

JUST FOR KIDS LAW LIMITED

England & Wales · Charity number 1121638

Details

Other names JUST FOR KIDS LAW, JUST FOR KIDS LAW LTD

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [05815338](#)

Registered 2007-11-21

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

Contact

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338 City Road
London
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Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE ANY CHARITABLE PURPOSES FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC, PARTICULARLY CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE UK AND ABROAD, WITH PARTICULAR REGARD TO THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD, INCLUDING BY ADVANCING THE RIGHTS AND NEEDS OF CHILDREN THROUGH 1. RESEARCH, EDUCATION, TRAINING, AWARENESS-RAISING, AND INCREASING UNDERSTANDING AND KNOWLEDGE 2. MONITORING, ADVOCATING AND PROMOTING CHILDREN'S HUMAN RIGHTS, INCLUDING COMPLIANCE AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVEL 3. THE PROVISION OF SPECIALIST LEGAL , ADVICE, SUPPORT AND REPRESENTATION INCLUDING TAKING LEGAL ACTION TO PREVENT DISADVANTAGE, DISCRIMINATION OR EXCLUSION 4. THE PROVISION OF ADVICE, SUPPORT AND DIRECT ADVOCACY TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE, AND PROMOTING PARTICIPATION 5. ALL OTHER SUCH LAWFUL THINGS AS ARE INCIDENTAL OR CONDUCIVE TO THE ATTAINMENT OF THESE AIMS

Activities: THE PROVISION OF LEGAL ADVICE AND REPRESENTATION TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WHERE LEGAL AID IS NOT POSSIBLE; AND THE PROVISION OF SUPPORT AND ADVICE IN THE AREAS OF EDUCATION , WELFARE, HOUSING, EMPLOYMENT, MENTAL AND PHYSICAL

HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE MISUSE.THE PROVISION OF TRAINING TO LAWYERS WORKING WITH CHILDREN AND CHILD RELATED MATTERS.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** IN THE LONDON AREA.
- Throughout London

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-05-31	£786,930	£891,283	£589,082	8
2024-05-31	£1,202,867	£1,065,857	£693,436	10
2023-07-31	£2,663,015	£3,125,615	£556,426	39
2022-05-31	£1,935,351	£2,182,319	£1,019,026	40
2021-05-31	£2,574,798	£2,337,689	£1,265,994	38

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Shauneen Lambe	Chair	2023-11-21
Brenda Mary Campbell		2024-04-14
Brieann Schellby Campbell		2022-11-03
Elizabeth Claire Hubberstey		2019-02-28
Hemini Parmar Patel Ms		2023-11-21
Janet latinwo		2022-08-01
Michael Alexander-Wall		2023-11-21
Professor Emerita Geraldine van Bueren		2023-11-21
Timothy Potter		2023-11-21

JUST FOR KIDS LAW LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1121638

Accounts

Company number: 05815338
Charity number: 1121638

Just for Kids Law Limited

Report and financial statements
For the year ended 31 May 2025

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For the year ended 31 May 2025

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Just for Kids Law Limited

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 May 2025

Company number 05815338

Charity number 1121638

Registered office and operational address
EC1 Offices
338 City Road
London
EC1V 2PY

Country of registration England & Wales

Country of incorporation United Kingdom

Board of Trustees Board of Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the period and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Shauneen Lambe	Trustee
Claire Hubberstey	Trustee
Janet Latinwo	Trustee
Brianne Campbell	Trustee
Emerita Geraldine Van Bueren KC	Trustee
Tim Potter	Trustee and Treasurer
Hemini Patel	Trustee
Max Alexander	Trustee and Chair
Brenda Campbell KC	Trustee

Honorary Founder Shauneen Lambe

Senior Management Team

Aika Stephenson	Co-Lead and Legal Director
Louise King	Co-Lead and Director of Children's Rights Alliance for England
Natasha Iles	Co-Lead and Director of Development (appointed 16 September 2024)

Bankers
CAF Bank
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
KENT
ME19 4JQ

Just for Kids Law Limited

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 May 2025

Auditor	Sayer Vincent LLP Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor 110 Golden Lane LONDON EC1Y 0TG
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Message from the Chair of the Board

Although this is my first report as Chair, I have been part of the Just for Kids Law (JfKL) family since well, the beginning. Over the past 19 years, I've witnessed the organisation evolve, but the core values that inspired Aika and Shauneen remain steadfast: to ensure that children and young people have their rights respected within the criminal justice system and their entitlements secured.

The work we do continues to make a profound difference both directly through our direct legal advocacy and more broadly through our policy influencing and strategic litigation. Whether supporting individual children or influencing national frameworks, our impact is tangible and far-reaching. This year, the Board and I extend our heartfelt thanks to the senior leadership team: Aika Stephenson, Louise King and Natasha Iles, who co-lead and navigate the charity's daily operations, and to our dedicated staff, who work tirelessly to achieve the best outcomes for children and young people in contact with the police and justice system.

In 2024–25, we directly supported 160 children and young people with their legal matters and received almost 700 enquiries through our helpline and online form. Alongside this, our policy and strategic advocacy work remained focused on improving the recognition and respect of children's rights across England.

Shauneen's introduction to last year's report reflected on the challenges of turning 18 as an organisation particularly the need to reassess priorities during periods of growth. If 2023–24 was a pivotal year of review, reflection and restructuring, then 2024–25 has been the litmus test for whether the Board, together with the senior leadership and staff, had steered the charity into a sustainable new direction; I believe we've passed that test with purpose and resilience. To strengthen our foundation, we invested in leadership appointing an additional Co-Lead and Director of Development to enhance our finance, income generation, and communications capabilities. I want to thank Natasha Iles for streamlining internal processes, cultivating new revenue streams, and nurturing vital relationships with the trusts and donors that are the lifeblood of JfKL.

Recruitment within our legal team, however, remains a challenge. A shortage of suitable candidates has left several roles unfilled, limiting both the number of clients we can serve and the legal aid fees we can generate. Addressing this will require long-term commitment. We were therefore delighted to receive a grant from the Legal Education Fund to host a Justice First Fellowship; an opportunity to raise awareness among trainee solicitors about our unique approach as one of the few charities delivering Legal Aid contracts. Looking ahead, we recognise that part of the recruitment solution lies in telling our story highlighting how a role at JfKL fosters critical skills and contributes meaningfully to civil society.

This year also marked a significant change in our Board: the resignation of Shauneen Lamb as Chair. As co-founder, executive, trustee, and chair, Shauneen has been a driving force behind JfKL.

Her departure is deeply felt, but I suspect we'll still benefit from her laser-sharp insight when needed. Shauneen, thank you. I also want to acknowledge Tim Potter, our Treasurer and Chair of the Fundraising, Finance and Risk (FFR) Committee, whose wisdom and counsel—both formal and informal—have been invaluable. My gratitude extends to our committed Board members who balance critical review with advice and help: Professor Emerita Geraldine van Bueren KC, Brenda Campbell KC, Hemini Patel, Clare Hubberstey, Janet Latinwo, and Brianne Campbell, thank you for your continued engagement and support.

If 2023–24 was a year of transition, then 2024–25 has been a year of focused activity and impact. JfKL continues to engage at both national and international levels to drive systemic change. Our involvement in national inquiries including the ongoing Covid Inquiry has been significant. Through the skilled and tireless leadership of Louise King, Director of The Children's Rights Alliance for England (CRAE), we've led and coordinated multiple campaigns advocating for children's rights, working to influence local and central government, including the Prime Minister. Our work has led to greater scrutiny of police practices, particularly the use of Tasers and strip searches on children and resulted in much stronger strategies concerning the policing of children.

Our public voice has grown stronger this year. Media coverage and thought leadership have amplified our mission, with notable appearances and publications helping to shape public discourse. We've partnered with over 115 organisations to support amendments to the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill to introduce child rights statutory requirements, and our work has been featured prominently in national media, including front-page coverage and broadcast interviews.

We've also demonstrated programme excellence and quality assurance through external audits and internal evaluations. The Legal Aid Agency audit affirmed the quality of our service delivery, and our nonprofit model continues to demonstrate its value despite the limitations of legal aid funding. Internally, our staff achievements and institutional contributions have been a source of pride. From personal milestones to published works such as Aika Stephenson's book 'In Their Defence: Fighting for Youth Justice One Child at a Time', our team exemplifies the passion and expertise that define JfKL.

Financially, we set a deficit budget in 2024–25 to invest in senior leadership, leveraging the reserves built up in 2023–24. We end the year in a strong position, with unrestricted funds at £466k. The final phase of the Covid Inquiry will support income in the coming year, allowing us to pursue more long-term funding from major trusts and foundations. We are, as always, deeply grateful for the financial support from our donors. Without the commitment of individuals, trusts, and foundations, our work would not be possible. This year, we proudly welcomed a generous new grant from Sigrid Rausing Trust and partnership with Bindmans LLP through their innovative Social Justice Fund.

Looking ahead to 2026 and beyond, I believe we are building a sustainable financial model that will enable JfKL's twin pillars of direct legal advocacy and public policy influencing to continue improving the lives of children and young people in contact with the criminal justice system and

beyond. As public funds continue to be strained, JfKL and our unique approach is needed as never before. I am grateful for your continued support and commitment to our shared vision: A future in which the legal rights and entitlements of children and young people in the UK are respected and promoted, with the voices of those most at risk heard and valued.

Max Alexander
Chair of the Board, Just for Kids Law

The Board of Trustees presents their report and the audited financial statements for the twelve-month period ended 31st of May 2025.

Reference and administrative information set out on pages 1–2 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

Objectives and activities

Our Articles of Associations outline we will promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the public, particularly children and young people in the UK and abroad, with particular regard to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, including by advancing the rights and needs of children through:

- Research, education, training, awareness-raising, and increasing understanding and knowledge.
- Monitoring, promoting, and advocating for children's human rights, including compliance at both national and international levels.
- The provision of specialist legal advice, support, and representation, including taking legal action to prevent disadvantage, discrimination, or exclusion.
- The provision of advice, support and direct advocacy to children and young people, and promoting participation.
- All other such lawful things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of these aims.

Our vision is: A future in which the legal rights and entitlements of children and young people in the UK are respected and promoted, with the voices of those most at risk heard and valued.

Our mission is: We exist to work with, and for, children and young people to access their rights, ensure accountability of the people and systems they encounter, and fight for wider reform.

We do this by providing legal advice and representation, through strategic litigation, campaigning, and equipping others to work for children's rights.

The Board of Trustees reviews the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year. This report looks at what the charity has achieved and the outcomes of its work over the reporting year 2024–25. The Board of Trustees reports the success of each key activity and the benefits the charity has brought to those groups of people that it is set up to help. The review also helps the Board of Trustees ensure that the charity's aims, objectives and activities remain focused on its stated purposes.

The Board of Trustees has referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the Board of Trustees has considered how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

Structure, governance and management

The Board of Trustees has overall responsibility for ensuring that the charity meets its charitable objectives and has an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity. The Board was Chaired by Shauneen Lambe in an Interim Chair capacity until April 2025 when Max Alexander stepped into the role. The Board currently has nine members.

