

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 05880006 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1119310

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023
FOR
COMMUNITY CONNEXIONS**

Andorran Limited (Statutory Auditor)
Chartered Accountants
6 Manor Park Business Centre
Mackenzie Way
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire
GL51 9TX

COMMUNITY CONNEXIONS

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COMMUNITY CONNEXIONS
REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

TRUSTEES	Cavus Batki (Chair) Rachel Claire Brindley Tim Harman Geoffrey Peter Sparkes Claire Thompson Alan Charles Machin Jacqueline Millar (Treasurer) Barry Chapman Paul James Sarah Rowan Sarah Whitelock Barry Seamons (resigned 13.2.23)
REGISTERED OFFICE	Suite 12 Corinium House Corinium Avenue Barnwood Point Gloucester Gloucestershire GL4 3HX
REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER	05880006 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER	1119310
AUDITORS	Andorran Limited (Statutory Auditor) Chartered Accountants 6 Manor Park Business Centre Mackenzie Way Cheltenham Gloucestershire GL51 9TX
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	Paul Riddick
BANKERS	HSBC UK 2 The Promenade Cheltenham Gloucestershire GL50 1LR

COMMUNITY CONNEXIONS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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

Objectives and aims

The objectives of the charity according to its Memorandum and Articles of Association are to provide transport services and volunteering opportunities in the County of Gloucestershire and surrounding areas (hereinafter called 'area of benefit') and to promote any charitable purpose for the benefit of the community in the area of benefit.

Significant activities

The core activity of the charity is the provision of transport for people with mobility problems in the area of benefit, thereby tackling loneliness and social isolation and promoting independence and an improved quality of life.

Public benefit

In planning the charity's activities for the year, the trustees kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The focus of the charity's activities during the year, which explains the delivery by the charity of public benefit, is set out below under 'achievement and performance'.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

This financial year has been about increasing our offer, building passenger numbers across services. The charity has seen a continuation of a recovery towards pre-pandemic levels. In terms of total passenger numbers, we are still down about a third from 2020 figures, but we have witnessed year on year growth since the lockdowns. Some services have still not resumed but the number of these has decreased throughout the year, as confidence amongst our passengers grows. As stated, passenger numbers were up against the previous year and demand for transport to health appointments has remained the most in-demand service but, happily, there has also been increased demand for leisure trips for people who now wish to return to pre-lockdown activities. 'Special trips' numbers have more than doubled in this reporting period, as people want to get out and about again. Shopper routes have also seen growth, as have the number of passengers travelling on our registered bus routes. Overall, this is the third year of growth since the pandemic, which is a pleasing result.

During this year the Board decided to work with a bid-writing service with a view to increasing grants to the charity. The Board will review this arrangement regularly to ensure it offers value for money.

It was also decided to recruit a Marketing Manager to promote the charity, as it was felt this was an area which had not been receiving the attention it should and would also generate income through closer engagement with other organisations. The new post holder would develop the website, assist with the volunteer recruitment campaign, revive the social media outlets and network with other charities.

We have been financially supported by several charities through grants - Glos Disability Fund, Thriving Communities, Motability, Cotswold District Council and the Lottery. We very much appreciate this assistance which has allowed us to provide essential transport for the most vulnerable in our communities. We have also continued to be supported by Gloucestershire County Council and we are grateful for their continued support.

Governance

The Board has met in person this financial year, although there is an option to join on Teams if it is not convenient to travel. The AGM was again conducted in a hybrid way with the Board meeting face to face and guests joining the meeting remotely. This is likely to be the new normal. All governance complied with Charity Commission guidance. In February 2023 one of the Trustees sadly passed. Barry Seamons had been involved with the charity for 20 years and will be missed.

COMMUNITY CONNEXIONS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued
Charitable activities - continued

Our People

We would like to thank our staff and volunteers for their commitment through the year. To accommodate the additional demand in the year we employed one additional customer service assistant in the office.

