

# SOUTH WEST GRID FOR LEARNING TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 1120354

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Charitable company

**Company number** [05589479](#)

**Registered** 2007-07-30

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

## Contact

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**Address** Swgfl Trust  
Belvedere House  
Woodwater Park  
Pynes Hill  
Exeter  
EX25WS

**Phone** 03456013203

**Email** [enquiries@swgfl.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@swgfl.org.uk)

**Website** [www.swgfl.org.uk](http://www.swgfl.org.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** 2.1 The Charity's objects (Objects) are restricted specifically, for the public benefit to advance and promote: 2.1.1 the education of people, in particular, but not solely, those within the education sector; and 2.1.2 the health, including for the avoidance of doubt, mental and physical health and the avoidance of harm to either of persons, in both cases, in, or in connection with, the areas of electronic, online and cyber security and welfare, including safety and security of information and general usage, in such ways as the trustees see fit, and in all geographical locations. 2.2 Nothing in these articles shall authorise an application of the property of the Charity for purposes which are not charitable in accordance with any statutory provision regarding the meaning of the word "charitable" or the words "charitable purposes" in force in any part of England, including in accordance with section 7 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, or section 2 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

**Activities:** Providing educational establishments with safe, secure and reliable broadband internet connections, online safety services and broadband-enabled learning and teaching resources and services.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People

## Geography

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- **Area of benefit:** THE ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS OF THE COUNCILS THAT CONSTITUTE THE MEMBERS
- Scotland
- Throughout England

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£2,280,367	£2,199,191	£2,333,137	36
2024-03-31	£2,096,689	£2,216,107	£2,251,961	34
2023-03-31	£3,389,638	£3,172,383	£2,371,379	33
2022-03-31	£3,581,868	£3,217,046	£1,640,324	32
2021-03-31	£4,279,582	£4,108,980	£960,502	32

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>ROBERT BOND</b>	Chair	2015-06-04
ANDREW COGHLAN		2012-05-31
Andy David Phippen		2022-03-29
CHRISTOPHER MCDONALD		2015-06-04
Holly Elizabeth Porter		2022-03-29
Ian Daniells		2022-06-06
Jacqueline Woodward		2025-07-02
John-Orr Hanna		2024-09-11
Karuna Nain		2024-04-03
Mark Perry		2024-09-11
Sarah James		2024-09-11

**SOUTH WEST GRID FOR LEARNING TRUST**

England & Wales - Charity number 1120354

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# Accounts

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Company registration number: 05589479  
Charitable company registration number in England & Wales: 1120354  
Charity registration number in Scotland: SC051351



## South West Grid for Learning Trust

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Thompson Jenner LLP  
Statutory Auditors  
28 Alexandra Terrace  
Exmouth  
Devon  
EX8 1BD

# South West Grid for Learning Trust

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## **South West Grid for Learning Trust**

### **Reference and Administrative Details**

**Trustees :**

R Bond  
A C Coghlan  
C Mcdonald  
S Smith (resigned 2 July 2025)  
A E Brittan (resigned 9 September 2024)  
J Briscoombe  
I Daniells  
H E Porter  
A D Phippen  
K Nain (appointed 3 April 2024)  
J Hanna (appointed 11 September 2024)  
S James (appointed 11 September 2024)  
M Perry (appointed 11 September 2024)  
J Woodward (appointed 2 July 2025)

**Secretary**

S Slee

**Senior Management / Leadership Team**

D Wright CBE, (CEO)  
S Slee  
C Hayden  
K Corish  
B Radanovic  
M Kenneally

**Registered Office**

Belvedere House  
Woodwater Park  
Pynes Hill  
Exeter  
EX2 5WS

The charitable company is incorporated in England and Wales.

## **South West Grid for Learning Trust**

### **Reference and Administrative Details**

<b>Company Registration Number</b>	05589479
<b>Charitable company Registration Number</b>	1120354
<b>Scotland Charity Registration Number</b>	SC051351
<b>Solicitors</b>	Michelmores LLP Woodwater House Pynes Hill Exeter EX2 5WR
<b>Bankers</b>	Lloyds TSB Bank Plc 234 High Street Exeter Devon EX4 3ZB
<b>Auditor</b>	Thompson Jenner LLP Statutory Auditors 28 Alexandra Terrace Exmouth Devon EX8 1BD

# South West Grid for Learning Trust

## Trustees Report

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025. The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, served during the year and up to the date of this report. This report outlines the activities undertaken by the South West Grid for Learning Trust (SWGfL) during the year in pursuit of its charitable objectives. The narrative draws on the monthly updates provided by the team and incorporates notable developments between April 2024 and August 2024, ensuring that the Trustees receive an up to date record of the charity's performance.

The past year has witnessed rapid change in the online safety landscape. SWGfL continued to play a pivotal role in protecting and empowering children, families and professionals.

Legislative developments such as the implementation of the UK Online Safety Act, the emergence of new technologies such as generative artificial intelligence, and changes in international human rights frameworks shaped the charity's work.

A ten-year anniversary of the Revenge Porn Helpline took place in May 2025, while the organisation prepared to celebrate its 25-year anniversary in October 2025.

During the year, SWGfL obtained Special Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and prepared for the global rollout of the Global Clearing Centre project.

The Trust also strengthened its strategic plan for 2026, demonstrating a commitment to long term sustainability.

### Online Safety Services

#### Helplines and Reporting Services

Demand for SWGfL's helplines continued to grow. The Revenge Porn Helpline (RPH) marked its tenth anniversary in May 2025 and handled almost 19,000 reports during 2023, representing a 106 % year on year increase. As reported in August 2024, the service removed more than 300,000 non consensually shared images and achieved a 90 % removal rate; however, around 10 % of reported content remains online because some websites operate from jurisdictions where takedown requests cannot be enforced. Evidence presented to the UK Women and Equalities Committee in May 2024 highlighted that women were 28 times more likely to experience nonconsensual intimate image abuse, that 30,000 URLs remained accessible and that legal loopholes allow such material to persist. The #NotYoursToView campaign was launched to call for legislative reform.

Report Harmful Content (RHC) continued to provide support to users whose reports had been rejected by platforms. The UK Safer Internet Centre (UKSIC) manifesto released on 1 July 2024 noted that RHC experienced a 31 % increase in cases and achieved an 89 % removal rate during the year. An August 2024 article reminded users encountering harmful material online to remain calm, gather evidence such as screenshots, follow platform reporting procedures and contact RHC only if the platform fails to act within 48 hours. The Reiya chatbot continued to support both the RPH and RHC services, handling thousands of enquiries and enabling trend analysis.

The Professionals Online Safety Helpline (POSH) continued to provide advice to those working with children. The service experienced high demand following high profile incidents of sextortion. In April 2024 the National Crime Agency issued an alert to schools about financially motivated sextortion; SWGfL assisted by encouraging victims to report incidents and by signposting to prevention tools such as StopNCII.org, Report Remove and Take It Down. The POSH team also delivered bespoke training sessions throughout the year.

Project Ember, a research study funded by Safe Online and led by SWGfL was launched. The study explores the online experiences of young people (13-24 years), particularly how they view and respond to harmful online behaviours. The aim is to reach a diverse group of young people across the UK to better understand the challenges they face online, their understanding and views about reporting online harmful behaviour and improve the support services available to them and legal advocacy.

## **South West Grid for Learning Trust**

### **Trustees Report**

StopNCII.org remained a cornerstone of SWGfL's international work. The service enables adult victims of nonconsensual intimate image abuse to generate unique hashes of their images and submit them to participating technology companies to prevent publication. In May 2024 StopNCII.org was named a finalist for the Digital Technology Leaders Awards for its innovative use of hashing technology. By August 2024 the platform had helped more than 300,000 individuals and protected over 800,000 images and videos. Industry partnership continued to expand, with Patreon joining in April 2025 and Microsoft Bing partnering in September 2024. StopNCII.org is now supported by major platforms including Meta (Facebook, Instagram and Threads), TikTok, Bumble, Reddit, OnlyFans, Aylo, Snap, Niantic and Microsoft.

SWGfL's advocacy work contributed to national debates on nonconsensual intimate image abuse. During parliamentary evidence sessions in May 2024, SWGfL highlighted that 10 % of reported intimate image content remains publicly accessible and that 30,000 URLs continue to host illegal images because the content is technically lawful under current statutes. This evidence informed proposed amendments to the Criminal Justice Bill later in 2025.

The UKSIC manifesto called for nonconsensual intimate image content to be made illegal and treated with the same urgency as child sexual abuse material.

#### **Safer Internet Day 2024**

Safer Internet Day (SID) 2024 was held on 6 February 2024 and focused on the theme "Inspiring change? Making a difference, managing influence and navigating change online".

An impact report published in May 2024 showed that SID reached 53 % of children aged 8–17, generated over 1.6 million film views and prompted 96,000 resource downloads. Feedback from educators indicated that 95 % of students felt more confident about staying safe online after participating, and 73 % of staff reported increased confidence in addressing online safety issues.

These outcomes demonstrate the continued importance of SID in raising awareness of online risks.

#### **Sextortion awareness**

The last year saw a surge in sextortion cases, particularly targeting male victims. In April 2024 ITV News visited the Revenge Porn Helpline to report on this trend. The report emphasised that victims should not pay blackmailers and that many scams are orchestrated by organised overseas gangs.

SWGfL produced guidance for parents, carers and professionals on recognising the signs of sextortion and using helplines for support.

#### **Online Safety Tools and Services**

##### **Training and professional development**

The Trust continued to deliver high quality training sessions to professionals, parents and young people. Online Safety Live events and Online Safety Clinics provided updates on emerging issues such as artificial intelligence, sexting, grooming and cyberbullying.

A July 2024 article announced new training sessions for autumn covering AI in education, responding to harmful sexual behaviour, sextortion and online radicalisation.

Across the year SWGfL delivered hundreds of sessions, reaching thousands of participants and maintaining strong evaluation feedback.

# South West Grid for Learning Trust

## Trustees Report

### **360 Degree Safe and Online Safety Mark**

360 Degree Safe remained the Trust's flagship school improvement tool, enabling schools to review and develop their online safety policies.

During the year the platform surpassed 16,900 registered schools, representing over half of all UK schools, and the number of assessments conducted via the platform exceeded 3.7 million.

In July 2024 the 500th Online Safety Mark was awarded, celebrating schools that demonstrate exceptional online safety practice.

The annual assessment report continued to provide unique insights into school policy and was used to inform national safeguarding strategy.

### **Project EVOLVE**

Project EVOLVE continued to revolutionise online safety education. Registration surpassed 17,000 schools and 85,000 educators by August 2024, with over 4 million knowledge map assessments completed. The platform's annual report, released in October 2024, highlighted these achievements.

Project EVOLVE EDU, a professional development toolkit launched in April 2024.

A safeguarding and AI policy template for schools was released in March 2025 to help educational settings navigate generative AI and maintain compliance with new guidance, along with a new safeguarding training tool, ProjectEVOLVE Safeguarding, which incorporated a new Incident Response Tool. Work is underway to create an AI version of the tool for DSLs.

### **Assisted Monitoring Service and Whisper**

The Assisted Monitoring Service (AMS) supports schools in meeting statutory filtering and monitoring requirements by analysing device level activity and flagging harmful content.

An April 2024 article highlighted how the service helps schools comply with the Department for Education's filtering and monitoring standards.

Throughout 2024, up to end of March 25 the number of schools subscribed to AMS continued to grow.

Whisper, the anonymous reporting tool, continued to enable children and young people to report concerns securely. The service was promoted through a campaign in July 2024 and remained a key component of the Trust's safeguarding offering

### **Synthetic Media Hub and Gaming Guidance**

In July 2024 SWGfL launched the Synthetic Media Hub to raise awareness of deepfakes and other synthetic content. Research reported that one in seven adults had encountered synthetic media and that 32 % of children aged 8–15 had seen deepfake scam adverts. The hub provides guidance on understanding synthetic sexual content, relevant legislation and reporting mechanisms; it signposts users to services such as Report Harmful Content, the Professionals Online Safety Helpline, StopNCII.org and the Revenge Porn Helpline. Accompanying articles explored positive applications of synthetic media—including AI translation, accessibility, healthcare and environmental conservation—to help educators balance innovation with safety.

As virtual reality (VR) gaming became more accessible, SWGfL published guidance explaining its benefits and risks. An August 2024 article highlighted the potential of VR to encourage physical activity and experiential learning but stressed the importance of age ratings, screentime limits and moderation of online interactions. The guidance signposted users to the SWGfL Gaming Hub for further support.

# South West Grid for Learning Trust

## Trustees Report

### Other online resources

SWGfL continued to maintain a range of free resources, including Swiggle (a safer search engine for primary aged children) and platform checklists.

### Strategic Work and Advocacy

#### Policy engagement and government relations

SWGfL remained highly engaged with policymakers.

Evidence gathered by the helplines informed parliamentary debates, including at MP drop-in sessions in June 2024 where legislative changes were proposed to enhance protections for victims of intimate image abuse.

The UKSIC manifesto launched in July 2024 set out a five-point plan calling for nonconsensual intimate images to be made illegal, sustainable funding for the UK Safer Internet Centre, youth centric policy, effective implementation of the Online Safety Act and strengthened online safety practice in schools.

SWGfL continued to support the Department for Education in developing filtering and monitoring standards and engaged with Ofcom on the enforcement of the Children's Codes.

International engagement remained a priority. SWGfL supported the United Nations International Telecommunication Union (ITU) through the Child Online Protection Initiative and contributed to the World Economic Forum's Global Coalition on Digital Safety.

In April 2025 SWGfL co-hosted a Non-Consensual Intimate Image (NCII) summit in New York with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and Microsoft, producing a major global report. The charity also provided training in the Dominican Republic and continued to work with European partners through the Insafe/INHOPE network.

#### Recognition and leadership

The charity and its leaders received significant recognition during the year. In June 2024 the UK Government announced that SWGfL CEO David Wright would receive a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) for services to children's online safety; the award acknowledged his role in creating tools such as 360 Degree Safe, the Professionals Online Safety Helpline, the Revenge Porn Helpline, Report Harmful Content, StopNCII.org and the UK Safer Internet Centre.

In May 2024, StopNCII.org was shortlisted for the Digital Technology Leaders Awards and in December 2024 the platform went on to win both the UK IT Industry Award and a Tech for Good award.

#### Research and thought leadership

SWGfL continued to commission and publish research. The Project EVOLVE annual report and the 360safe assessment report remained key resources for schools and policymakers. Research into the prevalence of online harms in rural communities, the impact of encryption on safeguarding and emerging trends such as synthetic media informed guidance and policy responses.

Throughout the year the Trust published blogs and guides on topics including safer smartphone use, generative AI, parental engagement and digital wellbeing.

#### Customer Experience and Engagement

The Communications and Marketing team enhanced engagement across social media, web and events. Website traffic continued to rise, and the organisation's CRM improvements enabled better integration of data across services.

## **South West Grid for Learning Trust**

### **Trustees Report**

The Reiya chatbot managed thousands of interactions, providing immediate assistance and allowing staff to focus on complex cases.

A Whisper campaign in July 2024 encouraged schools to adopt the anonymous reporting tool, resulting in an uptake in subscriptions.

#### **External Funding**

SWGfL continues to recognise the evolving and often challenging landscape surrounding grants and bids. In response, we have proactively refined our internal strategy to ensure greater resilience, agility, and alignment with emerging funding priorities and sector needs. This strategic shift reflects our commitment to remaining responsive and forward-thinking in a competitive and dynamic environment.

We are deeply grateful for the ongoing support of our external funders, whose partnership remains vital to our success. Their continued investment enables us not only to pursue our strategic objectives but also to advance our overarching mission: to ensure that children, young people, and vulnerable individuals are safer online.

This support empowers us to innovate, collaborate, and deliver impactful programmes that make a tangible difference across education, safeguarding, and digital wellbeing. As we move forward, we remain committed to transparency, accountability, and shared success with our funding partners.

#### **Structure, Governance and Management**

##### **Legal Status**

The South West Grid for Learning Trust was incorporated on 11 October 2005 as a company limited by guarantee and is governed through the Memorandum & Articles of Association. The Trust commenced its activities on 1 December 2006 after the completion of a successful transfer from the previous consortium and was successfully registered as a charity with the Charity Commission in 2006. On 19th October 2021, SWGfL became a registered charity in Scotland. On 1st January 2024, SWGfL completed a change to its constitution upon the adoption of updated Memorandum and Articles. The Trustees consider it appropriate to prepare accounts in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Companies Act 2006 and Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005.

##### **Organisational Structure and Governance**

There were no significant changes to the Trust's legal status during the year. Representation on the Board has been considered throughout the year alongside the Trust's constitution. The Trustee Board continued to govern the charity, supported by the Finance and Audit, Technical, Data and Communications Subgroups.

The Chief Executive Officer continues to provide overall leadership and direction for the charity, alongside the Senior Management Team through the creation and embedding of a clear long term strategy. The Senior Management Team who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 1 of the accounts.

##### **Risk Management**

Risk is assessed on an ongoing basis, both at board and Senior Management level. Considering the evolving threat landscape, emphasis was placed on cybersecurity and data protection.

The Trust maintained Cyber Essentials Plus accreditation and worked with external partners to strengthen its systems.

# South West Grid for Learning Trust

## Trustees Report

### How Activities Deliver Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty in section 17(5) of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charities Commission.

The overriding vision and purpose of the Trust is ‘the advancement of education and/or the advancement of health and the saving of lives, in each case for solely charitable purposes by any means through or otherwise relating to the effective and/or safe use of information and communication technologies ,including but not limited to, the provision of broadband connectivity; e-Learning facilities; education materials; information and knowhow on the effective use of information and communication technologies by educational establishments; information and knowhow relating to online safety issues and relating to information and communication technologies).’

In delivering that vision, the Trust has continued throughout the 2024/25 financial year to:

- Deliver on its Operational Services & Contractual Obligations
- Deliver on its Product & Service Portfolio
- Improve the reputation and visibility of SWGfL site & Edtesa

### Financial Review

#### Income

Total income for the year £2,280,367 (2024 £2,096,689) increased from the prior year.

The realisation of Partnership income and an increase in returns on cash held were largely responsible for this increase. The Partnership model is seen as a key strategic area for the Trust moving forwards and a cornerstone of the Trust’s ability to deliver on its mission statement.

#### Reserves

Reserves at the end of the year were £2,333,137 (2024 £2,251,961) an increase from the prior year.

The trust reviews its reserves levels annually, to include unexpected changes in income or operations, the ability to respond to a changing landscape and commitments in the event of winding up operations.

The level of reserves currently held by the trust are deemed sufficient and reasonable.

#### Investment Policy

Funds held by the Trust are held with banks in short term deposits which offer reasonable rates of interest and which comply with the credit rating policy adopted by the Trustees.

#### Financial Risk Management Objectives and Policies

The charity's principal financial instruments comprise the bank balance, trade creditors, deferred income and trade debtors. The main purpose of these instruments is to raise funds for the charity's charitable objectives.

#### Price Risk, Credit Risk, Liquidity Risk and Cash Flow Risk

Funding received in foreign currencies is subject to a price risk management policy through the use of FOREX mechanisms.

# South West Grid for Learning Trust

## Trustees Report

Trade debtors are managed in respect of credit and cash flow by policies concerning the credit offered to customers and the regular monitoring of amounts outstanding for both time and credit limits.

Trade creditor liquidity risk is managed by ensuring that sufficient funds are available to meet amounts due.

### Conclusions

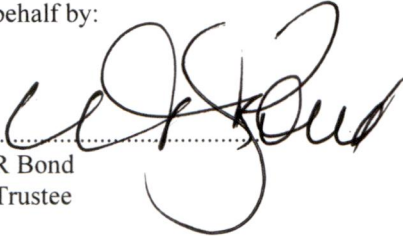
During 2024–25 SWGfL sustained its reputation as a leader in online safety, balancing service delivery with thought leadership and advocacy.

Demand for helpline support and online safety tools increased markedly, reflecting the growing complexity of online harms. The Trust responded by expanding its services, launching innovative resources such as the Synthetic Media Hub, and strengthening partnerships with industry and policymakers.

Recognition through awards and honours underscored the impact of SWGfL’s work.

Looking ahead, the Trustees will continue to support the strategic goals of the organisation, ensuring that SWGfL remains at the forefront of safeguarding children and adults in an increasingly digital world.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charitable company on 31/10/25 and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
R Bond  
Trustee

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of South West Grid for Learning Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

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

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

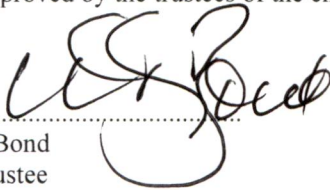
The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

#### Disclosure of information to auditor

Each trustee has taken steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditor is aware of that information. The trustees confirm that there is no relevant information that they know of and of which they know the auditor is unaware.

Approved by the trustees of the charitable company on 31/10/25 and signed on its behalf by:

.....  
R Bond  
Trustee



## **South West Grid for Learning Trust**

### **Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of South West Grid for Learning Trust**

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of South West Grid for Learning Trust (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2025, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, 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 United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and applicable law (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 2025 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 and the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 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 auditor 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 original financial statements were 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 auditor's report 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.

## **South West Grid for Learning Trust**

### **Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of South West Grid for Learning Trust**

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 there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

#### **Opinion on other matter 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 Trustees Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

#### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the trustees report.

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.

#### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities (set out on page 10), the trustees 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.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of South West Grid for Learning Trust

#### **Auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

We have been appointed as auditor under section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with the Acts and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder. 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 an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but 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.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

#### **The extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud**

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with directors and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience;  
we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company, including the Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011, Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006, taxation legislation, data protection, anti-bribery, employment, environmental, fire safety, Licensing Act 2003 and health and safety legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management, reviewing licenses, certificates and relevant correspondence including the inspection of legal correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of South West Grid for Learning Trust

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims; and
- reviewing correspondence with HMRC, relevant regulators and the company's legal advisors.

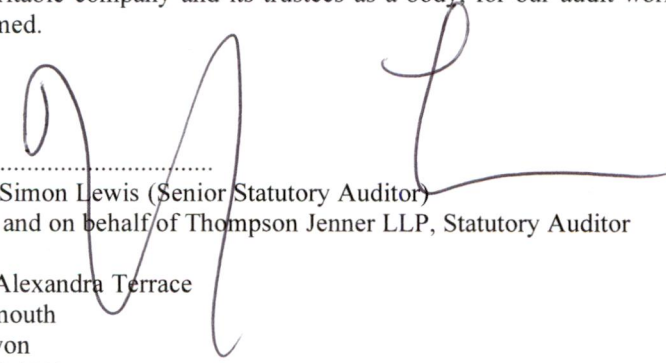
There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

#### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, 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 trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's 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 its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

  
.....  
Mr Simon Lewis (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
For and on behalf of Thompson Jenner LLP, Statutory Auditor

28 Alexandra Terrace  
Exmouth  
Devon  
EX8 1BD

Date: 10/11/25.....

LLP

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>				
Charitable activities	3	971,210	1,239,122	2,210,332
Investment income	4	<u>70,035</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>70,035</u>
Total income		<u>1,041,245</u>	<u>1,239,122</u>	<u>2,280,367</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Charitable activities	5	<u>(960,069)</u>	<u>(1,239,122)</u>	<u>(2,199,191)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(960,069)</u>	<u>(1,239,122)</u>	<u>(2,199,191)</u>
Net income		<u>81,176</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>81,176</u>
Net movement in funds		81,176	-	81,176
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		<u>2,251,961</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,251,961</u>
Total funds carried forward	19	<u><u>2,333,137</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>2,333,137</u></u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

#### Comparative Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>				
Charitable activities	3	857,911	1,195,095	2,053,006
Investment income	4	<u>43,683</u>	-	<u>43,683</u>
Total income		<u>901,594</u>	<u>1,195,095</u>	<u>2,096,689</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Charitable activities	5	<u>(1,021,012)</u>	<u>(1,195,095)</u>	<u>(2,216,107)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(1,021,012)</u>	<u>(1,195,095)</u>	<u>(2,216,107)</u>
Net expenditure		<u>(119,418)</u>	-	<u>(119,418)</u>
Net movement in funds		(119,418)	-	(119,418)
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		<u>2,371,379</u>	-	<u>2,371,379</u>
Total funds carried forward	19	<u><u>2,251,961</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>2,251,961</u></u>

All of the charitable company's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2024 is shown in note 19.

**South West Grid for Learning Trust**

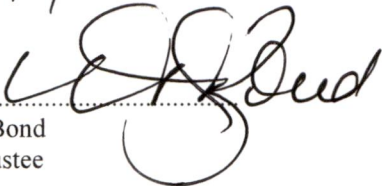
**(Registration number: 05589479)**

**Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025**

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Intangible assets	12	372	816
Tangible assets	13	13,434	10,332
Investments	14	1	1
		13,807	11,149
Debtors	15	441,693	254,301
Cash at bank and in hand		2,675,255	2,701,771
		3,116,948	2,956,072
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	16	(797,618)	(715,260)
<b>Net current assets</b>		2,319,330	2,240,812
<b>Net assets</b>		2,333,137	2,251,961
<b>Funds of the charitable company:</b>			
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>			
Unrestricted		2,333,137	2,251,961
<b>Total funds</b>	19	2,333,137	2,251,961

The financial statements on pages 15 to 36 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 31/10/25 and signed on their behalf by:

.....  
R Bond  
Trustee



## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net cash income/(expenditure)		81,176	(119,418)
<b>Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items</b>			
Depreciation	13	9,972	11,788
Amortisation	12	444	1,785
Investment income	4	<u>(70,035)</u>	<u>(43,683)</u>
		21,557	(149,528)
<b>Working capital adjustments</b>			
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	15	(187,392)	205,731
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	16	53,741	(160,787)
Increase/(decrease) in deferred income	16	<u>28,617</u>	<u>(398,638)</u>
Net cash flows from operating activities		<u>(83,477)</u>	<u>(503,222)</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Interest receivable and similar income	4	70,035	43,683
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	13	<u>(13,074)</u>	<u>(2,487)</u>
Net cash flows from investing activities		<u>56,961</u>	<u>41,196</u>
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents		(26,516)	(462,026)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		<u>2,701,771</u>	<u>3,163,797</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March		<u><u>2,675,255</u></u>	<u><u>2,701,771</u></u>

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

#### 1 Charitable company status

The charitable company is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charitable company in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

Belvedere House  
Woodwater Park  
Pynes Hill  
Exeter  
EX2 5WS

#### 2 Accounting policies

##### Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

##### Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). They also comply with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

##### Basis of preparation

South West Grid for Learning Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

##### Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charitable company.

##### Exemption from preparing group accounts

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption in The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 from the requirement to prepare consolidated financial statements, on the grounds that the inclusion of the subsidiary undertaking is not material for the purposes of giving a true and fair view.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

#### **Income and endowments**

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. Income derived from the provision of goods and services is stated after trade discounts, other sales taxes and net of VAT.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition is met.

#### ***Deferred income***

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which, it has been received. Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the Charity has unconditional entitlement.
- The income received from charitable activities relates to a future period

#### ***Investment income***

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

#### **Expenditure**

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

#### ***Charitable activities***

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

#### Support costs

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on the following basis which are an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity.

	2024	2024
Online Safety	95%	93%
Barefoot	-	2%
Licencing	2%	2%
Schools Internet Service	3%	3%

#### Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charitable company's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

#### Taxation

The charitable company is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charitable company is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

#### Intangible assets

Intangible assets are stated in the Balance Sheet at cost less accumulated amortisation and impairment. They are amortised on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives.

#### Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £250.00 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

#### Amortisation

Amortisation is provided on intangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Amortisation method and rate
Computer software	20% Straight line basis

#### Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Fixtures and fittings	33% Straight line basis

## **South West Grid for Learning Trust**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

#### **Business combinations**

Business combinations are accounted for using the purchase method. The consideration for each acquisition is measured at the aggregate of the fair values at acquisition date of assets given, liabilities incurred or assumed, and equity instruments issued by the group in exchange for control of the acquired, plus any costs directly attributable to the business combination. When a business combination agreement provides for an adjustment to the cost of the combination contingent on future events, the group includes the estimated amount of that adjustment in the cost of the combination at the acquisition date if the adjustment is probable and can be measured reliably.

#### **Trade debtors**

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charitable company will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

#### **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

#### **Trade creditors**

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charitable company does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### **Foreign exchange**

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are reported at the rates of exchange prevailing at that date.

Other exchange differences are recognised in the statement of financial activities in the period in which they arise except for:

- 1) exchange differences on transactions entered into to hedge certain foreign currency risks (see above);
- 2) exchange differences arising on gains or losses on non-monetary items which are recognised in other comprehensive income.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

#### Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charitable company.

#### Pensions and other post retirement obligations

The charity operates a defined contribution pension plan. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charitable company has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as employee benefit expense when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

#### Financial instruments

##### Classification

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 price and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

### 3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Online Safety	927,339	1,239,122	2,166,461	1,920,676
Barefoot	-	-	-	9,583
Licencing	24,594	-	24,594	54,400
Schools Internet Service	19,277	-	19,277	68,347
	971,210	1,239,122	2,210,332	2,053,006

The prior year's total income from charitable activities of £2,053,006 included unrestricted funds of £857,911 and restricted funds of £1,195,095.