The Board delegate the day-to-day management and leadership of the charity to the Co-Leads. The leadership structure of Just for Kids Law consists of three Co-Leads: Co-Founder and Legal Director, [Aika Stephenson](#), our Director of Policy and Campaigns and Director of CRAE, [Louise King](#), and [Natasha Iles](#) appointed in September 2024 as Director of Development. Between them they have a wealth of expertise in a broad range of areas including children's rights, trauma informed legal advice and representation, policy, and public affairs as well as senior charity leadership, strategy, governance, communications, and fundraising.

The Board of trustees convene to meet each quarter. Ahead of these meetings, the Treasurer chairs a Fundraising, Finance and Risk (FFR) committee meeting which reviews fundraising, financial and risk performance, governance and issues, and reports to the Board.

Appointment of Board of Trustees

Trustees are recruited to the Board either through a recruitment process or through networks linked to the organisation. Their appointment is agreed by the entire Board of Trustees. There is no external body that is entitled to appoint one or more of the Board of Trustees.

Trustee induction and training

Before starting in their role on the Board, trustees are provided with a detailed role description, and receive a comprehensive induction which includes:

- A full information pack containing the current governing documents; strategic and shorter-term plans; recent statutory accounts and current management accounts; recent board minutes; an organisation chart/ organogram; and general background information.
- An opportunity to visit the charity's offices and projects, meet other trustees and staff and attend a board meeting.
- A clear explanation of the trustee's expected role, responsibilities and legal obligations, input to the Board and time commitment.
- Access to Charity Commission guidance.

Related parties and relationships with other organisations

The charity has no subsidiary undertakings. We connect with and have relationships with organisations in a variety of ways. Through our casework we receive referrals from voluntary and statutory sector organisations who we will partner with as part of our direct work with young people. In the delivery of our work to achieve wider change to policy and practice we partner with

numerous organisations, working collaboratively on our campaigning, our strategic litigation and on our work empowering young people to lead social change. Relationships through our income generation work includes funders such as trusts and foundations, with national children's charities and other members through our hosting of the Children's Rights Alliance for England (CRAE), and with corporates who provide us with pro bono support.

Achievements and performance

Key Achievements 1st June 2024 – 31st May 2025:

- 160 Children directly supported in 231 cases
 - 99 Children and young people in their police station matters
 - 86 Children and young people in their Magistrates court matters
 - 46 Children and young people in their Crown Court matters
- 197 self-referral forms were submitted
- 492 calls to our helpline
- 13% of helpline calls received onwards signposting to specialist immigration, education, family law or housing support.

Introduction

Following the restructure in July 2023, Just for Kids Law, including Children's Rights Alliance for England (CRAE), worked extensively to deliver a revised strategic direction which commenced on 1st June 2024 and continues until 31st May 2027.

Our Theory of Change details how the strategic priorities, set out below, drive our outcomes of a) positive change for individuals b) professionals understand & fulfil obligations to those most at risk of rights being denied c) system change for broader impact.

Strategic Priority 1: Ensuring children & young people have their rights respected in their interactions with the police and youth justice system

Strategic Priority 2: Ensuring children & young people experiencing criminal exploitation are recognised as victims and supported

Strategic Priority 3: Supporting care experienced children & young people to secure care entitlements

Strategic Priority 4: Protecting and promoting children & young people's rights, ensuring they are embedded in government policy making

Alongside the outlined strategic priorities, enabling strategies were identified which underpin the overall delivery:

- a. Board development: embed our new Board members and recruit permanent Chair

- b. Income generation to secure our finances to safeguard our core work without resorting to spending our current reserves alongside identifying funding opportunities for growing this work over the period of this strategy
- c. Invest in leadership: developing the appropriate leadership capacity to drive forward the strategy implementation and income generation.
- d. Data: improve our monitoring & evaluation systems to increase efficiency of our operations and strengthen our evidence base
- e. Diversity, Equality & Inclusion [DEI]: prioritise progressing actions already agreed in recent review
- f. Safeguarding: meet ongoing commitment for refreshing staff training
- g. Communications and clearer messaging about the uniqueness of our work to ensure we can reach our target audiences and increase our impact through the development of a communications strategy which supports both our fundraising and policy work.
- h. Support for participation by children and young people with relevant lived experience throughout our work e.g. in campaigns.

The impact we are striving for is that 'The legal rights and entitlements of children and young people in the UK are respected and promoted, with the voices of those most at risk heard and valued.'

In 2024–25, Year 1 of the strategy, focus was given to consolidation of the new structure and re-invigorating income generation to provide the foundations for financial sustainability across the duration of the strategy and beyond. As a key part of JfKL's approach going forward, we reviewed funding opportunities to rebuild new capacity for engagement and participation of children and young people.

We sought to secure resources to grow our capacity to represent children in the criminal justice system, including addressing any issues relating to their community care rights and entitlements.

Promoting and protecting children's rights continued through the Children's Rights Alliance for England (CRAE). The team strengthened key relationships and the recognition of their expertise in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child's (UNCRC) 'General Measures of Implementation' alongside a focus on the thematic area relating to the intersection of child rights and policing.

To support organisational resilience, we were delighted to receive grants for organisational development following our restructure which are detailed in Fundraising Achievements.

Key Achievements and Performance

Through a combination of legal casework, policy advocacy, training, and strategic litigation, we have reached children and young people in urgent need of protection while also achieving systemic changes that benefit thousands more. Our work has reduced harm, improved life chances, and strengthened respect for children's rights in the UK, delivering clear and tangible public benefit in line with our charitable purposes.

Recognised as experts across our criminal and children's rights work we continue to share our expertise and leadership with organisations, government departments, statutory bodies and aligned groups, which during 2024–25 included:

- Co-Chairing the UNCRC Action Group with the Department for Education
- Chairing UNICEF UK's Independent Recognition Panel for its Child Friendly Cities Programme
- Member of the Children's Commissioner for Jersey Adult Advisory panel
- Member of the National Taser Stakeholder Advisory Group
- Member of the Independent Office for Police Conduct External Stakeholder Reference Group
- Civil Society member of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Children's Rights in Police Custody
- Member of Equally Ours Policy Influencing Working Group
- Member of the Police Race Action Plan Civil Society Group
- Member of the Youth Justice Board Voluntary Sector Liaison Group
- Member of the UK Child Law Network
- Membership of the Alliance for Youth Justice Racial Justice Expert group
- Member of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in policing Research and Analysis group
- Member of the UK Contextual Safeguarding Advisory Panel
- Member of the Youth Justice Legal Centre
- Member of Art Not evidence
- Member of the Black Safeguarding Professionals Network
- Member of the Child First Research and Training Project (CHIRP) including facilitating training of police staff to reduce detention of children in custody
- Giving evidence at the Times Crime and Justice Review
- Giving evidence at the Alliance for Youth Justice Consultation sessions on Children in Criminal Courts and Child Criminal Exploitation
- Giving evidence at the Law commission on Criminal Appeals and Contempt of Court
- Giving evidence at ECPAT UK Research: child trafficking and exploitation definitions
- Giving evidence at Justice Round Table on Strip Search
- Facilitating training to Lawyers, Youth Justice Services and other social care organisations on Representing Children, Anti-Racist approaches, Adulthood and Racial Justice, Out of Court Disposals, Child Criminal Exploitation and Bail and Remand
- Judging Panel of the Legal Aid Lawyer of the Year (LALY) Awards

Strategic Priority 1: Ensuring children & young people have their rights respected in their interactions with the police and youth justice system

This year, we continued our influencing work to bring about systematic change so that children in contact with the police have their rights respected. This included highlighting the persistent racial disproportionality in the use of police powers on children and ongoing adulthood, particularly

for Black boys. We continued to engage and build positive relationships with policing bodies, the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC), the Home Office, and parliamentarians. This included several meetings with key decision makers including the new Director General of the IOPC and the Chief Executive of the College of Policing (CoP).

Our advocacy resulted in changes to national and local police strategies to strengthen the protection of children's rights. Many of the key concerns we raised with the initial draft of the Metropolitan Police Service's and National Police Chief Council's (NPCC) children's strategies were taken on board, particularly the focus on trauma-informed training, addressing adultification bias, and improving communication with children alongside de-escalation techniques. While these commitments are encouraging, the true test will be in their implementation. We want to see a tangible improvement in the day-to-day experiences of children, particularly for Black and other racialised groups, which we will continue to monitor.

We were also pleased that following our advocacy, an IOPC report on racial discrimination included our key calls in relation to racial disproportionality in the use of police powers on children and a need for greater action by the police to address adultification bias.

We were also invited to join the civil society group for the National Police Race Action Plan (PRAP). As the only children's rights organisation, we are working to secure a focus on racialised children's experiences and the need for intersectional approaches. We are also highlighting the importance of engaging children and young people with lived experience in scrutinising the PRAP, ensuring their voices shape reforms and have a key role in any future oversight and accountability mechanisms.

Alongside cross-cutting policing issues, we also worked hard to secure reform relating to key police powers. In partnership with the Children's Legal Centre Wales and the Youth Justice Legal Centre, we submitted a detailed response to the then Government's consultation on proposed amendments to PACE Codes of Practice A and C, which concern strip searches. Our submission welcomed the Government's ambition to strengthen safeguards for children but expressed disappointment that the proposed amendments fall well short of fully protecting children's rights. After the General Election, we engaged with the new Government to ensure they took forward and strengthened the reforms, given the commitment on this issue in the Labour Party Manifesto, engaging with Home Office officials including attending a roundtable where we pushed for further safeguards.

We also continued with our support for the inquiry of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Children's Rights in Police Custody, which is also examining the issue of strip searching. Through our involvement in the CHIRP (Child First Custody Training and Research Pilot) for police officers, we began work to reduce the number of children held in custody and ensure faster, more child-appropriate processing.

A significant part of our policing policy influencing this year focussed on the use of Taser on children. We continued to sit on the National Taser Stakeholder Advisory Group (NTSAG) and joined a policing working group looking at improving scrutiny and accountability on Taser use. The group was set up to take forward recommendations from an independent academic review commissioned by the CoP and the NPCC on racial disproportionality in Taser use (on both adults and children). We were able to secure specific recommendations in relation to the scrutiny of cases where a Taser has been used on a child and for improved police training on effective communication and de-escalation when interacting with children. The recommendations are currently being considered by NPCC and the CoP.

We have also undertaken significant advocacy around the proposed authorisation of Taser 10 – a new more powerful model of Taser. Due to how this model works, there are some specific serious concerns in relation to use on children. We have been working to ensure that these are fully considered in the authorisation process and that a full Child Rights Impact Assessment is carried out. We have written to SACMILL (the Scientific Advisory Committee on the Medical Implications of Less Lethal Weapons) and to the policing minister in partnership with the Omega Foundation, which Chairs NTSAG. The minister has agreed to meet to discuss our concerns.