The biggest challenge during the year was recruiting new volunteer drivers to replace those who did not return after lockdowns - this totalled about a third of volunteer numbers. It was evident that volunteer recruitment post-pandemic was much more difficult than before (this phenomena has been experienced across the third sector), and the charity has expended a great deal of effort and innovation in recruitment drives. This has been necessary because demand increased throughout the year, not only from existing passengers but also from new Members. Largely demand was related to attendance at health appointments and at some points Membership was growing at between five and eight a week. Obviously, this meant travel requests grew exponentially, increasing the necessity to recruit more volunteer drivers. The recruitment process was partially successful and numbers have grown, but will need to continue just to get back to pre-pandemic levels. Of course, even more volunteer drivers than that would be useful and welcomed.

Our staff and volunteers have again provided a quality service in sometimes difficult circumstances, and we are extremely grateful for their professionalism, dedication and enthusiasm.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

This has been another difficult year for the Charity which has still be recovering following the pandemic. The external economic factors including the exceptionally high increase in inflation over a short period of time has resulted in an unexpected increase in costs, particularly fuel and wage inflation, which have not been recovered through increased grants or fares. This has resulted in a deficit being reported for the year.

During the year 2022/23 the Charity generated an income of £871,112 mainly from charitable activities had a total expenditure of £898,054 resulting in a deficit of £26,942 for the year.

The principal source of funding has been from the core charitable activities provided through grants and fares for individual services. Volunteer recruitment has been challenging and although several advertising campaigns have been funded by specific donations the level of volunteers remains low in some area making it difficult to meet the potential demand.

Reserves policy

The Trustees consider the financial integrity of the charity as part of their ongoing review of the risks facing the organisation. The aim of the Trustees is to increase the Charity's free reserves (being those unrestricted reserves that are not represented by the value of the fixed assets) to equate to gross budgeted expenditure for three months.

The total unrestricted reserves held at 31 March 2023 were £199,261 of which £184,245 were free reserves and £15,016 designated capital reserves.

Our free reserves at 31 March 2023 were £184k. Three months gross budgeted expenditure currently equates to £223k.

It is acknowledged we have not reached our desired Reserves figures. The charity is targeting passenger use at pre-covid levels. Although we have not achieved the target yet, statistics show usage is building back year on year. Our projections show we will be back to pre-covid levels within two years, therefore boosting income.

A strategic review took place to address the issue of our deficit. This involved critically analysing our fleet usage, staff numbers and contract values. The recommendations of that review will be implemented over the summer of 2023 and may require reducing fleet and staff numbers, as well as renegotiating contracts.

COMMUNITY CONNEXIONS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

FUTURE PLANS

Our vision is that everyone in Gloucestershire has the personalised transport services they need to lead full and active lives. To achieve that we require additional volunteer drivers and therefore recruitment will remain a priority. During the year the Board devoted a lot of time to a strategic review with a vision to establish financial stability and sustainability, allowing growth and more focus on true 'community transport', rather than contracted work. This may require a re-shaping of our services in order to better deliver the organisational vision.

We also plan to work more closely with other third sector organisations, and through such partnership achieve mutually beneficial outcomes. This will include better utilisation of our fleet during quieter periods for the benefit of other charities' service-users. This will also involve 'pilot' projects to establish how these efficiency gains can be best achieved for all partners.

We also intend to research I.T. systems for improved functionality and futureproofing how passengers can book their journeys, e.g., on-line booking and via a smartphone App, plus better customer service through automated reminders and real-time vehicle tracking.

The charity has continued to see growth in demand for transport to health appointments, both for outpatient treatment and GP surgeries for vaccinations. Last year we engaged with the NHS and they agreed to provide some funding towards the services we provided for them. We hope this particular partnership will continue in the coming years.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is governed by the Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 18 July 2006, as amended by special resolutions on 28 September 2006, 2 March 2007, 28 September 2009, 25 March 2014 and 2 October 2018 and a board resolution on 15 December 2009.

On 19 June 2015 by Special Resolution, the charity changed its name from Third Sector Services to Community Connexions.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Power of appointment of new trustees is vested in the surviving or continuing trustees.

Organisational structure

In accordance with its constitution the charity is controlled by a Board of Trustees that meets at least quarterly. There are between five and fifteen trustees at any one time, all of whom are elected every year at the Annual General Meeting. One third of the board must retire at each Annual General Meeting but in accordance with the Memorandum and Articles of Association may be re-elected.