### 4 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	70,035	70,035	43,683
	70,035	70,035	43,683

The prior year's total investment income of £43,683 was unrestricted.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

#### 5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Activity undertaken directly £	Activity support costs £	2025 £	2024 £
Online Safety	1,720,738	413,249	2,133,987	2,131,041
Barefoot	-	-	-	8,815
Licencing	-	8,700	8,700	9,449
Schools Internet Service	43,454	13,050	56,504	66,802
	<u>1,764,192</u>	<u>434,999</u>	<u>2,199,191</u>	<u>2,216,107</u>

The prior years total expenditure of £2,216,107 included expenditure attributable directly to activities undertaken of £1,780,059 and support costs of £436,048.

Included in the expenditure analysed above are governance costs of £17,694 (2024 - £30,857) which relate directly to charitable activities. See note 6 for further details.

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Online Safety	894,865	1,239,122	2,133,987	2,131,041
Barefoot	-	-	-	8,815
Licencing	8,700	-	8,700	9,449
Schools Internet Service	56,504	-	56,504	66,802
	<u>960,069</u>	<u>1,239,122</u>	<u>2,199,191</u>	<u>2,216,107</u>

The prior years total expenditure of £2,216,107 included expenditure attributable to unrestricted funds of £1,021,021 and £1,195,095 to restricted funds.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

#### 6 Analysis of governance and support costs

##### Charitable activities expenditure

	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Employment costs	186,981	123,761
Establishment costs	118,421	118,769
Legal and Professional	81,447	99,585
Travel and subsistence	2,741	2,589
Computer expenses	44,906	45,379
Advertising and promotion	-	2
Bad debt provision	151	27,753
Foreign currency losses	352	18,210
	<u>434,999</u>	<u>436,048</u>

##### Governance costs

	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Audit fees		
Audit of the financial statements	11,965	11,400
Other fees paid to auditors	4,986	3,808
Legal fees	743	15,649
	<u>17,694</u>	<u>30,857</u>

#### 7 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year include:

	2025 £	2024 £
Operating leases - other assets	56,770	56,944
Audit fees	11,965	11,400
Other non-audit services	9,678	7,720
Depreciation of fixed assets	9,972	11,788
Foreign currency losses	352	18,210
Amortisation of software	444	1,785
	<u>98,979</u>	<u>107,847</u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

#### 8 Trustees remuneration and expenses

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

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

#### 9 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Staff costs during the year were:</b>		
Wages and salaries	1,182,749	1,075,159
Social security costs	120,194	108,511
Pension costs	105,961	106,826
	<u>1,408,904</u>	<u>1,290,496</u>

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charitable company during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2025 No	2024 No
Administration	<u>36</u>	<u>34</u>

30 (2024 - 25) of the above employees participated in the Defined Contribution Pension Schemes.

The number of employees whose emoluments fell within the following bands was:

	2025 No	2024 No
£90,001 - £100,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charitable company were £446,354 (2024 - £413,668).

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

#### 10 Auditors' remuneration

	2025 £	2024 £
Audit of the financial statements	11,965	11,400
<b>Other fees to auditors</b>		
All other non-audit services	9,678	7,720

#### 11 Taxation

The charitable company is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

#### 12 Intangible fixed assets

	Software £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 April 2024	15,868	15,868
At 31 March 2025	15,868	15,868
<b>Amortisation</b>		
At 1 April 2024	15,052	15,052
Charge for the year	444	444
At 31 March 2025	15,496	15,496
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 March 2025	372	372
At 31 March 2024	816	816

Amortisation of intangible fixed assets is included within expenditure on charitable activities.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

#### 13 Tangible fixed assets

	<b>Furniture and equipment £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 April 2024	149,399	149,399
Additions	13,074	13,074
Disposals	<u>(91,403)</u>	<u>(91,403)</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>71,070</u>	<u>71,070</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 April 2024	139,067	139,067
Charge for the year	9,972	9,972
Eliminated on disposals	<u>(91,403)</u>	<u>(91,403)</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>57,636</u>	<u>57,636</u>
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 March 2025	<u>13,434</u>	<u>13,434</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>10,332</u>	<u>10,332</u>

#### 14 Fixed asset investments

	<b>2025 £</b>	<b>2024 £</b>
Shares in group undertakings and participating interests	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

#### Shares in group undertakings and participating interests

	<b>Subsidiary undertakings £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 April 2024	1	1
At 31 March 2025	1	1
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 March 2025	1	1
At 31 March 2024	1	1

#### Details of undertakings

Details of the investments in which the charitable company holds 20% or more of the nominal value of any class of share capital are as follows:

Undertaking	Country of incorporation	Holding	Proportion of voting rights and shares held		Principal activity
			2025	2024	
<b>Subsidiary undertakings</b>					
Edtesa Limited Belvedere House, Pynes Hill, Woodwater Park, Exeter, EX2 5WS	England and Wales	Ordinary	100%	100%	ICT & software

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

#### Subsidiaries

The loss for the financial period of Edtesa Limited was £148 (2024 - £4,042) and the aggregate amount of capital and reserves at the end of the period was £(27,424) (2024 - £(27,276)).

#### 15 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	354,628	158,264
Prepayments	43,370	47,147
Accrued income	33,695	38,890
Other debtors	10,000	10,000
	<u>441,693</u>	<u>254,301</u>

#### 16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	79,081	64,931
Other taxation and social security	16,905	24,881
Other creditors	341,492	300,547
Accruals	52,358	45,736
Deferred income	307,782	279,165
	<u>797,618</u>	<u>715,260</u>
	2025 £	2024 £
Deferred income at 1 April 2024	279,165	677,803
Resources deferred in the period	307,782	273,565
Amounts released from previous periods	(279,165)	(672,203)
Deferred income at year end	<u>307,782</u>	<u>279,165</u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

#### 17 Obligations under leases and hire purchase contracts

##### Operating lease commitments

Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Land and buildings</b>		
Within one year	60,368	61,206
Between one and five years	10,061	71,407
	<u>70,429</u>	<u>132,613</u>
<b>Other</b>		
Within one year	<u>-</u>	<u>4,886</u>

#### 18 Pension and other schemes

##### Defined contribution pension scheme

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the Charity to the scheme and amounted to £105,961 (2024 - £106,826).

Contributions totalling £14,019 (2024 - £12,832) were payable to the scheme at the end of the year and are included in creditors.

The defined contribution pension scheme liability and expense was allocated between charitable activities and restricted and unrestricted funds based on the activities performed by each individual member of staff.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

#### 19 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
<i>General</i>				
Unrestricted income fund	2,251,961	1,041,245	(960,069)	2,333,137
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Nominet Grant	-	773,395	(773,395)	-
TikTok Grant	-	55,000	(55,000)	-
Pershing Grant	-	75,802	(75,802)	-
Home Office Grant - RP	-	225,000	(225,000)	-
Inspire Scotland Grant	-	58,134	(58,134)	-
Minerva Project - Safe Online	-	51,791	(51,791)	-
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,239,122</u>	<u>(1,239,122)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>2,251,961</u>	<u>2,280,367</u>	<u>(2,199,191)</u>	<u>2,333,137</u>

**South West Grid for Learning Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

	<b>Balance at 1 April 2023</b>	<b>Incoming resources</b>	<b>Resources expended</b>	<b>Balance at 31 March 2024</b>
	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
<i>General</i>				
Unrestricted income fund	2,371,379	901,594	(1,021,012)	2,251,961
<b>Restricted</b>				
Nominet Grant	-	842,780	(842,780)	-
TikTok Grant	-	45,333	(45,333)	-
Pershing Grant	-	78,847	(78,847)	-
META/Facebook	-	20,000	(20,000)	-
Home Office Grant - RP	-	150,000	(150,000)	-
Inspire Scotland Grant	-	58,135	(58,135)	-
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	-	1,195,095	(1,195,095)	-
<b>Total funds</b>	2,371,379	2,096,689	(2,216,107)	2,251,961

## **South West Grid for Learning Trust**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

The Nominet funds relates to funding from Nominet for the operation of the UK Safer Internet Centre in association with the consortium members.

TikTok funds relates to funding the support of SWGfL's role as a part of the UK Safer Internet Centre, dedicated to keeping the internet safe for users of all ages.

Pershing funds were provided to support SWGfL in combating STOPNCII (Stop Non-Consensual Intimate Image Abuse).

Meta/Facebook funds were provided to support SWGfL in combatting non-consensual sharing of intimate image abuse and supporting victims.

Home Office (RP) funding relates to funding to the support work in combatting violence against women and girls.

Inspire Scotland funds relates to the funding support SWGfL in the Delivering Equally Safe Scotland Project.

Safe Online project funding relates to funding to support SWGfL in improving the lives of disadvantaged women and girls.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

#### 20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 March 2025 £
Intangible fixed assets	372	-	372
Tangible fixed assets	13,434	-	13,434
Fixed asset investments	1	-	1
Current assets	3,038,900	78,048	3,116,948
Current liabilities	(719,570)	(78,048)	(797,618)
Total net assets	<u>2,333,137</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,333,137</u>
	<b>Unrestricted funds General £</b>	<b>Restricted funds £</b>	<b>Total funds at 31 March 2024 £</b>
Intangible fixed assets	816	-	816
Tangible fixed assets	10,332	-	10,332
Fixed asset investments	1	-	1
Current assets	2,910,245	45,827	2,956,072
Current liabilities	(669,433)	(45,827)	(715,260)
Total net assets	<u>2,251,961</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,251,961</u>

#### 21 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 April 2024 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 March 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>2,701,771</u>	<u>(26,516)</u>	<u>2,675,255</u>
Net debt	<u>2,701,771</u>	<u>(26,516)</u>	<u>2,675,255</u>
	At 1 April 2023 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 March 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>3,163,797</u>	<u>(462,026)</u>	<u>2,701,771</u>
Net debt	<u>3,163,797</u>	<u>(462,026)</u>	<u>2,701,771</u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

#### 22 Related party transactions

##### Other related party transactions

The Trust's governing document was amended in January 2024 and as a result of this Local Authorities no longer meet the definition of a related party. The below outstanding balances have arisen from transactions which took place with parties that were related at the time of such transactions.

Due to the nature of the Trust's operations procuring services on behalf of the Local Authorities and the board of trustees including representatives from the Local Authorities, transactions inevitably take place between the trust and organisations in which the trustees have an interest.

All transactions are conducted at arms length and no specific transactions have occurred in which a trustee has an individual interest.

The total restricted funds received for each Local Authority relating to broadband growth and maintenance which is unspent at the year end is as follows;

	2025 £	2024 £
Devon	112,193	112,193
Plymouth	3,403	3,403
Swindon	12,447	12,447
Torbay	1	1
Wiltshire	7,578	7,578

As these services are no longer offered by South West Grid for Learning Trust, the funds are now included within other creditors.

**SOUTH WEST GRID FOR LEARNING TRUST**

England & Wales - Charity number 1120354

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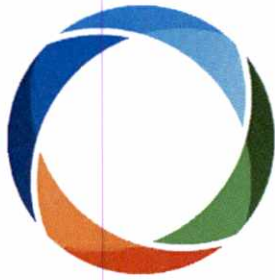
# Accounts

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Company registration number: 05589479

Charitable company registration number in England & Wales: 1120354

Charity registration number in Scotland: SC051351



# SWGfL

Safe, Secure, Online

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Thompson Jenner LLP  
Statutory Auditors  
28 Alexandra Terrace  
Exmouth  
Devon  
EX8 1BD

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

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## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Reference and Administrative Details

**Trustees :**

R Bond  
A C Coghlan  
C Mcdonald  
S Smith  
A E Brittan  
J Briscombe  
I Daniells  
H E Porter  
A D Phippen  
K Nain (appointed 3 April 2024)

**Secretary**

R Bond

**Senior Management / Leadership Team**

D Wright CBE, (CEO)  
S Slee  
C Hayden  
K Corish  
B Radanovic  
M Kenneally

**Registered Office**

Belvedere House  
Woodwater Park  
Pynes Hill  
Exeter  
EX2 5WS

The charitable company is incorporated in England and Wales.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Reference and Administrative Details

<b>Company Registration Number</b>	05589479
<b>Charitable company Registration Number</b>	1120354
<b>Scotland Charity Registration Number</b>	SC051351
<b>Solicitors</b>	Michelmores LLP Woodwater House Pynes Hill Exeter EX2 5WR
<b>Bankers</b>	Lloyds TSB Bank Plc 234 High Street Exeter Devon EX4 3ZB
<b>Auditor</b>	Thompson Jenner LLP Statutory Auditors 28 Alexandra Terrace Exmouth Devon EX8 1BD

**South West Grid for Learning Trust**  
**Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024. The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 1 of the accounts. This report details the activities undertaken by the South West Grid for Learning (the Trust) team over the course of the year in the delivery of the key objectives contained within the business plan.

At the end of 2023, the online safety landscape underwent transformative changes, with SWGfL at the forefront of advocating for a safer online environment in the UK, with the UK Online Safety Bill reaching Royal Assent on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023. This would then go on to impact the work of the charity for 2024.

The demand for our online safety services has been overwhelming and heartening. Notably, our helplines continued to experience a sustained increase in caseloads. The Revenge Porn Helpline alone experienced a 106% rise in cases compared to 2022 and StopNCII.org seeing nearly 1000% increase in activity, with the platform receiving over 572,221 hashes.

In conclusion, 2024 was a year of significant successes, challenges, and relentless commitment to online safety by SWGfL.

## **Online Safety Services**

SWGfL continued to face sustained demand across all its online safety services, information and support. To articulate this demand

- Helpline Caseload significantly rose
  - Reports to the Revenge Porn Helpline increased by 106% in 2023, reaching nearly 19,000
  - Professionals Online Safety Helpline experienced a 12% increase in cases, rising to 2,687 cases over the 12 months.
  - Reports to the service increased by 31% during 2023, totalling 5,101 reports compared to 3,884 in 2022

During this period, the Trust developed specific services and campaigns for example [Stop Non-Consensual Intimate Image Abuse - StopNCII.org](#). StopNCII.org is the world's first device side hashing technology, that allows any adult who is a victim of non consensual intimate image abuse, anywhere in the world to create 'hashes' of their intimate images that will prevent these from being uploaded across partner platforms. This removes the threat to share that many victims suffer from, restoring their control. Over the year, Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, Bumble, Reddit and OnlyFans were joined by Aylo, Threads, Snap and Niantic as participating platforms.

Since its inception in December 2021, StopNCII has supported an impressive total of 238,596 cases, protecting 572,221 images and videos. Moreover, it has successfully prevented the attempted sharing of 12,271 non-consensual intimate images (NCII) online globally. These achievements underscore the commitment to combating NCII abuse on a global scale and showcasing SWGfL's leading role in this critical field.

SWGfL was invited to represent StopNCII.org at a White House Roundtable, Internet Governance Forum and the United Nations Commission of the Status of Women event where it also announced the important integration of Microsoft's PhotoDNA hashing technology into StopNCII.org.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

#### Online Safety Tools and services

Over the year, SWGfL delivered a total of 158 training sessions

#### 360 degree safe

The Trust's flagship school improvement tool continues to set standards in school online safety strategy across all four nations.

Numbers of schools registered with any of the 360safe platforms totals 15,577 schools, representing 54% of all UK Schools.

The usual annual assessment report highlighting school online safety policy and practice that draws on the 14,508 schools (England). The report continues to highlight data accessible nowhere else and available to inform national safeguarding strategy at a governmental level.

#### ProjectEVOLVE

ProjectEVOLVE continues to revolutionise online safety related education in the classroom. Since introducing the registration mechanism in November 2020, the service currently has 15,362 schools with 70,785 users. Since launch, ProjectEVOLVE has supported over 3 million assessments through the Knowledge Map mechanism from an estimated 850,000 children

#### TestFiltering

Testfiltering.com is a utility that helps schools and organizations easily check the effectiveness of their internet filtering systems. By quickly testing access to specific websites, the tool discloses that filters are working correctly to block inappropriate content and maintain a safe online environment. Over the 12 months, 265,404 tests were completed

#### Swiggle

Swiggle.org.uk is SWGfL's child-friendly search engine designed to help young people explore the internet safely. It provides a secure online environment with age-appropriate search results, ensuring that children can discover information and learn online while being protected from harmful content. It welcomed 1.1 million users and 11 million page views

#### Assisted Monitoring Service

The Assisted Monitoring Service (AMS), designed to assist schools with the monitoring of user activity within their setting and detect and advise on any serious issues, has established itself as an integral part of the Trust's work during the last 12 months, with a growing number of new schools being onboarded, as well as other individual sites

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

#### Strategic Work

SWGfL has continued to support Government departments including Department for Education, Home Office, Department Science, Innovation and Technology; as well as the Scottish and Welsh Governments. This support spanned both policy and awareness activities. SWGfL continues to organise and support the safeguarding teams across the four national governments, enabling sharing and collaboration of strategy and policy.

SWGfL continued its support of the United Nations International Telecommunications Union (ITU) in their Child Online Protection Initiative.

SWGfL continued to contribute as a member of the World Economic Forum, Global Coalition on Digital Safety.

SWGfL was nominated by the UK Government to participate in the Council of Europe Committee of Experts on combating technology-facilitated violence against women and girls.

The relationship with Ofsted continues to be important and continued to provide online safety specialist training to Ofsted and completed a series of training webinars.

#### UK Safer Internet Centre

SWGfL has been a proud partner in the UK Safer Internet Centre, alongside IWF and Childnet, since 2011. The UK Safer Internet Centre activities have spanned six phases and been co-funded by the EU between 2011 and 2022. Since early 2022, Nominet agreed to continue co funding for UK Safer Internet Centre activities through to 2025.

For SWGfL, this involves a range of activities including operating the Professionals Online Safety Helpline, Revenge Porn Helpline and ReportHarmfulContent platform as well as delivering resources, content and training. Its Online Safety Live programme saw 30 briefing sessions, welcoming 2,476 delegates with 98% 'feeling better equipped to protect children users and their organisation'. This brings the total of briefing events to 612 since 2013 and the delegates totalling 33,193; the largest online safety professional development programme in the UK.

The important definitions of 'appropriate filtering' and 'appropriate monitoring', first published in 2016, saw the initiation of a significant review in 2023, largely catalysed by recent incidents and the clear need for improved standards. SWGfL supported the Department for Education in developing new standards for filtering and monitoring in schools in England.

Building on the UK Safer Internet Centres appropriate filtering and monitoring definitions and following a successful pilot, in January 2024 it released a new accreditation scheme for educational filtering systems, initially accrediting 3 filtering systems.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

## Partnership and Engagement

### Partnerships and Engagement

SWGfL continued its strong growth in Partnerships and Engagement throughout 2023-24. Building on the successes of previous years, SWGfL expanded its visibility, reach, and impact across various initiatives. Over the past year, SWGfL significantly increased its digital presence, with a marked rise in website users and social media engagement, reaching a broad and diverse audience both in the UK and internationally.

StopNCII.org emerged as a critical tool in combating intimate image abuse, with over 182,000 cases created by adults worldwide—a nearly 1,000% increase in activity. The platform's impact was highlighted through international media campaigns and recognized as a finalist in the Equals in Tech Awards.

SWGfL's influence was further amplified through participation in high-profile events such as the Online Safety Day at TikTok's London Headquarters, the Internet Governance Forum in Kyoto, and the Safer Internet Forum in Brussels. These engagements underscored our commitment to global collaboration in fostering safer online practices.

Its work in the UK was equally impactful. The Revenge Porn Helpline saw a surge in cases, reflecting the growing need for our services. The Report Harmful Content initiative launched a successful awareness campaign targeting harmful online content in sports, expanding our outreach and influence.

SWGfL's achievements were widely recognized, securing the Education and Training Award at the 2023 Charity Awards and receiving multiple nominations for other prestigious awards. Its contributions to shaping online safety policy were highlighted through presentations at the United Nations and the UK Houses of Parliament, where we played a pivotal role in advancing discussions on digital safety.

Overall, SWGfL's continued growth in partnerships and engagement has solidified its position as a leader in the global pursuit of a safer online environment, with a focus on both technological innovation and advocacy.

## Information Security and Data Protection Services

### Department for Education CyberSecure tool

The DfE Cyber Secure Check for Schools, created by SWGfL was released in December 2023, is a free online tool designed to help schools assess their cybersecurity readiness. It provides schools with a quick and easy way to evaluate their current cybersecurity practices, identify potential vulnerabilities, and receive tailored recommendations to improve their security posture. The tool aims to ensure that schools are better protected against cyber threats, safeguarding their digital environments for both staff and students.

**South West Grid for Learning Trust**  
**Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

## **Security product range**

Working with our partner, Phoenix, SWGfL continues to offer a suite of security products to schools and SMEs across the UK. Sales of Sophos products remain strong. Sales of Bitdefender products, available across the UK, have continued to strengthen.

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

### **Legal Status**

The South West Grid for Learning Trust was incorporated on 11 October 2005 as a company limited by guarantee and is governed through the Memorandum & Articles of Association. The Trust commenced its activities on 1 December 2006 after the completion of a successful transfer from the previous consortium and was successfully registered as a charity with the Charity Commission in 2006. On the 19th October 2021, SWGfL became a registered charity in Scotland. On 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024, SWGfL completed a change to its constitution upon the adoption of updated Memorandum and Articles. The Trustees consider it appropriate to prepare accounts in accordance with the Charities SORP 2005, the Companies Act 2006 and Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005.

### **Organisation Structure**

The Trustee Board is in place to govern and steer the work of the Trust. Representation on the Board has been considered throughout the year alongside the Trust's constitution. The Finance and Audit Sub-Committee continues to effectively support the full Trustee Board in reviewing and scrutinising financial performance and operations.

The Chief Executive Officer continues to provide overall leadership and direction for the charity, alongside the Senior Management Team through the creation and embedding of a clear long term strategy. The Senior Management Team who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 1 of the accounts.

### **Objectives**

The strategic plan clearly sets out the key objectives and actions identified to be undertaken by the team over the coming years. Building on the current successes is a central feature of the plan, along with the aim to continue to advance education, safety and security through the services and products offered to schools and the wider learning community.

The Trust is a charity dedicated to empowering the safe and secure use of technology through innovative services, tools, content and policy, nationally and globally. The Trust's vision is for everyone to be able to benefit from technology, free from harm.

The key objectives for the year ahead are:

1. To continue to provide education and training, alongside raising public awareness of such services available;
2. Build on the innovative services, tools and products portfolio provided;
3. Conduct and publish leading edge research into online threats and harms;
4. Work in partnership and collaborate with stakeholders nationally and internationally

**South West Grid for Learning Trust**  
**Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

## **Risk Management**

The Trust has implemented and continues to review the risk management processes in place. In the context of the changing landscape and market, the Trust has identified that medium to long term risks require greater analysis and mitigation and consequently a suitable methodology has been put in place.

## **How Activities Deliver Public Benefit**

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty in section 17(5) of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charities Commission.

The overriding vision and purpose of the Trust is "the advancement of education and/or the advancement of health and the saving of lives, in each case for solely charitable purposes by any means through or otherwise relating to the effective and/or safe use of information and communication technologies, including but not limited to, the provision of broadband connectivity; e-Learning facilities; education materials; information and knowhow on the effective use of information and communication technologies by educational establishments; information and knowhow relating to online safety issues and relating to information and communication technologies)."

In delivering that vision, the Trust has continued throughout the 2023/24 financial year to:

- Deliver on its Operational Services & Contractual Obligations
- Deliver on its Product & Service Portfolio
- Improve the reputation and visibility of SWGfL site & Edtesa

## **Financial Review**

### **Financial Results**

The results for the year and the Trust financial position at the end of the year are shown in the attached financial statements which show that as at 31 March 2024 the Trust had net assets of £ 2,251,961.

An appropriate expenditure and procurement policy is in place to ensure future expenditure continues to represent value, and this policy will be reviewed and updated as required.

### **Reserves Policy**

The Trust seeks to maintain a level of reserves which is consistent with its responsibilities and liabilities as an employer and to provide a resource to manage future risk in regard to changes in the operating environment.

The Trustees assess the appropriateness of this reserves policy on a regular basis to ensure that changes to the operating environment and their impact are incorporated into the reserves so that the Trust can continue to provide its charitable objectives for the future. The attached financial statements show an unrestricted reserve of £2,251,961 which is reasonable and consistent with the Trust's objectives and reserves policy.

**South West Grid for Learning Trust**  
**Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

### **Investment Policy**

Funds held by the Trust are held with banks in short term deposits which offer reasonable rates of interest and which comply with the credit rating policy adopted by the Trustees.

### **Financial Risk Management Objectives and Policies**

The charity's principal financial instruments comprise the bank balance, trade creditors, deferred income and trade debtors. The main purpose of these instruments is to raise funds for the charity's charitable objectives.

#### **Price Risk, Credit Risk, Liquidity Risk and Cash Flow Risk**

Funding received in foreign currencies is subject to a price risk management policy through the use of FOREX mechanisms.

Trade debtors are managed in respect of credit and cash flow by policies concerning the credit offered to customers and the regular monitoring of amounts outstanding for both time and credit limits.

Trade creditor liquidity risk is managed by ensuring that sufficient funds are available to meet amounts due.

### **Conclusions**

Over the last twelve months the Trust has continued to deliver its charitable objectives in an environment of continued pressure on local authorities, schools and the wider public sector.

Ongoing successes with projects regionally, nationally and internationally demonstrate the skill and expertise of the team.

The Trust has continued to drive improvements within each of the business units, culminating in good customer service as well as the introduction of new products and services and in contractual service delivery.

The Trust has delivered good financial performance for the year, capitalising on new opportunities as well as existing charity activity to maintain positive levels of income whilst controlling expenditure and improving the processes for managing the key financial aspects of the operation of the Trust, resulting in a healthy balance sheet.

The control over the running costs reflects an ongoing need to ensure all services delivered by the Trust are highly cost effective, but has also increased pressures and demands on the team.

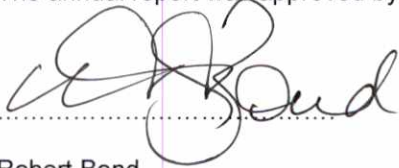
It is pleasing to note that, despite these pressures, the team have remained focussed, committed and motivated to ensure the continued success of the Trust. They are to be congratulated for their efforts.

**South West Grid for Learning Trust**  
**Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**Auditors**

A resolution proposing that Thompson Jenner LLP be reappointed as auditors of the charity will be put to the Annual General Meeting.

The annual report was approved by the Board on 11/09/24 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Bond', written over a dotted line.

Robert Bond  
Company Secretary

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of South West Grid for Learning Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

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

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.


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

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

#### Disclosure of information to auditor

Each trustee has taken steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditor is aware of that information. The trustees confirm that there is no relevant information that they know of and of which they know the auditor is unaware.

Approved by the trustees of the charitable company on 11/09/24 and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
R Bond  
Company secretary and trustee

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of South West Grid for Learning Trust

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of South West Grid for Learning Trust (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2024, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, 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 United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and applicable law (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 2024 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 and the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 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 auditor 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 original financial statements were 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 auditor's report 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.

## **South West Grid for Learning Trust**

### **Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of South West Grid for Learning Trust**

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 there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

#### **Opinion on other matter 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 Trustees Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

#### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the trustees report.

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.

#### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities [set out on page 11], the trustees 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.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of South West Grid for Learning Trust

#### **Auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

We have been appointed as auditor under section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with the Acts and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder. 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 an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but 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.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

#### **The extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud**

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with directors and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience;  
we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company, including the Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011, Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006, taxation legislation, data protection, anti-bribery, employment, environmental, fire safety, Licensing Act 2003 and health and safety legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management, reviewing licenses, certificates and relevant correspondence including the inspection of legal correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of South West Grid for Learning Trust

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims; and
- reviewing correspondence with HMRC, relevant regulators and the company's legal advisors.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

#### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, 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 trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's 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 its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

.....  
Mr Simon Lewis (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
For and on behalf of Thompson Jenner LLP, Statutory Auditor

28 Alexandra Terrace  
Exmouth  
Devon  
EX8 1BD

Date: 18/9/24

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2024 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>				
Charitable activities	3	857,911	1,195,095	2,053,006
Investment income	4	43,683	-	43,683
Total income		<u>901,594</u>	<u>1,195,095</u>	<u>2,096,689</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Charitable activities	5	<u>(1,021,012)</u>	<u>(1,195,095)</u>	<u>(2,216,107)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(1,021,012)</u>	<u>(1,195,095)</u>	<u>(2,216,107)</u>
Net expenditure		<u>(119,418)</u>	-	<u>(119,418)</u>
Net movement in funds		(119,418)	-	(119,418)
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		<u>2,371,379</u>	-	<u>2,371,379</u>
Total funds carried forward	19	<u><u>2,251,961</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>2,251,961</u></u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2024 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

#### Comparative Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>				
Charitable activities	3	1,075,383	2,289,450	3,364,833
Investment income	4	10,220	-	10,220
Other income		14,585	-	14,585
Total income		<u>1,100,188</u>	<u>2,289,450</u>	<u>3,389,638</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Charitable activities	5	<u>(882,933)</u>	<u>(2,289,450)</u>	<u>(3,172,383)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(882,933)</u>	<u>(2,289,450)</u>	<u>(3,172,383)</u>
Net income		217,255	-	217,255
<b>Other recognised gains and losses</b>				
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes		<u>513,800</u>	-	<u>513,800</u>
Net movement in funds		731,055	-	731,055
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		<u>1,640,324</u>	-	<u>1,640,324</u>
Total funds carried forward	19	<u>2,371,379</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,371,379</u>

All of the charitable company's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

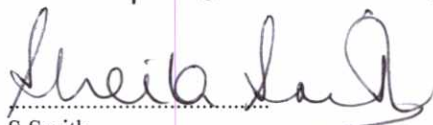
The funds breakdown for 2023 is shown in note 19.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

(Registration number: 05589479)  
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Intangible assets	12	816	2,601
Tangible assets	13	10,332	19,633
Investments	14	1	1
		11,149	22,235
Debtors	15	254,301	460,032
Cash at bank and in hand		2,701,771	3,163,797
		2,956,072	3,623,829
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	16	(715,260)	(1,274,685)
<b>Net current assets</b>		2,240,812	2,349,144
<b>Net assets including pension liability</b>		2,251,961	2,371,379
<b>Funds of the charitable company:</b>			
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>			
Unrestricted		2,251,961	2,371,379
<b>Total funds</b>	19	2,251,961	2,371,379

The financial statements on pages 16 to 37 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 18.9.24 and signed on their behalf by:

  
 S Smith  
 Trustee

**South West Grid for Learning Trust**

**Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net cash (expenditure)/income		(119,418)	731,055
<b>Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items</b>			
Depreciation	13	11,788	11,162
Amortisation	12	1,785	3,174
Investment income	4	<u>(43,683)</u>	<u>(10,220)</u>
		(149,528)	735,171
<b>Working capital adjustments</b>			
Decrease in stocks		-	16,354
Decrease in debtors	15	205,731	313,084
Decrease in creditors	16	(160,787)	(81,426)
Increase/(decrease) in retirement benefit obligation net of actuarial changes	18	-	(1,074,000)
(Decrease)/increase in deferred income	16	<u>(398,638)</u>	<u>43,105</u>
Net cash flows from operating activities		<u>(503,222)</u>	<u>(47,712)</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Interest receivable and similar income	4	43,683	10,220
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	13	<u>(2,487)</u>	<u>(10,149)</u>
Net cash flows from investing activities		<u>41,196</u>	<u>71</u>
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents		(462,026)	(47,641)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		<u>3,163,797</u>	<u>3,211,438</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March		<u><u>2,701,771</u></u>	<u><u>3,163,797</u></u>

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

#### 1 Charitable company status

The charitable company is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charitable company in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

Belvedere House  
Woodwater Park  
Pynes Hill  
Exeter  
EX2 5WS

#### 2 Accounting policies

##### Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

##### Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). They also comply with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

##### Basis of preparation

South West Grid for Learning Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

##### Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charitable company.

##### Exemption from preparing group accounts

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption in The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 from the requirement to prepare consolidated financial statements, on the grounds that the inclusion of the subsidiary undertaking is not material for the purposes of giving a true and fair view.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

#### **Income and endowments**

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. Income derived from the provision of goods and services is stated after trade discounts, other sales taxes and net of VAT.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition is met.

#### ***Deferred income***

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which, it has been received. Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the Charity has unconditional entitlement.
- The income received from charitable activities relates to a future period

#### ***Investment income***

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

#### **Expenditure**

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

#### ***Charitable activities***

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

#### Support costs

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on the following basis which are an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity.

	2024	2023
Online Safety	93%	80%
Barefoot	2%	5%
Licencing	2%	5%
Schools Internet Service	3%	10%

#### Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charitable company's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

#### Taxation

The charitable company is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charitable company is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

#### Intangible assets

Intangible assets are stated in the Balance Sheet at cost less accumulated amortisation and impairment. They are amortised on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives.

#### Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £250.00 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

#### Amortisation

Amortisation is provided on intangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Amortisation method and rate
Computer software	20% Straight line basis

#### Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Fixtures and fittings	33% Straight line basis

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

#### Business combinations

Business combinations are accounted for under the purchase method. Where necessary, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring the accounting policies used into line with those used by the charitable company. All intra-group transactions, balances, income and expenses are eliminated on consolidation. In accordance with Section 35 of FRS 102, Section 19 of FRS 102 has not been applied in these financial statements in respect of business combinations effected prior to the date of transition.

#### Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charitable company will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

#### Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

#### Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charitable company does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### Foreign exchange

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are reported at the rates of exchange prevailing at that date.

Other exchange differences are recognised in the statement of financial activities in the period in which they arise except for:

- 1) exchange differences on transactions entered into to hedge certain foreign currency risks (see above);
- 2) exchange differences arising on gains or losses on non-monetary items which are recognised in other comprehensive income.

#### Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charitable company.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

#### Pensions and other post retirement obligations

The charity operates a defined contribution pension plan. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charitable company has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as employee benefit expense when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

#### Financial instruments

##### Classification

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 price and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

#### 3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Online Safety	725,581	1,195,095	1,920,676	2,691,886
Barefoot	9,583	-	9,583	48,069
Licencing	54,400	-	54,400	174,124
Schools Internet Service	68,347	-	68,347	449,209
Operational	-	-	-	1,545
	<u>857,911</u>	<u>1,195,095</u>	<u>2,053,006</u>	<u>3,364,833</u>

The prior year's total income from charitable activities of £3,364,833 included unrestricted funds of £1,075,383 and restricted funds of £2,289,450.

#### 4 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	<u>43,683</u>	<u>43,683</u>	<u>10,220</u>

The prior year's total investment income of £10,220 was unrestricted.

**South West Grid for Learning Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**5 Expenditure on charitable activities**

	<b>Activity undertaken directly £</b>	<b>Activity support costs £</b>	<b>2024 £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
Online Safety	1,725,516	405,525	2,131,041	2,507,162
Barefoot	94	8,721	8,815	62,698
Licencing	728	8,721	9,449	140,666
Schools Internet Service	53,721	13,081	66,802	461,857
	<u>1,780,059</u>	<u>436,048</u>	<u>2,216,107</u>	<u>3,172,383</u>

The prior years total expenditure of £3,172,383 included expenditure attributable directly to activities undertaken of £2,825,784 and support costs of £346,599.

Included in the expenditure analysed above are governance costs of £30,857 (2023 - £13,496) which relate directly to charitable activities. See note 6 for further details.

	<b>Unrestricted funds General £</b>	<b>Restricted funds £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>	<b>Total 2023 £</b>
Online Safety	935,946	1,195,095	2,131,041	2,507,162
Barefoot	8,815	-	8,815	62,698
Licencing	9,449	-	9,449	140,666
Schools Internet Service	66,802	-	66,802	461,857
	<u>1,021,012</u>	<u>1,195,095</u>	<u>2,216,107</u>	<u>3,172,383</u>

The prior years total expenditure of £3,172,383 included expenditure attributable to unrestricted funds of £882,933 and £2,289,450 to restricted funds.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

#### 6 Analysis of governance and support costs

##### Charitable activities expenditure

	<b>Total 2024</b>	<b>Total 2023</b>
	£	£
Employment costs	123,761	126,210
Establishment costs	118,769	120,935
Legal and Professional	99,585	53,324
Travel and subsistence	2,589	836
Computer expenses	45,379	43,848
Advertising and promotion	2	70
Bad debt provision	27,753	1,376
Foreign currency losses	18,210	-
	<b>436,048</b>	<b>346,599</b>

##### Governance costs

	<b>Total 2024</b>	<b>Total 2023</b>
	£	£
Audit fees		
Audit of the financial statements	11,400	12,000
Other fees paid to auditors	3,808	1,496
Legal fees	15,649	-
	<b>30,857</b>	<b>13,496</b>

#### 7 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net (outgoing)/incoming resources for the year include:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
Operating leases - other assets	35,574	66,230
Audit fees	11,400	12,000
Other non-audit services	7,720	7,970
Depreciation of fixed assets	11,788	11,162
Foreign currency losses	18,210	-
Amortisation of software	1,785	3,174
	<b>1,785</b>	<b>3,174</b>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

#### 8 Trustees remuneration and expenses

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

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

#### 9 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Staff costs during the year were:</b>		
Wages and salaries	1,075,159	1,023,320
Social security costs	108,511	104,919
Pension costs	106,826	163,048
	<u>1,290,496</u>	<u>1,291,287</u>

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charitable company during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>
Administration	<u>34</u>	<u>33</u>

25 (2023 - 32) of the above employees participated in the Defined Contribution Pension Schemes.

0 (2023 - 1) of the above employees participated in the Defined Benefit Pension Schemes.

During the year, the charitable company made redundancy and/or termination payments which totalled £Nil (2023 - £Nil).

The number of employees whose emoluments fell within the following bands was:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>
£80,001 - £90,000	-	1
£90,001 - £100,000	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charitable company were £413,668 (2023 - £337,571).

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

#### 10 Auditors' remuneration

	2024 £	2023 £
Audit of the financial statements	11,400	12,000
<b>Other fees to auditors</b>		
All other non-audit services	7,720	7,970

#### 11 Taxation

The charitable company is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

#### 12 Intangible fixed assets

	Software £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 April 2023	15,868	15,868
At 31 March 2024	15,868	15,868
<b>Amortisation</b>		
At 1 April 2023	13,267	13,267
Charge for the year	1,785	1,785
At 31 March 2024	15,052	15,052
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 March 2024	816	816
At 31 March 2023	2,601	2,601

Amortisation of intangible fixed assets is included within expenditure on charitable activities.

**South West Grid for Learning Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**13 Tangible fixed assets**

	<b>Furniture and equipment £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 April 2023	146,912	146,912
Additions	<u>2,487</u>	<u>2,487</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>149,399</u>	<u>149,399</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 April 2023	127,279	127,279
Charge for the year	<u>11,788</u>	<u>11,788</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>139,067</u>	<u>139,067</u>
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 March 2024	<u>10,332</u>	<u>10,332</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>19,633</u>	<u>19,633</u>

**14 Fixed asset investments**

	<b>2024 £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
Shares in group undertakings and participating interests	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

**Shares in group undertakings and participating interests**

	<b>Subsidiary undertakings £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 April 2023	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 March 2024	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

#### Details of undertakings

Details of the investments in which the charitable company holds 20% or more of the nominal value of any class of share capital are as follows:

Undertaking	Holding	Proportion of voting rights and shares held	Principal activity
<b>Subsidiary undertakings</b>			
Edtesa Limited Belvedere House, Pynes Hill, Woodwater Park, Exeter, EX2 5WS	Ordinary	100%	ICT and software

#### Subsidiaries

The loss for the financial period of Edtesa Limited was £4,042 (2023 - £23,235) and the aggregate amount of capital and reserves at the end of the period was £(27,276) (2023 - £(23,234)).

#### 15 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	158,264	129,344
Prepayments	47,147	47,648
Accrued income	38,890	44,705
VAT recoverable	-	35,413
Other debtors	10,000	202,922
	<u>254,301</u>	<u>460,032</u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

#### 16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	64,931	371,050
Other taxation and social security	24,881	-
Other creditors	300,547	203,575
Accruals	45,736	22,257
Deferred income	279,165	677,803
	<u>715,260</u>	<u>1,274,685</u>
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
Deferred income at 1 April 2023	677,803	634,698
Resources deferred in the period	273,565	431,820
Amounts released from previous periods	(672,203)	(388,715)
Deferred income at year end	<u>279,165</u>	<u>677,803</u>

#### 17 Obligations under leases and hire purchase contracts

##### Operating lease commitments

Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
<b>Land and buildings</b>		
Within one year	61,206	9,817
Between one and five years	71,407	-
	<u>132,613</u>	<u>9,817</u>
<b>Other</b>		
Within one year	4,886	7,330
Between one and five years	-	4,886
	<u>4,886</u>	<u>12,216</u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

#### 18 Pension and other schemes

##### Defined contribution pension scheme

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the Charity to the scheme and amounted to £106,826 (2023 - £66,000).

Contributions totalling £12,832 (2023 - £14,000) were payable to the scheme at the end of the year and are included in creditors.

The defined contribution pension scheme liability and expense was allocated between charitable activities and restricted and unrestricted funds based on the activities performed by each individual member of staff.

South West Grid for Learning Trust

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

19 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
<i>General</i>						
Unrestricted income fund	2,371,379	901,594	(1,021,012)	-	-	2,251,961
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
Nominet Grant	-	842,780	(842,780)	-	-	-
TikTok Grant	-	45,333	(45,333)	-	-	-
Pershing Grant	-	78,847	(78,847)	-	-	-
META/Facebook	-	20,000	(20,000)	-	-	-
Home Office Grant - RP	-	150,000	(150,000)	-	-	-
Inspire Scotland Grant	-	58,135	(58,135)	-	-	-
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	-	1,195,095	(1,195,095)	-	-	-
<b>Total funds</b>	2,371,379	2,096,689	(2,216,107)	-	-	2,251,961

South West Grid for Learning Trust

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

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
<i>General</i>						
Unrestricted income fund	2,714,324	1,100,188	(832,533)	(610,600)	-	2,371,379
<i>Designated</i>						
Defined benefit pension scheme	(1,074,000)	-	(50,400)	610,600	513,800	-
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<u>1,640,324</u>	<u>1,100,188</u>	<u>(882,933)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>513,800</u>	<u>2,371,379</u>
<b>Restricted</b>						
UKSIC	-	7,662	(7,662)	-	-	-
Nominet Grant	-	640,740	(640,740)	-	-	-
TikTok Grant	-	55,822	(55,822)	-	-	-
Tides Foundation Grant	-	5,168	(5,168)	-	-	-
Pershing Grant	-	63,479	(63,479)	-	-	-
META/Facebook	-	163,470	(163,470)	-	-	-
DCMS - Minerva Project	-	851,636	(851,636)	-	-	-
Home Office Grant - RP	-	150,000	(150,000)	-	-	-
Inspire Scotland Grant	-	55,646	(55,646)	-	-	-
Home Office Grant- HSBSS	-	295,827	(295,827)	-	-	-
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,289,450</u>	<u>(2,289,450)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>1,640,324</u>	<u>3,389,638</u>	<u>(3,172,383)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>513,800</u>	<u>2,371,379</u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

The UKSIC fund relates to funding from the European Commission along with external sponsors for the operation of the UK Safer Internet Centre in association with the consortium members.

The Nominet funds relates to funding from Nominet for the operation of the UK Safer Internet Centre in association with the consortium members.

TikTok funds relates to funding the support of SWGfL's role as a part of the UK Safer Internet Centre, dedicated to keeping the internet safe for users of all ages.

Tides Foundation funds relates to the funding to support SWGfL's helpline projects.

Inspire Scotland funds relates to the funding to support SWGfL in the Delivering Equally Safe Scotland Project.

Pershing funds were provided to support SWGfL in combating STOPNCII (Stop Non-Consensual Intimate Image Abuse).

Meta/Facebook funds were provided to support SWGfL in combatting non-consensual sharing of intimate image abuse and supporting victims.

Home Office (RP) funding relates to funding to the support work in combatting violence against women and girls.

Home Office (HSBSS) funding relates to funding to support SWGfL aid safeguarding professionals on tackling harmful sexual behaviour.

DCMS Minerva project funding relates to funding to support SWGfL in improving the lives of disadvantaged women and girls.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

#### 20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 March 2024 £
Intangible fixed assets	816	-	816
Tangible fixed assets	10,332	-	10,332
Fixed asset investments	1	-	1
Current assets	2,910,245	45,827	2,956,072
Current liabilities	(669,433)	(45,827)	(715,260)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>2,251,961</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,251,961</b>
	<b>Unrestricted funds General £</b>	<b>Restricted funds £</b>	<b>Total funds at 31 March 2023 £</b>
Intangible fixed assets	2,601	-	2,601
Tangible fixed assets	19,633	-	19,633
Fixed asset investments	1	-	1
Current assets	3,393,936	229,893	3,623,829
Current liabilities	(1,044,792)	(229,893)	(1,274,685)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>2,371,379</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,371,379</b>

#### 21 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 April 2023 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 March 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	3,163,797	(462,026)	2,701,771
Net debt	3,163,797	(462,026)	2,701,771
	At 1 April 2022 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 March 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	3,211,438	(47,641)	3,163,797
Net debt	3,211,438	(47,641)	3,163,797

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

#### 22 Related party transactions

##### Other related party transactions

The Trust's governing document was amended during the year and as a result of this Local Authorities no longer meet the definition of a related party as of January 2024.

Due to the nature of the Trust's operations procuring services on behalf of the Local Authorities and the board of trustees including representatives from the Local Authorities, transactions inevitably take place between the trust and organisations in which the trustees have an interest.

All transactions are conducted at arms length and no specific transactions have occurred in which a trustee has an individual interest.

The total restricted funds received for each Local Authority relating to broadband growth and maintenance which is unspent at the year end is as follows;

	2024 £	2023 £
Devon	112,193	112,193
Gloucester	-	110,363
Plymouth	3,403	3,403
Swindon	12,447	12,447
Torbay	1	1
Wiltshire	7,578	7,578

As these services are no longer offered by South West Grid for Learning Trust, the funds are now included within other creditors. In the previous period these were reported as deferred income.

**SOUTH WEST GRID FOR LEARNING TRUST**

England & Wales - Charity number 1120354

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# Accounts

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Company registration number: 05589479

Charity registration number in England & Wales: 1120354

Charity registration number in Scotland: SC051351



# SWGfL

Safe, Secure, Online

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Thompson Jenner LLP  
Statutory Auditors  
28 Alexandra Terrace  
Exmouth  
Devon  
EX8 1BD

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

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## South West Grid for Learning Trust

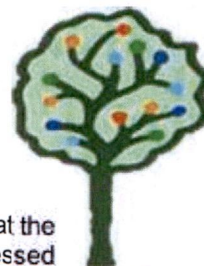
### Reference and Administrative Details

<b>Trustees :</b>	R Bond A C Coghlan C McDonald S Smith A E Brittan J Briscombe M E Blackman (resigned 23 May 2022) I Daniells (appointed 6 June 2022) H E Porter A D Phippen
<b>Secretary</b>	R Bond
<b>Registered Office</b>	Belvedere House Woodwater Park Pynes Hill Exeter EX2 5WS  The charity is incorporated in England and Wales.
<b>Company Registration Number</b>	05589479
<b>Charity Registration Number</b>	1120354
<b>Scotland Charity Registration Number</b>	SC051351
<b>Solicitors</b>	Michelmores LLP Woodwater House Pynes Hill Exeter EX2 5WR
<b>Bankers</b>	Lloyds TSB Bank Plc 234 High Street Exeter Devon EX4 3ZB
<b>Auditor</b>	Thompson Jenner LLP Statutory Auditors 28 Alexandra Terrace Exmouth Devon EX8 1BD

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023. The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 1 of the accounts. This report details the activities undertaken by the South West Grid for Learning (the Trust) team over the course of the year in the delivery of the key objectives contained within the business plan.



In 2023, the online safety landscape underwent transformative changes, with SWGfL at the forefront of advocating for a safer online environment in the UK. The year witnessed significant developments influenced by the UK Online Safety Bill. The Bill's draft, which was refined over the year, emphasized the UK Government's unwavering commitment to making the country the safest online space globally.

SWGfL has played a pivotal role in this evolution by actively submitting evidence at every stage of the Bill's development. Our contributions, based on years of experience, underscored the need for safeguarding user rights, especially in the realm of reporting online harmful content.

The demand for our online safety services has been overwhelming and heartening. Notably, our helplines saw a remarkable uptick in caseloads. The Revenge Porn Helpline alone witnessed a staggering rise with over 11,000 interactions, showcasing the trust individuals place in our services. Furthermore, our website's visitor count grew by 9.4%, signaling the community's reliance on our resources.

One of our standout initiatives this year was the Minerva Project. Aimed at utilizing AI and machine learning, this project sought to revolutionize support for victims in self-reporting and issue management. Funded by the DCMS, the project marked its conclusion in March, setting new benchmarks in online safety.

In conclusion, 2023 was a year of significant successes, challenges, and relentless commitment to online safety by SWGfL.

### Online Safety Services

The online safety landscape continues to be redrawn, influenced largely by the UK Online Safety Bill. For many years the UK Government has had a commitment to 'make the UK the safest place to go online'. The Online Safety Bill draft was published and refined over the year outlining the proposed regulations and obligations that also received scrutiny via consultation and DCMS select committee. SWGfL has been active in continuing to submit evidence at every stage, contributing its experience and information, particularly related to the removal of users rights to access appeal mechanisms for reporting harmful online content.

SWGfL continued to face sustained demand across all its online safety services, information and support. To articulate this demand

- Helpline Caseload significantly rose
  - Revenge Porn Helpline cases continued to increase, rising to over 11,000 interactions compared to 4,398 cases during the previous 12 months
  - Professionals Online Safety Helpline experienced a 276% increase in cases, rising to 4,179 cases over the 12 months.
  - ReportHarmfulContent also managed more cases, with 1,842 reports received compared to 1,084 during the previous 12 months
- Website visitors rose by 9.4% from 189,522 compared to 173,132 in the previous 12 months

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

During this period, the Trust developed specific services and campaigns including

The Minerva Project with the ambition to improve support for victims in self reporting and managing issues by deploying AI and machine learning. Funded by DCMS as part of the Tampon Tax, the major project concluded in March with the release of [minervahelp.com](https://minervahelp.com)

The establishment of [Stop Non-Consensual Intimate Image Abuse - StopNCII.org](https://stopncii.org) that allows any adult who is a victim of non consensual intimate image abuse, anywhere in the world to create 'hashes' of their intimate images that will prevent these from being uploaded to Facebook and Instagram (initially). This development removes the threat to share that many victims suffer from, restoring control in their hands. Over the year, Facebook and Instagram were joined by TikTok, Bumble, Reddit and OnlyFans as participating platforms.

### Online Safety Tools and services

SWGfL continued to develop its award winning tools, services and resources over the year. In partnership with Schillings it published [A guide to the Online Safety Bill | SWGfL](#). September saw the publication of a [New Yubo Social Media Checklist | SWGfL](#) to compliment the portfolio of platform based checklists.

Over the year, SWGfL delivered a total of 166 training sessions (124 in the previous year) to a total of 6,286 children, 4,037 staff and 996 parents.

### 360 degree safe

The Trust's flagship school improvement tool has seen significant upgrades in content and infrastructure this year and continues to set standards in school online safety strategy across all four nations.

Numbers of schools registered with any of the 360safe platforms continued to grow and totalled 16,910, representing 58% of all UK Schools.

The usual annual assessment report highlighting school online safety policy and practice that draws on the 13,221 schools (England) using the system has again been prepared and authored by Prof Andy Phippen and can be accessed [here](#). The report continues to highlight data accessible nowhere else and available to inform national safeguarding strategy at a governmental level.

Online Safety Mark Awards have also progressed bringing the current total to over 450 schools accredited which can be seen at <https://360safe.org.uk/accreditation/accredited-schools/>.

### ProjectEVOLVE

ProjectEVOLVE continues to revolutionise online safety related education in the classroom. Since introducing the registration mechanism in November 2020, the service currently has 12,291 schools registered with over 53,000 active users. Since September 2021, there have been over 1.2 million Knowledge Map assessments building a unique national dataset of children's digital competency. This was evaluated in our [first national report](#) authored and published by Professor Andy Phippen.

ProjectEVOLVE won at the [UK IT Industry Awards 2022](#) for the Best Charity (Third Sector) IT Project of the Year.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### Assisted Monitoring Service

The Assisted Monitoring Service (AMS), designed to assist schools with the monitoring of user activity within their setting and detect and advise on any serious issues, has established itself as an integral part of the Trust's work during the last 12 months, with a number of new schools being onboarded, as well as other individual sites

This work is going very well with some excellent feedback received.



#### Harmful Sexual Behaviour Support Service

In response to the launch of 'Everyones invited' and subsequent [Ofsted review of sexual abuse in school and colleges](#), Funded by the Home Office, SWGfL operated the pilot Harmful Sexual Behaviour Support Service, supporting over 700 professionals to tackle the issue of harmful sexual behaviour in children and young people. Following the conclusion of the pilot in October 2022, a portfolio of [Harmful Sexual Behaviour Resources and Training](#) were created.



#### Online Resources

The Trust also continues to directly support a small range of online learning resources, including Swiggle, a search engine aimed at Key Stage 2 learners (aged 7-11). Swiggle provides a safer searching platform for young users, and incorporates a range of innovative features. It is free to use, and free of advertising.

#### Strategic Work

SWGfL has continued to support Government departments including Department for Education; Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport; Home Office; as well as the Scottish and Welsh Governments. This support spanned both policy and awareness activities. SWGfL continues to organise and support the safeguarding teams across the four national governments, enabling sharing and collaboration of strategy and policy. An emphasis of the policy work related to filtering and monitoring in schools and supporting the development of [Filtering and monitoring standards for schools and colleges - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) published by DfE in March 2023.

SWGfL continued its support of the United Nations International Telecommunications Union (ITU) in their Child Online Protection Initiative. This involved acting on behalf of the ITU, to support the Government of North Macedonia in reviewing child online protection across the country and drafting a report that includes proposed recommendations for their Government to consider and adopt. This report was presented at an event in Skopje in July 2022 alongside two Government Ministers. SWGfL continued to contribute as a member of the World Economic Forum, Global Coalition on Digital Safety.

The relationship with Ofsted continues to be important and continued to provide online safety specialist training to Ofsted and completed a series of training webinars.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### UK Safer Internet Centre



SWGfL has been a proud partner in the UK Safer Internet Centre, alongside IWF and Childnet, since 2011. The UK Safer Internet Centre activities have spanned six phases and been co-funded by the EU between 2011 and 2022. Since early 2022, Nominet agreed to continue co funding for UK Safer Internet Centre activities through to 2025.



For SWGfL, this involves operating the Professionals Online Safety Helpline, Revenge Porn Helpline and Report Harmful Content platform as well as delivering resources, content and training. Its Online Safety Live programme saw 49 briefing sessions, welcoming 2,900 delegates with 98% 'feeling

better equipped to protect children users and their organisation'. This brings the total of briefing events to 582 since 2013 and the delegates totalling 30,717; the largest online safety professional development programme in the UK.

The important definitions of 'appropriate filtering' and appropriate monitoring', first published in 2016, saw the initiation of a significant review in 2023, largely catalysed by recent incidents and the clear need for improved standards. In addition to the definitions of appropriate filtering and monitoring, UK Safer Internet Centre partner) is exploring accrediting filtering (and monitoring providers) in collaboration with Bristol University.

#### Revenge Porn Helpline

The development of StopNCII.org and the extensive training provided to professionals have been vital in supporting victims of intimate image abuse. The helpline has become a globally recognized leader in this field, further reinforced by our contribution to the "Report Remove" initiative

The number of cases handled reduced during 2022 to 3274, largely due to the development and deployment of a new chatbot (Reiya), of which there were 8393 sessions. This was the result of a project funded by Comic Relief's Tech4Good fund with Report Harmful Content to build a chatbot that would sit across both services to provide information and signposting out of hours and for those groups to whom we are unable to offer direct support, eg non UK, under 18s etc

#### Professionals Online Safety Helpline



The Professionals Online Safety Helpline saw a further increase of 276% in cases compared to the previous financial year, managing 4179 cases. This sustained increase continued to be largely due to a trend of accounts being created on TikTok, which affects the online reputation of schools and colleges and presented additional issues such as cyber-bullying and harassment.

#### Report Harmful Content



Launched in December 2019, Report Harmful Content (RHC) supports people experiencing legal but harmful online content, providing guidance about how to report content and impartial dispute resolution where correct reports have been made to 26 different industry platforms. The numbers of reports received have continued to see year on year increase, up a further 70% from 1084 in 21/22 to 1842 in the 22/23 Financial Year.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### Partnership and Engagement

Strong growth continued with SWGfL Partnerships and Engagement. While 2020-21 was a record-breaking year, SWGfL has seen growth year on year and continued to do so in 2022-23. In the past 12 months SWGfL increased the volume of content it published; people it reached, as well as the number of partnerships. The number of people visiting the SWGfL website is still on the rise compared to previous years. In this year we have added another member of the communications team specially dedicated to raising the profile of social media and content for the Helplines of SWGfL. SWGfL invested effort in its strong partnerships with the world's biggest tech companies, government departments such as organizing in partnership with Tiktok an event Understanding Digital Wellbeing, welcoming the Home secretary in our offices in Exeter or launching a new Yubo checklist to our resource bank, or our regular Online Safety Day with Meta and various other activities throughout the year.

Partnership work around StopNCII.org is still evolving and new partners are joining the platform helping us prevent and protect users across the globe. StopNCII had also a successful first-year celebration media activity reaching over 4 billion people, which was managed by the SWGfL Communications and Marketing team in collaboration with world-leading platforms.