Alongside this focussed policing policy influencing, we raised key issues child rights concerns in relation to the policing and youth justice in our children's rights monitoring and advocacy work, raising concerns with key figures, including the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (see below)

Our team providing direct representation to children in the Criminal Legal System are experiencing daily how broken the system really is. We are now regularly seeing Crown Court cases being adjourned for trial in two to four years' time which feels like a lifetime to most adults let alone children and young people who will have gone through significant life and developmental changes in that time. We see a culture within the Legal System that dehumanises and adultifies children. We continue to use our expertise to avoid criminalisation of children wherever possible. We also continue to highlight the experiences of the children and young people in the legal system and custodial estate to the attention of key stakeholders and to advocate for the requirement for Child Specialist solicitors to represent Children in Criminal proceedings. We use trauma informed, anti-racist and strengths-based approaches to ensure that children's rights are embedded throughout our practice and that Children and Young People are seen as individuals rather than a homogenous group. Our approach has resulted in Children and Young People's rights being respected in the system where we most frequently see them being abused.

Strategic Priority 2: Ensuring children & young people experiencing criminal exploitation are recognised as victims and supported

Our legal team represented children and young people exploited through criminal activity, successfully securing the discontinuance of prosecutions where the individual's status as a victim

of modern slavery was recognised. We provided expert evidence, including psychological and modern slavery reports, to support these outcomes. We also held local authorities to account where they failed to protect exploited young people, ensuring immediate safeguarding action and the provision of essential services. 9 children and young people's cases were discontinued prior to trial as a result of our representations regarding their status as victims of criminal exploitation:

Case examples of our work are set out below:

Representing a 17 year old client who had previously been advised to plead guilty by his solicitors, he was very reserved and struggled to trust us, we have since built a good rapport with him and he has started to trust us, his guilty plea has been vacated and we are currently in the process of arranging a Psychological and Modern Slavery Assessment.

Successfully persuaded the Crown to discontinue a theft case after representations regarding our client's status as a victim of modern slavery and criminal exploitation. Our client is an 18-year-old unaccompanied asylum seeker who was initially age disputed as 22 years old when he first came to the UK. We had previously successfully argued that the case should be heard in the Youth Court because he would have been 17 when he first entered his plea. The Crown subsequently discontinued the case.

Representing a 17-year-old boy who was charged with Possession with Intent to Supply Class A Drugs and Concerned in the Supply of Class A Drugs. This boy was a victim of exploitation and had been referred to the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) therefore was advancing a defence of Modern Slavery. He is care experienced and has experienced significant adversity including witnessing and being subject to serious violence and spending a significant amount of time in his parents' home country where he was abused and had witnessed the death of his friend following a shooting. The NRM referral resulted in a positive conclusive grounds decision. In light of this we made representations highlighting his status as a victim of exploitation as well as referencing Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) guidance, asking them to discontinue the prosecution as it was not in the public interest. Upon reviewing the matter, the prosecution decided to discontinue. As a result of this no further action was taken in relation to his further police station case.

A 21-year-old male charged with Robbery. He has a long history of trafficking and exploitation and was putting forward a defence of duress which has a very high threshold. The barrister had advised the client to plead guilty so that he could benefit from a reduced sentence, as Duress is a difficult defence to prove however we worked hard with the client to prepare him for his trial. He was able to put forward his defence at court explaining that he had been forced into criminality since he was a child the jury subsequently returned a unanimous not guilty verdict. He was also facing a charge of attempted theft which we managed to have discontinued based on submissions that it was not in the public interest to prosecute him given the jury in a more serious trial had accepted his status as a victim of exploitation.

Alongside our direct work, we also worked with partners to strengthen statutory safeguards for children who have been criminally exploited. We supported efforts by ECPAT UK and Barnardo's to table amendments to the Crime and Police Bill to ensure that child criminal exploitation is specifically recognised as a form of exploitation under the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

Our Co-Lead, Aika Stephenson, also took part in a workshop, convened by ECPAT UK, with attendance by the Home Office, on the definition of child criminal exploitation on how definitions impact the response to child trafficking and exploitation. The report will be launched later in the year.

Aika also fed into Alliance for Youth justice research on child criminal exploitation and the transition to adulthood drawing on the experience of her direct legal work with children and young adults. We have now been asked to be a critical reader of its forthcoming report, with a planned to launch in the summer.

Strategic Priority 3: Supporting care experienced children & young people to secure care entitlements

Our work in this area was limited by the departure of our Community Care Solicitor in October 2024. We were then unable to recruit a suitable replacement until May 2025. We are pleased to announce that leading Children's Rights lawyer Chris Callender will be joining our team in early June 2025 as Head of Civil Litigation. To date Chris' experience includes the Howard League for Penal Reform and Article 39; supporting legal services to children and young people, and private practice with a focus on assisting care experienced children and children experiencing criminal and sexual exploitation. Chris' experience, approach and success make him the ideal candidate to take JfKL's civil litigation team forwards with renewed focus. As a key figure in Public and Community Care Law Chris has taken many legal challenges ranging from children's rights in the care system to representing families in inquests relating to children and young people who have taken their lives while in the care of mental health services.

In the first quarter of the year we acted for care leavers, unaccompanied asylum-seeking children, and other care-experienced young people to prevent unsafe relocations away from vital support networks. We secured access to appropriate accommodation, personal advisors, and mental health services, even in cases where immigration status had previously been a barrier.

Strategic Priority 4: Protecting and promoting children & young people's rights, ensuring they are embedded in government policy making

Through our hosting of the Children's Rights Alliance for England, we had a busy year continuing our work on the protection and promotion of children's rights. Given the UK General Election, this year began with ongoing influencing of the political party manifestoes followed by significant advocacy to shape the child rights agenda of the new UK Government.

We were delighted that our Children's Rights Charter was supported by over 90 organisations, to press for the embedding of children's rights in UK law and policymaking. This resulted with a productive meeting with the children's minister, where we discussed the need for the Government to take action to ensure that children's rights were better considered in Government decision-making.

We also engaged with newly elected parliamentarians and newly appointed key Select Committees, including the newly elected Chair of the Joint Committee on Human Rights on its role in holding the Government to account on its children's rights obligations

We also continued to co-chair the UNCRC Action Group, alongside the Department for Education. Immediately following the Election, we held a meeting to discuss our children's rights priorities for the new Government. We also held several thematic discussions throughout the year, including on how to ensure the Government's Child Poverty Taskforce takes a children's rights approach, on the Government's Youth Strategy, and work on improving children's participation in decision-making. We also held our first session to assess progress on the UN Committee's priority areas of recommendations made in its 2023 Concluding Observations on the UK.

In September 2024, we took part in a conference in Edinburgh, which we helped to organise as a member of the Rights of the Child UK steering group. The conference aimed to share good practice and discuss collaboration on taking forward UNCRC implementation across the UK, including UNCRC incorporation. Speakers included the Scottish Government Minister for Children, Young People and the Promise. Our Co-Lead and Director of CRAE, Louise King, presented on the challenges and opportunities for better implementation of the UNCRC at a UK Government level.

Given Just for Kids Laws' focus on challenging racism and discrimination, we continued our work to influence the UN Committee for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination's (CERD) examination of the UK. We worked with CRAE members and others to submit a civil society report, which covered issues such as racial disproportionality in police use of force on children, the overrepresentation of children in the youth justice system, including in child prisons, the high proportion of Black and Gypsy, Roma or Traveller children who are excluded from school and the treatment of unaccompanied children seeking asylum. The report was supported by 43 organisations, including the Black Equity organisation, The Children's Society and Action for Race Equality.

We also gave oral evidence to the UN CERD Committee at a hearing in Geneva and shared a briefing with Committee members on the views of racialised children on how well they think their rights are being respected drawing on previous research we had done with children and young people. We were the only children's rights organisation to engage in the examination.

Due to our advocacy, the UN CERD Committee's Concluding Observations on the UK included a 60% increase in recommendations relating to the rights of racialised children in comparison to the last time the UK was examined. We subsequently published a briefing for stakeholders providing

an overview of the concerns and recommendations covering issues such as policing, education, child poverty, and immigration.

On International Children's Day 2024, we published our new joint briefing with UNICEF UK to support civil society organisations to use recommendations from the UN Child Rights Committee in their policy influencing work. The briefing has also been sent to a member of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child who was interested to find to more about our work in raising awareness of the Concluding Observations. We also supported the publication of a report by Eurochild, on the state of children's rights in Europe. We drafted the chapter setting out key children's rights developments and concerns for England.

In the Spring, we were very pleased to attend a meeting, hosted by Amnesty International UK, with Volker Türk, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. This was an important opportunity to raise key children's rights issues ahead of the Commissioner's meetings with the UK Government. Key issues highlighted included the UK's failure to embed children's rights in law and decision-making, including the lack of progress on incorporating the UNCRC and the lack of a UK Government response to the UN Committee's Concluding Observations in contrast to the governments of Wales and Scotland.

A number of key children's rights issues were also highlighted including the lack of progress to ensure that children have equal protection from physical assault, the UK's extremely low age of criminal responsibility and other important issues in relation to racial disproportionality in the policing of children and in the youth justice system.

We also supported one of our young Change it! campaigners to take part in the meeting. She spoke powerfully about her lived experience of child poverty and homelessness, the impact this has on children and the importance of decision-makers listening to children's views.

A key area our work this year, was to take the opportunity of the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill to push for amendments to introduce statutory children's rights requirements: a duty on UK Government Ministers to give due consideration to the UNCRC and a mandatory requirement to carry out Child Rights Impact Assessments (CRIAs) on all government policy and budgetary decisions that may impact children. Working in partnership with UNICEF UK and NSPCC, for the Children's Charities Coalition, we were pleased to secure 115 supporting organisations for our briefing for the House of Lords Second Reading of the Bill. We will continue our advocacy as the Bill continues its parliamentary passage.

Module 8 of the Covid 19 Public Inquiry, which will specifically focus on the impact of the pandemic on children and young people, was announced at the beginning of the reporting period. We have again been awarded core participation status alongside Save the Children UK and are joined by the Centre for Young Lives (headed up by the former Children's Commissioner for England, Anne Longfield) and Child Poverty Action Group. We are continuing the work we began as core participants in module 2 in making the case for strong statutory child rights requirements

alongside a Cabinet Minister for children and a cross-departmental children's rights strategy. These safeguards would ensure that the harms caused to children during the pandemic are not repeated. We made strong written and oral submissions at the two pre-liminary hearings and have begun a comprehensive document review of the disclosed evidence. Our Co-Lead, Louise King has also started to prepare a comprehensive witness statement for the Inquiry. The public hearings will begin in the autumn.

Lastly, we have worked as part of Equally Ours to influence government plans to strengthen equality legislation, including bringing the social-economic duty of the Equality Act 2010 into force and looking at how protections from intersectional discrimination can be strengthened. We attended the Combined Discrimination Summit hosted by Equally Ours and the Government Office for Equality and Opportunity which explored how combined discrimination—based on two protected characteristics—manifests in different areas. We shared insights from our policy work, highlighting how intersectional discrimination plays out in practice—particularly in schools and policing.

Financial review

Following the 2023–24 budget year of 10-month, this report covers the 12-month financial period from the 1st June 2024 to the 31st May 2025.

The income for the reporting period was £786,929, a decrease in income which was anticipated. Expenditure for the report period was £891,283, again a decrease on the previous year which was anticipated. Income did perform ahead of budget and so the expected reserves position ended the year better than initially anticipated.