The Board meets quarterly but has four committees which report to the Board on their portfolios. The committees are Finance, Community Engagement, Policy and HR, and Business Development and Operations. Each Committee is chaired by a Trustee (utilising their areas of expertise), has at least one further Trustee as a member, together with the appropriate staff members. In this way the Trustees' knowledge and experience can be utilised to take the charity forward.

Pay for all staff is set by the full Board after taking advice from the Finance committee. That committee benchmarks salaries whilst remaining mindful of the charity's budget.

Remuneration of key management personnel

Remuneration of the Senior Management Team is reviewed annually by the Board, with reference to benchmark figures against similar roles in the sector.

COMMUNITY CONNEXIONS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Recruitment, induction and training of new trustees

The charity has a structured trustee recruitment process. The maximum term of service means three trustees will leave in late 2023 and the charity has successfully recruited four new excellent quality Trustees. Their knowledge and experience have greatly contributed to the charity. It has been decided to recruit a couple more high-quality Trustees to further enhance the Board. Trustees are appointed following written application and interview and upon receipt of satisfactory references. As part of the recruitment process, they meet with the Chief Executive, existing trustees and visit the office, to help them gain a detailed insight into the services Community Connexions offers as well as the role and responsibilities of a trustee. New trustees are supported by the Chair and Chief Executive to understand their role and responsibilities. As part of their induction programme, they meet with key members of the staff and volunteer team, experience some of the transport services from the service user perspective and are also given copies of all key charity documents and signposted to relevant Charity Commission guidance.

Related parties

The charity has no subsidiary undertakings or related organisations, save for its dormant subsidiary company, Community Connexions Trading Limited.

Risk management

The trustees acknowledge their responsibility to manage risk on behalf of the organisation. They have analysed risks between:

- governance
- operations
- finance
- external factors
- internal factors
- compliance
- road risk (with regard to Community Transport)

The trustees monitor the charity's exposure to risk going forward. They are content that they identified and mitigated against the major risks faced by the organisation during the year. They are satisfied that systems are in place to manage exposure.

In 2022/23 the major risks were identified as;

- Volunteer recruitment insufficient to meet growing demand.
- Business plan unsustainable - will require strategic review in 2022/23.
- Staffing issues - office staff numbers decreased leading to delays in response to customers.
- Schools Contracts expiring in summer - need to review pricing and viability.
- Cost of living - increased costs affecting business and customers.

Through careful management none of those risks had any major impact upon the charity but, of course, some remain a risk going forward.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Community Connexions for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

COMMUNITY CONNEXIONS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES - continued

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

AUDITORS

The auditors, Andorran Limited (Statutory Auditor), will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

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 14th Nov 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Cavus Batki - Trustee

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF COMMUNITY CONNEXIONS

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Community Connexions (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Statement of Financial Position, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other Information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF COMMUNITY CONNEXIONS

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report or in preparing the Report of the Trustees.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Auditor that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but it is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that, despite us planning and performing our audit in accordance with auditing standards, one or more material misstatements in the financial statements may have gone undetected by our audit. As with any audit, there is a risk that irregularities and fraud will go undetected where they involve matters such as misrepresentations from management, collusion, deliberate omissions and override of controls. It is not the role of the auditor to prevent non-compliance and we cannot be expected to detect every instance of non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- enquiries of management including a pre audit meeting;
- obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation of policies concerning the laws and regulations applicable to the business;
- understanding how the company complies with its regulatory framework by making enquiries of management;
- considering the culture inherent in the company and whether this represents a culture of honesty and ethical behaviour with a strong emphasis of detection and prevention of fraud.

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF COMMUNITY CONNEXIONS

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements - continued

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement and considered how fraud might occur. The audit procedures performed included, but were not limited to:

- challenging management assumptions and estimates;
- identifying and testing unusual journal entries;
- assessing how the relevant laws and regulations have been complied with and noting any instances of non compliance;
- reviewing the financial statements for compliance with relevant Accounting Standards and accounting legislation applicable to a small company;
- considering how those charged with governance have addressed the possibility of an override of essential controls or other influence over the financial reporting processes.

