierley Hill
West Midlands
DY5 1LA

Trustees

Mary Elizabeth Jean Turner	Chair
Peter John Dyson	Vice Chair
Jane Margaret Southwell	Trustee
Colin Martin Taft	Trustee
Martin Berrington	Trustee

Staff

Julia Bannister	Scheme Manager
Anna Worrall	Coordinator
Sue Ross	Administrator

Home-Start Dudley

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Company Secretary

Julia Bannister

Independent Examiner

Craig Alan Beale
Lewis Smith & Co.
Chartered Certified Accountants
The Old Doctor's House
74 Grange Road
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2AW

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 15 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Mary Elizabeth Jean Turner - Trustee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Home-Start Dudley ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts 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 Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the 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 accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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

Craig Alan Beale

Lewis Smith & Co.
Chartered Certified Accountants
The Old Doctor's House
74 Grange Road
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2AW

15 December 2023

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		375	-	375	655
Charitable activities					
Grants receivable		62,418	-	62,418	66,262
Investment income	2	120	-	120	-
Total		<u>62,913</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>62,913</u>	<u>66,917</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	3				
Charitable activities		<u>56,058</u>	<u>3,356</u>	<u>59,414</u>	<u>56,734</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		6,855	(3,356)	3,499	10,183
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		64,452	8,350	72,802	62,619
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>71,307</u></u>	<u><u>4,994</u></u>	<u><u>76,301</u></u>	<u><u>72,802</u></u>

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	-	4,994	4,994	-
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	258	-	258	240
Cash at bank and in hand		78,103	-	78,103	79,484
		<u>78,361</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>78,361</u>	<u>79,724</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(7,054)	-	(7,054)	(6,922)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>71,307</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>71,307</u>	<u>72,802</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>71,307</u>	<u>4,994</u>	<u>76,301</u>	<u>72,802</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>71,307</u>	<u>4,994</u>	<u>76,301</u>	<u>72,802</u>
FUNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				71,307	64,452
Restricted funds				4,994	8,350
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>76,301</u>	<u>72,802</u>

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

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

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

Home-Start Dudley

Balance Sheet - continued

31 March 2023

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 15 December 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

Mary Elizabeth Jean Turner - Trustee

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

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

The presentation currency of the financial statements is the Pound Sterling (£) and the figures are rounded to the nearest round pound.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

Income

Grants are accounted for when the charity is legally entitled to the amounts due. Grant income is deferred when a grant has been received before the year end for expenditure which must take place in the following year or where there is no entitlement to a grant until certain services have been provided and these have not been provided before the year end.

Any grants without conditions are not deferred even if the resources are received in advance of the expenditure on the activity funded by them. The timing of the related expenditure is at the discretion of the charity and income is not deferred simply because the related expenditure has not yet been incurred.

Donations and all other income are recognised when they are received.

Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense against the activity for which expenditure arose.

Debtors and creditors

Debtors and Creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Governance costs

Include costs of the preparation and examination of statutory accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Tangible fixed assets

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

Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Costs includes costs directly attributable to making the assets capable or operating as intended. These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds

Designated funds comprise of unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds

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

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

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

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Deposit account interest	120	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Support costs (see note 4) £	Totals £
Charitable activities	57,721	1,693	59,414
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

4. SUPPORT COSTS

		Governance costs
		£
Charitable activities		<u>1,693</u>

5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>1,648</u>	<u>-</u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

7. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Wages and salaries	42,657	43,222
Other pension costs	<u>316</u>	<u>345</u>
	<u>42,973</u>	<u>43,567</u>

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

	31.3.23	31.3.22
Number of employees	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

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

8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	655	-	655
Charitable activities			
Grants receivable	57,512	8,750	66,262
Total	58,167	8,750	66,917
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Charitable activities	56,334	400	56,734
NET INCOME	1,833	8,350	10,183
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	62,619	-	62,619
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	64,452	8,350	72,802

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2022	4,396	2,148	6,544
Additions	-	6,642	6,642
Disposals	-	(2,148)	(2,148)
At 31 March 2023	4,396	6,642	11,038
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2022	4,396	2,148	6,544
Charge for year	-	1,648	1,648
Eliminated on disposal	-	(2,148)	(2,148)
At 31 March 2023	4,396	1,648	6,044
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2023	-	4,994	4,994
At 31 March 2022	-	-	-

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Prepayments	258	240
	<u>258</u>	<u>240</u>

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Accrued expenses	7,054	6,922
	<u>7,054</u>	<u>6,922</u>

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.22	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.3.23
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	7,901	493	-	8,394
Designated Funds	25,000	-	2,500	27,500
Dudley MBC Fund	6,551	6,362	(7,500)	5,413
Strategic Development Reserve	25,000	-	5,000	30,000
	<u>64,452</u>	<u>6,855</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>71,307</u>
Restricted funds				
Pears Foundation Grant	8,350	(3,356)	-	4,994
	<u>8,350</u>	<u>(3,356)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,994</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>72,802</u>	<u>3,499</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>76,301</u>

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	493	-	493
Dudley MBC Fund	62,420	(56,058)	6,362
	<u>62,913</u>	<u>(56,058)</u>	<u>6,855</u>
Restricted funds			
Pears Foundation Grant	-	(3,356)	(3,356)
	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,356)</u>	<u>(3,356)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>62,913</u>	<u>(59,414)</u>	<u>3,499</u>

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

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	7,151	750	7,901
Designated Funds	25,000	-	25,000
Dudley MBC Fund	5,468	1,083	6,551
Strategic Development Reserve	25,000	-	25,000
	62,619	1,833	64,452
Restricted funds			
Pears Foundation Grant	-	8,350	8,350
TOTAL FUNDS	62,619	10,183	72,802

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	750	-	750
Dudley MBC Fund	57,417	(56,334)	1,083
	58,167	(56,334)	1,833
Restricted funds			
Pears Foundation Grant	8,750	(400)	8,350
TOTAL FUNDS	66,917	(56,734)	10,183

The purpose of the funds are as follows:

Designated Funds

A reserve to cover any potential short-term changes in funding strategies and winding-up costs if necessary. The amount of this reserve is agreed by the management committee.