At the end of the 12-month accounting period the charity holds £589,082 total funds of which £123,144 are restricted and not for general purpose. These restricted funds are committed for project expenditure in the 2025–26 budget year. After making allowance for the restricted funds overall there was a net decrease in funds of £142,985, resulting in an unrestricted reserves balance of £465,968.

The principal funding sources of the charity during the reporting period are trusts and foundations, with this source totalling £411,429 making up 52% of the total income. Just for Kids Law receives funding from a wide variety of trusts and foundations and would like to thank them for their support. A full list of funders can be found at the end of the financial statements. During the year, the legal aid contract contributed £135,025 of the total income and the income from the COVID-19 Inquiry totalled £43,168.

Reserves policy and going concern

A level of reserves is required to protect Just for Kids Law and ensure continued operation in the result of delayed grant income, or to ensure a well organised closure in the event of financial risk being realised.

The Board considers it prudent to set the target reserves position at four and a half months' running costs. Keeping this in reserves allows for contractual obligations and liabilities arising from legal aid obligations, alongside salaries, redundancy and committed expenditure, in the result of the charity needing to wind down.

The Board of Trustees will consider current costs of closure and examine the level of reserves each year when setting the following years' budget.

At the end of 2024–25 the free reserves are £452,008, which puts the reserves at 6 months.

Principle risks and uncertainties

Alongside Just for Kids Law Co-Leads, the Board has reviewed the major risks to which the charity is exposed. Systems have been established, including policies, training, and regular control to mitigate those risks.

The Risk Register is regularly reviewed by the Co-Leads and at the Finance & Risk Sub-Committee quarterly, with discussion at the Board Meeting every six months. Three key risks across the reporting period and into 2025–26 are:

- **Failure to meet fundraising targets including achieving funding for core costs due to lack of diverse income streams.**

Mitigations: Development and implementation of 2025+ fundraising strategy to diversify income streams. Regular leadership fundraising meetings reviewing the income pipeline and opportunities. Quarterly committee focus on income and planned income at Fundraising, Finance and Risk meetings with the Treasurer reporting to the Board meetings.

- **Loss of key staff**

Mitigations: Identification of critical roles and investment in recruiting for these roles. Pay scale benchmarking. Line managers monitor staff wellbeing. TOIL policy introduced and to be kept under review, weekly wellbeing hour, Clinical supervision/reflective practice offered to frontline staff.

- **Failure to adequately safeguard vulnerable clients and manage incidents or allegations.**

Mitigations: Annual safeguarding training being delivered by independent provider for all Staff. Safeguarding Policy and Procedures shared with all staff via intranet and HR platform and included in new staff induction.

As in 2024–25 'Failure to meet fundraising targets' is the highest risk regarding Likelihood and Impact. 'Loss of Key Staff' has increased in Likelihood with the continued resource pressure of a smaller charity delivering above expectations. 'Failure to adequately safeguard' continues to be a key risk, the Impact of failure will disrupt parts of the charity and impact wider across reputation and trust.

Plans for the Future

Looking ahead, we will continue to make the most of opportunities which further our priority policy objectives. A key focus in the coming year will be our involvement in the Covid Inquiry as a core participant in Module 8. As disclosure really gets underway, we will be focussing our efforts on document review, working in partnership with the other core participants in our Child Rights Organisations grouping. We will also be completing a substantial witness statement from our Co-Lead, Louise King, and preparing and participating in the public hearings, beginning in the autumn. Our aim is to make a convincing case to the Chair of the Inquiry for recommendations that address the root causes behind the harm caused to children by UK Government decisions during the pandemic. Without children's rights obligations enshrined in UK law, then the same mistakes will happen again in a future pandemic or other national emergency.

Alongside our work on the Inquiry, will be also pursue complimentary work on the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill as it continues its passage through Parliament. Working with Baroness Lister, alongside UNICEF UK and NSPCC, we will advocate for amendments which introduce a statutory children's rights duty on UK Government Ministers and a requirement to carry out child rights impact assessments on all relevant policy and budgetary decisions.

We will maintain our work to ensure children in contact with the police have their rights respected, particularly those from racialised groups. A key focus will be our continued engagement in the national Police Race Action Plan (PRAP), including pushing for racialised children with lived experience of the police to be able to meaningfully participate in accountability and oversight mechanisms for PRAP. We also plan to research the unique experience of girls in contact with the police and the rights issues that need to be addressed. We will also be taking forward a key aspect of our strategic plan to rebuild the organisation's participation programme. We are delighted to have secured funding from the John Ellerman Foundation, which will enable us to start a young people-led campaign on children's rights and policing.

Looking ahead further, we plan to explore whether gaps exist across our focus and influence. Identifying if there are significant numbers of children and young people and relevant professionals who are not benefiting from Just for Kids Law's work.

Fundraising Achievements and Disclosures

Like all charities, we faced a challenging fundraising environment during the year. To undertake the organisation development needed to ensure resilience and sustainability, we were pleased to secure funding from valued supporters and new sources. Thank you to CAF Keystone Fund, Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and the Mark Leonard Trust, your support for this essential foundational work was invaluable.

With support from the CAF Keystone Fund, we were able to bring in external expertise to help the staff, senior management team and Trustees develop a new three-year strategic plan reflecting

our restructured, refocussed charity. They brought additional skills and knowledge to enable our organisation to make a difficult but necessary transition.

Just for Kids Law was pleased to welcome a new Co-lead and Director of Development in September. The Director developed a new three-year funding and communications plan to implement the new strategy. We are grateful to the CAF Keystone Fund and Esmée Fairbairn Foundation in funding additional expertise to feed into this plan. As demonstrated in these latest accounts, we are in a stronger position going forward and are confident we are more sustainable and resilient as a result.

We are also thankful to those charitable trusts and foundations which offered solidarity and financial support during the racist riots over the summer. Your support provided strength in our daily work.

We would like to thank our legal allies. We were delighted to celebrate our 18th birthday with friends and supporters at an event generously hosted by Garden Court Chambers. In the summer, we partnered with Bindmans LLP, the award-winning law firm with a 50-year human rights and social justice record, in its launch of its Social Justice Fund. We look forward to seeing the Fund flourish so that it can help us to continue delivering trauma-informed and anti-racist direct legal representation for children and young people, alongside fighting for wider change.

We are particularly grateful to our loyal regular donors who have stuck with us through a period of considerable change. You helped to us to be there for children and young people who need us every day.

In the reporting period, Just for Kids Law was registered with the Fundraising Regulator, upholding ethical fundraising practices and aligned with the governance of the code. As in previous years, the charity received no complaints about our fundraising activities during the 2024–25 reporting period.

Remuneration policy for key management personnel

Just for Kids Law remuneration policy for all staff includes the following key elements:

- Salary ranges are completely transparent.
- The policy applies equally to fixed term and permanent staff.
- Salary increments are awarded through either annual inflationary cost of living increases subject to affordability, a discretionary organisational bonus scheme subject to affordability, progression within a salary range based on length in post, taking on additional responsibilities or acting up into a role.

Funds held as custodian trustee

No funds are being held on behalf of others.

Statement of responsibilities of the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees (who are also directors of Just for Kids Law for the purposes of company law) is responsible for preparing the Board of Trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

- Select suitable accounting policies and then 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 and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that 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.

In so far as the Board of Trustees is aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware.
- The Board of Trustees has taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make itself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

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

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 May 2025 was 9 (2024 – 9). Trustees are members of the charity, but this entitles them only to voting rights. The Board of Trustees has no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP was re-appointed as the charitable company's auditor during the period and has expressed its willingness to continue in that capacity.

The annual report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies' subject to the small companies' regime.

The Board of Trustees' annual report has been approved by the Board of Trustees on 6 November 2025 and signed on their behalf by

Max Alexander
Chair of the Board of Trustees

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

Just for Kids Law Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Just for Kids Law (the 'charitable company') for the period ended 31 May 2025 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (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 May 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
- 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 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 Just for Kids Law's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

Just for Kids Law Limited

report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. 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 course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- The information given in the trustees' annual report, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- The trustees' annual report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' annual report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- Adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- The financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- Certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- The directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' annual report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

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

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

Just for Kids Law Limited

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.

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 are set out below.

Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities

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

- We enquired of management and the finance and risk committee, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charity's policies and procedures relating to:
 - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
 - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
 - The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the charity from our professional and sector experience.
- We communicated applicable laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We reviewed any reports made to regulators.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

Just for Kids Law Limited

- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: 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 members as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an 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 the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Noelia Serrano (Senior statutory auditor)

Date: 1 December 2025

for and on behalf of Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor

110 Golden Lane, LONDON, EC1Y 0TG

Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

For the year ended 31 May 2025

				Year to 31 May 2025			10 months to 31 May 2024
	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	2	411,429	-	411,429	387,734	-	387,734
Charitable activities							
Legal	3	180,891	127,798	308,689	674,034	45,208	719,242
Policy	3	8,723	56,567	65,290	22,421	67,663	90,084
Other	4	501	-	501	4,786	-	4,786
Investments	5	1,021	-	1,021	1,021	-	1,021
Total income		602,564	184,365	786,929	1,089,996	112,871	1,202,867
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	6	84,133	-	84,133	30,715	-	30,715
Charitable activities							-
Legal	6	601,819	82,466	684,285	843,838	47,724	891,562
Policy	6	57,954	64,911	122,864	75,741	67,839	143,580
Total expenditure		743,906	147,377	891,283	950,294	115,563	1,065,857
Net (expenditure) / income for the period	7	(141,342)	36,988	(104,354)	139,702	(2,692)	137,010
Net movement in funds		(141,342)	36,988	(104,354)	139,702	(2,692)	137,010
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		607,310	86,126	693,436	467,608	88,818	556,426
Total funds carried forward		465,968	123,114	589,082	607,310	86,126	693,436

Discontinued activities relate to business transfers of certain areas of work for further information please see the Trustees report. All other activities are continuing. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 17a.

Balance sheet

As at 31 May 2025

Approved by the trustees on 6 November 2025 and signed on their behalf by

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Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 May 2025

Reconciliation of net (expenditure) / income to net cash flow from operating activities

	Year to 31 May 2025		10 months to 31 May 2024	
	£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities				
Net (expenditure) / income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(104,354)		137,010	
Dividends and interest	(1,021)		(1,021)	
Decrease / (increase) in debtors	204,472		(60,792)	
(Decrease) in creditors	(31,504)		(372,051)	
(Increase) / decrease in work in progress	(51,643)		57,393	
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities		15,951		(239,461)
Cash flows from investing activities:				
Dividends and interest	1,021		1,021	
Net cash provided by investing activities		1,021		1,021
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the period		16,972		(238,440)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		436,072		674,512
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period		453,044		436,072

1 Accounting policies

a) Statutory information

Just for Kids Law is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in the United Kingdom. The registered office address and principal place of business is EC1 Offices, 338 City Road, London, EC1V 2PY .

b) Basis of preparation

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

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

c) Public benefit entity

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

d) Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

e) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that 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 is recognised on casework earned and due ("work in progress" or "WIP") according to the time booked on the matter multiplied by the relevant legal aid or interpartes rate. Appropriate provision is made for irrecoverable WIP.