In addition, we also considered other non financial laws relevant to the company. These do not necessarily have a direct influence on the financial statements but might affect the company's ability to operate.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Roger Downes FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Andorran Limited (Statutory Auditor)
Chartered Accountants
6 Manor Park Business Centre
Mackenzie Way
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire
GL51 9TX

Date: 20 November 2023

COMMUNITY CONNEXIONS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) 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	4	2,394	15,000	17,394	4,382
Charitable activities	6				
Charitable Activity		830,059	22,472	852,531	798,928
Investment income	5	620	-	620	17
Other income	7	567	-	567	13,378
Total		<u>833,640</u>	<u>37,472</u>	<u>871,112</u>	<u>816,705</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	8				
Charitable Activity		<u>855,582</u>	<u>42,472</u>	<u>898,054</u>	<u>822,134</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(21,942)	(5,000)	(26,942)	(5,429)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		221,203	5,000	226,203	231,632
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>199,261</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>199,261</u>	<u>226,203</u>

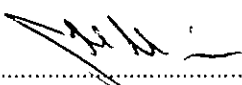
The notes form part of these financial statements

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	15	15,016	-	15,016	14,818
Investments	16	1	-	1	1
		<u>15,017</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,017</u>	<u>14,819</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	17	156,128	-	156,128	159,167
Cash at bank and in hand		234,790	-	234,790	149,244
		<u>390,918</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>390,918</u>	<u>308,411</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	18	(165,302)	-	(165,302)	(49,399)
		<u>225,616</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>225,616</u>	<u>259,012</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		<u>225,616</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>225,616</u>	<u>259,012</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>240,633</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>240,633</u>	<u>273,831</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	19	(41,372)	-	(41,372)	(47,628)
		<u>199,261</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>199,261</u>	<u>226,203</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>199,261</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>199,261</u>	<u>226,203</u>
FUNDS	22				
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund				184,245	206,385
Designated Fund - Capital Reserve				15,016	14,818
				<u>199,261</u>	<u>221,203</u>
Restricted funds				<u>-</u>	<u>5,000</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>199,261</u>	<u>226,203</u>

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 14th Nov. 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:


Jacqueline Miller - Trustee

COMMUNITY CONNEXIONS
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Notes	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Cash generated from operations 1	95,016	(35,713)
Interest paid	(1,245)	(610)
	<u>93,771</u>	<u>(36,323)</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		
	<u>93,771</u>	<u>(36,323)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(6,008)	(4,050)
Sale of tangible fixed assets	-	420
Interest received	620	17
	<u>(5,388)</u>	<u>(3,613)</u>
Net cash used in investing activities		
	<u>(5,388)</u>	<u>(3,613)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities		
Loan repayments in year	(2,837)	-
	<u>(2,837)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net cash (used in)/provided by financing activities		
	<u>(2,837)</u>	<u>-</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	<u>85,546</u>	<u>(39,936)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	<u>149,244</u>	<u>189,180</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	<u><u>234,790</u></u>	<u><u>149,244</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

COMMUNITY CONNEXIONS

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET EXPENDITURE TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(26,942)	(5,429)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	5,810	6,412
Profit on disposal of fixed assets	-	(420)
Interest received	(620)	(17)
Interest paid	1,245	610
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	3,039	(37,230)
Increase in creditors	112,484	361
Net cash provided by/(used in) operations	<u>95,016</u>	<u>(35,713)</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.22 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.23 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	149,244	85,546	234,790
	<u>149,244</u>	<u>85,546</u>	<u>234,790</u>
Debt			
Debts falling due within 1 year	(2,372)	(3,419)	(5,791)
Debts falling due after 1 year	(47,628)	6,256	(41,372)
	<u>(50,000)</u>	<u>2,837</u>	<u>(47,163)</u>
Total	<u>99,244</u>	<u>88,383</u>	<u>187,627</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

COMMUNITY CONNEXIONS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1. CHARITY INFORMATION

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee (company number: 05880006 England & Wales) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales (charity number: 1119310). The registered office is Suite 12 Corinium House, Corinium Avenue, Barnwood Point, Gloucester, Gloucestershire, GL4 3HX.

2. 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, with the exception of investments which are included at market value.