Dudley MBC

Funds to deliver the Home-Start service to families resident in Dudley Borough and to host the breastfeeding support service including the provision of administration support and payroll facilities.

Strategic Development Reserve

A reserve provided for strategic and operational development purposes for use at the discretion of Home-Start Dudley.

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Pears Foundation

This award has been made for the upgrade of ICT, storycise/toy library costs and family days out.

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	375	655
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	120	-
Charitable activities		
Grants	62,418	66,262
Total incoming resources	62,913	66,917
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	42,657	43,222
Pensions	316	345
Rent	5,726	5,500
Insurance	1,014	945
Communication costs	622	739
Office costs	551	303
Sundries	101	78
Repairs and small equipment	28	-
Staff travel expenses	699	436
Volunteer expenses	800	297
Home-Start UK fees	1,205	1,183
Professional fees	516	415
Bank charges	72	96
Resources	169	929
Family assistance purchases	-	93
Passes and permits	-	400
Pears grant expenses	1,597	-
Computer equipment	1,648	-
	57,721	54,981
Support costs		
Governance costs		
Accountancy and independent examination fees	1,584	1,668
Committee and AGM costs	61	37
Companies House fees	13	13
Information Commissioner's Office	35	35
	1,693	1,753

Home-Start Dudley

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
Total resources expended	59,414	56,734
Net income	3,499	10,183

Accounts

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Name:	Julia Bannister
Email:	manager@home-startdudley.org.uk
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Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022
for
Home-Start Dudley
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Lewis Smith & Co.
Chartered Certified Accountants
The Old Doctor's House
74 Grange Road
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2AW

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

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The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Constitution, Object, Status and Policies

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 26 October 2005. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

Home-Start Dudley was formerly a charity governed by a constitution.

Home-Start Dudley was set up to provide volunteer-led support, friendship and practical help to families with young children. Home-Start believes that children need a happy and secure childhood and that parents play the key role in giving their children a good start in life and helping them achieve their full potential. Home-Start's beneficiaries are families who need some extra support to cope with the stresses and strains of bringing up children while experiencing additional pressures arising from issues such as poor mental health, physical illness and disability, raising a child as a lone parent, relationship breakdown, domestic abuse, housing issues and homelessness, poverty, isolation.

The objects of the charity are:

- To safeguard, protect and preserve the good health, both physical and mental, of children and parents of children
- To prevent cruelty or maltreatment of children
- To relieve sickness, poverty and need amongst children and parents of children
- To promote the education of the public in better standards of childcare

To achieve the charity's purpose for its' beneficiaries, Home-Start Dudley continues to maintain its core service providing support to families with at least one child under 5 years old. This support, typically made available to families for around two hours a week, has been delivered in the family home and in local community settings. In order to deliver the core service the charity has recruited, trained and managed volunteers from within local communities.

Our volunteers, who usually have parenting experience, appreciate the stresses and strains families with young children can face. They provide regular home-visiting support to referred families.

Families are referred to us by health visitors and health service providers, professionals from the children and families sector and community organisations. Families also self-refer into our service. We run special family groups and hold social events for families when funding allows.

Although an independent scheme, Home-Start Dudley is affiliated to Home Start UK.

The charity is organised so that the management committee meets regularly to manage its affairs and formulate the charity's policies.

Public Benefit Statement

In planning the activities for the year, the trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and planning our future activities. The Trustees are satisfied that the objects are in the public interest and that the benefit relates to the objects of the Charity. The charity operates within Dudley Borough and the benefit is available free of charge, to families with at least one child under 5 resident in Dudley Borough.

The charity is very grateful to its volunteers and funders, without whom the charity would not exist.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Development, activities and achievements this year

Over the last year, Home-Start Dudley has provided home-visiting support for referred families. Through this support, for the year ending 31st March 2022, the charity has supported 35 families: this includes 66 children, 0 of whom had a disability and 14 of whom had additional needs. These families were supported by 20 home visiting volunteers and Home-Start staff.

Service delivery for families has consisted of a blend of face-to-face home visiting and remote support: this approach aids accessibility and provides enhanced flexibility throughout a family's journey of support. It also ensures service provision remains adaptable within the context of a society that is learning to live with COVID-19 and that remains cognisant of other emergent epidemics as a potential feature of day to day living. In keeping with resources made available during 2020-2021, supported families accessed our toy library throughout the reporting year and received children's activity packs during school holidays.

Integral to provision of our core home visiting support for families are the volunteers who generously give their time, energy and commitment. This year, following successful completion of our volunteer training course, we were pleased to welcome a new cohort to Home-Start Dudley's existing team of volunteers, meaning that for the reporting year our team consisted of 38 volunteers.

During the year, we were grateful, as a result of a grant received through Home-Start UK/The Pears Foundation to be able to continue to offer families access to our 'Day at Dudley Zoo' initiative which runs complementarily alongside home visiting support. The grant has enabled us to renew our annual membership and develop a resource bank that promotes play, school readiness and children's overall learning and development through activities linked to the family visit to the zoo. In addition, it has facilitated enhancement of our toy library and our Storycise activity resources, which in tandem with home visiting, are projects that support children's learning and development, school readiness and emotional and mental well-being.