Further partnerships have been developed with non commercial charity partnerships, for example with special educational needs providers as well as children's homes all to develop new and better policy, standards and practice around child online protection.

International partnerships were extended through the work of UN, ITU, Insafe, Inhope, Weprotect, EU commission and ENISA and are continuing and evolving adding new potential international partners in NCMEC and other organisations.

Our regular yearly reports have been published from Project Evolve to Cyber security and regular Helplines reports.

All our outreach activities such as our Youtube profile, Podcast or Newsletter engagement are seeing a rise in numbers and subscribers.

SWGfL together with UK Safer Internet Centre has started a public advocacy campaign for changes in law of the Online safety bill, while positive movements have been made we still need to see the effect of it.

All SWGfL social media profiles are seeing continued rise and recognition in the social media space. Google ads and our Google grant is still seeing full utilisation and traffic through our Google ads still represents a significant portion of our direct visits to our website. SWGfL Marketing has been steadily creating better campaigns with higher budget utilisation, resulting in increased reach and number of subscriptions to our services, websites, tools, services and events.

SWGfL increased its capacity to engage with traditional media and resulted in a significant rise in published articles. A notable success has been the awareness and engagement of users with Project EVOLVE with registrations and utilisation far exceeding expectations.

We saw the successful completion of HSB service pilot with successful communication around it and we have started work on one of our most exciting new project Minerva.

We have won 6 awards for the wider work of the SWGfL culminating with the Charity of the year award.

Again a successful and busy year summed up by our CEO David Wright:

*"It's been a busy year for SWGfL. Ensuring that everyone can benefit from technology free from harm is a collective, global effort and one which we are honoured to be a part of. We'd like to thank everyone who is continuing to prioritise online safety, whether it be through attending a training*

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

*session, reviewing an online safety policy, calling one of our helplines or downloading a piece of guidance. We are all working towards a safer internet and your support is as valuable as ever."*

#### Education Services

Following the introduction of the Computing curriculum in England in 2014, teachers continue to struggle with confidence in this subject area, particularly with coding and programming. There continues to be a huge appetite for support in these areas.

#### Barefoot Computing

Sponsored by the British Computer Society (BCS), this initiative has seen significant progress in the past year, with new resources and workshops created, as well as translations of all resources into Irish Gaelic. The project is funded through to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023.



#### Schools Internet Service

We successfully migrated all customers to RM, on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

#### Information Security and Data Protection Services

##### Department for Education CyberSecure tool

Following a period of stand-still, the Department for Education, at the beginning of 2023 were in a position to re-open the CyberSecure project. This project will now be released in late 2023 for use by schools in England. Based upon previous self-review work and SWGfL tools, CyberSecure will provide schools with an opportunity to review themselves against a set of carefully considered and worded standards. This will enable schools to understand what the opportunities and risks are in their setting in terms of cyber and information security. Longer-term, the DfE has indicated a commitment to iterating the tool in response to feedback and changing expectations for schools with the cyber and information security posture.

##### Security product range

Working with our partner, Phoenix, SWGfL continues to offer a suite of security products to schools and SMEs across the UK. Pricing for all our products is competitive as a result of the work SWGfL and Phoenix undertake in to obtain the best pricing possible for the education sector. Restricted to the South-West region, sales of Sophos products remain strong. Sales of Bitdefender products, available across the UK, have continued to strengthen. Following marketing activity, sales in Bidefender have grown noticeably in the last 12 months. We've continued to see very weak interest in Mimecast and Data Protection Officer services. In light of this marketing activity for Mimecast is planned, this product offers schools a humorous way to provide cyber security awareness training, online, for all staff.

Alongside a full suite of security products, the established a relationship with CySecAware, continues to strengthen. These specialist cyber security consultants have been invaluable in developing Cyber Secure content and help provide school-specific cyber security face-to-face training and auditing alongside general cyber-specific consultancy and support.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### **Further Cyber security work**

SWGfL continues to strengthen its own cyber resilience posture. Work is already taking place to assess and improve the protective measures in place to prevent cyber attacks from negatively impacting our systems. SWGfL was CyberEssentials Plus certified in 2022 and is on track for re-certification in 2023. Further work continues on strengthening and hardening systems against attack, making use of external support, advice and testing as necessary.

#### **Customer Experience and Engagement**

Customer service and Communications and Marketing team continue to work in close cooperation to increase the level of user satisfaction resulting in positive numbers in new user subscriptions for SWGfL tools and services. Work has continued to connect all our data sources to a central CRM system (SalesForce), enabling integration of data at an organisational level.

The continued use and success of the Reiya chatbot, across both the Revenge Porn Helpline and Report Harmful Content Helpline, is seen in the over 8000 sessions in the year. The tool continues to enable identification of trends thus enabling the service to respond and react to current needs.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

## Structure, Governance and Management

### Legal Status

The South West Grid for Learning Trust was incorporated on 11 October 2005 as a company limited by guarantee and is governed through the Memorandum & Articles of Association. The Trust commenced its activities on 1 December 2006 after the completion of a successful transfer from the previous consortium and was successfully registered as a charity with the Charity Commission in 2006. On the 19th October 2021, SWGfL became a registered charity in Scotland. The Trustees consider it appropriate to prepare accounts in accordance with the Charities SORP 2005, the Companies Act 2006 and Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005.

### Organisation Structure

The Trustee Board is in place to govern and steer the work of the Trust. Representation on the Board has been considered throughout the year alongside the Trust's constitution. The Finance and Audit Sub-Committee continues to effectively support the full Trustee Board in reviewing and scrutinising financial performance and operations.

The Chief Executive Officer continues to provide overall leadership and direction for the charity, alongside the Senior Management Team through the creation and embedding of a clear long term strategy.

The Trust holds an annual general meeting in addition to other board meetings. Not more than 15 months elapses between the date of one annual general meeting of The Trust and that of the next.

### Objectives

The strategic plan clearly sets out the key objectives and actions identified to be undertaken by the team over the coming years. Building on the current successes is a central feature of the plan, along with the aim to continue to advance education, safety and security through the services offered to schools and the wider learning community.

The Trust is a charity dedicated to empowering the safe and secure use of technology through innovative services, tools, content and policy, nationally and globally. The Trust's vision is for everyone to be able to benefit from technology, free from harm.

The key objectives for the year ahead are:

1. To continue to provide education and training, alongside raising public awareness of such services available;
2. Build on the innovative services, tools and products portfolio provided;
3. Conduct and publish leading edge research into online threats and harms;
4. Work in partnership and collaborate with stakeholders nationally and internationally; and

The delivery of services that are beneficial to a wide range of users, organisations, groups, individuals and stakeholders, in order to generate revenue and meet charitable objectives, will continue to drive and shape these objectives for the future.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### Risk Management

The Trust has implemented and continues to review the risk management processes in place. In the context of the changing landscape and market, the Trust has identified that medium to long term risks require greater analysis and mitigation and consequently a suitable methodology has been put in place.

#### National and International Representation

The Trust also continues to be both represented and influential at national level, working with various Government Departments as well as attending the National Education Network (NEN) Managers group, and chairing the NEN Safeguarding group.

SWGfL continues its work with the United Nations International Telecommunications Union (ITU) in their Child Online Protection Initiative as well as a member of the ENISA Awareness Advisory Board and the World Economic Forum, Global Coalition on Digital Safety.

#### How Activities Deliver Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty in section 17(5) of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charities Commission.

The overriding vision and purpose of the Trust is 'the advancement of education and/or the advancement of health and the saving of lives, in each case for solely charitable purposes by any means through or otherwise relating to the effective and/or safe use of information and communication technologies ,including but not limited to, the provision of broadband connectivity; e-Learning facilities; education materials; information and knowhow on the effective use of information and communication technologies by educational establishments; information and knowhow relating to online safety issues and relating to information and communication technologies)."

In delivering that vision, the Trust has continued throughout the 2022/23 financial year to:

- Deliver on its Operational Services & Contractual Obligations
- Deliver on its SWGfL / Edtesa Product & Service Portfolio
- Improve the reputation and visibility of SWGfL site & Edtesa

#### Financial Review

##### Financial Results

The results for the year and the Trust financial position at the end of the year are shown in the attached financial statements which show that as at 31 March 2023 the Trust had net assets of £ 2,371,379.

An appropriate expenditure and procurement policy is in place to ensure future expenditure continues to represent value, and this policy will be reviewed and updated as required.

##### Reserves Policy

The Trust seeks to maintain a level of reserves which is consistent with its responsibilities and liabilities as an employer and to provide a resource to manage future risk in regard to changes in the operating environment.

The Trustees assess the appropriateness of this reserves policy on a regular basis to ensure that changes to the operating environment and their impact are incorporated into the reserves so that the Trust can continue to provide its charitable objectives for the future. The attached financial statements show an unrestricted reserve of £ 2,371,379 which is reasonable and consistent with the Trust's objectives and reserves policy.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### Investment Policy

Funds held by the Trust are held with banks in short term deposits which offer reasonable rates of interest and which comply with the credit rating policy adopted by the Trustees.

#### Financial Risk Management Objectives and Policies

The charity's principal financial instruments comprise the bank balance, trade creditors, deferred income and trade debtors. The main purpose of these instruments is to raise funds for the charity's charitable objectives.

#### Price Risk, Credit Risk, Liquidity Risk and Cash Flow Risk

Funding received in foreign currencies is subject to a price risk management policy using FOREX mechanisms.

Trade debtors are managed in respect of credit and cash flow by policies concerning the credit offered to customers and the regular monitoring of amounts outstanding for both time and credit limits.

Trade creditor liquidity risk is managed by ensuring that sufficient funds are available to meet amounts due.

The Trust exited the Bath and Avon pension scheme during the year, crystallising its liability and removing the exposure to fluctuations in valuation seen in previous years.

#### Conclusions

Over the last twelve months the Trust has continued to deliver its charitable objectives in an environment of continued pressure on local authorities, schools and the wider public sector.

Ongoing successes with projects regionally, nationally and internationally demonstrate the skill and expertise of the team.

The Trust has continued to drive improvements within each of the business units, culminating in good customer service as well as the introduction of new products and services and in contractual service delivery.

The Trust has delivered good financial performance for the year, capitalising on new opportunities as well as existing charity activity to maintain positive levels of income whilst controlling expenditure and improving the processes for managing the key financial aspects of the operation of the Trust, resulting in a healthy balance sheet.

The control over the running costs reflects an ongoing need to ensure all services delivered by the Trust are highly cost effective, but has also increased pressures and demands on the team.

It is pleasing to note that, despite these pressures, the team have remained focussed, committed and motivated to ensure the continued success of the Trust. They are to be congratulated for their efforts.

#### Auditors

A resolution proposing that Thompson Jenner LLP be reappointed as auditors of the charity will be put to the Annual General Meeting.

The annual report was approved by the Board on <sup>25<sup>th</sup></sup> September 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Robert Bond  
Company Secretary

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of South West Grid for Learning Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

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

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

#### Disclosure of information to auditor

Each trustee has taken steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information. The trustees confirm that there is no relevant information that they know of and of which they know the auditor is unaware.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 26/09/23 and signed on its behalf by:



R Bond  
Company secretary and trustee

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of South West Grid for Learning Trust

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of South West Grid for Learning Trust (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2023, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, 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 United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity'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 auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity 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 charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the original financial statements were 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 auditor's report 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 there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

## **South West Grid for Learning Trust**

### **Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of South West Grid for Learning Trust**

#### **Opinion on other matter 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 for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

#### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the trustees report.

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.

#### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities [set out on page 12], the trustees 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 charity'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 charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### **Auditor 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 an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

#### **The extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud**

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of South West Grid for Learning Trust

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with directors and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company, including the Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011, taxation legislation, data protection, anti-bribery, employment, environmental, fire safety, Licensing Act 2003 and health and safety legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management, reviewing licenses, certificates and relevant correspondence including the inspection of legal correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims; and
- reviewing correspondence with HMRC, relevant regulators and the company's legal advisors.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

**South West Grid for Learning Trust**

**Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of South West Grid for Learning Trust**

**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, 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 charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's 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 its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

.....  
Mr Simon Lewis (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
For and on behalf of Thompson Jenner LLP, Statutory Auditor

28 Alexandra Terrace  
Exmouth  
Devon  
EX8 1BD

Date: 18/12/23.....

LLP

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2023 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>				
Charitable activities	3	1,075,383	2,289,450	3,364,833
Investment income	4	10,220	-	10,220
Other income		14,585	-	14,585
Total income		<u>1,100,188</u>	<u>2,289,450</u>	<u>3,389,638</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Charitable activities	5	<u>(882,933)</u>	<u>(2,289,450)</u>	<u>(3,172,383)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(882,933)</u>	<u>(2,289,450)</u>	<u>(3,172,383)</u>
Net income		217,255	-	217,255
<b>Other recognised gains and losses</b>				
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes		<u>513,800</u>	-	<u>513,800</u>
Net movement in funds		731,055	-	731,055
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		<u>1,640,324</u>	-	<u>1,640,324</u>
Total funds carried forward	20	<u><u>2,371,379</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>2,371,379</u></u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2023 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

#### Comparative Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>				
Charitable activities	3	2,534,704	1,047,037	3,581,741
Investment income	4	127	-	127
Total income		<u>2,534,831</u>	<u>1,047,037</u>	<u>3,581,868</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Charitable activities	5	<u>(2,021,109)</u>	<u>(1,195,937)</u>	<u>(3,217,046)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(2,021,109)</u>	<u>(1,195,937)</u>	<u>(3,217,046)</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		513,722	(148,900)	364,822
Transfers between funds		(148,900)	148,900	-
<b>Other recognised gains and losses</b>				
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes		<u>315,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>315,000</u>
Net movement in funds		679,822	-	679,822
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		<u>960,502</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>960,502</u>
Total funds carried forward	20	<u>1,640,324</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,640,324</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

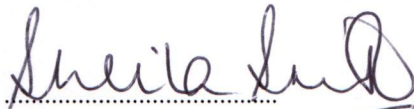
The funds breakdown for 2022 is shown in note 20.

**South West Grid for Learning Trust**

**(Registration number: 05589479)  
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023**

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Intangible assets	12	2,601	5,775
Tangible assets	13	19,633	20,646
Investments	14	1	1
		22,235	26,422
<b>Current assets</b>			
Stocks	15	-	16,354
Debtors	16	460,032	773,116
Cash at bank and in hand		3,163,797	3,211,438
		3,623,829	4,000,908
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	17	(1,274,685)	(1,313,006)
<b>Net current assets</b>		2,349,144	2,687,902
<b>Net assets excluding pension liability</b>		2,371,379	2,714,324
<b>Pension scheme liability</b>	19	-	(1,074,000)
<b>Net assets including pension liability</b>		2,371,379	1,640,324
<b>Funds of the charity:</b>			
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>			
Unrestricted		2,371,379	1,640,324
<b>Total funds</b>	20	2,371,379	1,640,324

The financial statements on pages 17 to 39 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 26/9/23 and signed on their behalf by:



S Smith  
Trustee

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net cash income		731,055	679,822
<b>Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items</b>			
Depreciation		11,162	9,240
Amortisation		3,174	3,174
Investment income	4	<u>(10,220)</u>	<u>(127)</u>
		735,171	692,109
<b>Working capital adjustments</b>			
Decrease in stocks	15	16,354	90,236
Decrease in debtors	16	313,084	273,129
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	17	(81,426)	469,884
Increase/(decrease) in retirement benefit obligation net of actuarial changes	19	(1,074,000)	(297,000)
Increase in deferred income		<u>43,105</u>	<u>220,739</u>
Net cash flows from operating activities		<u>(47,712)</u>	<u>1,449,097</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Interest receivable and similar income	4	10,220	127
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	13	<u>(10,149)</u>	<u>(21,678)</u>
Net cash flows from investing activities		<u>71</u>	<u>(21,551)</u>
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents		(47,641)	1,427,546
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		<u>3,211,438</u>	<u>1,783,892</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March		<u>3,163,797</u>	<u>3,211,438</u>

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### 1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

Belvedere House  
Woodwater Park  
Pynes Hill  
Exeter  
EX2 5WS

#### 2 Accounting policies

##### Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

##### Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). They also comply with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

##### Basis of preparation

South West Grid for Learning Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

##### Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

##### Exemption from preparing group accounts

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption in The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 from the requirement to prepare consolidated financial statements, on the grounds that the inclusion of the subsidiary undertaking is not material for the purposes of giving a true and fair view.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### **Income and endowments**

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

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition is met.

#### ***Deferred income***

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which, it has been received. Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the Charity has unconditional entitlement.
- The income received from charitable activities relates to a future period

#### ***Investment income***

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

#### **Expenditure**

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

#### ***Charitable activities***

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

South West Grid for Learning consider the previously reported charitable activities of UKSIC (UK Safer Internet Centre) and E-Safety Centres to be more accurately presented as a single activity being Online Safety. During the year of 31 March 2023, all prior-year comparatives have been adjusted to reflect this combination, and notes have been included where appropriate to detail the breakdown of the previously reported balances between the activities of UKSIC and E-Safety.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### Support costs

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on the following basis which are an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity.

	2023	2022
Online Safety	80%	51%
Barefoot	5%	21%
Licencing	5%	5%
Schools Internet Service	10%	23%

The prior year's Online Safety support cost allocation of 51% was presented as E-Safety 42% and UKSIC 9%. The comparatives have been combined in the current year to more accurately reflect the activities of the charity.

#### Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

#### Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

#### Intangible assets

Intangible assets are stated in the Balance Sheet at cost less accumulated amortisation and impairment. They are amortised on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives.

#### Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £250.00 or more are initially recorded at cost.

#### Amortisation

Amortisation is provided on intangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Amortisation method and rate
Computer software	20% Straight line basis

#### Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Fixtures and fittings	33% Straight line basis

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### **Business combinations**

Business combinations are accounted for under the purchase method. Where necessary, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring the accounting policies used into line with those used by the charity. All intra-group transactions, balances, income and expenses are eliminated on consolidation. In accordance with Section 35 of FRS 102, Section 19 of FRS 102 has not been applied in these financial statements in respect of business combinations effected prior to the date of transition.

#### **Stock**

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell, after due regard for obsolete and slow moving stocks. Cost is determined using the first-in, first-out (FIFO).

#### **Trade debtors**

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

#### **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

#### **Trade creditors**

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### **Foreign exchange**

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are reported at the rates of exchange prevailing at that date.

Other exchange differences are recognised in the statement of financial activities in the period in which they arise except for:

- 1) exchange differences on transactions entered into to hedge certain foreign currency risks (see above);
- 2) exchange differences arising on gains or losses on non-monetary items which are recognised in other comprehensive income.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### **Fund structure**

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

#### **Pensions and other post retirement obligations**

The charity operates a defined benefit pension scheme. This scheme is now closed to new members as a defined benefit contribution scheme has been implemented for new members. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

Current service costs, past service costs and gains and losses on settlements and curtailments are charged to appropriate resources expended categories in the statement of financial activities. Past service costs are recognised over the vesting period or immediately if the benefits have vested. When a settlement (eliminating all obligations for benefits already accrued) or a curtailment (reducing future obligations as a result of a material reduction in the scheme membership or a reduction in future entitlement) occurs, the obligation and related plan assets are remeasured using current actuarial assumptions and the resultant gain or loss is recognised in the statement of financial activities during the period in which the settlement or curtailment occurs.

The interest cost and the expected return on assets are shown as a net amount as other finance costs or income. Net pension finance costs are allocated to appropriate resources expended categories in the statement of financial activities. Net pension finance income is recognised as an incoming resource in the statement of financial activities. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately as other recognised gains and losses in the statement of financial activities.

Pension scheme assets are valued at fair value at the balance sheet date. Fair value is based on market price information and in the case of quoted securities is the published bid price. Pension scheme liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method and are discounted to their present value using a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent currency and term to the scheme liabilities. The pension scheme deficit is recognised in full on the balance sheet.

The charity operates a defined contribution pension plan. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the company has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as employee benefit expense when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### Financial instruments

##### *Classification*

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 price and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

#### 3 Income from charitable activities

	<b>Unrestricted funds General £</b>	<b>Restricted funds £</b>	<b>Total 2023 £</b>	<b>Total 2022 £</b>
Online Safety	402,436	2,289,450	2,691,886	1,819,144
Barefoot	48,069	-	48,069	193,992
Licencing	174,124	-	174,124	122,300
Schools Internet Service	449,209	-	449,209	1,446,305
Operational	1,545	-	1,545	-
	<u>1,075,383</u>	<u>2,289,450</u>	<u>3,364,833</u>	<u>3,581,741</u>

The prior year's total income from charitable activities of £3,581,741 included unrestricted funds of £2,534,704 and restricted funds of £1,047,037.

The prior year's Online Safety income from charitable activities of £1,819,144 was presented as E-Safety £1,329,433 and UK Safer Internet Centre £489,711. The comparatives have been combined in the current year to more accurately reflect the activities of the charity.

#### 4 Investment income

	<b>Unrestricted funds General £</b>	<b>Total 2023 £</b>	<b>Total 2022 £</b>
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	<u>10,220</u>	<u>10,220</u>	<u>127</u>

The prior year's total investment income of £127 was unrestricted.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### 5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Activity undertaken directly £	Activity support costs £	2023 £	2022 £
Online Safety	2,229,883	277,279	2,507,162	1,479,014
Barefoot	45,368	17,330	62,698	232,042
Licencing	123,336	17,330	140,666	116,660
Schools Internet Service	427,197	34,660	461,857	1,389,330
	<u>2,825,784</u>	<u>346,599</u>	<u>3,172,383</u>	<u>3,217,046</u>

The prior years total expenditure of £3,217,046 included expenditure attributable directly to activities undertaken of £2,845,311 and support costs of £371,735.

Included in the expenditure analysed above are governance costs of £13,496 (2022 - £15,080) which relate directly to charitable activities. See note 6 for further details.

The prior year's Online Safety expenditure on charitable activities of £1,479,014 was presented as E-Safety £840,403 and UK Safer Internet Centre £638,611. The comparatives have been combined in the current year to more accurately reflect the activities of the charity.

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Online Safety	217,712	2,289,450	2,507,162	1,479,014
Barefoot	62,698	-	62,698	232,042
Licencing	140,666	-	140,666	116,660
Schools Internet Service	461,857	-	461,857	1,389,330
	<u>882,933</u>	<u>2,289,450</u>	<u>3,172,383</u>	<u>3,217,046</u>

The prior years total expenditure of £3,217,046 included expenditure attributable to unrestricted funds of £2,021,109 and £1,195,937 to restricted funds.

**South West Grid for Learning Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

**6 Analysis of governance and support costs**

**Charitable activities expenditure**

	<b>Total 2023 £</b>	<b>Total 2022 £</b>
Employment costs	126,210	183,215
Establishment costs	120,935	114,110
Legal and Professional	53,324	42,357
Travel and subsistence	836	370
Computer expenses	43,848	31,451
Advertising and promotion	70	225
Bad debt provision	1,376	7
	<u>346,599</u>	<u>371,735</u>

**Governance costs**

	<b>Total 2023 £</b>	<b>Total 2022 £</b>
Audit fees		
Audit of the financial statements	12,000	11,100
Other fees paid to auditors	1,496	3,980
	<u>13,496</u>	<u>15,080</u>

**7 Net incoming/outgoing resources**

Net incoming resources for the year include:

	<b>2023 £</b>	<b>2022 £</b>
Operating leases - other assets	66,230	64,386
Audit fees	12,000	11,100
Other non-audit services	7,970	13,911
Depreciation of fixed assets	14,335	11,664
Amortisation of software	3,174	3,174
	<u>103,709</u>	<u>104,235</u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### 8 Trustees remuneration and expenses

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

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

#### 9 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Staff costs during the year were:</b>		
Wages and salaries	1,023,320	854,936
Social security costs	104,919	82,061
Pension costs	163,048	77,290
	<u>1,291,287</u>	<u>1,014,287</u>

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>
Administration	<u>33</u>	<u>32</u>

32 (2022 - 31) of the above employees participated in the Defined Contribution Pension Schemes.

1 (2022 - 1) of the above employees participated in the Defined Benefit Pension Schemes.

During the year, the charity made redundancy and/or termination payments which totalled £Nil (2022 - £Nil).

The number of employees whose emoluments fell within the following bands was:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>
£60,001 - £70,000	-	2
£80,001 - £90,000	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £337,571 (2022 - £216,263).

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### 10 Auditors' remuneration

	2023 £	2022 £
Audit of the financial statements	<u>12,000</u>	<u>11,100</u>
<b>Other fees to auditors</b>		
All other non-audit services	<u>7,970</u>	<u>10,411</u>

#### 11 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

#### 12 Intangible fixed assets

	Software £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 April 2022	<u>15,868</u>	<u>15,868</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>15,868</u>	<u>15,868</u>
<b>Amortisation</b>		
At 1 April 2022	10,093	10,093
Charge for the year	<u>3,174</u>	<u>3,174</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>13,267</u>	<u>13,267</u>
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 March 2023	<u>2,601</u>	<u>2,601</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>5,775</u>	<u>5,775</u>

Amortisation of intangible fixed assets is included within expenditure on charitable activities.

**South West Grid for Learning Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

**13 Tangible fixed assets**

	<b>Furniture and equipment £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 April 2022	136,763	136,763
Additions	10,149	10,149
At 31 March 2023	146,912	146,912
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 April 2022	116,117	116,117
Charge for the year	11,162	11,162
At 31 March 2023	127,279	127,279
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 March 2023	19,633	19,633
At 31 March 2022	20,646	20,646

**14 Fixed asset investments**

	<b>2023 £</b>	<b>2022 £</b>
Shares in group undertakings and participating interests	1	1

**Shares in group undertakings and participating interests**

	<b>Subsidiary undertakings £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 April 2022	1	1
At 31 March 2023	1	1
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 March 2023	1	1
At 31 March 2022	1	1

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### Details of undertakings

Details of the investments in which the charity holds 20% or more of the nominal value of any class of share capital are as follows:

Undertaking	Holding	Proportion of voting rights and shares held	Principal activity
<b>Subsidiary undertakings</b>			
Edtesa Limited	Ordinary	100%	ICT and software

#### Subsidiaries

The loss for the financial period of Edtesa Limited was £23,235 (2022 - £Nil) and the aggregate amount of capital and reserves at the end of the period was £(23,234) (2022 - £1).

#### 15 Stock

	2023 £	2022 £
Stocks	-	16,354

#### 16 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	129,344	146,287
Prepayments	47,648	115,438
Accrued income	44,705	439,843
VAT recoverable	35,413	44,473
Other debtors	202,922	27,075
	<u>460,032</u>	<u>773,116</u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### 17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	371,050	475,014
Other creditors	203,575	165,178
Accruals	22,257	38,116
Deferred income	<u>677,803</u>	<u>634,698</u>
	<u>1,274,685</u>	<u>1,313,006</u>
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£	£
Deferred income at 1 April 2022	634,698	413,959
Resources deferred in the period	431,820	388,715
Amounts released from previous periods	<u>(388,715)</u>	<u>(167,976)</u>
Deferred income at year end	<u>677,803</u>	<u>634,698</u>

#### 18 Obligations under leases and hire purchase contracts

##### Operating lease commitments

Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
<b>Land and buildings</b>		
Within one year	9,817	58,900
Between one and five years	<u>-</u>	<u>9,817</u>
	<u>9,817</u>	<u>68,717</u>
<b>Other</b>		
Within one year	7,330	7,330
Between one and five years	<u>4,886</u>	<u>12,216</u>
	<u>12,216</u>	<u>19,546</u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### 19 Pension and other schemes

##### Defined contribution pension scheme

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the Charity to the scheme and amounted to £66,000 (2022 - £50,000).

Contributions totalling £14,000 (2022 - £9,000) were payable to the scheme at the end of the year and are included in creditors.

The defined contribution pension scheme liability and expense was allocated between charitable activities and restricted and unrestricted funds based on the activities performed by each individual member of staff.

##### Defined benefit pension schemes

###### Avon Pension Fund

The LGPS was a funded defined benefit scheme, with assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The defined benefit pension scheme terminated on 31 December 2022.

South West Grid for Learning exited the scheme with effect from 31 December 2022 after the last active member became deferred. The employer was in the higher risk strategy for the quarter to 30 June 2022, it then became a lower risk notional employer with effect from 1 July 2022 to 31 December 2022.

At the termination date the fair value of scheme assets were £2,925,100 and the present value of scheme liabilities were £2,751,200. The termination surplus was £173,900. Actuarial fees were applied totalling £4,500 at the termination date resulting in a balance due to South West Grid for Learning of £169,400. This outstanding balance is reflected within Other Debtors at the year end.

The balance due of £169,400 to South West Grid for Learning has been received as at 14 June 2023.

The total cost relating to defined benefit schemes for the year recognised in profit or loss as an expense was £97,000 (2022 - £55,000).

The total cost relating to defined benefit schemes for the year included in the cost of an asset was £- (2022 - £-).