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

f) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

g) Interest receivable

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.

h) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

i) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

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

- Costs of raising funds relate to the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering services undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

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

1 Accounting policies (continued)**j) Allocation of 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.

Where information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is provided to potential beneficiaries, the costs associated with this publicity are allocated to charitable expenditure.

Where such information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is also provided to potential donors, activity costs are apportioned between fundraising and charitable activities on the basis of area of literature occupied by each activity.

● Raising Funds	2%
● Legal	82%
● Programmes	0%
● Policy	16%

Governance costs are re-allocated to each of the activities on the following basis which is an estimate, based percentage of expenditure, of the amount attributable to each activity.

● Raising funds	3%
● Legal	81%
● Programmes	0%
● Policy	16%

Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity. These costs are associated with constitutional and statutory requirements and include any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities.

k) Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

l) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where purchase prices exceeds £1000.

m) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

n) Cash at bank and in hand

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

o) Creditors and provisions

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

p) Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value.

q) Pensions

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund. The charitable company has no liability under the scheme other than for the payment of those contributions.

r) Work in progress

Legal work in progress is valued at the net realisable value. Provision is made when necessary for irrecoverable amounts of work in progress.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 May 2025

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Year to 31 May 2025			10 months to 31 May 2024		
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Donations	13,929	-	13,929	37,234	-	37,234
The 29th May 1961 Charitable Trust	7,500	-	7,500	7,500	-	7,500
A&O Shearman Foundation	10,000	-	10,000	-	-	-
Aurum Charitable Trust	-	-	-	25,000	-	25,000
The Blgrave Trust	-	-	-	55,000	-	55,000
Brown Dog	10,000	-	10,000	-	-	-
Dr. Martens Foundation	-	-	-	20,000	-	20,000
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	120,000	-	120,000	120,000	-	120,000
Family Charitable Trusts	30,000	-	30,000	30,000	-	30,000
Family Foundation 2	5,000	-	5,000	-	-	-
Garden Court Chambers	-	-	-	8,000	-	8,000
Hollick Family Charitable Trust	10,000	-	10,000	10,000	-	10,000
Horne Foundation	50,000	-	50,000	-	-	-
Inner London Magistrates' Court Poor Box Charity	5,000	-	5,000	-	-	-
John Ellerman Foundation	-	-	-	50,000	-	50,000
London Legal Support Trust Centre of Excellence	10,000	-	10,000	-	-	-
The Sigrid Rausing Trust	100,000	-	100,000	-	-	-
The Stewarts Law Foundation	25,000	-	25,000	-	-	-
TUUT Charitable Trust	15,000	-	15,000	-	-	-
Segelman Trust	-	-	-	25,000	-	25,000
	411,429	-	411,429	387,734	-	387,734

3 Income from charitable activities

	Year to 31 May 2025			10 months to 31 May 2024		
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
London Legal Support Trust Centre of Excellence	-	-	-	10,000	-	10,000
The Dawes Trust	-	30,000	30,000	-	-	-
Legal Education Foundation (including Justice First Fellowship)	-	62,523	62,523	-	11,387	11,387
HughBonGo Fund, The Talent Fund	-	-	-	-	10,000	10,000
Case work and LAA	135,025	-	135,025	240,770	-	240,770
Cabinet Office (C19 inquiry)	43,168	-	43,168	423,265	-	423,265
Other Legal income	2,698	-	2,698	-	-	-
Development (Other)	-	35,275	35,275	-	23,821	23,821
Sub-total for Legal	180,891	127,798	308,689	674,035	45,208	719,243
Donations	-	-	-	60	-	60
The A B Charitable Trust	-	30,000	30,000	-	30,000	30,000
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	-	19,342	19,342	-	5,451	5,451
Wilmington Trust	-	-	-	-	27,333	27,333
TUUT Charitable Trust	-	-	-	5,000	-	5,000
Other Policy income	8,723	-	8,723	17,361	-	17,361
Development (Other)	-	7,225	7,225	-	4,879	4,879
Sub-total for Policy	8,723	56,567	65,290	22,421	67,663	90,084
Total income from charitable activities	189,613	184,365	373,978	696,455	112,871	809,326

4 Income from other activities

	Year to 31 May 2025			10 months to 31 May 2024		
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Events and sponsorships	-	-	-	1,265	-	1,265
Book sales	501	-	501	3,521	-	3,521
	<u>501</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>501</u>	<u>4,786</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,786</u>

5 Income from investments

	Year to 31 May 2025			10 months to 31 May 2024		
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Bank interest receivable	1,021	-	1,021	1,021	-	1,021
	<u>1,021</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,021</u>	<u>1,021</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,021</u>

6a Analysis of expenditure (current period)

	Charitable activities					Year to	10 months to
	Raising funds	Legal	Policy	Governance	Support costs	31 May 2025	31 May 2024
	£	£	£	costs £	£	£	£
Staff costs (Note 8)	27,012	177,298	79,265	-	118,384	401,959	390,436
Other staff costs	11	3,304	-	1,332	23,599	28,246	22,109
Client support	-	954	-	-	128	1,082	841
Consultancy	48,325	8,833	-	7,650	8,214	73,022	57,939
Insurance	-	8,374	-	-	1,767	10,141	9,259
Promotion	1,962	-	-	-	414	2,376	7,594
Legal fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	785
Audit and accountancy	-	-	-	12,600	-	12,600	12,000
Governance	-	-	-	1,496	-	1,496	4,203
Premises costs	-	-	-	-	70,177	70,177	47,660
Office costs	-	24,239	34	-	38,230	62,503	65,064
Other costs	125	-	6,471	-	228	6,824	33,193
Subscriptions	276	1,585	942	-	1,026	3,829	2,876
LAA Costs	-	206,068	-	-	-	206,068	390,134
VAT	-	-	-	-	23,804	23,804	21,631
Project Costs	-	-	(13,381)	-	538	(12,843)	134
	77,711	430,655	73,331	23,078	286,508	891,283	1,065,857
Support costs	5,730	234,937	45,841	-	(286,508)	-	-
Governance costs	692	18,693	3,693	(23,078)	-	-	-
Total expenditure 2025	84,133	684,285	122,864		-	891,283	
Total expenditure 2024	30,715	891,562	143,580	-	-		1,065,857

6b Analysis of expenditure (previous period)

	Charitable activities			Governance	Support costs	10 months to
	Raising funds	Legal	Policy	costs		31 May 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs (Note 8)	-	232,585	65,437	-	92,413	390,436
Other staff costs	-	1,710	-	-	20,399	22,109
Client support	-	581	-	-	260	841
Consultancy	24,800	10,989	-	-	22,150	57,939
Insurance	-	-	-	-	9,259	9,259
Promotion	-	-	-	-	7,594	7,594
Legal fees	-	-	-	-	785	785
Audit and accountancy	-	-	-	12,000	-	12,000
Governance	-	-	-	4,203	-	4,203
Premises costs	-	-	-	-	47,660	47,660
Office costs	-	19,410	-	-	45,654	65,064
Other costs	-	-	31,980	-	1,213	33,193
Subscriptions	-	420	-	-	2,456	2,876
LAA Costs	-	390,134	-	-	-	390,134
VAT	-	-	-	-	21,631	21,631
Project Costs	-	-	134	-	-	134
	24,800	655,828	97,551	16,203	271,475	1,065,857
Support costs	5,429	222,610	43,436	-	(271,475)	-
Governance costs	486	13,124	2,593	(16,203)	-	-
Total expenditure 2024	30,715	891,562	143,580		-	1,065,857

* Other expenditure refers to the transfer of assets of our discontinued activities. Please refer to Trustees' report for more information.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 May 2025

7 Net expenditure for the year

This is stated after charging / (crediting):

	Year to 31 May 2025 £	10 months to 31 May 2024 £
Auditor's remuneration (excluding VAT): Audit	12,600	12,000

8 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

Staff costs were as follows:

	Year to 31 May 2025 £	10 months to 31 May 2024 £
Salaries and wages	348,445	337,452
Social security costs	38,720	38,125
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	14,794	14,858
	401,959	390,436

The following number of employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs and employer's national insurance) during the period between:

	Year to 31 May 2025 No.	10 months to 31 May 2024 No.
£60,000 - £69,999	1	-

The total employee benefits (including pension contributions and employer's national insurance) of the key management personnel were £185,493 (2024: £152,582).

The charity trustees were neither paid nor received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the period (2024: £nil). One charity trustee, Shauneen Lambe, received payment of £3,200 in relation to providing support in the charity's strategic litigation legal work (2024: £700). The transaction was on an arm's length basis and the trustee was not involved in the decision making process.

During the year, £37 travel expenses were reimbursed as trustee expenses (2024: £40).

9 Staff numbers

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the period was 9 (2024: 11).

Staff are split across the activities of the charitable company as follows (average head count):

	Year to 31 May 2025 No.	10 months to 31 May 2024 No.
Raising funds	0.8	-
Legal	3.9	6.4
Policy	2.0	1.8
Support	2.0	2.5
	8.7	10.7

10 Related party transactions

Trustee Sufina Ahmad is the Director of the John Ellerman Foundation which gave Just for Kids Law a grant of £nil (2024: £50,000). During the period, trustees in aggregate donated unrestricted funds of £50 (2024: £330).

11 Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

12 Tangible fixed assets

There were no tangible fixed assets for this period and the previous period.

13 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	28,048	226,930
Other debtors	13,658	19,248
	<u>41,706</u>	<u>246,178</u>

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	14,670	17,495
Taxation and social security	12,975	29,912
Other creditors	25,371	38,412
Deferred income	1,300	-
	<u>54,316</u>	<u>85,819</u>

15 Deferred income

Deferred income comprises the deferment of grant income received in the period which must be recognised in following years as per the terms of the specific grants.