Home-Start Dudley would like to thank everyone who has supported the charity over the last year and been part of helping Home-Start Dudley make a positive difference to Borough families. We appreciate the contribution of all our trustees, volunteers, staff and many supporters and stakeholders to the work of the charity. We also acknowledge the support received from Home-Start UK and the Home-Start network and via Home-Start UK's commercial and grant funding partnerships.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The Statement of Financial Activities shows total income of £66,917 (2021 - £65,710) and expenditure of £56,734 (2021 - £64,702) resulting in a net increase in funds carried forward of £10,183 (2021 - £1,008).

The funds carried forward to the next financial year are £72,802 (2021 - £62,619). £64,452 (2021 - £62,619) of these funds are unrestricted reserves made up as follows:

£7,901 (2021 - £7,151) are general unrestricted funds

£25,000 (2021 - £25,000) are designated funds set aside as reserves (see below)

£6,551 - (2021 - £5,468) are unrestricted reserves relating to Dudley MBC

£25,000 (2021 - £25,000) are an unrestricted strategic development reserve.

The remaining funds are restricted reserves of £8,350 (2021 - £Nil).

Reserves policy

The management committee has agreed a reserve of £25,000 should be kept, which it considers to be sufficient to cover potential short-term changes in funding strategies and winding-up costs if necessary. This consists of a provision for statutory redundancy payments and contract cancellation charges plus an appropriate contingency for other closure costs. As at year ended 31 March 2022, we believe this reserve to be sufficient to cover three months operating costs and our total reserves sufficient to cover nine months operating costs. The directors' long-term aspiration is to continue to build unrestricted reserves whenever the opportunity affords to allow for rises in costs, increases in planned activity and fluctuations in funding to ensure sufficient cash flow.

FUTURE PLANS

The pandemic has been far reaching, it is only in the latter phase of the reporting year that COVID-19 restrictions have been removed and society has moved towards a 'living with COVID' plan. While other local and national challenges begin to emerge, presenting significant difficulties for society in general as well as the families we support, the impact of the pandemic remains. Our intention is to continue to support families to address and respond to the challenges and changes COVID-19 wrought and the legacy it has left. It is a time of not just living with COVID but of learning to live with the long-lasting and unfolding impact of the pandemic on an individual, community and wider societal level.

Children's socialisation, education and learning over the course of the pandemic was disrupted, leading to reduced opportunities and reduced exposure to experiences important for healthy development, thereby exacerbating pre-existing educational inequalities. The impact of this is unlikely to be short-term and may well continue to affect children throughout childhood and into adulthood. Going forward, it is important that services for children and families provide support that helps address any resulting negative impact. Our core support will seek to: help families explore any concerns arising from this; provide access to opportunities which promote children's learning and development; help families address the challenges they are facing and identify and connect with the services they need. In this way we aim to mitigate any adverse impact on children's physical, mental, emotional and social development and to support their overall wellbeing.

On the heels of the pandemic, we are now facing a cost-of-living crisis, an economic downturn and the threat of recession. Since the government austerity programme became a feature of life in 2010, there has seldom been a time where pressure on and vulnerability around family finances has not been a real and present issue.

While the pandemic served to heighten this, the cost-of-living crisis will only exacerbate it further, causing increasing numbers of families to experience economic hardship and financial distress. Many in society will face stark choices around day to day living and the meeting of basic needs, some for the first time, some for the first time in a long time and some as part of a pervasive difficulty of daily life. Many will face ongoing uncertainty, precariously balanced between making ends meet and not having enough. Some families are expected to be particularly vulnerable. A report from the Institute of Fiscal Studies notes that austerity-era policies resulted in child poverty rising at significantly faster rates for larger families with three or more children and warns that poorer families are among the most exposed to the cost-of-living crisis. A University of York study suggests that two-thirds of all UK households will be trapped in fuel poverty by January 2023 (70.9% households in the West Midlands) with planned government support leaving even middle-income households struggling to pay their bills. This report shows 18 million families, the equivalent of 45 million people, will be left trying to make ends meet after further predicted rises in the energy price cap in October and January.

Financial stress can have a highly detrimental impact on family mental health, for both parents and children, and is a major cause of or contributor to mental health issues. Chronic or prolonged family stress can have a serious adverse effect on children's development, particularly during the early years of a child's life. The consequences for healthy child development can be immediate and long-term. The consequences of growing up in poverty can be life-long.

Child poverty remains an ever-present issue: child deprivation a growing concern. Dudley places sixth out of the region's thirty local authorities for child poverty: 34.9 per cent of children in Dudley are living in poverty. Children experiencing poverty face multiple disadvantages that often continue throughout their lives. Growing up in poverty can mean a childhood of insecurity, educational under-achievement and isolation from peers. Research and data commonly illustrate that children who grow up in poverty face a greater risk of poor health outcomes, exposure to adverse experiences, failure to thrive and failure to reach their full potential. In turn, this can limit their opportunities as adults and create potential for the cycle of poverty to repeat, impacting the next generation.

Recognising the right and importance of every child to have the opportunity to thrive, the charity is committed to supporting Dudley's 1001 days programme. The first 1001 days from conception to a child's second birthday is an incredibly important time. Children develop more rapidly physically, mentally and emotionally during this time than at any other point in their life. Working alongside Public Health and other Borough organisations we want to help parents give their children the best start in life, ensuring Dudley babies' health and wellbeing in the first 1001 days and helping Dudley communities to have a thriving and healthy future.

Going forward, we are also keen to explore other and new ways of working to enhance our core service and increase the support and opportunities available to families. To aid in this, we aim to invest in strengthening the charity's infrastructure and to engage the support of those who would like to help the charity to further our objectives and carry out our important work with children and families.