##### *Reconciliation of scheme assets and liabilities to assets and liabilities recognised*

The amounts recognised in the statement of financial position are as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Fair value of scheme assets	-	2,941,000
Present value of defined benefit obligation	-	(4,015,000)
Defined benefit pension scheme deficit	-	(1,074,000)

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### 20 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
<i>General</i>						
Unrestricted income fund	2,714,324	1,100,188	(832,533)	(610,600)	-	2,371,379
<i>Designated</i>						
Defined benefit pension scheme	(1,074,000)	-	(50,400)	610,600	513,800	-
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<u>1,640,324</u>	<u>1,100,188</u>	<u>(882,933)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>513,800</u>	<u>2,371,379</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
UKSIC	-	7,662	(7,662)	-	-	-
Nominet Grant	-	640,740	(640,740)	-	-	-
TikTok Grant	-	55,822	(55,822)	-	-	-
Tides Foundation Grant	-	5,168	(5,168)	-	-	-
Inspire Scotland Grant	-	55,646	(55,646)	-	-	-
Pershing Grant	-	63,479	(63,479)	-	-	-
META/Facebook	-	163,470	(163,470)	-	-	-
Home Office Grant - RP	-	150,000	(150,000)	-	-	-
Home Office Grant- HSBSS	-	295,827	(295,827)	-	-	-
DCMS - Minerva Project	-	851,636	(851,636)	-	-	-
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,289,450</u>	<u>(2,289,450)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>1,640,324</u>	<u>3,389,638</u>	<u>(3,172,383)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>513,800</u>	<u>2,371,379</u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
<i>General</i>						
Unrestricted income fund	2,331,502	2,534,831	(2,003,109)	(148,900)	-	2,714,324
<i>Designated</i>						
Defined benefit pension scheme	(1,371,000)	-	(18,000)	-	315,000	(1,074,000)
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<u>960,502</u>	<u>2,534,831</u>	<u>(2,021,109)</u>	<u>(148,900)</u>	<u>315,000</u>	<u>1,640,324</u>
<b>Restricted</b>						
UKSIC	-	489,711	(638,611)	148,900	-	-
Support, Hear, Hope - Comic Relief Grant	-	69,975	(69,975)	-	-	-
TikTok Grant	-	33,155	(33,155)	-	-	-
Tides Foundation Grant	-	15,503	(15,503)	-	-	-
Inspire Scotland Grant	-	24,656	(24,656)	-	-	-
Home Office Grant- HSBSS	-	258,353	(258,353)	-	-	-
DCMS - Minerva Project	-	155,684	(155,684)	-	-	-
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,047,037</u>	<u>(1,195,937)</u>	<u>148,900</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u><u>960,502</u></u>	<u><u>3,581,868</u></u>	<u><u>(3,217,046)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>315,000</u></u>	<u><u>1,640,324</u></u>

## **South West Grid for Learning Trust**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

The UKSIC fund relates to funding from the European Commission along with external sponsors for the operation of the UK Safer Internet Centre in association with the consortium members.

The Nominet funds relates to funding from Nominet for the operation of the UK Safer Internet Centre in association with the consortium members.

TikTok funds relates to funding the support of SWGfL's role as a part of the UK Safer Internet Centre, dedicated to keeping the internet safe for users of all ages.

Tides Foundation funds relates to the funding to support SWGfL's helpline projects.

Inspire Scotland funds relates to the funding to support SWGfL in the Delivering Equally Safe Scotland Project.

Pershing funds were provided to support SWGfL in combating STOPNCII (Stop Non-Consensual Intimate Image Abuse).

Meta/Facebook funds were provided to support SWGfL in combatting non-consensual sharing of intimate image abuse and supporting victims.

Home Office (RP) funding relates to funding to the support work in combatting violence against women and girls.

Home Office (HSBSS) funding relates to funding to support SWGfL aid safeguarding professionals on tackling harmful sexual behaviour.

DCMS Minerva project funding relates to funding to support SWGfL in improving the lives of disadvantaged women and girls.

**South West Grid for Learning Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

**21 Analysis of net assets between funds**

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total funds at 31 March 2023
	General	Designated		
	£	£	£	£
Intangible fixed assets	2,601	-	-	2,601
Tangible fixed assets	19,633	-	-	19,633
Fixed asset investments	1	-	-	1
Current assets	3,393,936	-	229,893	3,623,829
Current liabilities	(1,044,792)	-	(229,893)	(1,274,685)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>2,371,379</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,371,379</b>

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total funds at 31 March 2022
	General	Designated		
	£	£	£	£
Intangible fixed assets	5,775	-	-	5,775
Tangible fixed assets	20,646	-	-	20,646
Fixed asset investments	1	-	-	1
Current assets	3,720,633	-	280,274	4,000,907
Current liabilities	(1,032,733)	-	(280,274)	(1,313,007)
Pension scheme liability	-	(1,074,000)	-	(1,074,000)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>2,714,322</b>	<b>(1,074,000)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,640,322</b>

**22 Analysis of net funds**

	At 1 April 2022	Financing cash flows	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	3,211,438	(47,641)	3,163,797
Net debt	3,211,438	(47,641)	3,163,797

	At 1 April 2021	Financing cash flows	At 31 March 2022
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	1,783,892	1,427,546	3,211,438
Net debt	1,783,892	1,427,546	3,211,438

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### 23 Related party transactions

##### Other related party transactions

Due to the nature of the Trust's operations procuring services on behalf of the Local Authorities and the board of trustees including representatives from the Local Authorities, transactions inevitably take place between the trust and organisations in which the trustees have an interest.

All transactions are conducted at arms length and no specific transactions have occurred in which a trustee has an individual interest.

The total restricted funds received for each Local Authority relating to broadband growth and maintenance which is unspent at the year end and included within deferred income is as follows;

	2023 £	2022 £
Devon	112,193	112,193
Gloucester	110,363	110,363
Plymouth	3,403	3,403
Swindon	12,447	12,447
Torbay	1	1
Wiltshire	7,578	7,578

**SOUTH WEST GRID FOR LEARNING TRUST**

England & Wales - Charity number 1120354

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# Accounts

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Company registration number: 05589479  
Charity registration number in England & Wales: 1120354  
Charity registration number in Scotland: SC051351

# South West Grid for Learning Trust

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2022



# SWGfL

Education that Clicks

Thompson Jenner LLP  
Statutory Auditors  
28 Alexandra Terrace  
Exmouth  
Devon  
EX8 1BD

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

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## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Reference and Administrative Details

<b>Trustees</b>	R Bond A C Coghlan P Fletcher (resigned 1 December 2021) C Mcdonald S Smith S P Taylor (resigned 15 June 2021) A E Brittan J Briscombe M E Blackman (appointed 15 April 2021 and resigned 23 May 2022) I Daniells (appointed 6 June 2022) H E Porter (appointed 29 March 2022) A D Phippen (appointed 29 March 2022)
<b>Secretary</b>	R Bond
<b>Principal Office</b>	Belvedere House Woodwater Park Pynes Hill Exeter EX2 5WS  The charity is incorporated in England and Wales.
<b>Company Registration Number</b>	05589479
<b>Charity Registration Number</b>	1120354
<b>Scotland Charity Registration Number</b>	SC051351
<b>Solicitors</b>	Shoosmiths LLP West One 114 Wellington Street Leeds LS1 1BA
<b>Bankers</b>	Lloyds TSB Bank Plc 234 High Street Exeter Devon EX4 3ZB
<b>Auditor</b>	Thompson Jenner LLP Statutory Auditors 28 Alexandra Terrace Exmouth Devon EX8 1BD

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022. The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 1 of the accounts. This report details the activities undertaken by the South West Grid for Learning (the Trust) team over the course of the year in the delivery of the key objectives contained within the business plan.

SWGfL Online Safety and Security activities continued to progress with a number of highlights during the year



Acted on behalf of the United Nations ITU to support the production of Child Online Protection guidelines alongside support for the Government of North Macedonia

360 degree safe passed 14,400 registered schools, with the creation and publication of the Schools Online Safety Index, grouping and ranking schools online safety provision and performance by Local Authority area..

Safer Internet Day 2022 reached 54% of UK children and 32% of parents with over 3,400 supporting organisations.

Recognising the leading role SWGfL has with supporting adult harms, it launched StopNCII.org in December 2021; a platform that allows any victim (who is being threatened that their intimate images would be shared on social media), anywhere in the world, to 'hash' their own image to prevent that being shared on Facebook or Instagram. A world first and ground breaking development



January 2022 saw the creation of the Harmful Sexual Behaviour Support Service that supports anyone working with children across England in responding to incidents of child sexual abuse or sexual harassment. Prompted by EveryonesInvited and the Ofsted review of sexual abuse in schools, the support service is funded by the Home Office and available Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm.

The Trust continued to support delivery of the Barefoot Computing programme, adapting new automated processes for teachers to book onto 3 different workshops, these include Computational Thinking, Programming and our new workshop Early Years. 302 workshops (all online) were delivered in the 21/22 financial year, and over 21,000 teachers have either attended an online workshop or downloaded a resource.

91% of teachers rated these online workshops as 'Good' or 'Very Good', 92% stated that they intend to use the Barefoot resources within their classes and 86% of teachers said they have an increase of understanding in the subject.

The programme has impacted over 3 million teachers and pupils.

## Online Safety Services

The online safety landscape continues to be redrawn, influenced by the emergence from Covid -19 restrictions, but primarily the development of the UK Online Safety Bill. For many years the UK Government has had a commitment to 'make the UK the safest place to go online'. The Online Safety Bill draft was published outlining the proposed regulations and obligations that also received scrutiny via consultation and DCMS select committee. SWGfL has been active in continuing to submit evidence at every stage, contributing its experience and information.

At the start of the year, and during the year, Covid-19 restrictions were still evident and as in the previous year during these challenging times, people turned to charities for help and support and this continued to happen. SWGfL continued to face sustained demand across all its online safety services, information and support. To articulate this demand

- Helpline Caseload significantly rose
  - Revenge Porn Helpline cases continued to increase, rising to 4,455 compared to 3,834 during the previous 12 months
  - Professionals Online Safety Helpline experienced a 237% increase in cases, rising to 2,366 cases over the 12 months.
  - The helpline saw an increase of 237% Report Harmful Content also managed more cases, with 1,084 reports received compared to 741 during the previous 12 months
- Website visitors rose by 113% from 266,836 compared to 124,838 in the previous 12 months

During this period, the Trust developed specific services and campaigns including

the creation of an entirely new [Harmful Sexual Behaviour Support Service](#), funded by the Home Office and supported by Department for Education, the support service was launched in January 2022, supporting anyone working with children across England with any form of Harmful Sexual Behaviour.

The development, in partnership with Meta, of [Stop Non-Consensual Intimate Image Abuse - StopNCII.org](#) that allows any adult who is a victim of non consensual intimate image abuse, anywhere in the world to create 'hashes' of their intimate images that will prevent these from being uploaded to Facebook and Instagram (initially). This development removes the threat to share that many victims suffer from, restoring control in their hands.



## Online Safety Tools and services

A number of the Trust's award winning online safety tools, apps, services and resources were made available to schools and organisations on a trial basis to support their efforts in safeguarding their children online whilst the majority of them were learning at home, specifically Whisper® and Alerts

SWGfL delivered a total of 124 training sessions to a total of 3,837 children, 2,844 staff and 926 parents

## 360 degree safe

The Welsh Government continue to be engaged with SWGfL in providing 360 safe Cymru and 360digi for Welsh schools. The piloting of digi continues into Summer 2022 and a content review for 360 safe Cymru is anticipated to commence in the Autumn of 2022.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Online Safety Mark Awards have also progressed bringing the current total to over 400 schools accredited; the most recent being the British School in Paris in June 2022, our first overseas remote accreditation.

#### ProjectEVOLVE

This resource has seen significant development over the last year with funding from our partners Nominet and the UK Safer Internet Centre. Since introducing the registration mechanism in November 2020, the service currently has 9,615 schools (1 in 3 UK schools) registered and a user base of 35,000 active users. Since September 2021, there have been 450,000 Knowledge Map assessments building a unique national dataset of children's digital competency. This was evaluated in our first national report authored and published by Professor Andy Phippen.

ProjectEVOLVE formed its first content partnership with the BBC and now curates BBC OWNIT content within the tool whilst the BBC reciprocates through its services. It is directly referenced in DfE Keeping Children Safe in Education statutory guidance and the DCMS Media Literacy advice and guidance.

March 2022 ProjectEVOLVE won the [Digital Leaders Impact Award](#) for best educational innovation against a field of strong contenders.

This flagship service remains a seminal component of the UK Safer Internet Centre offering over the next three years.

#### Assisted Monitoring Service

The Assisted Monitoring Service (AMS), designed to assist schools with the monitoring of user activity within their setting and detect and advise on any serious issues, has become an integral part of the Trust's work during the last 12 months, with a large UK MAT being onboarded, as well as other individual sites

This work is going very well with some excellent feedback received.

#### Hamful Sexual Behaviour Support Service



In response to the launch of 'Everyones invited' and subsequent [Ofsted review of sexual abuse in school and colleges](#), the South West Grid for Learning were success in a joint bid alongside the Marie collins foundation to lauch the Harmful Sexual Behaviour service, funded by the home office. This launched on the 10th of January with the aim to support childrens professionals with the issue of harmful sexual behavior, both on and offline.

#### Online Resources

The Trust also continues to directly support a small range of online learning resources, including Swiggle, a search engine aimed at Key Stage 2 learners (aged 7-11). Swiggle provides a safer searching platform for young users, and incorporates a range of innovative features. It is free to use, and free of advertising.



## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

#### Strategic Work

SWGfL has continued to support Government departments including Department for Education; Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport; Home Office; as well as the Scottish and Welsh Governments. This support spanned both policy and awareness activities. SWGfL continues to organise and support the safeguarding teams across the four national governments, enabling sharing and collaboration of strategy and policy.

SWGfL continued its support of the United Nations International Telecommunications Union (ITU) in their Child Online Protection Initiative. This involved acting on behalf of the ITU, to support the Government of North Macedonia in reviewing child online protection across the country and drafting a report that includes proposed recommendations for their Government to consider and adopt.

SWGfL was invited to become a member of the World Economic Forum, Global Coalition on Digital Safety which it was delighted to accept and participate.

The relationship with Ofsted continues to be important and continued to provide online safety specialist training to Ofsted and completed a series of training webinars.

#### UK Safer Internet Centre



SWGfL has been a proud partner in the UK Safer Internet Centre, alongside IWF and Childnet, since 2011. The UK Safer Internet Centre activities have spanned six phases and been co-funded by the EU. Following Brexit, this funding came to an end in January 2022. Due to the impact and value of a decade of work, significant efforts were invested in exploring future funding sources and in August, Nominet agreed to continue the funding for UK Safer Internet Centre activities through to 2025.

For SWGfL, this involves operating the Professionals Online Safety Helpline, Revenge Porn Helpline and ReportHarmfulContent platform as well as delivering resources, content and training. Its Online Safety Live programme saw 39 briefing sessions, welcoming 3,778 delegates with 98% 'feeling better equipped to protect children users and their organisation'. This brings the total of briefing events to 533 since 2013 and the delegates totalling 27,817; the largest online safety professional development programme in the UK.



The important definitions of 'appropriate filtering' and appropriate monitoring', first published in 2016, received an update in 2020 together with refined responses from many of the filtering and monitoring providers operating across the UK.

#### Revenge Porn Helpline

The significant rise in cases reported to the Revenge Porn Helpline continued in 2021/22, seeing a total of 4,455 cases up from 3,834 (17%). While it is hard to identify the reasons behind the continued rise, it seems likely that the behaviours that proliferated under Covid19 restrictions remained widespread, while awareness of the issue of intimate image abuse and the availability of help and support became more widely known. The Helpline also removed approximately 62,000 images bringing the lifetime total removal figure of the Helpline to 260,000 with a 90% success rate. Recognising the significant continuing workload, the Home Office extended the financial support given to the Helpline increasing capacity from 3.8 FTE to 5.5 FTE.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

The Revenge Porn Helpline became part of the UK Safer Internet Centre activities in January 2022.

In June 2021, we started a project funded by Comic Relief's Tech4Good fund with Report Harmful Content to build a chatbot that would sit across both services to provide information and signposting out of hours and for those groups to whom we are unable to offer direct support, eg non UK, under 18s etc. The chatbot launched in February 2022 and has been accessed over 1,500 times.

In December 2021, we launched our new platform, StopNCII.org. Developed in partnership with Meta, StopNCII.org represents a sea-change in the way non-consensual intimate images are protected from resharing. The platform allows people to create unique digital fingerprints (known as 'hashes') of their own intimate images and share the hashes with a central bank hosted by SWGfL. The hashes are then shared with participating platforms to pre-emptively block them from being uploaded. Current participating platforms are Facebook and Instagram but we are engaged in a number of ongoing negotiations with multiple platforms about joining the project across social media and the adult industry.

#### Professionals Online Safety Helpline

The Professionals Online Safety Helpline saw an increase of 237% in cases compared to the previous financial year, managing 2,366 cases, across 5,456 contacts. This increase was due largely to a trend of accounts being created on TikTok, which affected the online reputation of schools and colleges and presented additional issues such as cyber-bullying and harassment. The Professionals Online Safety Helpline became the preferred reporting route to TikTok and gained national attention thanks to joint work from TikTok and ASCL.



#### Report Harmful Content



Launched in December 2019, Report Harmful Content (RHC) supports people experiencing legal but harmful online content, providing guidance about how to report content and impartial dispute resolution where correct reports have been made to 26 different industry platforms. The numbers of reports received during the 21/22 financial year have increased again from 741 in 20/21 to 1,084 in 21/22 (46% rise). Whilst it's difficult to determine the exact reasoning behind report numbers rising, we can, in part, attribute this to awareness raising of the service and believe it's likely that harmful behaviours identified during the pandemic have continued.

The services second annual report, [Through These Walls](#) was released in June 21 analysing and identifying common thematic trends including a cluster of domestic abuse, coercive control and harassment issues disproportionately affecting women; A 255% rise in reports with a wider issue of hate-speech; Young males actively searching for harmful content and reporting it.

In October 2021, we launched the [Report Harmful Content Button](#) to enable organisations across the UK to better equip their users to report harm online. The button itself can be downloaded and embedded onto any website, providing a direct click through to the reporting pages of the RHC website. We ran a campaign to promote the resource to secondary schools to help increase knowledge and empower whole school communities, but in particular children and young people, to take action when they experience or witness harm online. Since launch, reporting pages on the RHC website have been accessed via buttons embedded on websites up and down the UK 5,996 times.

Online safety continues to attract a high priority in the media and politics. Following pre-legislative scrutiny by the joint committee and an advisory report released in December 2021, we saw the publication, by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport and Home Office, of the Online Safety Bill in March 2022. UK Safer Internet Centre was widely referenced in the strategy and continues

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

to actively engage with government, having met and briefed a number of Ministers over the last twelve months.

#### Partnership and Engagement

Strong growth continued with SWGfL Partnerships and Engagement. While 2020-21 was a record breaking year, SWGfL has seen growth year on year and continued to do so in 2021-22. In the past 12 months SWGfL increased the volume of content it published; people it reached, as well as the number of partnerships. The number of people visiting the SWGfL website is still on the rise compared to previous years. In the year, SWGfL added further SEO capability alongside additional social media management capacity.

SWGfL invested effort in its strong partnerships with the world's biggest tech companies and included Meta; our *Online safety day* event organised and presented in September 2021, with plans on extending for 2022 as are other cooperation such as the launch of StopNCII.

TikTok; organising special events, further solidifying our role as a trusted flagger and even gaining additional financial support for our POSH helpline service.

Bitdefender; with the first Cybersecurity partnership to extend new tools, offerings, services, events, research and training.

Further partnerships have been developed with non commercial charity partnerships, for example with special educational needs providers as well as children's homes all to develop new and better policy, standards and practice around child online protection.

International partnerships were extended through the work of UN, ITU, Insafe, Inhope, Weprotect, EU commission and ENISA.

Audience engagement activity resulted in a positive position with the particular development of the SWGfL Youtube and Podcast channels. SWGfL newsletters and outgoing email communications both experienced a significant rise in subscribers.

All SWGfL social media profiles witnessed an increase in reach and impact with notable success with a new LinkedIn profile as well as awareness of the array of SWGfL tools and services.

Google ads and our Google grant is still seeing full utilisation and traffic through our google ads represents 14% of all our total traffic with 194,379 visits to the website.

SWGfL increased its capacity to engage with traditional media and resulted in a significant rise in published articles.

A notable success has been the awareness and engagement of users with ProjectEVOLVE with registrations and utilisation far exceeding expectations

#### Education Services

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Following the introduction of the Computing curriculum in England in 2014, teachers continue to struggle with confidence in this subject area, particularly with coding and programming. There continues to be a huge appetite for support in these areas.

#### Barefoot Computing

The Trust's responsibility is to manage the delivery of the Barefoot workshops in schools, support the smaller group of volunteers, assist in resource branding/creation and website amendments. In June 2021 BT announced they would no longer be funding the project which meant a reduction in the team. BCS decided to fund the project, to allow for a smaller team to shape the new workshop model, moving from manually coordinating face to face workshops to an online automated model, where teachers all over the UK could join at a time that suited. We trained a small pot of over 50 volunteers to deliver our 3 online Computational Thinking, Programming and our new Early years workshops, which launched in January 2022. We delivered over 302 workshops in the 21/22 financial year, 107 of these were via the new model which launched in October 2021. All workshops combined continue to receive a great reception from teachers (91% of teachers rated the workshops as 'Good' or 'Very Good', 92% stated that they intend to use the Barefoot resources within their classes and 86% of teachers said they have an increase of understanding in the subject).



At the end of March the Early years workshop had been delivered 13 times, each session was fully booked online, and had a total of 356 teachers attend these workshops, we had to put on more of these workshops to accommodate the interest from teachers. The Programming and Computational Thinking workshop continues to be very popular.

Alongside the delivery of workshops, this year the Trust has also focused on:

- Created and helped launch 4 additional Early years resources - in total the early years resources have been downloaded over 5100 times.
- Helped with creation of the Early years workshop and launched in January 2022
- Helped create 5 new lesson resources -
  - Be Cyber Smart (Launched April 21 - downloaded 7830 times)
  - Climate Champions - (Launched September - downloaded 2363 times)
  - Let's Chatterbox (Launched February - downloaded 1023 times)
  - Digital Doodle (Launched February - downloaded 1310 times)
  - Barefoot meets micro:bit (Launched March - downloaded 591 times)
- Helped create the advocate section of the website, where anyone can join and download the Barefoot social media resources and share amongst their own networks.
- Launched a workshop automation tool to reduce the manual requirement. This sits alongside a shift from workshops delivered to 'whole schools' to 'self-service' workshops that teachers can book onto as individuals. Working alongside the web agency who will build this.
- Ciena contributed some funding towards the project in January 2022, their aim is to reach all schools in NI with Barefoot,, we are supporting Ciena and BCS in this.

#### National College of Computing in Education (NCCE)

We now work alongside BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT, and CAS (Computing at School) to grow the Barefoot project even further. Barefoot workshop and download data continues to feed into the CAS KPIs for the NCCE, providing a significant contribution.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

#### Schools Internet Service

Alongside our partnership with RM Education we continue to provide excellent customer service, quality and value for money with SIS' range of Core Services. The safety and security of students and establishments within Local Authorities who are working with and supporting young people remains at the forefront of all the work we do.

Schools continue to be investing in more bandwidth due to increased numbers of mobile devices,, particularly in the past 2 years. Continued availability of local government grants, particularly in more rural areas, has enabled even more schools to benefit from upgrades to brand new technologies at excellent prices.

Regular Service Reviews have continued RM Education, maintaining a solid relationship as well as them demonstrating the continued provision of a stable, reliable and safe service,

A huge amount of work has gone into the migration of SIS customers to a direct relationship with RM Education where contracts, invoicing and customer service will now be handled by RM Education. This will be fully completed by April 2023.

#### Future Plans

The Trust's aims continue to be ensuring that schools are given the best possible service and that investment is made to take advantage of new developments and opportunities that benefit schools.

Work continues on the ongoing migration of SIS to direct relationships with RM with the key aspects of the service changing to include:

- Contractual arrangements: after migration, school contracts will be directly with RM, rather than with the Trust;
- Invoicing processes: rather than being invoiced for the SIS Core Service by the Trust and for Optional Services by RM, schools will be invoiced for both by RM.
- Customer Services: whilst RM have always provided the technical elements of SIS (including the Service Desk), the Trust has undertaken the customer services and account management. After migration, RM will undertake these elements.
- Safety and security: the filtering, firewall and other technical safety and security features offered will remain. The Trust continues to offer an exciting new range of security and data protection products, services, tools and resources.

#### Information Security and Data Protection Services

##### Department for Education CyberSecure tool

SWGfL remains committed to improving cyber and information security in UK schools, recognising the potential impact cyber attack can have on education. The DfE's Cyber Secure tool was completed and delivered to client satisfaction in January 2022. The tool has not yet been released for general use owing to a change of team at the DfE. SWGfL is engaging with the new team to identify and overcome any hurdles that may exist in order to achieve a release of the tool and the supportive content within it.

##### Security product range

The partnership between SWGfL and Bitdefender grew during 2021, seeing the first Cyber Secure Schools by SWGfL and supported by Bitdefender. This was further enhanced by research activity into UK schools in partnership between SWGfL, iCSS at the University of Kent and Bitdefender, the

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

outcomes of which are scheduled for release in Summer 2022. Sales of Bitdefender products have grown, surpassing 2,000 licences in 2021-2022.

Alongside this SWGfL continues to provide Sophos products to schools in the South-West. This was a tumultuous year behind the scenes with Sophos discontinuing a key product at short notice and a significant period of frustrating delay in achieving a satisfactory outcome. The positive outcome took 8 months to achieve, but is now in place.

Despite this, endpoint protection sales were at their highest for the 3-year renewal period, seeing 31,461 licences sold versus the previous high for this 3-year cycle of 30,526. This is below average, but is to be expected given the previous low licence volumes for this renewal cycle. Gross endpoint licence sales 2021-2022 was £132,248.

A decision was made to hold any further contractual discussions whilst the Sophos discontinuation drew the attention of SWGfL staff, instead focusing on consolidation of existing products. SWGfL has begun the opening of discussions with Phoenix to discuss a possible sales role for Phoenix's new education sales team. There's an opportunity to grow sales of security products by exploring an external sales team making use of SWGfL's sales database to increase sales and increase retention.

A trial Cyber Security Audit was undertaken at an English Academy, following their request. This was received well, demonstrated a potential for this approach and successfully tested the planned process for the audits. Additional work is being commissioned from SWGfL by a Local Authority who wish to establish a baseline cyber and information security knowledge and understanding of schools in their area.

The work to develop SWGfL's security posture has continued. Whilst no substantive funding has materialised, SWGfL nevertheless undertook an ISO 27001 gap analysis exercise. This highlighted a wide range of areas for improvement. Subsequently, following a period of reflection, investigation and conversation, it was agreed that ISO 27001 was not the correct framework for SWGfL. Many of the gaps highlighted by the analysis will be filled with improved policy and process, particularly as SWGfL progresses through CyberEssentials, CyberEssentials Plus and on towards IASME Governance, all of which will demonstrate stronger and hardened systems. This process will require substantial investment in time and money, including penetration testing and external vulnerability testing and consultancy. Staff continue to receive regular information security training.

### Customer Experience and Engagement

Our digital strategy has taken another step forward this year, with a view to making the organisation more data driven, enabling engagement with our customers as well as our internal processes to be more efficient. We worked hard to connect all our data sources to a central CRM system (SalesForce), enabling us to integrate data at an organisational level

SWGfL continues to deliver software platforms and solutions to external organisations, and have this year delivered 3 new Self-Review Pro platforms (Computing Quality Framework - BCS, Cyber Secure - DfE, 360digi Cymru - Welsh Gov). All other platforms delivered in previous years continue to be developed and maintained.

A highlight of this year's development is the Chatbot software that was developed with funding from Comic Relief. "Reiya" currently resides on both the Report Harmful Content and Revenge Porn Helpline websites providing 24/7 frontline support to survivors to guide them to the resources they need. Not only does it reduce the workload of practitioners, who are freed up to work on more complex/serious cases, it also provides valuable statistical data on the demographics and range of issues that people are facing, enabling trends to be spotted and the service to be tailored to current needs.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

## Structure, Governance and Management

### Legal Status

The South West Grid for Learning Trust was incorporated on 11 October 2005 as a company limited by guarantee and is governed through the Memorandum & Articles of Association. The Trust commenced its activities on 1 December 2006 after the completion of a successful transfer from the previous consortium and was successfully registered as a charity with the Charity Commission in 2006. On the 19th October 2021, SWGfL became a registered charity in Scotland. The Trustees consider it appropriate to prepare accounts in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019, the Companies Act 2006 and Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005.

### Organisation Structure

The Trustee Board is in place to govern and steer the work of the Trust. Representation on the Board has been considered throughout the year alongside the Trust's constitution. The Finance and Audit Sub-Committee continues to effectively support the full Trustee Board in reviewing and scrutinising financial performance and operations.