	2025 £	2024 £
Balance at the beginning of the year	-	2,950
Amount released to income in the year	-	(2,950)
Amount deferred in the year	1,300	-
	<u>1,300</u>	<u>-</u>

16a Analysis of net assets between funds (current period)

	General unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total funds £
Net current assets	452,008	13,960	123,114	589,082
Net assets at 31 May 2025	452,008	13,960	123,114	589,082

16b Analysis of net assets between funds (prior period)

	General unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total funds £
Net current assets	607,310	86,126	693,436
Net assets at 31 May 2024	607,310	86,126	693,436

17a Movements in funds (current period)

	At 1 June 2024 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	At 31 May 2025 £
Restricted funds:					
Legal					
The Dawes Trust	-	30,000	-	-	30,000
Legal Education Foundation (including Justice First Fellowship)	-	62,523	(13,205)	-	49,318
HughBonGo Fund, The Talent Fund	8,000	-	(8,000)	-	-
Education funds and one-off grants	912	-	-	-	912
Hardship fund	8,179	-	(708)	-	7,471
Development (other)	30,377	35,275	(60,553)	-	5,099
	47,468	127,798	(82,466)	-	92,800
Policy					
The A B Charitable Trust	20,925	30,000	(28,786)	-	22,139
Barrow Cadbury Trust	1,500	-	(1,500)	-	-
Comic Relief	3,284	-	-	-	3,284
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	4,727	19,342	(20,223)	-	3,846
Wilmington Trust	2,000	-	(2,000)	-	-
Development (other)	6,222	7,225	(12,402)	-	1,045
	38,658	56,567	(64,911)	-	30,314
Total restricted funds	86,126	184,365	(147,377)	-	123,114
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds:					
Human rights monitoring work	-	15,000	(1,040)	-	13,960
Total designated funds	-	15,000	(1,040)	-	13,960
General funds	607,310	587,564	(742,865)	-	452,008
Total unrestricted funds	607,310	602,564	(743,906)	-	465,968
Total funds	693,436	786,929	(891,283)	-	589,082

The narrative to explain the purpose of each fund is given at the foot of the following note.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 May 2025

17b Movements in funds (prior period)

	At 1 August 2023	Income & gains	Expenditure & losses	Transfers	At 31 May 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds:					
Legal					
Legal Education Foundation (including Justice First Fellowship)	11,614	11,387	(23,001)	-	-
HughBonGo Fund, The Talent Fund	-	10,000	(2,000)	-	8,000
Education funds and one-off grants	-	-	-	912	912
Hardship fund	-	-	(281)	8,460	8,179
Development (other)	11,529	23,821	(22,442)	17,469	30,377
	<u>23,143</u>	<u>45,208</u>	<u>(47,724)</u>	<u>26,842</u>	<u>47,468</u>
Programmes					
Education funds and one-off grants	912	-	-	(912)	-
Hardship fund	8,460	-	-	(8,460)	-
Development (other)	17,469	-	-	(17,469)	-
	<u>26,842</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(26,842)</u>	<u>-</u>
Policy					
Donations	-	-	-	-	-
The A B Charitable Trust	22,625	30,000	(31,700)	-	20,925
Barrow Cadbury Trust	4,425	-	(2,925)	-	1,500
Comic Relief	3,284	-	-	-	3,284
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	2,560	5,451	(3,284)	-	4,727
Wilmington Trust	-	27,333	(25,333)	-	2,000
Development (other)	5,940	4,879	(4,597)	-	6,222
	<u>38,834</u>	<u>67,663</u>	<u>(67,839)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>38,658</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>88,818</u>	<u>112,871</u>	<u>(115,563)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>86,126</u>
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	467,608	1,089,996	(950,294)	-	607,310
Total funds	<u>556,426</u>	<u>1,202,867</u>	<u>(1,065,857)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>693,436</u>

Purposes of restricted funds

Legal

Dawes Trust - Funding to support our community care legal practice to work with children experiencing criminal exploitation supported by our crime team & promoting Contextual Safeguarding as part of Legal and Policy work

Legal Education Foundation (including Justice First Fellowship) - Funding to support the Justice First Fellowship trainee solicitor.

HughBonGo Fund, The Talent Fund - Funding towards providing legal representation to children and young people in contact with the criminal justice system and fighting for systemic change.

Hardship Funds - are given to children and young people as small one-off grants where there is an immediate need.

Policy

Donations - Funds contributing to our central costs.

The A B Charitable Trust - Funding towards tackling racial disproportionality and infringement of rights in police treatment of children.

Barrow Cadbury Trust - Funding to develop reform proposals to assist children turning 18 in the criminal justice system.

Comic Relief - Funding towards Just For Kids Law child-led campaign Change It!, and towards advocacy and education community care, focused on West London.

Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust - Funding towards Just for Kids Law holding the government to account for the impact of the pandemic on children

Wilmington Trust - Funding towards our Youth Justice Advice Line in collaboration with Youth Justice Legal Centre.

Development (other)

The A B Charitable Trust - emergency solidarity grant towards work responding to additional needs deriving from widespread violence across the UK in August 2024

BBC Children in Need - towards the leadership costs of Just for Kids Law

CAF Keystone Fund - A grant towards core organisation development

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation - a grant through the Foundation's FunderPlus programme to develop our fundraising strategy and communications development in support of fundraising

Mark Leonard Trust - to reconfigure our website, review organisational policies and a development away day for Just for Kids Law's staff

The breakdown of development funds for 2024/25 was as follows:

	At 1 June 2024	Income & gains	Expenditure & losses	Transfers	At 31 May 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
The A B Charitable Trust	-	1,500	(538)	-	962
BBC Children in Need	2,000	38,000	(40,000)	-	-
CAF Keystone Fund	21,500	-	(21,500)	-	-
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	1,200	3,000	(4,200)	-	-
Mark Leonard Trust	11,900	-	(6,718)	-	5,182
	36,600	42,500	(72,956)	-	6,144

Purposes of designated funds

Human rights monitoring work - At the end of 2024-25 we have re-stated an expenditure accrual and created a Designated fund for human rights treaty monitoring and advocacy work, ensuring the team can respond to opportunities as they arise.

18 Operating lease commitments

The charity's total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows for each of the following periods:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Less than one year	55,547	19,753
One to five years	27,841	37,892
	83,388	57,645

19 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £10.

JUST FOR KIDS LAW LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1121638

Accounts

Company number: 05815338
Charity number: 1121638

Just for Kids Law Limited

Report and financial statements
For the period ended 31 May 2024

Contents

For the period ended 31 May 2024

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Just for Kids Law Limited

Reference and administrative details

For the period ended 31 May 2024

Company number	05815338																														
Charity number	1121638																														
Registered office and operational address	EC1 Offices 338 City Road London EC1V 2PY																														
Country of registration	England & Wales																														
Country of incorporation	United Kingdom																														
Board of Trustees	Board of Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the period and up to the date of this report were as follows: <table><tr><td>Anthony David Landes</td><td>Trustee and Chair (resigned 21 November 2023)</td></tr><tr><td>Shauneen Lambe</td><td>Trustee and Interim Chair (appointed 21 November 2023)</td></tr><tr><td>Peter George Gibbs</td><td>Trustee (resigned 16 April 2024)</td></tr><tr><td>Sufina Ahmad</td><td>Trustee (resigned 21 November 2023)</td></tr><tr><td>Claire Hubberstey</td><td>Trustee</td></tr><tr><td>Wendy Brewer</td><td>Trustee (resigned 21 November 2023)</td></tr><tr><td>Joanne Cecil</td><td>Trustee (resigned September 2023)</td></tr><tr><td>Janet Latinwo</td><td>Trustee</td></tr><tr><td>Rachel Rand</td><td>Trustee and Treasurer (resigned 21 November 2023)</td></tr><tr><td>Brianne Campbell</td><td>Trustee</td></tr><tr><td>Emerita Geraldine Van Bueren KC</td><td>Trustee (appointed 21 November 2023)</td></tr><tr><td>Tim Potter</td><td>Trustee and Treasurer (appointed 21 November 2023)</td></tr><tr><td>Hemini Patel</td><td>Trustee (appointed 21 November 2023)</td></tr><tr><td>Max Alexander</td><td>Trustee (appointed 21 November 2023)</td></tr><tr><td>Brenda Campbell KC</td><td>Trustee (appointed 16 April 2024)</td></tr></table>	Anthony David Landes	Trustee and Chair (resigned 21 November 2023)	Shauneen Lambe	Trustee and Interim Chair (appointed 21 November 2023)	Peter George Gibbs	Trustee (resigned 16 April 2024)	Sufina Ahmad	Trustee (resigned 21 November 2023)	Claire Hubberstey	Trustee	Wendy Brewer	Trustee (resigned 21 November 2023)	Joanne Cecil	Trustee (resigned September 2023)	Janet Latinwo	Trustee	Rachel Rand	Trustee and Treasurer (resigned 21 November 2023)	Brianne Campbell	Trustee	Emerita Geraldine Van Bueren KC	Trustee (appointed 21 November 2023)	Tim Potter	Trustee and Treasurer (appointed 21 November 2023)	Hemini Patel	Trustee (appointed 21 November 2023)	Max Alexander	Trustee (appointed 21 November 2023)	Brenda Campbell KC	Trustee (appointed 16 April 2024)
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Max Alexander	Trustee (appointed 21 November 2023)																														
Brenda Campbell KC	Trustee (appointed 16 April 2024)																														
Honorary Founder	Shauneen Lambe																														

Reference and administrative details

For the period ended 31 May 2024

Senior Management

Team	Aika Stephenson	Co-Lead and Legal Director
	Louise King	Co-Lead and Director of Children’s Rights Alliance for England
	Julie Bentley	Director of Finance and Resources (resigned 30 November 2023)
	Natasha Iles	Co-Lead and Director of Development (appointed 16 September 2024)

Bankers

CAF Bank
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor
110 Golden Lane
LONDON
EC1Y 0TG

Message from the Chair of the Board

I am delighted to be writing the Chair's report for Just for Kids Law for the accounting period 2023–24. The organization began as a 'back of an envelope' dream for myself and Aika Stephenson, who still co-leads the organisation, in 2006. We can't believe that Just for Kids Law celebrated its 18th Birthday in 2024 – achieving adulthood in law! We are all so proud of the impact achieved by those who have strived tirelessly within the organisation and so proud of the young people we have worked with. They came out in force to celebrate Just for Kids Law's 18th birthday and to thank the staff and supporters for their input into each of their lives.

Reaching maturity doesn't equate with an easy time, as everyone who works with adolescents knows, it can be a trying time, but through the great fortitude of the staff and the board I am delighted to report that Just for Kids Law's 18th year shows strength, success, and great potential

This year has brought fantastic new board members, Tim Potter who brings his business acumen to the role of Treasurer, Professor Geraldine Van Buren one of the world's leading child's right expert, Hemini Patel partner of award winning legal aid firm Lawrence & Co as well as welcoming back old faces; Max Alexander who headed up Secret Cinema and Brenda Campbell KC who has consistently shown up for the young people at Just for Kids Law. We continue to be grateful for the enthusiasm and conscientiousness of trustees Claire Hubberstey, Janet Latinwo and Brianne Campbell. It has been time to say goodbye to longstanding board members who have generously given so much of their time and energy to the safe running of the organization. Their diligence is embedded in the fabric of Just for Kids Law.

This year has also been a time for focus – narrowing the work provided by Just for Kids Law, dedicating itself to the arena in which it excels and leads – children in contact with the criminal legal system. This narrowing has meant having to say goodbye to certain strands of the legal work which are integral to children's lives but are outside the remit of the renewed strategic focus. Child specialist housing, immigration, education law and advocacy services have transferred to our allies at Coram Children's Legal Centre, a broader organisation for children's legal rights. While it has been painful to see staff and strands of work go, we know that we all inhabit this small community, we will always be grateful and have love for those who diligently worked to ensure a smooth and successful transition.

While we reflect with gratitude for all the services we have been able to provide for children the need for our specific work grows. Just for Kids Law alongside the Children Rights Alliance for England (CRAE) and Save the Children were the only children's rights-based organisations given core participation status in Module 2 in the Covid 19 Inquiry. Since the end of this reporting period, we have learnt we are to join Module 8; dedicated to the impact of Covid 19 on children and young people. We are glad to be joined by our peer organisations advancing the impact that Covid 19 had on children to the Inquiry.

Following the examination of the UK by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child last year, the concluding observations of the Committee show that there is still a long way to go to ensure that children are better protected from the criminal legal system. While the age of criminal responsibility remains stubbornly low in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland our Scottish counterparts have raised the age that children can be found responsible for criminality and Scotland has embedded the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child into Scottish law.