Acknowledging the tough times ahead, the dual legacy of the pandemic and past policies, the demand for and strain on those services essential in the lives of families, our mission remains to walk beside Dudley families. We are committed to helping families navigate daily family life, face the challenges and difficulties it presents and feel less vulnerable and alone. We are committed to being there for parents and children when they need us the most because childhood can't wait.

Recognising the unceasing need for and relevance of our service, the trustees identify continuing to provide Home-Start Dudley support for families as a priority.

To facilitate this we will:

- Continue to make our service available to families, adapting to changes in the operating environment
- Stay connected to families and stakeholders to make sure families continue to have the support they need
- Seek to involve local people in volunteering opportunities which support Home-Start Dudley's work with families, offering training, support and a volunteering role which enables individuals to make a meaningful contribution to the lives of local families
- Continue to work in close association with the local authority public health and children's services departments to help the charity continue to deliver service to local communities and respond to the needs of local families.

The operating environment for charities remains significantly challenging. Navigating uncertainty regarding longer-term core funding continues to be a key focus, a situation that Home-Start Dudley has in common with a great number of charities. The charity is continually aiming to achieve long-term funding from sustainable sources to provide stability and enable support to be offered to more vulnerable families.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Board of Trustees

Trustees are all volunteers from a variety of backgrounds relevant to the work and management of the Charity. Trustees are appointed following completion of the recruitment process which includes a formal application, interview, satisfactory references, DBS and automatic disqualification checks.

The trustee board meets a minimum of four times per year in the financial year reported on, the trustees met 8 times. At these meetings trustees receive reports from the Scheme Manager who is responsible for the day-to-day operational management of the charity. The trustee board makes decisions, as appropriate, on the strategic direction, policy and governance of the Charity, as well as monitoring operational management.

Risk management

The present and future operating climate for charities is inherently uncertain. The trustees seek to identify and monitor risks and as far as possible and practicable, take action to mitigate those risks. The security of funding, particularly core funding, continues to be the main area of risk. The charity remains heavily dependent on the continuation of the local authority SLA which at present supports the core costs of the charity. As we move into the future, we recognise that the way services are commissioned may change which has the potential to offer opportunities as well as challenges.

The other major risk is child protection and safeguarding, which is covered by scrupulous verification of references, safeguarding training, DBS checks and ensuring a suitable insurance cover is in place. The management committee continues to keep these risks under review.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Notifiable Incidents

The Trustees can confirm that there were no serious incidents or matters which needed to be reported to the Charity Commission during the period.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

05603630 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1115352

Registered office

10-12 Charter Street
Brierley Hill
West Midlands
DY5 1LA

Trustees

Mary Elizabeth Jean Turner	Chair
Peter John Dyson	Vice Chair
Jane Margaret Southwell	Trustee
Colin Martin Taft	Trustee
Susan Roxburgh	Trustee (resigned 9th January 2022)
Martin Berrington	Trustee

Staff

Julia Bannister	Scheme Manager
Anna Worrall	Coordinator
Sue Ross	Administrator

Company Secretary

Julia Bannister

Independent Examiner

Craig Alan Beale
FCCA
Lewis Smith & Co.
Chartered Certified Accountants
The Old Doctor's House
74 Grange Road
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2AW

Home-Start Dudley

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

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

.....
Mary Elizabeth Jean Turner - Trustee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Home-Start Dudley ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts 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 Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the 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 accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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

Craig Alan Beale
FCCA
Lewis Smith & Co.
Chartered Certified Accountants
The Old Doctor's House
74 Grange Road
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2AW

Date:

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		655	-	655	1,397
Charitable activities					
Grants receivable		57,512	8,750	66,262	64,313
Total		58,167	8,750	66,917	65,710
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	2				
Charitable activities		56,334	400	56,734	64,702
NET INCOME		1,833	8,350	10,183	1,008
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		62,619	-	62,619	61,611
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		64,452	8,350	72,802	62,619

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	8	240	-	240	225
Cash at bank and in hand		71,134	8,350	79,484	74,044
		<u>71,374</u>	<u>8,350</u>	<u>79,724</u>	<u>74,269</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(6,922)	-	(6,922)	(11,650)
		<u>64,452</u>	<u>8,350</u>	<u>72,802</u>	<u>62,619</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		<u>64,452</u>	<u>8,350</u>	<u>72,802</u>	<u>62,619</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		<u>64,452</u>	<u>8,350</u>	<u>72,802</u>	<u>62,619</u>
NET ASSETS					
		<u>64,452</u>	<u>8,350</u>	<u>72,802</u>	<u>62,619</u>
FUNDS	10				
Unrestricted funds				64,452	62,619
Restricted funds				8,350	-
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>72,802</u>	<u>62,619</u>

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

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

Home-Start Dudley

Balance Sheet - continued

31 March 2022

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on
and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
Mary Elizabeth Jean Turner - Trustee

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

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

The presentation currency of the financial statements is the Pound Sterling (£) and the figures are rounded to the nearest round pound.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

Income

Grants are accounted for when the charity is legally entitled to the amounts due. Grant income is deferred when a grant has been received before the year end for expenditure which must take place in the following year or where there is no entitlement to a grant until certain services have been provided and these have not been provided before the year end.

Any grants without conditions are not deferred even if the resources are received in advance of the expenditure on the activity funded by them. The timing of the related expenditure is at the discretion of the charity and income is not deferred simply because the related expenditure has not yet been incurred.

Donations and all other income are recognised when they are received.

Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense against the activity for which expenditure arose.