The Chief Executive Officer continues to provide overall leadership and direction for the charity, alongside the Senior Management Team through the creation and embedding of a clear long term strategy.

The Trust holds an annual general meeting in addition to other board meetings. Not more than 15 months elapses between the date of one annual general meeting of The Trust and that of the next.

### Objectives

The strategic plan clearly sets out the key objectives and actions identified to be undertaken by the team over the coming years. Building on the current successes is a central feature of the plan, along with the aim to continue to advance education, safety and security through the services offered to schools and the wider learning community.

The Trust is a charity dedicated to empowering the safe and secure use of technology through innovative services, tools, content and policy, nationally and globally. The Trust's vision is for everyone to be able to benefit from technology, free from harm.

The key objectives for the year ahead are:

1. To continue to provide education and training, alongside raising public awareness of such services available;
2. Build on the innovative services, tools and products portfolio provided;
3. Conduct and publish leading edge research into online threats and harms;
4. Work in partnership and collaborate with stakeholders nationally and internationally

The delivery of services that are beneficial to a wide range of users, organisations, groups, individuals and stakeholders, in order to generate revenue and meet charitable objectives, will continue to drive and shape these objectives for the future.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

#### **Risk Management**

The Trust has implemented and continues to review the risk management processes in place. In the context of the changing landscape and market, the Trust has identified that medium to long term risks require greater analysis and mitigation and consequently a suitable methodology has been put in place.

#### **National and International Representation**

The Trust also continues to be both represented and influential at national level, working with various Government Departments as well as attending the National Education Network (NEN) Managers group, and chairing the NEN Safeguarding group.

SWGfL continues its work with the United Nations International Telecommunications Union (ITU) in their Child Online Protection Initiative as well as a member of the ENISA Awareness Advisory Board and the World Economic Forum, Global Coalition on Digital Safety.

#### **How Activities Deliver Public Benefit**

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty in section 17(5) of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charities Commission.

The overriding vision and purpose of the Trust is 'the advancement of education and/or the advancement of health and the saving of lives, in each case for solely charitable purposes by any means through or otherwise relating to the effective and/or safe use of information and communication technologies (including but not limited to the provision of broadband connectivity; e-Learning facilities; education materials; information and knowhow on the effective use of information and communication technologies by educational establishments; information and knowhow relating to e-Safety issues and relating to information and communication technologies.'

In delivering that vision, the Trust has continued throughout the 2021/22 financial year to:

- Deliver on its Operational Services & Contractual Obligations
- Deliver on its SWGfL / Edtesa Product & Service Portfolio
- Improve the reputation and visibility of SWGfL site & Edtesa

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

#### Financial Review

The finance systems have continued to evolve over the year and processes and procedures in relation to financial accounting in various areas were enhanced to improve the quality of financial processing.

This includes the upgrading of the Trust finance system which is now in place, plus continued efforts to improve internal reporting on key factors (including debtors and cash flow forecasting) have resulted in improved business processes.

#### Financial Results

The results for the year and the Trust financial position at the end of the year are shown in the attached financial statements which show that as at 31 March 2022 the Trust had net assets of £1,640,324.

The major part of the Trust's income is still derived from Schools Internet Services provided to Local Authorities and directly to schools. In managing its finances, the Trust aims to achieve best value in all areas of expenditure and works hard to minimise its operational costs and maximise its income from alternative services in order to ensure best value for schools.

An appropriate expenditure and procurement policy is in place to ensure future expenditure continues to represent value, and this policy will be reviewed and updated as required.

#### Reserves Policy

The Trust seeks to maintain a level of reserves which is consistent with its responsibilities and liabilities as an employer and to provide a resource to manage future risk in regard to changes in the operating environment.

In order to protect long term sustainability, the Trust also considers any provision required to enable it to cover working capital demands and other significant expenditure so that it can continue to deliver its charitable objectives.

The Trustees assess the appropriateness of this reserves policy on a regular basis to ensure that changes to the operating environment and their impact are incorporated into the reserves so that the Trust can continue to provide its charitable objectives for the future. Previously, in order to meet this reserve objective, a fund of £1 million to £1.2 million has been calculated as sufficient. The attached financial statements show an unrestricted reserve of £1,640,324 which is considered to be reasonable and consistent with the Trust's objectives and reserves policy.

#### Investment Policy

Funds held by the Trust are held with banks in short term deposits which offer reasonable rates of interest and which comply with the credit rating policy adopted by the Trustees.

#### Financial Risk Management Objectives and Policies

The charity's principal financial instruments comprise the bank balance, trade creditors, deferred income and trade debtors. The main purpose of these instruments is to raise funds for the charity's charitable objectives.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

#### Price Risk, Credit Risk, Liquidity Risk and Cash Flow Risk

Funding received in foreign currencies is subject to a price risk management policy through the use of FOREX mechanisms.

Trade debtors are managed in respect of credit and cash flow by policies concerning the credit offered to customers and the regular monitoring of amounts outstanding for both time and credit limits.

Trade creditor liquidity risk is managed by ensuring that sufficient funds are available to meet amounts due.

As a responsible employer the Trust keeps its pension obligations and liabilities under review. During the year 2012 / 2013 the Trust took the reluctant but necessary step of closing membership of the Avon Local Government Pension Scheme to new members in order to reduce its future exposure to the potential of increased and increasing pension deficits. The actuarial valuation has had a significant impact on the Trust's balance sheet and whilst there has been minimal change to the deficit recovery plan agreed previously, this remains a significant risk. An alternative money purchase pension scheme has been implemented for new employees with employer contributions capped at 7.5%. This scheme is understood to be compliant with auto enrolment requirements.

#### Conclusions

Over the last twelve months the Trust has continued to deliver its charitable objectives in an environment of continued pressure on local authorities, schools and the wider public sector.

Ongoing successes with projects regionally, nationally and internationally demonstrate the skill and expertise of the team.

The Trust has continued to drive improvements within each of the business units, culminating in good customer service as well as the introduction of new products and services and in contractual service delivery.

The Trust has delivered good financial performance for the year, capitalising on new opportunities as well as existing charity activity to maintain positive levels of income whilst controlling expenditure and improving the processes for managing the key financial aspects of the operation of the Trust, resulting in a healthy balance sheet.

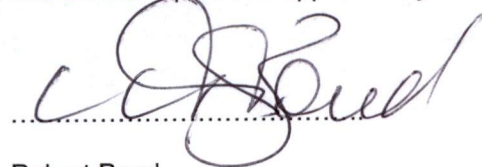
The control over the running costs reflects an ongoing need to ensure all services delivered by the Trust are highly cost effective, but has also increased pressures and demands on the team.

It is pleasing to note that, despite these pressures, the team have remained focussed, committed and motivated to ensure the continued success of the Trust. They are to be congratulated for their efforts.

#### Auditors

A resolution proposing that Thompson Jenner LLP be reappointed as auditors of the charity will be put to the Annual General Meeting.

The annual report was approved by the Board on 27 September 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



Robert Bond  
Company Secretary and Trustee

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of South West Grid for Learning Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

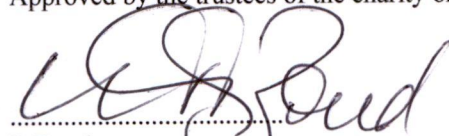
- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed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

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

#### **Disclosure of information to auditor**

Each trustee has taken steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information. The trustees confirm that there is no relevant information that they know of and of which they know the auditor is unaware.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 27 September 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



R Bond  
Company Secretary and Trustee

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of South West Grid for Learning Trust

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of South West Grid for Learning Trust (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2022, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, 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 United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2022 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 Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity 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 charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the original financial statements were 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 auditor's report 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 there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of South West Grid for Learning Trust

#### Opinion 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 for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

#### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the trustees report.

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.

#### Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities [set out on page 12], the trustees 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 charity'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 charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### Auditor's 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 an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

#### The extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of South West Grid for Learning Trust

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with directors and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company, including the Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011, taxation legislation, data protection, anti-bribery, employment, environmental, fire safety, Licensing Act 2003 and health and safety legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management, reviewing licenses, certificates and relevant correspondence including the inspection of legal correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims; and
- reviewing correspondence with HMRC, relevant regulators and the company's legal advisors.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

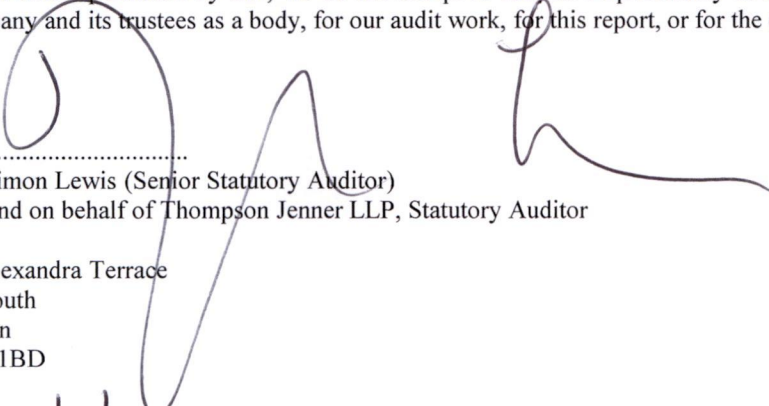
A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of South West Grid for Learning Trust

#### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, 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 charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's 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 its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

  
.....  
Mr Simon Lewis (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
For and on behalf of Thompson Jenner LLP, Statutory Auditor

LLP

28 Alexandra Terrace  
Exmouth  
Devon  
EX8 1BD

Date: 13/12/22

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2022 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>				
Charitable activities	3	2,534,704	1,047,037	3,581,741
Investment income	4	127	-	127
Total income		<u>2,534,831</u>	<u>1,047,037</u>	<u>3,581,868</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Charitable activities	5	<u>(2,021,109)</u>	<u>(1,195,937)</u>	<u>(3,217,046)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(2,021,109)</u>	<u>(1,195,937)</u>	<u>(3,217,046)</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		513,722	(148,900)	364,822
Transfers between funds		(148,900)	148,900	-
<b>Other recognised gains and losses</b>				
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes		<u>315,000</u>	-	<u>315,000</u>
Net movement in funds		679,822	-	679,822
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		<u>960,502</u>	-	<u>960,502</u>
Total funds carried forward	20	<u><u>1,640,324</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>1,640,324</u></u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2022 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

#### Comparative Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>				
Charitable activities	3	3,950,798	325,999	4,276,797
Investment income	4	<u>2,785</u>	-	<u>2,785</u>
Total income		<u>3,953,583</u>	<u>325,999</u>	<u>4,279,582</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Charitable activities	5	<u>(3,499,125)</u>	<u>(609,855)</u>	<u>(4,108,980)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(3,499,125)</u>	<u>(609,855)</u>	<u>(4,108,980)</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		454,458	(283,856)	170,602
Transfers between funds		(283,856)	283,856	-
<b>Other recognised gains and losses</b>				
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes		<u>(254,000)</u>	-	<u>(254,000)</u>
Net movement in funds		(83,398)	-	(83,398)
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		<u>1,043,900</u>	-	<u>1,043,900</u>
Total funds carried forward	20	<u><u>960,502</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>960,502</u></u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

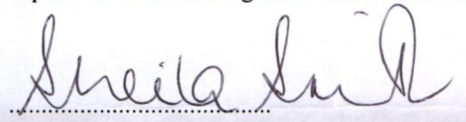
The funds breakdown for 2021 is shown in note 20.

**South West Grid for Learning Trust**

**(Registration number: 05589479)  
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2022**

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Intangible assets	12	5,775	8,949
Tangible assets	13	20,646	8,208
Investments	14	1	1
		<u>26,422</u>	<u>17,158</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Stocks	15	16,354	106,590
Debtors	16	773,116	1,046,245
Cash at bank and in hand		3,211,438	1,783,892
		4,000,908	2,936,727
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	17	<u>(1,313,006)</u>	<u>(622,383)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>2,687,902</u>	<u>2,314,344</u>
<b>Net assets excluding pension liability</b>		2,714,324	2,331,502
<b>Pension scheme liability</b>	19	<u>(1,074,000)</u>	<u>(1,371,000)</u>
<b>Net assets including pension liability</b>		<u>1,640,324</u>	<u>960,502</u>
<b>Funds of the charity:</b>			
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>			
Unrestricted		<u>1,640,324</u>	<u>960,502</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	20	<u>1,640,324</u>	<u>960,502</u>

The financial statements on pages 20 to 44 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 27 September 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

  
 .....  
 S Smith  
 Trustee

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net cash income/(expenditure)		679,822	(83,398)
<b>Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items</b>			
Depreciation		9,240	6,768
Amortisation		3,174	2,802
Investment income	4	<u>(127)</u>	<u>(2,785)</u>
		692,109	(76,613)
<b>Working capital adjustments</b>			
Decrease in stocks	15	90,236	16,488
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	16	273,129	(119,959)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	17	469,884	(755,303)
Increase/(decrease) in retirement benefit obligation net of actuarial changes	19	(297,000)	264,000
Increase/(decrease) in deferred income		<u>220,739</u>	<u>(68,265)</u>
Net cash flows from operating activities		<u>1,449,097</u>	<u>(739,652)</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Interest receivable and similar income	4	127	2,785
Purchase of intangible fixed assets	12	-	(2,228)
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	13	<u>(21,678)</u>	<u>(3,263)</u>
Net cash flows from investing activities		<u>(21,551)</u>	<u>(2,706)</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		1,427,546	(742,358)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		<u>1,783,892</u>	<u>2,526,250</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March		<u>3,211,438</u>	<u>1,783,892</u>

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

#### 1 Charity status

The charity is a charity limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

Belvedere House  
Woodwater Park  
Pynes Hill  
Exeter  
EX2 5WS

#### 2 Accounting policies

##### Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

##### Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). They also comply with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

##### Basis of preparation

South West Grid for Learning Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

##### Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

##### Exemption from preparing group accounts

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption in The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 from the requirement to prepare consolidated financial statements, on the grounds that the inclusion of the subsidiary undertaking is not material for the purposes of giving a true and fair view.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

#### **Income and endowments**

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

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition is met.

#### *Deferred income*

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which, it has been received. Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the Charity has unconditional entitlement.
- The income received from charitable activities relates to a future period

#### *Investment income*

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

#### **Expenditure**

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

#### *Charitable activities*

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

#### Support costs

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on the following basis which are an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity.

	2022	2021
E - Safety	42%	40%
UK Safer Internet Centre	9%	11%
Barefoot	21%	21%
Licencing	5%	5%
Schools Internet Service	23%	23%

#### Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

#### Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

#### Intangible assets

Intangible assets are stated in the Balance Sheet at cost less accumulated amortisation and impairment. They are amortised on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives.

#### Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £250.00 or more are initially recorded at cost.

#### Amortisation

Amortisation is provided on intangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Amortisation method and rate
Computer software	20% Straight line basis

#### Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Fixtures and fittings	33% Straight line basis

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

#### **Business combinations**

Business combinations are accounted for under the purchase method. Where necessary, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring the accounting policies used into line with those used by the charity. All intra-group transactions, balances, income and expenses are eliminated on consolidation. In accordance with Section 35 of FRS 102, Section 19 of FRS 102 has not been applied in these financial statements in respect of business combinations effected prior to the date of transition.

#### **Stock**

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell, after due regard for obsolete and slow moving stocks. Cost is determined using the first-in, first-out (FIFO).

#### **Trade debtors**

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

#### **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

#### **Trade creditors**

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### **Foreign exchange**

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are reported at the rates of exchange prevailing at that date.

Other exchange differences are recognised in the statement of financial activities in the period in which they arise except for:

- 1) exchange differences on transactions entered into to hedge certain foreign currency risks (see above);
- 2) exchange differences arising on gains or losses on non-monetary items which are recognised in other comprehensive income.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

#### **Fund structure**

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees's discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

#### **Hire purchase and finance leases**

Leases in which substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Rentals payable under operating leases are charged in the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

#### **Pensions and other post retirement obligations**

The charity operates a defined benefit pension scheme. This scheme is now closed to new members as a defined benefit contribution scheme has been implemented for new members. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

Current service costs, past service costs and gains and losses on settlements and curtailments are charged to appropriate resources expended categories in the statement of financial activities. Past service costs are recognised over the vesting period or immediately if the benefits have vested. When a settlement (eliminating all obligations for benefits already accrued) or a curtailment (reducing future obligations as a result of a material reduction in the scheme membership or a reduction in future entitlement) occurs, the obligation and related plan assets are remeasured using current actuarial assumptions and the resultant gain or loss is recognised in the statement of financial activities during the period in which the settlement or curtailment occurs.

The interest cost and the expected return on assets are shown as a net amount as other finance costs or income. Net pension finance costs are allocated to appropriate resources expended categories in the statement of financial activities. Net pension finance income is recognised as an incoming resource in the statement of financial activities. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately as other recognised gains and losses in the statement of financial activities.

Pension scheme assets are valued at fair value at the balance sheet date. Fair value is based on market price information and in the case of quoted securities is the published bid price. Pension scheme liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method and are discounted to their present value using a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent currency and term to the scheme liabilities. The pension scheme deficit is recognised in full on the balance sheet.

The charity operates a defined contribution pension plan. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the company has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as employee benefit expense when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

#### Financial instruments

##### *Classification*

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 price and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

#### 3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
E-Safety	772,107	557,326	1,329,433	759,730
UK Safer Internet Centre	-	489,711	489,711	322,717
SELMA	-	-	-	3,282
Barefoot	193,992	-	193,992	380,054
Licencing	122,300	-	122,300	220,854
Schools Internet Service	1,446,305	-	1,446,305	2,590,160
	<u>2,534,704</u>	<u>1,047,037</u>	<u>3,581,741</u>	<u>4,276,797</u>

The prior year's total income from charitable activities of £4,276,797 included unrestricted funds of £3,950,798 and restricted funds of £325,999.

#### 4 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	<u>127</u>	<u>127</u>	<u>2,785</u>

The prior year's total investment income of £2,785 was unrestricted.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

#### 5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Activity undertaken directly £	Activity support costs £	2022 £	2021 £
E-Safety	685,377	155,026	840,403	489,180
UK Safer Internet Centre	604,052	34,559	638,611	609,855
Barefoot	153,978	78,064	232,042	316,338
Licencing	98,073	18,587	116,660	210,424
Schools Internet Service	<u>1,303,831</u>	<u>85,499</u>	<u>1,389,330</u>	<u>2,483,183</u>
	<u>2,845,311</u>	<u>371,735</u>	<u>3,217,046</u>	<u>4,108,980</u>

The prior years total expenditure of £4,108,980 included expenditure attributable directly to activities undertaken of £3,717,073 and support costs of £391,907.

Included in the expenditure analysed above are governance costs of £15,080 (2021 - £14,386) which relate directly to charitable activities. See note 6 for further details.

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
E-Safety	283,077	557,326	840,403	489,180
UK Safer Internet Centre	-	638,611	638,611	609,855
Barefoot	232,042	-	232,042	316,338
Licencing	116,660	-	116,660	210,424
Schools Internet Service	<u>1,389,330</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,389,330</u>	<u>2,483,183</u>
	<u>2,021,109</u>	<u>1,195,937</u>	<u>3,217,046</u>	<u>4,108,980</u>

The prior years total expenditure of £4,108,980 included expenditure attributable to unrestricted funds of £3,499,125 and £609,855 to restricted funds.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

#### 6 Analysis of governance and support costs

##### Charitable activities expenditure

	Unrestricted funds		Total 2022	Total 2021
	General	Restricted funds		
	£	£	£	£
Employment costs	166,158	17,057	183,215	217,587
Establishment costs	103,486	10,624	114,110	113,424
Legal and Professional	38,413	3,944	42,357	35,767
Travel and subsistence	335	35	370	898
Computer expenses	28,523	2,928	31,451	24,231
Advertising and promotion	204	21	225	-
Bad debt provision	7	-	7	-
	<u>337,126</u>	<u>34,609</u>	<u>371,735</u>	<u>391,907</u>

##### Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	General		
	£	£	£
Audit fees			
Audit of the financial statements	11,100	11,100	11,200
Other fees paid to auditors	3,980	3,980	3,186
	<u>15,080</u>	<u>15,080</u>	<u>14,386</u>

#### 7 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net incoming resources for the year include:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Operating leases - other assets	64,386	71,492
Audit fees	11,100	11,200
Other non-audit services	13,911	10,817
Depreciation of fixed assets	11,664	7,311
Amortisation of software	3,174	2,802
	<u>104,235</u>	<u>103,622</u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

#### 8 Trustees remuneration and expenses

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

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

#### 9 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Staff costs during the year were:</b>		
Wages and salaries	854,936	886,351
Social security costs	82,061	86,916
Pension costs	77,290	70,195
	1,014,287	1,043,462

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2022 No	2021 No
Administration	32	32

31 (2021 - 28) of the above employees participated in the Defined Contribution Pension Schemes.

1 (2021 - 3) of the above employees participated in the Defined Benefit Pension Schemes.

During the year, the charity made redundancy and/or termination payments which totalled £Nil (2021 - £21,437).

The termination payments were made in order to produce cost savings for the charity going forward. The savings are estimated to amount to £85,000 per annum.

The number of employees whose emoluments fell within the following bands was:

	2022 No	2021 No
£60,001 - £70,000	2	2

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £216,263 (2021 - £241,774).

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

#### 10 Auditors' remuneration

	2022 £	2021 £
Audit of the financial statements	<u>11,100</u>	<u>11,200</u>
<b>Other fees to auditors</b>		
All other non-audit services	<u>10,411</u>	<u>10,817</u>

#### 11 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

#### 12 Intangible fixed assets

	Software £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 April 2021	<u>15,868</u>	<u>15,868</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>15,868</u>	<u>15,868</u>
<b>Amortisation</b>		
At 1 April 2021	6,919	6,919
Charge for the year	<u>3,174</u>	<u>3,174</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>10,093</u>	<u>10,093</u>
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 March 2022	<u>5,775</u>	<u>5,775</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>8,949</u>	<u>8,949</u>

Amortisation of intangible fixed assets is included within expenditure on charitable activities.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

#### 13 Tangible fixed assets

	<b>Furniture and equipment £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 April 2021	115,085	115,085
Additions	<u>21,678</u>	<u>21,678</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>136,763</u>	<u>136,763</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 April 2021	106,877	106,877
Charge for the year	<u>9,240</u>	<u>9,240</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>116,117</u>	<u>116,117</u>
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 March 2022	<u>20,646</u>	<u>20,646</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>8,208</u>	<u>8,208</u>

#### 14 Fixed asset investments

	<b>2022 £</b>	<b>2021 £</b>
Shares in group undertakings and participating interests	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

#### Shares in group undertakings and participating interests

	<b>Subsidiary undertakings £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 April 2021	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 March 2022	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

#### Details of undertakings

Details of the investments in which the charity holds 20% or more of the nominal value of any class of share capital are as follows:

Undertaking	Holding	Proportion of voting rights and shares held	Principal activity
<b>Subsidiary undertakings</b>			
Edtesa Limited	Ordinary	100%	Dormant

#### Subsidiaries

The profit for the financial period of Edtesa Limited was £Nil (2021 - £Nil) and the aggregate amount of capital and reserves at the end of the period was £1 (2021 - £1).

#### 15 Stock

	2022 £	2021 £
Stocks	<u>16,354</u>	<u>106,590</u>

#### 16 Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	146,287	183,886
Prepayments	115,438	360,548
Accrued income	439,843	406,306
VAT recoverable	44,473	85,423
Other debtors	<u>27,075</u>	<u>10,082</u>
	<u>773,116</u>	<u>1,046,245</u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

#### 17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade creditors	475,014	32,513
Other creditors	165,178	150,731
Accruals	38,116	25,180
Deferred income	634,698	413,959
	1,313,006	622,383
	2022	2021
	£	£
Deferred income at 1 April 2021	413,959	482,224
Resources deferred in the period	388,715	180,421
Amounts released from previous periods	(167,976)	(248,686)
Deferred income at year end	634,698	413,959

#### 18 Obligations under leases and hire purchase contracts

##### Operating lease commitments

Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
<b>Land and buildings</b>		
Within one year	58,900	58,900
Between one and five years	9,817	68,717
	68,717	127,617
<b>Other</b>		
Within one year	7,330	-
Between one and five years	12,216	-
	19,546	-

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

#### 19 Pension and other schemes

##### Defined contribution pension scheme

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the Charity to the scheme and amounted to £50,000 (2021 - £49,000).

Contributions totalling £9,000 (2021 - £9,000) were payable to the scheme at the end of the year and are included in creditors.

The defined contribution pension scheme liability and expense was allocated between charitable activities and restricted and unrestricted funds based on the activities performed by each individual member of staff.

##### Defined benefit pension schemes

##### Avon Pension Fund

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit scheme, with assets held in separate trustee-administered funds.

The date of the most recent comprehensive actuarial valuation was 31 March 2019. The defined benefit obligation has been calculated using a "roll-forward" calculation, which uses as a starting point the assets and liabilities calculated at the date of the latest full actuarial valuation of the Fund. This approach is approximate in nature, as a number of simplifications and assumptions are made regarding the progression of the liabilities between full actuarial valuations. Very broadly, it assumes that the experience of the Fund will be in line with the actuarial assumptions used for accounting purposes, other than investment returns where the actual experience was used, and inflation which again was adjusted for the actual experience over the accounting year.

The total cost relating to defined benefit schemes for the year recognised in profit or loss as an expense was £55,000 (2021 - £49,000).

The total cost relating to defined benefit schemes for the year included in the cost of an asset was £- (2021 - £-).

##### *Reconciliation of scheme assets and liabilities to assets and liabilities recognised*

The amounts recognised in the statement of financial position are as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Fair value of scheme assets	2,941,000	2,736,000
Present value of defined benefit obligation	<u>(4,015,000)</u>	<u>(4,107,000)</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme deficit	<u>(1,074,000)</u>	<u>(1,371,000)</u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

#### *Defined benefit obligation*

Changes in the defined benefit obligation are as follows:

	<b>2022</b> £
Present value at start of year	4,107,000
Current service cost	27,000
Interest cost	85,000
Actuarial gains and losses	(103,000)
Benefits paid	(107,000)
Contributions by scheme participants	6,000
	4,015,000
	4,015,000

#### *Fair value of scheme assets*

Changes in the fair value of scheme assets are as follows:

	<b>2022</b> £
Fair value at start of year	2,736,000
Interest income	57,000
Actuarial gains and losses	212,000
Employer contributions	37,000
Contributions by scheme participants	6,000
Benefits paid	(107,000)
	2,941,000
	2,941,000

#### *Analysis of assets*

The major categories of scheme assets are as follows:

	<b>2022</b> £	<b>2021</b> £
Cash and cash equivalents	47,000	79,000
Equity instruments	1,190,000	1,026,000
Government bonds	365,000	386,000
Other Bonds	221,000	233,000
Property	197,000	197,000
Other	921,000	815,000
	2,941,000	2,736,000
	2,941,000	2,736,000

#### *Return on scheme assets*

	<b>2022</b> £	<b>2021</b> £
Return on scheme assets	269,000	405,000
	269,000	405,000

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

The pension scheme has not invested in any of the charity's own financial instruments or in properties or other assets used by the charity.