The work of CRAE continues to influence and hold the UK Government to account for taking forward the concluding observations. And CRAE was the only children's organisation to submit a report to the UN Committee for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, successfully influencing the list of themes which inform the areas to examine with the UK Government.

Closer to home it has been the year that co-founder and co-lead Aika Stephenson published her book [*In their Defence*](#) – Fighting for Youth Justice One Child at a Time. In a quote for the book Aika says 'Every day in my job is an adventure, a battle for justice, heart-breaking, and a joy. But very few people truly understand the law that dictates the lives of our young people, and I want to share that with the public – both the heart-warming successes and the shocking failures of the system.'

The support a child receives from a Just for Kids Law lawyer was reviewed by the Legal Aid Agency and has been deemed to be 'competent plus' which anecdotally is a difficult threshold to achieve, the review praised our proactive approach, and the value added to cases. Internally the representation was reviewed by our new trustee Hemini Patel, she concurred, acknowledging that limitations with legal aid mean that no child represented by a for-profit firm would be able to receive the level of support that they can within Just for Kids Law, or get the positive outcomes that Just for Kids Law achieves for their child clients.

Just for Kids Law and CRAE are recognised as thought leaders in the space, with an estimated 1.2 million views of coverage of our work across print media, online and radio. In relation to the Covid 19 Inquiry, with Save the Children, we made a joint call to establish a clear and public strategy and approach for listening to children and young people's experience of Covid 19, securing a front page article in the Daily Telegraph: Covid Inquiry 'silencing' children, charities claim. In September, our joint report with Save the Children also secured a front-page feature on The Telegraph and coverage in The Daily Mail and on LBC Radio.

Financially the organisation, although leaner, feels strong at the end of the financial year with an anticipated unrestricted surplus for 2023/24 which will allow for directed growth in our areas of excellence.

We know that the service and support we provide to young people could never be achieved without our supporters, both individuals, trusts and foundations. Their loyalty and faith in the value we provide does not go unnoticed. We would like to thank specifically CAF Keystone Fund, AB

Charitable Trust, Segelman Trust, John Ellerman Foundation, Bernard Lewis Family Charitable Trust, Esmee Fairbairn Foundation, and Blagrove Trust, Dr Martens Foundation.

As Just for Kids Law heads into its first year of maturity we hope to become mature, to focus on stability before growth and growth where we see the greatest need which aligns with our specific strengths. This includes a new internal structure with 3 Co-Leads; Director of Development, Legal Director, and Director of Policy. We believe this structure will focus on stability, the direct support a child needs and the problems we see on the ground can be addressed with policy makers. The Youth Justice Board has committed to, a 'child first' approach when children are in contact with the criminal legal system and we have always committed to that approach even when it put us in conflict with people in power. As one mother said 'you are responsible for your child in every aspect of their life until the police take them away. Then you are not allowed to see them or way they are living, everything is taken from you'

These children will continue to be a part of their communities and their families and all of us have a part to play in how that looks. We look forward to your support as we and others try to improve this.

Shauneen Lambe

Interim Chair of the Board, Just for Kids Law

The Board of Trustees presents their report and the audited financial statements for the period ended 31st of May 2024.

Reference and administrative information set out on pages 3–4 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

Objectives and activities

Our Articles of Associations outline we will promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the public, particularly children and young people in the UK and abroad, with particular regard to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, including by advancing the rights and needs of children through:

- Research, education, training, awareness-raising, and increasing understanding and knowledge.
- Monitoring, promoting, and advocating for children's human rights, including compliance at both national and international levels.
- The provision of specialist legal advice, support, and representation, including taking legal action to prevent disadvantage, discrimination, or exclusion.
- The provision of advice, support and direct advocacy to children and young people, and promoting participation.
- All other such lawful things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of these aims.

Our vision is: A future in which the legal rights and entitlements of children and young people in the UK are respected and promoted, with the voices of those most at risk heard and valued.

Our mission is: We exist to work with, and for, children and young people to access their rights, ensure accountability of the people and systems they encounter, and fight for wider reform.

We do this by providing legal advice and representation, through strategic litigation, campaigning, and equipping others to work for children's rights.

The Board of Trustees reviews the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year. This report looks at what the charity has achieved and the outcomes of its work over the reporting period 2023–24. The Board of Trustees reports the success of each key activity and the benefits the charity has brought to those groups of people that it is set up to help. The review also helps the Board of Trustees ensure that the charity's aims, objectives and activities remain focused on its stated purposes.

The Board of Trustees has referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the Board of Trustees has considered how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

Structure, governance and management

The Board of Trustees has overall responsibility for ensuring that the charity meets its charitable objectives and has an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity. The Board was Chaired by Anthony Landes until he stood down in November 2023 when Shauneen Lambe took over the role. The Board currently has nine members.

The Board delegate the day-to-day management and leadership of the charity to the Co-Leads. The revised leadership structure of Just for Kids Law consists of our Co-Founder and Legal Director, [Aika Stephenson](#), our Director of Policy and Campaigns and Director of CRAE, [Louise King](#). Aika Co-Founded the Charity in 2006 and Louise joined Just for Kids Law in 2015. Between them they have a wealth of expertise in a broad range of areas including children's rights, trauma informed legal advice and representation, policy, and public affairs as well as senior charity leadership, governance, communications, and fundraising.

Appointment of Board of Trustees

Trustees are recruited to the Board either through a recruitment process or through networks linked to the organisation. Their appointment is agreed by the entire Board of Trustees. There is no external body that is entitled to appoint one or more of the Board of Trustees.

Trustee induction and training

Before starting in their role on the Board, trustees are provided with a detailed role description, and receive a comprehensive induction which includes:

- A full information pack containing the current governing documents; strategic and shorter-term plans; recent statutory accounts and current management accounts; recent board minutes; an organisation chart/ organogram; and general background information.
- An opportunity to visit the charity's offices and projects, meet other trustees and staff and attend a board meeting.
- A clear explanation of the trustee's expected role, responsibilities and legal obligations, input to the Board and time commitment.
- Access to Charity Commission guidance.

Related parties and relationships with other organisations

The charity has no subsidiary undertakings. We connect with and have relationships with organisations in a variety of ways. Through our casework we receive referrals from voluntary and statutory sector organisations who we will partner with as part of our direct work with young people. In the delivery of our work to achieve wider change to policy and practice we partner with numerous organisations, working collaboratively on our campaigning, our strategic litigation and on our work empowering young people to lead social change. Relationships through our income generation work includes funders such as trusts and foundations, with national children's charities and other members through our hosting of CRAE, and with corporates who provide us with pro bono support.

Achievements and performance

Key Achievements 1st August 2023 – 31st May 2024:

- 185 Children directly supported:
 - 99 Children and young people in their police station matters
 - 48 Children and young people in their Magistrates court matters
 - 38 Children and young people in their Crown Court matters
- 308 Individuals signposted to alternative specialist support
- Core Participants COVID-19 Inquiry alongside other key children's rights organisations
- 1.2 million views of coverage across Just for Kids Law (JfKL) and Children's Rights Alliance England (CRAE) work in print media, online and radio.

Introduction

Following the restructure of Just for Kids Law, and the transfer of some of its work to another charity in July 2023, the Board agreed to develop a new strategic focus for the smaller refocussed organisation. Interim priority activities were agreed by the Board, and these were:

Representing children in the criminal justice system

Our expert criminal defence lawyers will continue to provide trauma informed and anti-racist innovative legal representation for children in contact with the youth justice system. Our Legal Director was one of the first lawyers to trailblaze the use of the section 45 defence in the Modern Slavery Act for victims of child criminal exploitation. Many of the children we represent are Black or from other racialised groups and have experienced multiple adverse childhood experiences.

Achieving strategic change in policing and youth justice

Alongside working with individual children and young people to secure their rights in the criminal justice system we will use the evidence from our case work to achieve strategic change in law, policy and practice through policy and public affairs work and strategic litigation focusing on policing and youth justice.

Promoting and protecting children's rights using human rights mechanisms

Through hosting the Children's Rights Alliance for England (CRAE) we lead work on monitoring the implementation of the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and other human rights treaties. CRAE has developed a reputation for speaking out on children's rights in a way that has cut through and gains traction with decision-makers and CRAE's Director Co-Chairs the UNCRC Action Group with a Department for Education (DfE) senior civil servant. The group brings together civil society organisations and civil servants from across Whitehall and devolved Government to work in partnership to take forward UNCRC implementation.

Influencing the UK Covid 19 Inquiry

Just for Kids Law and CRAE are core participants for module 2 of the UK Covid 19 Inquiry, which focussed on high level political decision-making during the pandemic. Through our core participant status and broader advocacy, we ensured that the impact on children of decisions made by the Government during the Covid 19 pandemic were fully scrutinised.

We know, however, particularly in these difficult economic times, that many of the children and young people we work with also need immediate financial support in times of crisis.

We therefore continued to support children and young people through our hardship fund, ensuring children and young people can access short term financial support. From help with transport costs to attend appointments with professionals, suitable clothing for attendance at court, to vouchers which ensure that they have food. Occasionally we will support young people with overnight accommodation costs, preventing them being at risk by having to sleep on the streets.

The highlights of our work set out below is testament to the hard-work and dedication of our team. Despite the significant upheaval of retracting to a significantly smaller organisation, which involved saying goodbye to many colleagues, moving offices, and establishing a new executive team, coupled with a difficult financial and political environment, Just for Kids Law was still able to secure positive outcomes for the children and young people it directly works alongside strategic change.

In the ten months covered by this report we worked with 185 children and young people, mainly across London, providing criminal and community care legal advice and representation.

Tackling racial discrimination and disadvantage is a strong theme in our strategic work, it is therefore not surprising that the largest percentage of our clients are from minoritised groups: children and young people from Black and minoritised backgrounds are disproportionately represented in the criminal justice system and among children and young people with care experience. This has multiple roots, including racism resulting in the adultification of Black children, their behaviour being viewed through an adult lens and them being seen as less innocent and less worthy of protection than their white peers. Addressing the issues faced and tackling structural discrimination and racism through our individual case work and work to achieve systemic change is at the heart of Just for Kids Law's work.

We report against each of these interim priority areas in this annual report and accounts.

Representing children in the criminal justice system

Children in contact with the criminal justice system are some of the most vulnerable in society. They are often care experienced, have special educational needs and disabilities or have been exploited. Despite some positive developments, the youth justice system often fails to treat them as the vulnerable children they are, often criminalising instead of protecting and infringing their rights. This year our crime team continued to directly represent this group of children in the

criminal justice system, from a one-off case representing a child at a police station to long complex cases taking several years

We supported:

- 99 children and young people in their police station matters
- 86 children and young people in their Magistrates and Crown Court matters
- Successfully persuaded the court not to impose a custodial sentence to a 16-year-old charged with causing grievous bodily harm without intent. Our client has Autism and ADHD, and it was his first offence. Instead, he will be on an intensive order with the Youth Justice Service, which hopefully should address his needs and allow him to remain in education.
- Representing a client who, when he was 17, had been found not guilty of drug supply after he disclosed being groomed in foster care when he was 16 and 17. The prosecution brought another case against him relating to the same time period. We successfully argued that it was an abuse of the court's process to prosecute him again for effectively the same offence when there was clear evidence of his exploitation. The prosecution dropped the case.
- Achieved a conditional discharge for a 16-year-old client charged with offences relating to social media messages dating back over a year.
- After 7 years of legal proceedings a Crown Court judge quashed our client convictions. The prosecution offered no evidence in appeal proceedings following a referral to the Criminal Case Review Commission and further proceedings before the High Court and the Crown Court.