Debtors and creditors

Debtors and Creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Governance costs

Include costs of the preparation and examination of statutory accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost (or deemed cost) or valuation less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Costs includes costs directly attributable to making the assets capable of operating as intended. These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500. They are valued at cost.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated value, over their expected useful lives. However at present all fixed assets in the accounts have been fully depreciated.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds

Designated funds comprise of unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds

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

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

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

2. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Support costs (see note 3) £	Totals £
Charitable activities	54,981	1,753	56,734

3. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance costs £
Charitable activities	1,753

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2022 nor for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

5. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.22	31.3.21
	£	£
Wages and salaries	43,222	51,993
Other pension costs	345	251
	<u>43,567</u>	<u>52,244</u>

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

	31.3.22	31.3.21
Number of employees	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>

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

6. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	1,397	-	1,397
Charitable activities			
Grants receivable	<u>64,313</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,313</u>
Total	<u>65,710</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>65,710</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Charitable activities	<u>64,702</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,702</u>
NET INCOME	1,008	-	1,008
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	61,611	-	61,611
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>62,619</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>62,619</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022	4,396	2,148	6,544
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022	4,396	2,148	6,544
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2022	-	-	-
At 31 March 2021	-	-	-

8. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.22 £	31.3.21 £
Prepayments	240	225

9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.22 £	31.3.21 £
Accrued expenses	6,922	11,650

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	7,151	750	7,901
Designated Funds	25,000	-	25,000
Dudley MBC Fund	5,468	1,083	6,551
Strategic Development Reserve	25,000	-	25,000
	62,619	1,833	64,452
Restricted funds			
Pears Foundation Grant	-	8,350	8,350
TOTAL FUNDS	62,619	10,183	72,802

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	750	-	750
Dudley MBC Fund	57,417	(56,334)	1,083
	<u>58,167</u>	<u>(56,334)</u>	<u>1,833</u>
Restricted funds			
Pears Foundation Grant	8,750	(400)	8,350
	<u>66,917</u>	<u>(56,734)</u>	<u>10,183</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	5,454	1,697	7,151
Designated Funds	25,000	-	25,000
Dudley MBC Fund	6,157	(689)	5,468
Strategic Development Reserve	25,000	-	25,000
	<u>61,611</u>	<u>1,008</u>	<u>62,619</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>61,611</u>	<u>1,008</u>	<u>62,619</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	1,697	-	1,697
Dudley MBC Fund	64,013	(64,702)	(689)
	<u>65,710</u>	<u>(64,702)</u>	<u>1,008</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>65,710</u>	<u>(64,702)</u>	<u>1,008</u>

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	5,454	2,447	7,901
Designated Funds	25,000	-	25,000
Dudley MBC Fund	6,157	394	6,551
Strategic Development Reserve	25,000	-	25,000
	61,611	2,841	64,452
Restricted funds			
Pears Foundation Grant	-	8,350	8,350
TOTAL FUNDS	61,611	11,191	72,802

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	2,447	-	2,447
Dudley MBC Fund	121,430	(121,036)	394
	123,877	(121,036)	2,841
Restricted funds			
Pears Foundation Grant	8,750	(400)	8,350
TOTAL FUNDS	132,627	(121,436)	11,191

The purpose of the funds are as follows:

Designated Funds

A reserve to cover any potential short-term changes in funding strategies and winding-up costs if necessary. The amount of this reserve is agreed by the management committee.

Dudley MBC

Funds to deliver the Home-Start service to families resident in Dudley Borough and to host the breastfeeding support service including the provision of administration support and payroll facilities.

Strategic Development Reserve

A reserve provided for strategic and operational development purposes for use at the discretion of Home-Start Dudley.

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Children In Need

Funds for supporting volunteers in play training, used to employ a part time coordinator. This fund ceased during the previous year and a sum of £9,152 was returned.

Pears Foundation

This award has been made for the upgrade of ICT, storycise/toy library costs and family days out.

11. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	31.3.22 £	31.3.21 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	655	1,397
Charitable activities		
Grants	66,262	64,313
Total incoming resources	66,917	65,710
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	43,222	51,993
Pensions	345	251
Rent	5,500	4,564
Insurance	945	888
Communication costs	739	1,225
Office costs	303	285
Sundries	78	54
Repairs and small equipment	-	418
Staff travel expenses	436	462
Volunteer expenses	297	293
Home-Start UK fees	1,183	1,573
Professional fees	415	500
Bank charges	96	69
Resources	929	436
Family assistance purchases	93	-
Passes and permits	400	-
	54,981	63,011
Support costs		
Governance costs		
Accountancy and independent examination fees	1,668	1,643
Committee and AGM costs	37	-
Companies House fees	13	13
Information Commissioner's Office	35	35
	1,753	1,691
Total resources expended	56,734	64,702
Net income	10,183	1,008

Accounts

Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021
for
Home-Start Dudley
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Lewis Smith & Co.
Chartered Certified Accountants
The Old Doctor's House
74 Grange Road
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2AW

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

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Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	18

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Constitution, Object, Status and Policies

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 26 October 2005. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

Home-Start Dudley was formerly a charity governed by a constitution.

Home-Start Dudley was set up to provide volunteer-led support, friendship and practical help to families with young children. Home-Start believes that children need a happy and secure childhood and that parents play the key role in giving their children a good start in life and helping them achieve their full potential. Home-Start's beneficiaries are families who need some extra support to cope with the stresses and strains of bringing up children while experiencing additional pressures arising from issues such as poor mental health, physical illness and disability, raising a child as a lone parent, relationship breakdown, domestic abuse, housing issues and homelessness, poverty, isolation.

The objects of the charity are:

- To safeguard, protect and preserve the good health, both physical and mental, of children and parents of children
- To prevent cruelty or maltreatment of children
- To relieve sickness, poverty and need amongst children and parents of children
- To promote the education of the public in better standards of childcare

To achieve the charity's purpose for its' beneficiaries, Home-Start Dudley continues to maintain its core service providing support to families with at least one child under 5 years old. This support, typically made available to families for around two hours a week has been delivered in the family home and in local community settings. In order to deliver the core service the charity has recruited, trained and managed volunteers from within local communities.