#### *Principal actuarial assumptions*

The principal actuarial assumptions at the statement of financial position date are as follows:

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	%	%
Discount rate	2.80	2.10
Future salary increases	4.80	4.20
Future pension increases	3.40	2.80
Inflation	3.30	2.70

#### *Post retirement mortality assumptions*

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	Years	Years
Current UK pensioners at retirement age - male	23.00	23.00
Current UK pensioners at retirement age - female	25.00	25.00
Future UK pensioners at retirement age - male	25.00	25.00
Future UK pensioners at retirement age - female	27.00	27.00

**South West Grid for Learning Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022**

**20 Funds**

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
<i>General</i>						
Unrestricted income fund	2,331,502	2,534,831	(2,003,109)	(148,900)	-	2,714,324
<i>Designated</i>						
Defined benefit pension scheme	(1,371,000)	-	(18,000)	-	315,000	(1,074,000)
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<u>960,502</u>	<u>2,534,831</u>	<u>(2,021,109)</u>	<u>(148,900)</u>	<u>315,000</u>	<u>1,640,324</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
UKSIC	-	489,711	(638,611)	148,900	-	-
Support, Hear, Hope - Comic Relief Grant	-	69,975	(69,975)	-	-	-
Professional Online Safety Helpline - TikTok Grant	-	33,155	(33,155)	-	-	-
Revenge Porn Helpline - Tides Foundation Grant	-	15,503	(15,503)	-	-	-
Revenge Porn Helpline (Scotland) - Inspire Scotland Grant	-	24,656	(24,656)	-	-	-
Harmful Sexual Behaviour Support Service - Home Office Grant	-	258,353	(258,353)	-	-	-
Minerva Project - Digital Culture Media and Sport Grant	-	155,684	(155,684)	-	-	-
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,047,037</u>	<u>(1,195,937)</u>	<u>148,900</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u><u>960,502</u></u>	<u><u>3,581,868</u></u>	<u><u>(3,217,046)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>315,000</u></u>	<u><u>1,640,324</u></u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
<i>General</i>						
Unrestricted income fund	2,150,900	3,953,583	(3,489,125)	(283,856)	-	2,331,502
<i>Designated</i>						
Defined benefit pension scheme	<u>(1,107,000)</u>	-	<u>(10,000)</u>	-	<u>(254,000)</u>	<u>(1,371,000)</u>
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<u>1,043,900</u>	<u>3,953,583</u>	<u>(3,499,125)</u>	<u>(283,856)</u>	<u>(254,000)</u>	<u>960,502</u>
<b>Restricted</b>						
UKSIC	-	322,717	(609,855)	287,138	-	-
SELMA	-	<u>3,282</u>	-	<u>(3,282)</u>	-	-
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>325,999</u>	<u>(609,855)</u>	<u>283,856</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>1,043,900</u>	<u>4,279,582</u>	<u>(4,108,980)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(254,000)</u>	<u>960,502</u>

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

The UKSIC fund relates to funding from the European Commission along with external sponsors for the operation of the UK Safer Internet Centre in association with the consortium members.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

#### 21 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 March 2022 £
	General £	Designated £		
Intangible fixed assets	5,775	-	-	5,775
Tangible fixed assets	20,646	-	-	20,646
Fixed asset investments	1	-	-	1
Current assets	3,720,633	-	280,274	4,000,907
Current liabilities	(1,032,733)	-	(280,274)	(1,313,007)
Pension scheme liability	-	(1,074,000)	-	(1,074,000)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>2,714,322</b>	<b>(1,074,000)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,640,322</b>

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 March 2021 £
	General £	Designated £		
Intangible fixed assets	8,949	-	-	8,949
Tangible fixed assets	8,208	-	-	8,208
Fixed asset investments	1	-	-	1
Current assets	2,624,187	-	312,540	2,936,727
Current liabilities	(309,843)	-	(312,540)	(622,383)
Pension scheme liability	-	(1,371,000)	-	(1,371,000)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>2,331,502</b>	<b>(1,371,000)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>960,502</b>

#### 22 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 April 2021 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 March 2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	1,783,892	1,427,546	3,211,438
Net debt	1,783,892	1,427,546	3,211,438
	At 1 April 2020 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 March 2021 £
Cash at bank and in hand	2,526,250	(742,358)	1,783,892
Net debt	2,526,250	(742,358)	1,783,892

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

#### 23 Related party transactions

##### Other related party transactions

Due to the nature of the Trust's operations procuring services on behalf of the Local Authorities and the board of trustees including representatives from the Local Authorities, transactions inevitably take place between the trust and organisations in which the trustees have an interest.

All transactions are conducted at arms length and no specific transactions have occurred in which a trustee has an individual interest.

The total restricted funds received for each Local Authority relating to broadband growth and maintenance which is unspent at the year end and included within deferred income is as follows;

	2022 £	2021 £
Devon	112,193	112,193
Gloucester	110,363	110,363
Plymouth	3,403	3,403
Swindon	12,447	12,447
Torbay	1	1
Wiltshire	7,578	7,578

**SOUTH WEST GRID FOR LEARNING TRUST**

England & Wales - Charity number 1120354

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# Accounts

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Company registration number: 05589479

Charity registration number: 1120354

# South West Grid for Learning Trust

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2021



# SWGfL

Education that Clicks

Thompson Jenner LLP  
Statutory Auditors  
28 Alexandra Terrace  
Exmouth  
Devon  
EX8 1BD

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

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## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Reference and Administrative Details

<b>Trustees</b>	R Bond A C Coghlan P Fletcher C Mcdonald S Smith S P Taylor (resigned 15 June 2021) S Wainwright (resigned 31 October 2020) A E Brittan J Briscoombe M E Blackman (appointed 15 April 2021)
<b>Secretary</b>	R Bond
<b>Principal Office</b>	Belvedere House Woodwater Park Pynes Hill Exeter EX2 5WS  The charity is incorporated in England and Wales.
<b>Company Registration Number</b>	05589479
<b>Charity Registration Number</b>	1120354
<b>Solicitors</b>	Shoosmiths LLP West One 114 Wellington Street Leeds LS1 1BA
<b>Bankers</b>	Lloyds TSB Bank Plc 234 High Street Exeter Devon EX4 3ZB
<b>Auditor</b>	Thompson Jenner LLP Statutory Auditors 28 Alexandra Terrace Exmouth Devon EX8 1BD

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021. The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 1 of the accounts. This report details the activities undertaken by the South West Grid for Learning (the Trust) team over the course of the year in the delivery of the key objectives contained within the business plan.

The Schools Internet Service (SIS), historically a key activity of the Trust, continues to progress the new arrangements created with RM Education, the incumbent provider of the technical SIS solution, to help facilitate further operational and commercial innovation within the service and allow the Trust to focus greater energy in online safety and security.



SWGfL Online Safety and Security activities continued to progress with a number of highlights during the year



Acted on behalf of the United Nations ITU to support the production of Child Online Protection guidelines alongside support for the Government of the Republic of Moldova

360 degree safe passed 14,400 registered schools, with the creation and publication of the Schools Online Safety Index, grouping and ranking schools online safety provision and performance by Local Authority area.

Safer Internet Day 2020 was reached 51% of UK children and 38% of parents with over 2,100 supporting organisations and an official Guinness world record too.

Provision of Sophos security software, as part of the Trust's new focus on security and based on the existing aggregated purchasing arrangement has passed 330,000 licences, saving schools an estimated £1 million and helping to ensure that market-leading security solutions are available to schools at affordable prices.



The Trust continued to support delivery of the Barefoot Computing programme, adapting processes considerably throughout the Covid pandemic. 324 workshops (the majority being online) were delivered in the 20/21 financial year, reaching over 4200 teachers. 94% of teachers rated these online workshops as 'Good' or 'Very Good', and 92% stated that they intend to use the Barefoot resources with their classes.

In response to the shift to home learning, 28 resources and games were created to support parents. These resources had over 96000 clicks in the 20/21 financial year.

The programme has now impacted over 3 million teachers and pupils.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### Schools Internet Service

Despite ever increasing competition in the market place and tightening budgets the SIS customer base has remained strong with us continuing to provide excellent quality and value for money with its range of Core Services, also ensuring no focus is lost on safety and security for all students and establishments within Local Authorities who are working with and supporting young people.

In view of the past 12 months schools are requiring more bandwidth than ever before and along with RM Education and local government grants a number of schools have been able to benefit from upgrades to brand new technologies available in their areas which provide excellent bandwidth at very reasonable prices. Schools continue to benefit from the support, safety and security provided as part of the Schools Internet Service.

The working relationship with RM Education has remained solid, with regular reviews continuing to show the reliability and quality of the service provided.

Work has commenced on the migration of SIS customers to a direct relationship with RM Education where contracts, invoicing and customer service will now be handled by RM Education.

#### Service Developments

The RM SafetyNet filtering platform has continues to meet the requirements set out by the Department for Education ([Keeping Children Safe in Education](#)) and the needs of schools.

The Trust continues to work on the Assisted Monitoring Service (AMS), designed to assist schools with the monitoring of user activity within their setting and detect and advise on any serious issues. Work has begun on a new project which we foresee as becoming something much bigger in the not too distant future

#### Future Plans

The Trust's aims continue to be ensuring that schools are given the best possible service and that investment is made to take advantage of new developments and opportunities that benefit schools.

Work continues to be done on working closer with RM as well as the ongoing migration of SIS to direct relationships with RM with the key aspects of the service changing to include:

- Contractual arrangements: after migration, school contracts will be directly with RM, rather than with the Trust;
- Invoicing processes: rather than being invoiced for the SIS Core Service by the Trust and for Optional Services by RM, schools will be invoiced for both by RM.
- Customer Services: whilst RM have always provided the technical elements of SIS (including the Service Desk), the Trust has undertaken the customer services and account management. After migration, RM will undertake these elements.
- Safety and security: the filtering, firewall and other technical safety and security features offered will remain. The Trust continues to offer an exciting new range of security and data protection products, services, tools and resources.

#### Partnership and Engagement

Work and productivity has not suffered due to the fact that the team spent all of the year working from home. The team benefited with the addition of a Digital marketing officer, which enabled increased engagement across various audience groups. Significant number of content and materials were

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

developed to support schools and organisations through the adaptation for changes caused from lockdown, remote working, remote teaching, blended learning etc.

Important effort has been invested in maintaining relationships with already strong partners in TikTok, Facebook, Instagram and continuous research and discovering new opportunities to engage with new partners.

Engagement and strong online and media representation remained a high priority for the team. The year on year stats of visits to the SWGfL website show an increase of 111%. All social media profiles have been rising in reach and impact and having invested effort in digital marketing on all platforms.

Media has shown significant interest in SWGfL and its services. We catered and managed those relationships and helped appropriate teams with engaging with media. We are continuing to engage with media to publish and share SWGfL content and articles.

Google ads has seen a significant rise and directly impacted the levels and scope of engagement with the SWGfL and our services. Of total 240 000 visits to the main website in the last year, the grant in Google ads is now responsible for quarter of all visits. As well, the Google Ad grant is being fully utilised.

Work to promote SWGfL services such as Whisper and Reputation alerts was completed through in-house Elevate project, with planned and executed marketing and engagement campaigns during the school year. We saw a rise in number of subscribers. The promotion of SWGfL Security software, specifically Sophos with an activity to directly engage customers with licence renewals was particularly successful.

Important work has been done to support the development and promotion of our current flagship project Evolve. Supporting the promotion on social media, newsletters and article creation while being a part of the team to push the project forward.

SWGfL newsletters and outgoing email communication has been going as planned with modest yet positive increase in number of people subscribed.

Presentations, conferences and international engagement suffered due to the Coronavirus restrictions, nevertheless our activities continued in digital format and we have delivered numerous online presentations and speeches. One of the biggest project of the year was Online Safety Day powered and supported by Facebook, with more than 700 teachers connected to a 2-hour online safety event. Alongside SWGfL staff, guest speakers included Director of Facebook for Europe and CEO's of Childnet and Internet matters.

### Education Services

Following the introduction of the new Computing curriculum in England in 2014, teachers continue to struggle with confidence in this subject area, particularly with coding and programming. There continues to be huge appetite for support in these areas.

#### Barefoot Computing

The Trust's responsibility is to manage and deliver the Barefoot workshops in schools, and train and nurture the volunteer network. During the Covid pandemic the workshop

The logo for Barefoot Computing, featuring the word "Barefoot" in a large, bold, blue sans-serif font. A thick, dark blue horizontal line is positioned directly beneath the text.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

model evolved from face-to-face delivery to online. We trained over 100 volunteers to deliver our online Computational Thinking and Programming workshops and they received a great reception from teachers (94% of teachers rated the workshops as 'Good' or 'Very Good' and 92% stated that they intend to use the Barefoot resources with their classes). We delivered over 420 workshops in the 20/21 financial year, lower than previous years, but an achievement none the less amongst the covid disruption.

The Programming workshop has really gained pace with 2650 teachers attending 162 workshops. Over the next year we expect to see an ever greater shift towards this content, with teachers now feeling more comfortable with Computational Thinking and looking to build on their skills.

Alongside the delivery of workshops, this year the Trust has also focused on:

- Launching our first set of Early Years resources in November 2020 – over 4700 downloads
- Launching a suite of 28 home learning resources to support parents during the pandemic – a combination of learning activities and online interactive games – over 96000 resource clicks/game plays.
- Launching a series of 'back to school' activities called Barefoot Bytes – designed with social distancing in mind
- Designing a workshop automation tool to reduce the manual requirement. This sits alongside a shift from workshops delivered to 'whole schools' to 'self-service' workshops that teachers can book onto as individuals. Working alongside the web agency who will build this.
- Creating a 'Research, Pedagogy and Information Zone' on the website providing insight into teaching methods relating to computer science across the primary curriculum and view of technology in the wider world.

#### National College of Computing in Education (NCCE)

We have continued to build on our relationship with BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT, and CAS (Computing at School). We have worked closely to integrate our programmes and the network of CAS Ambassadors heavily supported the test and rollout of the Barefoot Programming Workshop. Barefoot workshop and download data now feeds into the CAS KPIs for the NCCE, providing a significant contribution.

#### Online Resources

The Trust also continues to directly support a small range of online learning resources, including Swiggle, a search engine aimed at Key Stage 2 learners (aged 7-11). Swiggle provides a safer searching platform for young users, and incorporates a range of innovative features. It is free to use, and free of advertising.



#### Online Safety Services

Covid-19 has affected the lives of billions of people across the world, with unprecedented peacetime restrictions imposed. The reaction has been an extraordinary digital migration; a migration online to maintain some form of normality in terms of social, economic, entertainment and learning.

The increased use of digital infrastructure and services is clear to see right across the sector and resulted in a challenge for providers to meet the heightened demand and maintain access to their services. As Margrethe Vestager, the European Union's digital chief pointed out "we have had a full-scale crash test of everything digital".

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

When it comes to online technology, children are usually early adopters and sadly face threats and harms online. As the global pandemic and associated digital migration intensified, organisations started to highlight the increased risk of harm to children.

During challenging times, people turn to charities for help and support and this clearly happened. SWGfL faced unprecedented demand across all its online safety services, information and support. To articulate this demand

- Helpline Caseload significantly rose
  - Revenge Porn Helpline cases more than doubled - 3,835 cases compared to 1,823 for the previous 12 months
  - ReportHarmfulContent received 746 reports in its first full year of operation
- Website visitors rose by 113% from 266,836 compared to 124,838 in the previous 12 months

During this period, the Trust developed specific resources and campaigns including

Guidance: a series of [Safe Remote Learning | SWGfL](#) guidance documents supporting schools as the various phases of lockdown progressed with over 52,311 page views

[Inclusive Digital Safety Advice Hub | Internet Matters](#); in partnership with Internet Matters and supported by the Home Office, the development of a new resource for those working with children with particular vulnerabilities

[Covid-19: Expectations and Effects on Children Online \(swgfl.org.uk\)](#)

-A compiled literature review highlighting the experience and impact of lockdown restrictions on children



Active support for Government projects distributing devices and access to children (eg [Get help with technology during coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#))

- ProjectEVOLVE

This resource has seen significant development over the last year with funding from our partners Nominet and the UK Safer Internet Centre. Since introducing the registration mechanism in November 2020, the service currently has 4138 school (1 in 5 UK schools) registered and a user base of 14600 active users. This has been instrumental in raising not only our visibility within the landscape even more but our influence in attracting other funding opportunities. The development of an innovative Knowledge Map mechanism to assist educators with not only planning but also provides unique data into what children know relating to online literacy at a national level. This is due for release in July 2021.

### Strategic Work

The Trust has continued to support Government departments including Department for Education; Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport; Home Office; as well as the Scottish and Welsh Governments. This support spanned both policy and awareness activities. The Trust continues to organise and support the safeguarding teams across the four national governments, enabling sharing and collaboration of strategy and policy. The Trust's work in support of the Welsh Government focused on 360Cymru as well as content for the Hwb online safety area, both in line with their published Action Plan.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

The Trust continued its support of the United Nations International Telecommunications Union (ITU) in their Child Online Protection Initiative. This involved leading the revisions of its global Child Online Protection guidelines for policymakers that was released in June 2020. Additionally, SWGfL supported an activity, on behalf of the ITU, to support the Government of the Republic of Moldova in reviewing child online protection policy documentation in December 2020

The relationship with Ofsted continues to be important. During the Covid19 restrictions, Ofsted seconded John Nixon HMI to help contribute and support our projects and activities. The Trust continues to provide online safety specialist training to Ofsted and completed a series of training webinars.

#### **Online Safety Tools and services**

A number of the Trust's award winning online safety tools, apps, services and resources were made available to schools and organisations on a trial basis to support their efforts in safeguarding their children online whilst the majority of them were learning at home, specifically Whisper® and Alerts

Covid restrictions meant that specialist training was amended to be delivered online and over this period, the Trust delivered 55 training sessions to a total of 1355 children, 1108 staff and 302 parents

#### **360 degree safe**

The Trust's flagship school improvement tool has seen significant upgrades in content and infrastructure this year and continues to set standards in school online safety strategy across all four nations.

Welsh Government commissioned the tool's architecture to develop a new resource for Welsh schools, 360digi, for which the Grid webteam is providing the technology and development.

Online Compass was finally decommissioned this year and replaced with two focused applications of the 360 architecture: [360early years.org.uk](https://360earlyyears.org.uk) and [360groups.org.uk](https://360groups.org.uk) which are slowly building engagement within the Early Years and Children's Groups communities.

UAE ESafeSchool programme continues into 2021 with development of the existing 360 architecture for the Ministry of Education and AQDAR as the momentum to assess all schools in the UAE improves at pace.

The usual annual assessment report highlighting school online safety policy and practice that draws on the 14,400 schools using the system has again been prepared and authored by Prof Andy Phippen and can be accessed [here](#). The report continues to highlight data accessible nowhere else and available to inform national safeguarding strategy at a governmental level.

#### **ProjectEVOLVE**

This resource has seen significant development over the last year with funding from our partners Nominet and the UK Safer Internet Centre. Since introducing the registration mechanism in November 2020, the service currently has 4,138 schools (1 in 5 UK schools) registered and a user base of 14600 active users. This has been instrumental in raising not only our visibility within the landscape even more but our influence in attracting other funding opportunities.

#### **Revenge Porn Helpline**

The Revenge Porn Helpline experienced an extraordinary year with a doubling of caseload caused due to the Covid19 related restrictions. It responded to 3,835 cases compared to 1,823 for the previous 12 month - an increase of 111%. To further exemplify the challenging situation, the helpline removed

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

132,000 intimate images, more than quadrupling the previous 12 months 25,400 image removals. To accommodate this increase, the Helpline received additional financial support from the Home Office to increase capacity from 2.4 FTE to 3.8 FTE.

Since 2018, SWGfL have partnered with Facebook and other international NCII victim support organizations to help potential victims share their intimate image or video in a safe and secure way with Facebook to help prevent the image or video from being shared anywhere on Facebook and Instagram. We've heard from the people who have used the pilot that almost all of them would recommend this program to someone in a similar situation. We are working with Facebook to explore ways we can expand the pilot and further support people in devastating situations like these.

#### UK Safer Internet Centre

SWGfL is a partner in the UK Safer Internet Centre alongside IWF and Childnet, and was successfully awarded further co financing to continue the operation of the centre from Jan 2021 to Dec 2021. This represents the sixth, and final, phase of EU funding for the UK Safer Internet Centre partnership. The co financing represents a total of €1.271m of which €382K represents SWGfL funding.



For the Trust, this involves operating the Professionals Online Safety Helpline and ReportHarmfulContent platform as well as delivering resources, content and training. In recognition of the unprecedented year, it's Online Safety Live programme switched to online presentations

and completed 12 briefing sessions, welcoming 1,662 delegates with 98% 'feeling better equipped to protect children users and their organisation'. This brings the total of briefing events to 485 since 2013 and the delegates totalling 23,365.

The important definitions of 'appropriate filtering' and appropriate monitoring', first published in 2016, received an update in 2020 together with refined responses from many of the filtering and monitoring providers operating across the UK.

The Professionals Online Safety Helpline managed 702 cases, across 1,171 contacts.



Report Harmful Content platform completed its first full year of operation, having been formally launched in December 2019. The service supports those victims of legal but harmful online content, providing guidance as to reporting content and impartial dispute resolution process. In this first full year, it responded to 784 cases, with a removal rate of over 90%. In May 2020, Report Harmful Content published its first annual report, reflecting on the types, characteristics and levels of cases it received

Online safety continues to attract a high priority in the media and politics. December 2020 saw the publication, by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport and Home Office, of the latest Government's response to Online Harms White Paper and the intention to introduce the Online Safety Bill. UK Safer Internet Centre was widely referenced in the strategy and continues to actively engage with government, having met and briefed a number of Ministers over the last twelve months.

## Information Security and Data Protection Services

### Department for Education CyberSecure tool

At the beginning of 2021, in partnership with long-standing partners, Phoenix Software, SWGfL achieved funding for a new Cyber and Information Security self-assessment tool for schools. Following months of groundwork by SMT, DfE, in the light of an increase in cyber-attacks targeting schools have procured a modified version of self-review pro. By June 2021 this was in Beta and will be piloted in September before release around December 2021. This government-supported tool provides a significant opportunity to set the standards schools are expected to reach. SWGfL's product set has been established to complement the tool and further whitepapers and blog content will be produced to act as a vessel for promotion of our product set. With commitment from DfE colleagues to iterate the tool content over coming years, there's a clear indication of a long-term commitment to improving school cyber security which offers SWGfL a unique opportunity to capitalise upon.

### Security product range

2020-2021 saw the beginning of a significant change in SWGfL's product and posture in the marketplace for security software. In June of 2020 a relationship with TrendMicro led to the commencement of sale of their products at an incredibly attractive rate for schools. Sales of these products were slow, even with promotion, but we did attract a number of sales. However, by December 2020 TrendMicro had withdrawn the terms under which SWGfL was reselling and a new supplier relationship was started. Whilst this arrangement was not finalised by March 2021, very soon afterwards sales of Bitdefender products commenced, with a substantial sale achieved before the end of term. Promotional activity in a 'soft-launch' style took place through the summer term. Bitdefender, keen to finance marketing activity and grow sales in the education market, have committed to substantial financial support for marketing activity in Autumn 2021.

Sophos sales continue to be strong, Supported by our digital marketing lead, we undertook customer retention activity from December to April 2021 which directly resulted in an estimated £6,400 of sales income, which would previously have been lost. 2020-2021 Sophos licence volume was 57,951, above the 3-year average of 43,503, the highest for the last 3 years and just 2,000 licences lower than the 3-year renewal cycle would suggest. Gross income from Sophos sales £220,854.

In June 2020 we launched a new Data Protection Officer service for schools. To date there have been no sales of this product, but with a limited marketing campaign and a need to break existing relationships already formed by schools, this is not, necessarily surprising. There remains a huge potential for this product, which, for a low fee, can provide support for schools. There needs to be more work in supporting schools to recognise that need.

A relationship with Mimecast security has been established, enabling the resale of Mimecast Security Awareness training - a set of humorous and engaging training modules. Whilst much of the work was undertaken in 2020-2021, the product went live in June 2021. We have seen an initial interest, but not substantial sales.

Discussions have been initiated with Barracuda to explore the resale of Office 365 backup licences which we hope to place on sale in Autumn 2021.

Negotiations with CyberSmart were ceased as it was agreed that the product was not suitable for the schools market,

Alongside a full suite of security products, SWGfL has established a relationship with and is undertaking a quality control process of CySecAware, a company formed by current and former police officers from the South-East Regional Organised Crime Unit. These specialist cyber security officers have already

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

proved invaluable in developing Cyber Secure content and will, in due course, provide school-specific cyber security face-to-face training, alongside general cyber-specific consultancy and support.

#### Further Cyber security work

A move into the remit of cyber security has highlighted a need to further strengthen SWGfLs own cyber resilience posture. Work is already taking place to assess and improve the protective measures in place to prevent cyber attacks from negatively impacting our systems. This requires investment in time and cost to identify suitable measures to harden our systems against attack. Training has been provided for staff, security products are being evaluated and implemented. In recognition of the 'core' nature of the Cyber Secure tool, the DfE has committed to providing an Information Security Officer to evaluate and support the protection of our systems. This is accompanied by access to funding to further develop systems and processes.

#### Customer Experience and Engagement

Development of our applications and services have continued apace this year, to facilitate major development pieces such as ProjectEVOLVE or the 360 suite of tools, with a particular focus on reporting on aggregated data. Our internal capability in the area has greatly increased and developed an architecture designed specifically for more sophisticated reporting across a range of products and services in the coming year.

This will achieve our vision to become a more data driven organisation, and open up new opportunities through our ability to lead the way in discovering trends and meeting emerging needs.

To this end the Webteam have redesigned the Trust's CRM capability in-house and have been improving functionality and the centralisation of customer databases across the whole organisation. This will significantly improve not only our customer engagement but act as a catalyst for future sales opportunities.

As well as having more data to hand to steer our own performance, it will better place us as a leading organisation to industry and governments with "state of the nation" datasets and reports. We have developed a structure to capture customer data through registering to access these "white papers" which contributes directly to our CRM databases.

Our engagement and capability with web service delivery tracking software such as Google Analytics and our internal analytic tools have improved this last year with this data being used across the board in planning and development conversations. Rationalising this data to inform sales strategy and improve engagement will be a key goal next year and will involve onboarding of all staff in the process.

We have also been working towards a more unified customer experience, with customers now able to access a number of products and services through the provision of an account on the SWGfL website, and we continue to work towards managing customers as "grid customers" as opposed to them being siloed within a particular product.

SWGfL now operates a significant website estate. Of these, Swiggle (child friendly search engine) delivered 4.6million page views, with Alexa ranking this as 508 of all UK websites

Whilst some of these gains are signs of the shift to digital, our work in streamlining and optimising our digital estate, along with increased usage of performance data, shows we have made progress. The responsiveness of the digital team combined with the creativity of the wider team has enabled us to stand up new services such as Report Harmful Content and Project Evolve which are a significant part of the numbers above. The team at the Trust is dedicated to supporting the advancement of education

## **South West Grid for Learning Trust**

### **Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2021**

through the use of technology; and committed to ensuring that the services provided not only meet the needs of users now but continue to improve and evolve to meet requirements in the future.

The overall communications strategy has been accelerated with the appointment of a digital marketing assistant growing the team to three people. This influx of expertise has contributed only to our increased visibility but also in terms of our outreach on social media and wider comms.

The team at the Trust is dedicated to supporting the advancement of education through the use of technology; and committed to ensuring that the services provided not only meet the needs of users now but continue to improve and evolve to meet requirements in the future.

#### **Website**

The SWGfL website experienced a significant increase in demand attracting 266,836 new users during the year (an increase of 113%) and became the central platform for the publication and promotion of the new content created in response to the Covid 19 restrictions.

#### **Stakeholder Engagement**

Through a range of approaches, including digital and in-person, stakeholders and service users have received updates in respect of changes to products, services, legislation and technology. Monthly newsletters and magazine articles provide a range of information, and their effectiveness is monitored closely by the team at the Trust.

Direct engagement with current and prospective users, as well as partners and other agencies, continues to strengthen the relationships the Trust has with organisations around the region and the UK.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

## Structure, Governance and Management

### Legal Status

The South West Grid for Learning Trust was incorporated on 11 October 2005 as a company limited by guarantee and is governed through the Memorandum & Articles of Association. The Trust commenced its activities on 1 December 2006 after the completion of a successful transfer from the previous consortium and was successfully registered as a charity with the Charity Commission in 2006. The Trustees consider it appropriate to prepare accounts in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019, Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

### Organisation Structure

The Trustee Board is in place to govern and steer the work of the Trust. Representation on the Board has been considered throughout the year alongside the Trust's constitution. The Finance and Audit Sub-Committee continues to effectively support the full Trustee Board in reviewing and scrutinising financial performance and operations.

The Chief Executive Officer continues to provide overall leadership and direction for the charity, alongside the Senior Management Team through the creation and embedding of a clear long term strategy.

The Trust holds an annual general meeting in addition to other board meetings. Not more than 15 months elapses between the date of one annual general meeting of The Trust and that of the next.

### Objectives

The strategic plan clearly sets out the key objectives and actions identified to be undertaken by the team over the coming years. Building on the current successes is a central feature of the plan, along with the aim to continue to advance education, safety and security through the services offered to schools and the wider learning community.

The Trust is a charity dedicated to empowering the safe and secure use of technology through innovative services, tools, content and policy, nationally and globally. The Trust's vision is for everyone to be able to benefit from technology, free from harm.

The key objectives for the year ahead are:

1. To continue to provide education and training, alongside raising public awareness of such services available;
2. Build on the innovative services, tools and products portfolio provided;
3. Conduct and publish leading edge research into online threats and harms;
4. Work in partnership and collaborate with stakeholders nationally and internationally; and
5. Provide direct help and support by responding to calls, alerts and notifications of online situations.

The delivery of services that are beneficial to a wide range of users, organisations, groups, individuals and stakeholders, in order to generate revenue and meet charitable objectives, will continue to drive and shape these objectives for the future.

### Risk Management

The Trust has implemented and continues to review the risk management processes in place. In the context of the changing landscape and market, the Trust has identified that medium to long term risks require greater analysis and mitigation and consequently a suitable methodology has been put in place.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### National Representation

The Trust also continues to be both represented and influential at national level, attending the National Education Network (NEN) Managers group, and chairing the NEN Safeguarding group.

#### How Activities Deliver Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty in section 17(5) of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charities Commission.

The overriding vision and purpose of the Trust is 'the advancement of education and/or the advancement of health and the saving of lives, in each case for solely charitable purposes by any means through or otherwise relating to the effective and/or safe use of information and communication technologies (including but not limited to the provision of broadband connectivity; e-Learning facilities; education materials; information and knowhow on the effective use of information and communication technologies by educational establishments; information and knowhow relating to e-Safety issues and relating to information and communication technologies.'