Going concern

The Trustees have considered the future forecasts to address the on-going viability of the Charity. A budget was prepared for 2023/24 and a forecast for 2024/25 which show small surpluses expected for both periods. Management accounts have been prepared up to six months post year end, to 30 September 2023, which show results broadly in line with budgets, given the agreed uplifts from Gloucestershire County Council. As a result of this activity the Trustees are confident that there are no material uncertainties about the ability to continue and that the Charity remains a going concern.

Preparation of consolidated financial statements

The financial statements contain information about Community Connexions as an individual company and do not contain consolidated financial information as the parent of a group. The charity is exempt under Section 399(2A) of the Companies Act 2006 from the requirements to prepare consolidated financial statements.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. Where entitlement to grant income is subject to performance conditions, income is recognised as the performance conditions are met.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Governance costs

These costs are incurred in the governance of the charity and its assets and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory compliance.

Tangible fixed assets

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

Motor vehicles	- Over the period of the lease
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

Assets costing greater than £500 are capitalised as tangible fixed assets. Those costing less than £500 are written off to the SOFA in the year that the expenditure is incurred.

COMMUNITY CONNEXIONS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Related party exemption

The charitable company has taken advantage of exemption, under the terms of Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', not to disclose related party transactions with wholly owned subsidiaries within the group.

Taxation

As a recognised charity, the organisation is exempt from Corporation Tax as far as it relates to its charitable objects. It is not, however, exempt from VAT and irrecoverable VAT is included in the costs of those items to which it relates.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Designated funds comprise 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 can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

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.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

Cash at bank and in hand

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

Liabilities

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of settlement can be estimated reliably. Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt.

Financial instruments

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

COMMUNITY CONNEXIONS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

3. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors which are considered to be relevant.

Depreciation of tangible fixed assets is based on the Charity's judgement of their useful lives and residual values. The depreciation rates used are disclosed in the tangible fixed asset policy above and the carrying values of the assets are disclosed in note 15.

Where entitlement to grant income is subject to performance conditions, income is recognised as the performance conditions are met.

4. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Donations	17,394	4,382

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Deposit account interest	620	17

6. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

		31.3.23	31.3.22
	Activity	£	£
Grants	Charitable Activity	421,340	396,625
Fares	Charitable Activity	411,859	385,749
Registration fees	Charitable Activity	18,431	16,452
Fundraising	Charitable Activity	901	102
		<u>852,531</u>	<u>798,928</u>

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

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Gloucestershire County Council- SLA grants	336,018	305,471
Social Services Transport	34,734	29,756
Bus Service Operators Grant	15,372	15,372
Gloucestershire County Council NHS Support	12,744	-
National Lottery Community Fund	10,000	-
Thriving Communities	7,500	7,500
North Cotswolds Set Up Grant	2,972	-
The Hospital Saturday Fund	2,000	-
Gloucestershire County Council-Covid-19 Bus Service Support Grant	-	14,951
Gloucestershire County Council- Bus Recovery Grant	-	11,075
Stroud Hospital League of Friends	-	5,000
The Weinstock Fund	-	5,000
Gloucestershire Community Fund	-	2,500
	<u>421,340</u>	<u>396,625</u>

COMMUNITY CONNEXIONS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

7. OTHER INCOME

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Other income	567	13,378

Government grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme	-	13,378
	-	13,378

8. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs (see note 9)	Support costs (see note 10)	Totals
	£	£	£
Charitable Activity	892,722	5,332	898,054

9. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Staff costs	519,911	470,801
Vehicle leasing	128,232	138,926
Other vehicle expenses	127,965	102,111
Insurance	2,783	2,305
Telephone	6,921	6,024
Postage and stationery	4,338	3,654
Advertising	7,260	893
Sundries	1,528	1,343
Bank charges	908	1,544
Motor and travel expenses	-	10
Property costs	27,839	29,486
Computer costs	14,416	12,270
Volunteer driver expenses	35,644	37,084
Training and recruitment	1,377	3,149
Legal and consultancy	45	240
Professional fundraisers	6,500	-
Depreciation	5,810	6,412
Loss on sale of assets	-	(420)
Interest payable and similar charges	1,245	610
	892,722	816,442

COMMUNITY CONNEXIONS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

10. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance costs
	£
Charitable Activity	<u>5,332</u>

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

	31.3.23 Charitable Activity	31.3.22 Total activities
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration	<u>5,332</u>	<u>5,692</u>

11. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration	5,332	5,692
Depreciation - owned assets	5,810	6,412
Other operating leases	128,232	138,926
Surplus on disposal of fixed assets	<u>-</u>	<u>(420)</u>

12. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

Trustees' expenses

Trustees are paid expenses for attending meetings and duties directly related to their duties as a trustee. No trustee was reimbursed expenses in the year (2022: £Nil).

13. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Wages and salaries	486,740	441,120
Social security costs	26,287	22,535
Other pension costs	6,884	7,146
	<u>519,911</u>	<u>470,801</u>

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

	31.3.23	31.3.22
Full time	12	12
Part time	26	24
	<u>38</u>	<u>36</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000

COMMUNITY CONNEXIONS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

13. STAFF COSTS - continued

The key management personnel of the Charity comprised the Chief Executive Officer, the Transport Manager, the Finance Manager and the Marketing Manager. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the Charity were £114,164 (2022: £101,744).

14. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	4,382	-	4,382
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activity	778,928	20,000	798,928
Investment income	17	-	17
Other income	13,378	-	13,378
Total	<u>796,705</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>816,705</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activity	<u>794,034</u>	<u>28,100</u>	<u>822,134</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	2,671	(8,100)	(5,429)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	218,532	13,100	231,632
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>221,203</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>226,203</u>

15. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2022	21,675	8,666	30,341
Additions	<u>1,025</u>	<u>4,983</u>	<u>6,008</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>22,700</u>	<u>13,649</u>	<u>36,349</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2022	9,382	6,141	15,523
Charge for year	<u>3,869</u>	<u>1,941</u>	<u>5,810</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>13,251</u>	<u>8,082</u>	<u>21,333</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2023	<u>9,449</u>	<u>5,567</u>	<u>15,016</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>12,293</u>	<u>2,525</u>	<u>14,818</u>

COMMUNITY CONNEXIONS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

16. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Shares in group undertakings £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023	1
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2023	1
At 31 March 2022	1

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

The company's investments at the balance sheet date in the share capital of companies include the following:

Community Connexions Trading Limited

Registered office: Suite 12, Corinium House, Corinium Avenue, Barnwood Point, Gloucester, GL4 3HX

Nature of business: Dormant

	% holding	31.3.23	31.3.22
Class of share:			
Ordinary £1	100	£	£
Aggregate capital and reserves		1	1

17. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Trade debtors	91,198	104,844
Other debtors	27,964	18,738
VAT	14,023	11,555
Prepayments and accrued income	22,943	24,030
	<u>156,128</u>	<u>159,167</u>

18. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts (see note 20)	5,791	2,372
Trade creditors	28,154	27,630
Social security and other taxes	7,994	7,576
Other creditors	1,687	2,446
Accruals and deferred income	121,676	9,375
	<u>165,302</u>	<u>49,399</u>

COMMUNITY CONNEXIONS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

18. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR - continued

Included in accruals and deferred income is:

	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
Income deferred in the year	112,199	-
Balance carried forward at 31 March 2023	112,199	-

Deferred income relates to a Motability grant and the Slimbridge Shuttle service.

19. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
Bank loans (see note 20)	41,372	47,628

20. LOANS

An analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:

	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
Amounts falling due within one year on demand:		
Bank loans	5,791	2,372
Amounts falling between one and two years:		
Bank loans	5,937	5,779
Amounts falling due between two and five years:		
Bank loans	18,728	18,229
Amounts falling due in more than five years:		
Repayable by instalments:		
Bank loans	16,707	23,620

The loan was a Bounce Back loan from HSBC and was drawn down in September 2020 in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Board of Trustees have agreed to extend the original loan period to 10 years, although it can be repaid during this period. Only the interest at 2.5% was being paid until October 2022 and then capital and interest are being repaid for the remainder of the loan period.