Our volunteers, who usually have parenting experience, appreciate the stresses and strains families with young children can face. They provide regular home-visiting support to referred families.

Families are referred to us by health visitors and health service providers, professionals from the children and families sector and community organisations. Families also self-refer into our service. We run special family groups and hold social events for families when funding allows.

Although an independent scheme, Home-Start Dudley is affiliated to Home Start UK.

The charity is organized so that the management committee meets regularly to manage its affairs and formulate the charity's policies.

Public Benefit Statement

In planning the activities for the year, the trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and planning our future activities. The Trustees are satisfied that the objects are in the public interest and that the benefit relates to the objects of the Charity. The charity operates within Dudley Borough and the benefit is available free of charge, to families with at least one child under 5 resident in Dudley Borough.

The charity is very grateful to its volunteers and funders, without whom the charity would not exist.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Development, activities and achievements this year

Over the last year, Home-Start Dudley has provided home-visiting support for referred families. Through this support, for the year ending 31st March 2021, the charity has supported 24 families: this includes 48 children, 2 of whom had a disability and 6 of whom had additional needs. These families were supported by 12 home visiting volunteers and Home-Start staff. Due to the pandemic, consistent with service delivery approaches adopted by other organisations, we adapted support around national and local restrictions which saw a move to increasing remote means of delivery using telecommunications. This enabled Home-Start Dudley to continue to be there for families at an incredibly uncertain, disruptive and challenging time, providing a lifeline of assistance and support and consistent, ongoing external connection which helped to mitigate the isolation families experienced during periods of 'lockdown'.

Due to the pandemic, recruitment and training of new volunteers was put on hold during the financial year.

In addition to our core service of home-visiting support, for part of the year, we worked closely with Public Health to host the Breastfeeding Support Service provided by Public Health and supported by Public Health volunteers. Through this service families were able to access breastfeeding support and information.

In September 2020 we secured new premises, moving to Charter Street, Brierley Hill. We acknowledge and appreciate the support of Anna Walsh, CEO, CHADD in facilitating the opportunity to be based at Charter Street and the CHADD team for their ongoing support and assistance. Equally, we acknowledge and appreciate the support of Chris Szygowski, CEO, and the rest of the Age UK team during the time we were co-located with Age UK at the Waterfront, Merry Hill.

During the year, we were grateful for the support from the Stourbridge Branch of Soroptimists International, The Masonic Charitable Foundation and Home-Start UK's partnerships with John Lewis and The White Stuff.

Home-Start Dudley would like to thank everyone who has supported the charity over the last year and been part of helping Home-Start Dudley make a positive difference to Borough families. We appreciate the contribution of all our trustees, volunteers, staff and many supporters and stakeholders to the work of the charity.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The Statement of Financial Activities shows total income of £65,710 (2020 - £87,022) and expenditure of £64,702 (2020 - £81,677) resulting in a net increase in funds carried forward of £1,008 (2020 - £5,345).

The funds carried forward to the next financial year are £62,619 (2020 - £61,611) in total of which £7,151 (2020 - £5,454) are general unrestricted funds, £25,000 (2020 - £25,000) are designated funds set aside as reserves (see below), £5,468 (2020 - £6,157) are unrestricted reserves relating to Dudley MBC and £25,000 (2020 - £25,000) are an unrestricted strategic development reserve.

Reserves policy

The management committee has agreed a reserve of £25,000 (2020 - £25,000) should be kept, which it considers to be sufficient to cover potential short-term changes in funding strategies and winding-up costs if necessary. This consists of a provision for statutory redundancy payments and contract cancellation charges plus an appropriate contingency for other closure costs. As at year ended 31 March 2021, we believe this reserve to be sufficient to cover at least three months operating costs and our total reserves sufficient to cover at least nine months operating costs. The directors' long term aspiration is to continue to build unrestricted reserves whenever the opportunity affords to allow for rises in costs, increases in planned activity and fluctuations in funding to ensure sufficient cash flow.

FUTURE PLANS

While the main focus during the pandemic has been on ensuring we continue to provide support for families, as society emerges from the restrictions imposed and looks to reclaim normal life, our focus will be on supporting this adjustment and helping families address the impact the pandemic has had on their lives. Official statistics reveal how the pandemic has had a bigger impact in the West Midlands than in almost any other region in the country.

The pandemic suddenly and significantly increased the levels of stress in day-to-day family life, and while some of the immediate changes and challenges on day to day life during the height of the pandemic recede, life post-pandemic presents significant stresses and strains of its' own.

Pressures on and vulnerability around family finances have been a constant feature of the recent past. The pandemic has heightened this, creating: changes to household incomes and income uncertainty; concerns around employment security; changes to employment status; significant pressures on poorer households; risk of debt/debt vulnerability; food and fuel poverty. Families have faced and continue to face concerns around managing household finances and making ends meet. The expected rising cost of living has the potential to worsen an already precarious position. Reports pre-pandemic identified a stark reality: 1 in 3 Dudley children live in poverty. Child poverty is growing. Financial stress can have a highly detrimental impact on family mental health, for both parents and children, and is a major cause of or contributor to mental health issues. Chronic or prolonged family stress can have a serious adverse effect on children's development, particularly during the early years of a child's life. The consequences for healthy child development can be immediate and long-term. The consequences of growing up in poverty can be life-long.

Family mental health has also been negatively impacted by the way COVID-19 has altered and affected daily life. Families have faced illness and bereavement; prolonged isolation; changes to family structures and loss of support networks; loneliness; separation from loved ones. There has been: an increase in parental stress, depression and anxiety, a decline in maternal mental health and a rise in children experiencing anxiety and poorer mental and emotional health.