In delivering that vision, the Trust has continued throughout the 2020/21 financial year to:

- Maintain and where appropriate, enhance a managed service of broadband connectivity and associated services;
- Provide a range of quality online tools and resources and the opportunity to access learning materials through the NEN for learners in the region;
- Provide a range of quality advice and supporting tools and services to enables learners and other stakeholders to use the Internet safely;
- Deliver in partnership with member Local Authorities a core entitlement to all learners across the region; and
- Procure services on behalf of Local Authorities and schools that will demonstrate best value.

The opportunity to access the same services is made available to the full range of groups working within member Local Authorities on behalf of all children. These include youth centres, libraries and all establishments involving pupils relating to social care.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### Financial Review

The finance systems have continued to evolve over the year and processes and procedures in relation to financial accounting in various areas were enhanced to improve the quality of financial processing.

This includes the upgrading of the Trust finance system which is now in place, plus continued efforts to improve internal reporting on key factors (including debtors and cash flow forecasting) have resulted in improved business processes.

#### Financial Results

The results for the year and the Trust financial position at the end of the year are shown in the attached financial statements which show that as at 31 March 2021 the Trust had net assets of £960,502.

The major part of the Trust's income is still derived from Schools Internet Services provided to Local Authorities and directly to schools. In managing its finances, the Trust aims to achieve best value in all areas of expenditure and works hard to minimise its operational costs and maximise its income from alternative services in order to ensure best value for schools.

An appropriate expenditure and procurement policy is in place to ensure future expenditure continues to represent value, and this policy will be reviewed and updated as required.

#### Reserves Policy

The Trust seeks to maintain a level of reserves which is consistent with its responsibilities and liabilities as an employer and to provide a resource to manage future risk in regard to changes in the operating environment.

In order to protect long term sustainability, the Trust also considers any provision required to enable it to cover working capital demands and other significant expenditure so that it can continue to deliver its charitable objectives.

The Trustees assess the appropriateness of this reserves policy on a regular basis to ensure that changes to the operating environment and their impact are incorporated into the reserves so that the Trust can continue to provide its charitable objectives for the future. Previously, in order to meet this reserve objective, a fund of £1 million to £1.2 million has been calculated as sufficient. The attached financial statements show an unrestricted reserve of £960,502 which is considered to be reasonable in conjunction with the Trust's objectives and current reserves policy. The level of reserves is being impacted by the ongoing defined benefit pension scheme situation and the trustees are taking specialist advice with regards to this.

#### Investment Policy

Funds held by the Trust are held with banks in short term deposits which offer reasonable rates of interest and which comply with the credit rating policy adopted by the Trustees.

#### Financial Risk Management Objectives and Policies

The charity's principal financial instruments comprise the bank balance, trade creditors, deferred income and trade debtors. The main purpose of these instruments is to raise funds for the charity's charitable objectives.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### Price Risk, Credit Risk, Liquidity Risk and Cash Flow Risk

Funding received in foreign currencies is subject to a price risk management policy through the use of FOREX mechanisms.

Trade debtors are managed in respect of credit and cash flow by policies concerning the credit offered to customers and the regular monitoring of amounts outstanding for both time and credit limits.

Trade creditor liquidity risk is managed by ensuring that sufficient funds are available to meet amounts due.

As a responsible employer the Trust keeps its pension obligations and liabilities under review. During the year 2012 / 2013 the Trust took the reluctant but necessary step of closing membership of the Avon Local Government Pension Scheme to new members in order to reduce its future exposure to the potential of increased and increasing pension deficits. The actuarial valuation has had a significant impact on the Trust's balance sheet and whilst there has been minimal change to the deficit recovery plan agreed previously, this remains a significant risk. An alternative money purchase pension scheme has been implemented for new employees with employer contributions capped at 7.5%. This scheme is understood to be compliant with auto enrolment requirements.

#### Conclusions

Over the last twelve months the Trust has continued to deliver its charitable objectives in an environment of continued pressure on local authorities, schools and the wider public sector.

Ongoing successes with projects regionally, nationally and internationally demonstrate the skill and expertise of the team.

The Trust has continued to drive improvements within each of the business units, culminating in good customer service as well as the introduction of new products and services and in contractual service delivery.

The Trust has delivered a good operational financial performance for the year, capitalising on new opportunities as well as existing charity activity to maintain positive levels of income whilst controlling expenditure and improving the processes for managing the key financial aspects of the operation of the Trust, resulting in a healthy balance sheet.

The control over the running costs reflects an ongoing need to ensure all services delivered by the Trust are highly cost effective, but has also increased pressures and demands on the team.

The overall deficit generated for the year is entirely a result of the £264,000 deficit movement in the defined benefit pension scheme which is outside of the control of the Trust.

It is pleasing to note that, despite these pressures, the team have remained focussed, committed and motivated to ensure the continued success of the Trust. They are to be congratulated for their efforts.

#### Auditors

A resolution proposing that Thompson Jenner LLP be reappointed as auditors of the charity will be put to the Annual General Meeting.

The annual report was approved by the Board on 28 September 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Robert Bond – Company Secretary and Trustee

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of South West Grid for Learning Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

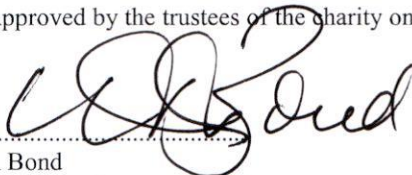
- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed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

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

#### Disclosure of information to auditor

Each trustee has taken steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information. The trustees confirm that there is no relevant information that they know of and of which they know the auditor is unaware.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 28 September 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



R Bond  
Company Secretary and Trustee

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of South West Grid for Learning Trust

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of South West Grid for Learning Trust (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2021, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, 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 United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2021 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 Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity 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 charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the original financial statements were 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 auditor's report 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 there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

## **South West Grid for Learning Trust**

### **Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of South West Grid for Learning Trust**

#### **Opinion 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 for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

#### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the trustees report.

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.

#### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities [set out on page 12], the trustees 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 charity'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 charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### **Auditor's 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 an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

#### **The extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud**

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of South West Grid for Learning Trust

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with directors and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company, including the Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011, taxation legislation, data protection, anti-bribery, employment, environmental, fire safety, Licensing Act 2003 and health and safety legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management, reviewing licenses, certificates and relevant correspondence including the inspection of legal correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims; and
- reviewing correspondence with HMRC, relevant regulators and the company's legal advisors.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of South West Grid for Learning Trust

#### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, 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 charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's 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 its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

.....  
Mr Simon Lewis (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
For and on behalf of Thompson Jermer LLP, Statutory Auditor

28 Alexandra Terrace  
Exmouth  
Devon  
EX8 1BD

Date: 30/11/21.....

LLP

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2021 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>				
Charitable activities	3	3,950,798	325,999	4,276,797
Investment income	4	<u>2,785</u>	-	<u>2,785</u>
Total income		<u>3,953,583</u>	<u>325,999</u>	<u>4,279,582</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Charitable activities	5	<u>(3,499,125)</u>	<u>(609,855)</u>	<u>(4,108,980)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(3,499,125)</u>	<u>(609,855)</u>	<u>(4,108,980)</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		454,458	(283,856)	170,602
Transfers between funds		(283,856)	283,856	-
<b>Other recognised gains and losses</b>				
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes		<u>(254,000)</u>	-	<u>(254,000)</u>
Net movement in funds		(83,398)	-	(83,398)
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		<u>1,043,900</u>	-	<u>1,043,900</u>
Total funds carried forward	20	<u><u>960,502</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>960,502</u></u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2021 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

#### Comparative Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2020 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>				
Charitable activities	3	4,545,588	444,321	4,989,909
Investment income	4	13,191	-	13,191
Total income		<u>4,558,779</u>	<u>444,321</u>	<u>5,003,100</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Charitable activities	5	<u>(4,369,910)</u>	<u>(725,998)</u>	<u>(5,095,908)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(4,369,910)</u>	<u>(725,998)</u>	<u>(5,095,908)</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		188,869	(281,677)	(92,808)
Transfers between funds		(337,486)	337,486	-
<b>Other recognised gains and losses</b>				
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes		<u>(14,000)</u>	-	<u>(14,000)</u>
Net movement in funds		(162,617)	55,809	(106,808)
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		<u>1,206,517</u>	<u>(55,809)</u>	<u>1,150,708</u>
Total funds carried forward	20	<u><u>1,043,900</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>1,043,900</u></u>


All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.  
The funds breakdown for 2020 is shown in note 20.

**South West Grid for Learning Trust**

**(Registration number: 05589479)  
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2021**

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Intangible assets	12	8,949	9,523
Tangible assets	13	8,208	11,713
Investments	14	1	1
		<u>17,158</u>	<u>21,237</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Stocks	15	106,590	123,078
Debtors	16	1,046,245	926,286
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>1,783,892</u>	<u>2,526,250</u>
		2,936,727	3,575,614
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	17	<u>(622,383)</u>	<u>(1,445,951)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>2,314,344</u>	<u>2,129,663</u>
<b>Net assets excluding pension liability</b>		2,331,502	2,150,900
<b>Pension scheme liability</b>	19	<u>(1,371,000)</u>	<u>(1,107,000)</u>
<b>Net assets including pension liability</b>		<u>960,502</u>	<u>1,043,900</u>
<b>Funds of the charity:</b>			
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>			
Unrestricted		<u>960,502</u>	<u>1,043,900</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	20	<u>960,502</u>	<u>1,043,900</u>

The financial statements on pages 20 to 44 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 28 September 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

  
 .....  
 S Smith  
 Trustee

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net cash expenditure		(83,398)	(106,808)
<b>Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items</b>			
Depreciation		6,768	7,159
Amortisation		2,802	2,728
Investment income	4	<u>(2,785)</u>	<u>(13,191)</u>
		(76,613)	(110,112)
<b>Working capital adjustments</b>			
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	15	16,488	(16,065)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	16	(119,959)	194,911
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	17	(755,303)	738,730
Increase/(decrease) in retirement benefit obligation net of actuarial changes	19	264,000	83,000
Decrease in deferred income		<u>(68,265)</u>	<u>(411,532)</u>
Net cash flows from operating activities		<u>(739,652)</u>	<u>478,932</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Interest receivable and similar income	4	2,785	13,191
Purchase of intangible fixed assets	12	(2,228)	-
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	13	<u>(3,263)</u>	<u>(16,210)</u>
Net cash flows from investing activities		<u>(2,706)</u>	<u>(3,019)</u>
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents		(742,358)	475,913
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		<u>2,526,250</u>	<u>2,050,337</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March		<u><u>1,783,892</u></u>	<u><u>2,526,250</u></u>

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 1 Charity status

The charity is a charity limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

Belvedere House  
Woodwater Park  
Pynes Hill  
Exeter  
EX2 5WS

#### 2 Accounting policies

##### Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

##### Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). They also comply with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011.

##### Basis of preparation

South West Grid for Learning Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The trustees have considered the impact of COVID-19 and do not consider it to have a material impact on the balances included within the financial statements.

In addition, the trustees do not consider it to cast any significant doubt upon the charity's ability to continue to trade as a going concern.

The trustees have taken both reactive and proactive measures in order to mitigate any risks associated with COVID-19 including managing cashflow to ensure that debts can be paid when they fall due, managing staffing levels and monitoring key customer and supplier activity.

The trustees have implemented a robust system of procedures and controls in order to deal with any associated risks.

##### Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### **Exemption from preparing group accounts**

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption in The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 from the requirement to prepare consolidated financial statements, on the grounds that the inclusion of the subsidiary undertaking is not material for the purposes of giving a true and fair view.

#### **Income and endowments**

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

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition is met.

#### ***Deferred income***

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which, it has been received. Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the Charity has unconditional entitlement.
- The income received from charitable activities relates to a future period

#### ***Investment income***

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

#### **Expenditure**

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

#### ***Charitable activities***

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### Support costs

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on the following basis which are an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity.

	2021	2020
E - Safety	40%	36%
UK Safer Internet Centre	11%	10%
Barefoot	21%	21%
Licencing	5%	5%
Schools Internet Service	23%	23%
SELMA	0%	5%

#### Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

#### Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

#### Intangible assets

Intangible assets are stated in the Balance Sheet at cost less accumulated amortisation and impairment. They are amortised on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives.

#### Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £250.00 or more are initially recorded at cost.

#### Amortisation

Amortisation is provided on intangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Amortisation method and rate
Computer software	20% Straight line basis

#### Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Fixtures and fittings	33% Straight line basis

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### **Business combinations**

Business combinations are accounted for under the purchase method. Where necessary, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring the accounting policies used into line with those used by the charity. All intra-group transactions, balances, income and expenses are eliminated on consolidation. In accordance with Section 35 of FRS 102, Section 19 of FRS 102 has not been applied in these financial statements in respect of business combinations effected prior to the date of transition.

#### **Stock**

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell, after due regard for obsolete and slow moving stocks. Cost is determined using the first-in, first-out (FIFO).

#### **Trade debtors**

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

#### **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

#### **Trade creditors**

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### **Foreign exchange**

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are reported at the rates of exchange prevailing at that date.

Other exchange differences are recognised in the statement of financial activities in the period in which they arise except for:

- 1) exchange differences on transactions entered into to hedge certain foreign currency risks (see above);
- 2) exchange differences arising on gains or losses on non-monetary items which are recognised in other comprehensive income.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### **Fund structure**

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees's discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

#### **Pensions and other post retirement obligations**

The charity operates a defined benefit pension scheme. This scheme is now closed to new members as a defined benefit contribution scheme has been implemented for new members. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

Current service costs, past service costs and gains and losses on settlements and curtailments are charged to appropriate resources expended categories in the statement of financial activities. Past service costs are recognised over the vesting period or immediately if the benefits have vested. When a settlement (eliminating all obligations for benefits already accrued) or a curtailment (reducing future obligations as a result of a material reduction in the scheme membership or a reduction in future entitlement) occurs, the obligation and related plan assets are remeasured using current actuarial assumptions and the resultant gain or loss is recognised in the statement of financial activities during the period in which the settlement or curtailment occurs.

The interest cost and the expected return on assets are shown as a net amount as other finance costs or income. Net pension finance costs are allocated to appropriate resources expended categories in the statement of financial activities. Net pension finance income is recognised as an incoming resource in the statement of financial activities. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately as other recognised gains and losses in the statement of financial activities.

Pension scheme assets are valued at fair value at the balance sheet date. Fair value is based on market price information and in the case of quoted securities is the published bid price. Pension scheme liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method and are discounted to their present value using a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent currency and term to the scheme liabilities. The pension scheme deficit is recognised in full on the balance sheet.

The charity operates a defined contribution pension plan. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the company has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as employee benefit expense when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
E-Safety	759,730	-	759,730	565,035
UK Safer Internet Centre	-	322,717	322,717	378,489
SELMA	-	3,282	3,282	65,832
Barefoot	380,054	-	380,054	347,323
Licencing	220,854	-	220,854	173,854
Schools Internet Service	2,590,160	-	2,590,160	3,458,786
Operational	-	-	-	590
	<u>3,950,798</u>	<u>325,999</u>	<u>4,276,797</u>	<u>4,989,909</u>

The prior years total income from charitable activities of £4,989,909 included unrestricted funds of £4,545,588 and restricted funds of £444,321.

#### 4 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Interest receivable and similar income; Interest receivable on bank deposits	<u>2,785</u>	<u>2,785</u>
<b>Total for 2021</b>	<u>2,785</u>	<u>2,785</u>
<b>Total for 2020</b>	<u>13,191</u>	<u>13,191</u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Activity undertaken directly £	Activity support costs £	2021 £	2020 £
E-Safety	340,521	148,659	489,180	482,844
UK Safer Internet Centre	569,917	39,938	609,855	659,678
Barefoot	238,681	77,657	316,338	331,050
Licencing	191,934	18,490	210,424	160,101
Schools Internet Service	2,376,020	107,163	2,483,183	3,395,915
SELMA	-	-	-	66,320
	<u>3,717,073</u>	<u>391,907</u>	<u>4,108,980</u>	<u>5,095,908</u>

The prior years total expenditure of £5,095,908 included expenditure attributable directly to activities undertaken of £4,659,972 and support costs of £435,936.

Included in the expenditure analysed above are governance costs of £14,386 (2020 - £14,504) which relate directly to charitable activities. See note 6 for further details.

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
E-Safety	489,180	-	489,180	482,844
UK Safer Internet Centre	-	609,855	609,855	659,678
SELMA	-	-	-	66,320
Barefoot	316,338	-	316,338	331,050
Licencing	210,424	-	210,424	160,101
Schools Internet Service	2,483,183	-	2,483,183	3,395,915
	<u>3,499,125</u>	<u>609,855</u>	<u>4,108,980</u>	<u>5,095,908</u>

The prior years total expenditure of £5,095,908 included expenditure attributable to unrestricted funds of £4,369,910 and £725,998 to restricted funds.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 6 Analysis of governance and support costs

##### Charitable activities expenditure

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	General £	£	£	£
Employment costs	196,475	21,112	217,587	246,813
Establishment costs	101,174	12,250	113,424	132,703
Legal and Professional	31,904	3,863	35,767	48,281
Travel and subsistence	801	97	898	739
Computer expenses	21,614	2,617	24,231	6,532
Advertising and promotion	-	-	-	868
	<u>351,968</u>	<u>39,939</u>	<u>391,907</u>	<u>435,936</u>

##### Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Audit fees			
Audit of the financial statements	11,200	11,200	11,500
Other fees paid to auditors	3,186	3,186	3,004
	<u>14,386</u>	<u>14,386</u>	<u>14,504</u>

#### 7 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year include:

	2021 £	2020 £
Operating leases - other assets	71,492	76,297
Audit fees	11,200	11,500
Other non-audit services	10,817	7,816
Depreciation of fixed assets	7,311	7,159
Amortisation of software	<u>2,802</u>	<u>2,728</u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 8 Trustees remuneration and expenses

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

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

#### 9 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
<b>Staff costs during the year were:</b>		
Wages and salaries	886,351	841,143
Social security costs	86,916	80,811
Pension costs	70,195	140,286
	<u>1,043,462</u>	<u>1,062,240</u>

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2021 No	2020 No
Administration	<u>32</u>	<u>32</u>

28 (2020 - 28) of the above employees participated in the Defined Contribution Pension Schemes.

3 (2020 - 3) of the above employees participated in the Defined Benefit Pension Schemes.

During the year, the charity made redundancy and/or termination payments which totalled £21,437 (2020 - £Nil).

The termination payments were made in order to produce cost savings for the charity going forward. The savings are estimated to amount to £85,000 per annum.

The number of employees whose emoluments fell within the following bands was:

	2021 No	2020 No
£60,001 - £70,000	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £241,774 (2020 - £267,945).

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 10 Auditors' remuneration

	2021 £	2020 £
Audit of the financial statements	<u>11,200</u>	<u>11,500</u>
<b>Other fees to auditors</b>		
All other non-audit services	<u>10,817</u>	<u>7,816</u>

#### 11 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

#### 12 Intangible fixed assets

	Software £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 April 2020	13,640	13,640
Additions	<u>2,228</u>	<u>2,228</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>15,868</u>	<u>15,868</u>
<b>Amortisation</b>		
At 1 April 2020	4,117	4,117
Charge for the year	<u>2,802</u>	<u>2,802</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>6,919</u>	<u>6,919</u>
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 March 2021	<u>8,949</u>	<u>8,949</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>9,523</u>	<u>9,523</u>

Amortisation of intangible fixed assets is included within expenditure on charitable activities.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 13 Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 April 2020	111,822	111,822
Additions	3,263	3,263
At 31 March 2021	115,085	115,085
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 April 2020	100,109	100,109
Charge for the year	6,768	6,768
At 31 March 2021	106,877	106,877
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 March 2021	8,208	8,208
At 31 March 2020	11,713	11,713

#### 14 Fixed asset investments

	2021 £	2020 £
Shares in group undertakings and participating interests	1	1

#### Shares in group undertakings and participating interests

	Subsidiary undertakings £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 April 2020	1	1
At 31 March 2021	1	1
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 March 2021	1	1
At 31 March 2020	1	1

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### Details of undertakings

Details of the investments in which the charity holds 20% or more of the nominal value of any class of share capital are as follows:

Undertaking	Holding	Proportion of voting rights and shares held	Principal activity
<b>Subsidiary undertakings</b>			
Edtesa Limited	Ordinary	100%	Dormant

#### 15 Stock

	2021 £	2020 £
Stocks	<u>106,590</u>	<u>123,078</u>

#### 16 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	183,886	370,431
Prepayments	360,548	433,904
Accrued income	406,306	37,010
VAT recoverable	85,423	74,258
Other debtors	<u>10,082</u>	<u>10,683</u>
	<u>1,046,245</u>	<u>926,286</u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade creditors	32,513	800,414
Other creditors	150,731	150,639
Accruals	25,180	12,674
Deferred income	413,959	482,224
	<u>622,383</u>	<u>1,445,951</u>
	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
Deferred income at 1 April 2020	482,224	893,756
Resources deferred in the period	180,421	235,934
Amounts released from previous periods	(248,686)	(647,466)
Deferred income at year end	<u>413,959</u>	<u>482,224</u>

#### 18 Obligations under leases and hire purchase contracts

##### Operating lease commitments

Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
<b>Land and buildings</b>		
Within one year	58,900	38,915
Between one and five years	68,717	127,617
	<u>127,617</u>	<u>166,532</u>
<b>Other</b>		
Within one year	-	14,738
	<u>-</u>	<u>14,738</u>

#### 19 Pension and other schemes

##### Defined contribution pension scheme

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the Charity to the scheme and amounted to £49,000 (2020 - £47,000).

Contributions totalling £9,000 (2020 - £6,000) were payable to the scheme at the end of the year and are included in creditors.

The defined contribution pension scheme liability and expense was allocated between charitable activities and restricted and unrestricted funds based on the activities performed by each individual member of staff.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### Defined benefit pension schemes

##### Avon Pension Fund

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit scheme, with assets held in separate trustee-administered funds.

The date of the most recent comprehensive actuarial valuation was 31 March 2019. The defined benefit obligation has been calculated using a “roll-forward” calculation, which uses as a starting point the assets and liabilities calculated at the date of the latest full actuarial valuation of the Fund. This approach is approximate in nature, as a number of simplifications and assumptions are made regarding the progression of the liabilities between full actuarial valuations. Very broadly, it assumes that the experience of the Fund will be in line with the actuarial assumptions used for accounting purposes, other than investment returns where the actual experience was used, and inflation which again was adjusted for the actual experience over the accounting year.

The total cost relating to defined benefit schemes for the year recognised in profit or loss as an expense was £49,000 (2020 - £117,000).

The total cost relating to defined benefit schemes for the year included in the cost of an asset was £- (2020 - £-).

#### *Reconciliation of scheme assets and liabilities to assets and liabilities recognised*

The amounts recognised in the statement of financial position are as follows:

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Fair value of scheme assets	2,736,000	2,352,000
Present value of defined benefit obligation	<u>(4,107,000)</u>	<u>(3,459,000)</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme deficit	<u><u>(1,371,000)</u></u>	<u><u>(1,107,000)</u></u>

#### *Defined benefit obligation*

Changes in the defined benefit obligation are as follows:

	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>
Present value at start of year	3,459,000
Current service cost	24,000
Interest cost	81,000
Actuarial gains and losses	603,000
Benefits paid	(67,000)
Contributions by scheme participants	<u>7,000</u>
Present value at end of year	<u><u>4,107,000</u></u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### *Fair value of scheme assets*

Changes in the fair value of scheme assets are as follows:

	<b>2021</b> <b>£</b>
Fair value at start of year	2,352,000
Interest income	56,000
Actuarial gains and losses	349,000
Employer contributions	39,000
Contributions by scheme participants	7,000
Benefits paid	<u>(67,000)</u>
Fair value at end of year	<u><u>2,736,000</u></u>

#### *Analysis of assets*

The major categories of scheme assets are as follows:

	<b>2021</b> <b>£</b>	<b>2020</b> <b>£</b>
Cash and cash equivalents	79,000	52,000
Equity instruments	1,026,000	1,022,000
Government bonds	386,000	132,000
Other Bonds	233,000	214,000
Property	197,000	233,000
Other	<u>815,000</u>	<u>699,000</u>
	<u><u>2,736,000</u></u>	<u><u>2,352,000</u></u>

#### *Return on scheme assets*

	<b>2021</b> <b>£</b>	<b>2020</b> <b>£</b>
Return on scheme assets	<u>405,000</u>	<u>(160,000)</u>

The pension scheme has not invested in any of the charity's own financial instruments or in properties or other assets used by the charity.

#### *Principal actuarial assumptions*

The principal actuarial assumptions at the statement of financial position date are as follows:

	<b>2021</b> <b>%</b>	<b>2020</b> <b>%</b>
Discount rate	2.10	2.40
Future salary increases	4.20	3.60
Future pension increases	2.80	2.20
Inflation	<u>2.70</u>	<u>2.10</u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### *Post retirement mortality assumptions*

	<b>2021 Years</b>	<b>2020 Years</b>
Current UK pensioners at retirement age - male	23.00	23.00
Current UK pensioners at retirement age - female	25.00	25.00
Future UK pensioners at retirement age - male	25.00	25.00
Future UK pensioners at retirement age - female	<u>27.00</u>	<u>27.00</u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 20 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
<i>General</i>						
Unrestricted income fund	2,150,900	3,953,583	(3,489,125)	(283,856)	-	2,331,502
<i>Designated</i>						
Defined benefit pension scheme	<u>(1,107,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(10,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(254,000)</u>	<u>(1,371,000)</u>
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<u>1,043,900</u>	<u>3,953,583</u>	<u>(3,499,125)</u>	<u>(283,856)</u>	<u>(254,000)</u>	<u>960,502</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
UKSIC	-	322,717	(609,855)	287,138	-	-
SELMA	<u>-</u>	<u>3,282</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,282)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>325,999</u>	<u>(609,855)</u>	<u>283,856</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u><u>1,043,900</u></u>	<u><u>4,279,582</u></u>	<u><u>(4,108,980)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>(254,000)</u></u>	<u><u>960,502</u></u>

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Balance at 1 April 2019 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2020 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
<i>General</i>						
Unrestricted income fund	2,230,517	4,558,779	(4,300,910)	(337,486)	-	2,150,900
<i>Designated</i>						
Defined benefit pension scheme	<u>(1,024,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(69,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(14,000)</u>	<u>(1,107,000)</u>
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<u>1,206,517</u>	<u>4,558,779</u>	<u>(4,369,910)</u>	<u>(337,486)</u>	<u>(14,000)</u>	<u>1,043,900</u>
<b>Restricted</b>						
UKSIC	-	378,489	(659,678)	281,189	-	-
SELMA	<u>(55,809)</u>	<u>65,832</u>	<u>(66,320)</u>	<u>56,297</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>(55,809)</u>	<u>444,321</u>	<u>(725,998)</u>	<u>337,486</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u><u>1,150,708</u></u>	<u><u>5,003,100</u></u>	<u><u>(5,095,908)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>(14,000)</u></u>	<u><u>1,043,900</u></u>

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

The UKSIC fund relates to funding from the European Commission along with external sponsors for the operation of the UK Safer Internet Centre in association with the consortium members.

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 21 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 March 2021 £
	General £	Designated £		
Intangible fixed assets	8,949	-	-	8,949
Tangible fixed assets	8,208	-	-	8,208
Fixed asset investments	1	-	-	1
Current assets	2,624,187	-	312,540	2,936,727
Current liabilities	(309,843)	-	(312,540)	(622,383)
Pension scheme liability	-	(1,371,000)	-	(1,371,000)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>2,331,502</b>	<b>(1,371,000)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>960,502</b>

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 March 2020 £
	General £	Designated £		
Intangible fixed assets	9,523	-	-	9,523
Tangible fixed assets	11,713	-	-	11,713
Fixed asset investments	1	-	-	1
Current assets	3,547,199	-	28,415	3,575,614
Current liabilities	(1,417,536)	-	(28,415)	(1,445,951)
Pension scheme liability	-	(1,107,000)	-	(1,107,000)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>2,150,900</b>	<b>(1,107,000)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,043,900</b>

#### 22 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 April 2020 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 March 2021 £
	Cash at bank and in hand	2,526,250	(742,358)
Net debt	2,526,250	(742,358)	1,783,892

	At 1 April 2019 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 March 2020 £
	Cash at bank and in hand	2,050,337	475,913
Net debt	2,050,337	475,913	2,526,250

## South West Grid for Learning Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 23 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

#### Other related party transactions

Due to the nature of the Trust's operations procuring services on behalf of the Local Authorities and the board of trustees including representatives from the Local Authorities, transactions inevitably take place between the trust and organisations in which the trustees have an interest.

All transactions are conducted at arms length and no specific transactions have occurred in which a trustee has an individual interest.

The total restricted funds received for each Local Authority relating to broadband growth and maintenance which is unspent at the year end and included within deferred income is as follows;

	2021 £	2020 £
Devon	112,193	112,193
Gloucester	110,363	110,363
Plymouth	3,403	3,403
Swindon	12,447	-
Torbay	1	1
Wiltshire	7,578	7,578