21. LEASING AGREEMENTS

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
Within one year	94,953	84,950
Between one and five years	21,438	85,658
In more than five years	-	2,103
	116,391	172,711

COMMUNITY CONNEXIONS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

22. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	206,385	(16,132)	(6,008)	184,245
Designated Fund - Capital Reserve	14,818	(5,810)	6,008	15,016
	<u>221,203</u>	<u>(21,942)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>199,261</u>
Restricted funds				
Stroud Hospital League of Friends	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
	<u>226,203</u>	<u>(26,942)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>199,261</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	833,640	(849,772)	(16,132)
Designated Fund - Capital Reserve	-	(5,810)	(5,810)
	<u>833,640</u>	<u>(855,582)</u>	<u>(21,942)</u>
Restricted funds			
Stroud Hospital League of Friends	-	(5,000)	(5,000)
Thriving Communities	7,500	(7,500)	-
The Julia and Hans Rausing Trust	15,000	(15,000)	-
The Hospital Saturday Fund	2,000	(2,000)	-
National Lottery Community Fund	10,000	(10,000)	-
North Cotswolds set up grant	2,972	(2,972)	-
	<u>37,472</u>	<u>(42,472)</u>	<u>(5,000)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>871,112</u>	<u>(898,054)</u>	<u>(26,942)</u>

COMMUNITY CONNEXIONS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

22. 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	201,352	5,033	206,385
Designated Fund - Capital Reserve	17,180	(2,362)	14,818
	<u>218,532</u>	<u>2,671</u>	<u>221,203</u>
Restricted funds			
Lottery Covid-19 Relief Funding	6,500	(6,500)	-
Tidal Training	6,600	(6,600)	-
Stroud Hospital League of Friends	-	5,000	5,000
	<u>13,100</u>	<u>(8,100)</u>	<u>5,000</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>231,632</u>	<u>(5,429)</u>	<u>226,203</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	796,705	(791,672)	5,033
Designated Fund - Capital Reserve	-	(2,362)	(2,362)
	<u>796,705</u>	<u>(794,034)</u>	<u>2,671</u>
Restricted funds			
Lottery Covid-19 Relief Funding	-	(6,500)	(6,500)
Tidal Training	-	(6,600)	(6,600)
Thriving Communities	7,500	(7,500)	-
Stroud Hospital League of Friends	5,000	-	5,000
Gloucestershire Community Fund	2,500	(2,500)	-
The Weinstock Fund	5,000	(5,000)	-
	<u>20,000</u>	<u>(28,100)</u>	<u>(8,100)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>816,705</u>	<u>(822,134)</u>	<u>(5,429)</u>

Details of Designated Funds

Capital reserve

An amount equal to the value of tangible fixed assets is held as a designated reserve.

Details of Restricted Funds

Thriving Communities

A grant from Gloucestershire County Council to be used towards volunteer expenses and training and additional running costs of minibuses which carry groups or those living with disability.

Stroud Hospital League of Friends

A grant restricted to the Stroud Service.

COMMUNITY CONNEXIONS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

22. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

National Lottery Community Fund

A grant towards staff costs.

The Julia and Hans Rausing Trust

A donation towards transport to health appointments.

The Hospital Saturday Fund

A grant towards core running costs for accessible minibus provision for vulnerable community members in Gloucestershire to attend medical appointments.

North Cotswolds set up grant

This was section 106 money for a volunteer recruitment campaign centred on Tetbury.

Transfers between funds

Transfers are made between restricted and unrestricted funds at the end of every accounting period in cases where:

- (i) The activity of the restricted fund has come to an end and there is an unspent balance that is not repayable to the funder (s), when the surplus is transferred to unrestricted funds;
- (ii) the restricted fund is in deficit and has either come to an end or there is no prospect of a surplus in a later period, which the deficit is eliminated by transfer from unrestricted funds; and
- (iii) to transfer the value of tangible fixed assets from restricted to unrestricted funds when the asset has been purchased from a restricted fund donation but is held for a general and not a restricted purpose.

23. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

The Charity operates a defined contributions pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Charity in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the Charity to the fund and amounted to £6,884 (2022: £7,146). Contributions payable to the fund at the balance sheet date were £1,686 (2022: £2,445).

24. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Various funders retain the right to claw back grants should the use of the funds not be in accordance with the terms of the grant. As far as the trustees are aware no such liability exists at the year-end.

25. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

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