Access to essential services has been problematic and continues to be so, creating difficulties and delays for families in getting the help, treatment and support they need to survive and thrive.

Children's socialisation, education and learning has also been disrupted as a result of the pandemic, leading to reduced opportunities and exposure to experiences important for healthy development and exacerbating pre-existing educational inequalities. The impact of this is unlikely to be short-term and may well continue to effect children throughout childhood and into adulthood.

The legacy of COVID-19 is that it has both highlighted and heightened inequalities and disparities which influence and impact on all areas of our lives, from the moment of birth and as we age.

Looking to the future, it is also apparent that there are significant challenges to come for society. While we are beginning to visualise the possibility of living with and alongside COVID as an endemic disease, societal recovery is a little harder to positively envisage. What is certain is that the impact of the pandemic will be felt for some time, both in ways that are obvious and in ways that will only become clearer with time. Our mission, as relevant today as it was yesterday and will be tomorrow, is to walk beside parents and their children, helping Dudley families feel less alone in navigating daily family life and in facing the challenges and difficulties it presents as we emerge into the post-pandemic world.

Recognising the unceasing need for and relevance of our service, the trustees identify continuing to provide Home-Start Dudley support for families as a priority.

To facilitate this we will:

- Continue to make our service available to families, adapting to changes in the operating environment
- Stay connected to families and stakeholders to make sure families continue to have the support they need
- Seek to involve local people in volunteering opportunities which support Home-Start Dudley's work with families, offering training, support and a volunteering role which enables individuals to make a meaningful contribution to the lives of local families
- Continue to work in close association with the local authority public health and children's services departments to

help the charity continue to deliver service to local communities and respond to the needs of local families.

The operating environment for charities remains significantly challenging. Navigating uncertainty regarding longer-term core funding continues to be a key focus, a situation that Home-Start Dudley has in common with a great number of charities. The charity is continually aiming to achieve long-term funding from sustainable sources to provide stability and enable support to be offered to more vulnerable families.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Board of Trustees

Trustees are all volunteers from a variety of backgrounds relevant to the work and management of the Charity. Trustees are appointed following completion of the recruitment process which includes a formal application, interview, satisfactory references, DBS and automatic disqualification checks.

The trustee board meets a minimum of four times per year in the financial year reported on, the trustees met five times. At these meetings trustees receive reports from the Scheme Manager who is responsible for the day to day operational management of the charity. The trustee board makes decisions, as appropriate, on the strategic direction, policy and governance of the Charity, as well as monitoring operational management.

Risk management

The present and future operating climate for charities is inherently uncertain. The trustees seek to identify and monitor risks and as far as possible and practicable, take action to mitigate those risks.

The security of funding, particularly core funding, continues to be the main area of risk. The charity remains heavily dependent on the continuation of the local authority SLA which at present supports the core costs of the charity. As we move into the future, we recognise that the way services are commissioned may change which has the potential to offer opportunities as well as the challenges.

The other major risk is child protection and safeguarding, which is covered by scrupulous verification of references, safeguarding training, DBS checks and ensuring a suitable insurance cover is in place. The management committee continues to keep these risks under review.

Notifiable Incidents

The Trustees can confirm that there were no serious incidents or matters which needed to be reported to the Charity Commission during the period.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

05603630 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1115352

Registered office

10-12 Charter Street
Brierley Hill
West Midlands
DY5 1LA

Home-Start Dudley

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Trustees

Mary Elizabeth Jean Turner	Chair
Peter John Dyson	Vice Chair
Jane Margaret Southwell	Trustee
Colin Martin Taft	Trustee
Susan Roxburgh	Trustee
Martin Berrington	Trustee

Staff

Julia Bannister	Scheme Manager	
Anna Worrall	Coordinator	
Sue Ross	Administrator	
Carla Tidman	FLO Specialist Administrator	(employed until 26/06/2020)
Brianna Dymond	Organisational Development Worker	(employed until 19/06/2020)
Hope Woods	Volunteer Buddy Coordinator	(employed until 19/06/2020)

Company Secretary

Julia Bannister

Independent Examiner

Craig Alan Beale
FCCA
Lewis Smith & Co.
Chartered Certified Accountants
The Old Doctor's House
74 Grange Road
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2AW

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

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

.....
Mary Elizabeth Jean Turner - Trustee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Home-Start Dudley ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts 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 Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the 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 accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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

Craig Alan Beale
FCCA
Lewis Smith & Co.
Chartered Certified Accountants
The Old Doctor's House
74 Grange Road
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2AW

Date:

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £	31.3.20 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		1,397	-	1,397	555
Charitable activities					
Grants receivable		64,313	-	64,313	86,467
Total		<u>65,710</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>65,710</u>	<u>87,022</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	2				
Charitable activities		64,702	-	64,702	81,677
NET INCOME		<u>1,008</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,008</u>	<u>5,345</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		61,611	-	61,611	56,266
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>62,619</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>62,619</u></u>	<u><u>61,611</u></u>

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £	31.3.20 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	8	225	-	225	213
Cash at bank and in hand		74,044	-	74,044	64,502
		<u>74,269</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>74,269</u>	<u>64,715</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(11,650)	-	(11,650)	(3,104)
		<u>62,619</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>62,619</u>	<u>61,611</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		<u>62,619</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>62,619</u>	<u>61,611</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		<u>62,619</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>62,619</u>	<u>61,611</u>
NET ASSETS					
		<u>62,619</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>62,619</u>	<u>61,611</u>
FUNDS	10				
Unrestricted funds				<u>62,619</u>	<u>61,611</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>62,619</u>	<u>61,611</u>

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

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

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

Home-Start Dudley

Balance Sheet - continued

31 March 2021

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on
and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
Mary Elizabeth Jean Turner - Trustee

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

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

The presentation currency of the financial statements is the Pound Sterling (£) and the figures are rounded to the nearest round pound.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

Income

Grants are accounted for when the charity is legally entitled to the amounts due. Grant income is deferred when a grant has been received before the year end for expenditure which must take place in the following year or where there is no entitlement to a grant until certain services have been provided and these have not been provided before the year end. Any grants without conditions are not deferred even if the resources are received in advance of the expenditure on the activity funded by them. The timing of the related expenditure is at the discretion of the charity and income is not deferred simply because the related expenditure has not yet been incurred.

Donations and all other income are recognised when they are received.

Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense against the activity for which expenditure arose.

Debtors and creditors

Debtors and Creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Governance costs

Include costs of the preparation and examination of statutory accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost (or deemed cost) or valuation less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Costs includes costs directly attributable to making the assets capable or operating as intended. These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500. They are valued at cost.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated value, over their expected useful lives. However at present all fixed assets in the accounts have been fully depreciated.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds

Designated funds comprise of unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds

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

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

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

2. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Support costs (see note 3) £	Totals £
Charitable activities	63,011	1,691	64,702

3. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance costs £
Charitable activities	1,691

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

Trustees' expenses

During the year no expenses were paid to any trustees.

During the previous year, expenses of £16 were paid to J Southwell. These expenses were incurred in her role as trustee.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

5. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Wages and salaries	51,993	63,086
Other pension costs	251	180
	<u>52,244</u>	<u>63,266</u>

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

	31.3.21	31.3.20
Number of employees	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>

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

6. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	555	-	555
Charitable activities			
Grants receivable	84,490	1,977	86,467
Total	<u>85,045</u>	<u>1,977</u>	<u>87,022</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Charitable activities	77,274	4,403	81,677
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	<u>7,771</u>	<u>(2,426)</u>	<u>5,345</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	53,840	2,426	56,266
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>61,611</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>61,611</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021	4,396	2,148	6,544
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021	4,396	2,148	6,544
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2021	-	-	-
At 31 March 2020	-	-	-

8. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
Prepayments	225	213

9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
Accrued expenses	11,650	3,104

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	5,454	1,697	7,151
Designated Funds	25,000	-	25,000
Dudley MBC Fund	6,157	(689)	5,468
Strategic Development Reserve	25,000	-	25,000
	61,611	1,008	62,619
TOTAL FUNDS	61,611	1,008	62,619

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	1,697	-	1,697
Dudley MBC Fund	64,013	(64,702)	(689)
	<u>65,710</u>	<u>(64,702)</u>	<u>1,008</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>65,710</u>	<u>(64,702)</u>	<u>1,008</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.20 £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	4,899	555	5,454
Designated Funds	20,000	5,000	25,000
Dudley MBC Fund	28,941	(22,784)	6,157
Strategic Development Reserve	-	25,000	25,000
	<u>53,840</u>	<u>7,771</u>	<u>61,611</u>
Restricted funds			
Children In Need	2,426	(2,426)	-
	<u>2,426</u>	<u>(2,426)</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>56,266</u>	<u>5,345</u>	<u>61,611</u>

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	555	-	555
Designated Funds	5,000	-	5,000
Dudley MBC Fund	54,490	(77,274)	(22,784)
Strategic Development Reserve	25,000	-	25,000
	85,045	(77,274)	7,771
Restricted funds			
Children In Need	1,977	(4,403)	(2,426)
TOTAL FUNDS	87,022	(81,677)	5,345

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	4,899	2,252	7,151
Designated Funds	20,000	5,000	25,000
Dudley MBC Fund	28,941	(23,473)	5,468
Strategic Development Reserve	-	25,000	25,000
	53,840	8,779	62,619
Restricted funds			
Children In Need	2,426	(2,426)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	56,266	6,353	62,619

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	2,252	-	2,252
Designated Funds	5,000	-	5,000
Dudley MBC Fund	118,503	(141,976)	(23,473)
Strategic Development Reserve	25,000	-	25,000
	150,755	(141,976)	8,779
Restricted funds			
Children In Need	1,977	(4,403)	(2,426)
TOTAL FUNDS	152,732	(146,379)	6,353

The purpose of the funds are as follows:

Designated Funds

A reserve to cover any potential short-term changes in funding strategies and winding-up costs if necessary. The amount of this reserve is agreed by the management committee.

Dudley MBC

Funds to deliver the Home-Start service to families resident in Dudley Borough and to host the breastfeeding support service including the provision of administration support and payroll facilities.

Strategic Development Reserve

A reserve provided for strategic and operational development purposes for use at the discretion of Home-Start Dudley.

Children In Need

Funds for supporting volunteers in play training, used to employ a part time coordinator. This fund ceased during the previous year and a sum of £9,152 was returned.

11. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	1,397	555
Charitable activities		
Grants	64,313	86,467
Total incoming resources	65,710	87,022
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	51,993	63,086
Pensions	251	180
Rent	4,564	5,724
Insurance	888	841
Communication costs	1,225	2,133
Office costs	285	2,185
Sundries	54	-
Repairs and small equipment	418	-
Staff travel expenses	462	770
Volunteer expenses	293	1,511
Volunteer training	-	302
Home-Start UK fees	1,573	2,274
Professional fees	500	600
Bank charges	69	101
Resources	436	467
	63,011	80,174
Support costs		
Governance costs		
Accountancy and independent examination fees	1,643	1,422
Committee and AGM costs	-	17
Trustee expenses	-	16
Companies House fees	13	13
Information Commissioner's Office	35	35
	1,691	1,503
Total resources expended	64,702	81,677
Net income	1,008	5,345