In July 2015, when he was 15 years old, our client pleaded guilty in the Youth Court to 11 offences of making an indecent photograph of a child and one offence of having indecent photographs of a child in his possession.

In summer 2014, aged only 14 years old, our client was on a chat room speaking to someone who told him that he or she was a schoolchild. He or she asked our client if he wanted to see some photographs. MM agreed and downloaded the photographs. He then saw that the photographs were pornographic and contained images of children and he immediately closed the file. He later told his mother that he had indecent images of children on his computer, and she notified the police immediately. He was subsequently charged with and pleaded guilty to all 12 offences, having been advised to do so by his legal representative. He received no advice about any defences available to him.

Just for Kids Law were instructed in September 2016. Just for Kids Law and Counsel involved in the case were all acting Pro Bono in the initial and final proceedings due to the

low threshold for Legal Aid entitlement and the fact that our client exceeded that threshold working full-time.

Providing trauma informed legal representation for children experiencing criminal exploitation

We continue to provide trauma-informed legal representation for children and young people experiencing child criminal exploitation (CCE). A substantial number of children are being referred to the National Referral Mechanism (which identifies victims of human trafficking and modern slavery). Unfortunately, as we reported last year, the courts are severely limiting the ability to submit evidence of criminal exploitation as a defence. Our legal work representing clients and providing evidence to the Crime prosecution Service (CPS) that CCE has taken place to convince the CPS to discontinue the case pre-trial is more important than ever.

Below are just some examples of the difference we have made to the lives of criminally exploited children.

- Successfully persuaded the Crown to discontinue a theft case after representations regarding our client's status as a victim of modern slavery and criminal exploitation. Our client is an 18-year-old unaccompanied asylum seeker who was initially age disputed as 22 years old when he first came to the UK. We had previously successfully argued that the case should be heard in the Youth Court because he would have been 17 when he first entered his plea. The Crown subsequently discontinued the case.
- The Crown dropped a case against our 18-year-old client for a historic charge of possession with intent to supply class B drugs dating back to 2022. We argued that the prosecution was not in the public interest due to his status as a victim of criminal exploitation and the amount of time that has passed.
- Taking on a 17 year old new client who had previously been advised to plead guilty by his solicitors, he was very reserved and struggled to trust us, we have since built a good rapport with him and he has started to trust us, his guilty plea has been vacated and we are currently in the process of arranging a Psychological and Modern Slavery Assessment.

Providing expert community care advice and representation

In February 2024, a community care solicitor started in post to provide expert representation to our clients to ensure that their community care rights and entitlements are being met. Despite growing awareness, care experienced children continue to be overrepresented in the youth justice system and often they have been let down by the Local Authority and other agencies and mean they are not receiving the services they are entitled to, especially as they transition into adulthood – the right to housing, support to set up a home, guidance about education and training, physical and mental health assessment and care where appropriate.

- Successfully returned a vulnerable Care Leaver to suitable accommodation with appropriate Mental Health Support.
- Secured rehousing of a Child in Need who had been subject to Criminal Exploitation.

- Prepared an Appeal to the Upper Tribunal concerning the decision to Bar individuals on the Vulnerable Adults list, concerning the investigation conducted when the Claimant was the Child.

Achieving strategic change in policing and youth justice

Evidence from our direct case work continues to enable us to push for policy changes in youth justice. The unique relationship between Just for Kids Law and the Children's Rights Alliance for England is particularly focussed on ensuring that children in contact with the police have their rights respected. Most importantly, given that some of the most egregious violations of children's human rights occur in their interactions with the police and criminal justice system, any broader movement on respecting children's rights will disproportionately benefit this group of children. During this reporting period, we have had constructive engagement with the National Police Chief's Council (NPCC) to influence the development of its revised strategy on the policing of children and young people to ensure it takes a child rights-based approach. The development of the strategy is ongoing and is expected to be published later in 2024. We also engaged with the Metropolitan Police Service in the development of its children's strategy, which is in response to the damning findings of the Baroness Casey Review.

We continued to work on the issue of Taser and remain the only child focussed organisation on the National Taser Stakeholder Advisory Group (NTSAG). This brings together representatives from the NPCC Less Lethal Weapons portfolio, the Home Office, the College of Policing, and the Independent office for Police Conduct (IOPC).

In December, we co-ordinated a letter on behalf of NSTAG civil society members to the IOPC Acting Director General. This was following a disappointing joint statement by the IOPC and NPCC on taser use on children, which failed to make a recommendation for a change in the law so that all Taser firings on a child would have to be reported to the IOPC. We were pleased he agreed to meet with us where we discussed our growing concerns about the increasing use of Taser on children, including its use on children in mental health crisis and racial disproportionality. We also discussed the failure of the IOPC to support our mandatory reporting recommendation. The meeting was constructive and resulted in a commitment to regular bi-lateral meetings between NSTAG and IOPC Taser leads.

During 2023–24, we were invited to sit on a working group, convened by the NPCC, to look at how scrutiny and accountability mechanisms of Taser use can be improved. The group was established to take forward recommendations from an academic study, commissioned by the NPCC, focusing on racial disproportionality in Taser use.

Alongside the Youth Justice Legal Centre, in September, we also ran a series of presentations, to regional Youth Justice Service (YJS) teams on children in police custody. We shared information on the child rights framework in this area, domestic law, children's views and how YJS staff can help to safeguard children's rights. We also attended a roundtable on police detention convened by the Youth Justice Board as part of its work to ensure a 'child first' approach is taken forward in youth justice.

We also continued to work with Janet Daby MP, the Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on children's rights in police custody. In November, our Co-Lead, Louise King, gave oral evidence to the group. She gave a presentation on the relevant child rights standards, the findings of our policy briefing on children in police detention and our strategic litigation in this area. We also took part in a further evidence session in the Spring, which included representatives from the College of Policing and His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary, Fire and Rescue Services where we pressed for more robust training from the College to ensure that all police officers approach children as children first and foremost.

Other key activities during 2023–24:

- Continuation of work on the area of strip searching, including joint work on this area with the Children's Legal Centre in Wales.
- We established a relationship with the IOPC lead on strip-searching and met regularly during this period. Attending an IOPC external reference group, which focussed on how its learning recommendations in this area could be improved.
- Submitted a detailed joint response with the Wales Children's Legal Centre to the Home Office consultation on reforming the law in this area.

Across the reporting period we continued other areas of policy reform and advocacy in relation to the youth justice system more broadly:

- We remained a steering group member on the Ending Child Imprisonment Coalition.
- We continued to be an active member of the Alliance for Youth Justice. Joining two of its working groups on racial justice and keeping children safe.
- Our Co-Lead, and Legal Director Aika Stephenson, gave evidence to the Times Commission on Criminal Justice, and the Jay Review of Criminal exploited Children.
- Aika Stephenson was also a guest speaker at several roundtables including on Neurodiversity in the Youth Justice System; supporting children to challenge guilty pleas; and an event organised by Art not Evidence.
- We participated in several different advisory groups including the Diversity, Equality and Inclusion Policing Research and Analysis Group and the Advisory Panel for UK Contextual Safeguarding.
- We supported wider sector influencing work on numerous youth justice issues including children on police remand, police in schools, the potential introduction of PAVA spray in the youth secure estate, and on a proposal to create a new offence of assaulting a shopworker.
- We have also secured key recommendations for the UK Government in relation to policing and youth justice in the Concluding Observations of the Human Rights Committee following its examination of the UK; additional detail can be found under 'Protecting and promoting children's rights using human rights mechanisms.'

Promoting and protecting children's rights using human rights mechanisms

Pushing for full implementation of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)

During this reporting period we were keen to secure follow up to the recommendations made by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (UN Committee) in its Concluding Observations. This followed its examination in May 2023. Recommendations covered many areas impacting on children's lives including mental health, the asylum and immigration system, issues related to care experienced children and children in contact with the criminal justice system. The UN Committee also called for the laws, systems and processes that need to be in place to ensure that the UNCRC can be fully realised to be significantly improved.

We were delighted to partner with Unicef UK and the Equality and Human Rights Commission to publish three briefings on the UNCRC and the Concluding Observations. The briefings highlight the key issues raised by the UN Committee and how parliamentarians can use them to hold the Government to account.

The briefings were launched at a parliamentary event Chaired by Baroness Lister, in February. The event included speeches from Joanna Cherry MP, the then Chair of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights, a young person who shared her experiences of meeting with members of the UN Committee and the importance of listening to children as part of realising children's rights. We were particularly pleased that a member of the UN Committee, and Chair of the taskforce for the UK examination, recorded a special message for the event on key issues raised in the Concluding Observations. Our Co-Lead, and Director of CRAE, Louise King, talked about the importance of the Concluding Observations and how they can be used by parliamentarians and civil society to push for change to improve children's lives. The event was well attended by parliamentarians and civil society representatives.

Despite the difficult political climate, we continued to have positive engagement:

- We continued to meet with Government officials to push for a formal response to the UN Committee's report on the UK.
- We Co-Chaired the UNCRC Action Group with the Department for Education (DfE), discussing our priorities for follow up to the Concluding Observations.
- We participated in two sessions with the DfE and Unicef UK with new fast stream civil servants on children's rights, the Concluding Observations, and the importance of carrying out CRIA in policy and legislative development. Raising awareness of children's rights with this group of officials is particularly important as they will be the senior civil servants of the future.

We also co-ordinated advocacy on follow up to the Concluding Observations across the children's sector and ensured they were on the agenda of a meeting between the "big five" children's charities (NCB, The Children's Society, NSPCC and Barnardo's and Action for Child) and the DfE.

We were also pleased to see that two of our key calls on embedding children's rights in Government decisions-making were included in their joint report 'Children at the Table' – the need for statutory child rights impact assessments (CRIA) and a children's strategy.

Following the announcement of the General Election, we drafted a Children's Rights Charter, which sets out six concrete steps that should be taken to embed the UNCRC in decision-making. We circulated this to Party leaders. We were pleased to receive a positive response from the Liberal Democrats, which included two of our key calls in its manifesto: to incorporate the UNCRC into domestic law and to appoint a Cabinet Minister for Children. The Green Party also responded to say it was keen to work in partnership with us to hold the UK Government to account in its child rights obligations. We have circulated the Charter to CRAE members, and our broader network, with a view to sending an endorsed Charter to the new Government following the General Election.

We have also continued to be a member of the steering group of the Rights of the Child UK Coalition and have begun organising a flagship event for the autumn.

Ensuring implementation of other core human rights treaties

During the year, several reporting processes began for UK examinations under several human rights treaty bodies. We submitted reports and met UN Treaty Body Committee members, to ensure that the UK Government was fully scrutinised on how well it was meeting its human rights obligations to children under these treaties.

Following our representations to the UN Human Rights Committee, as part of its examination of the UK under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, several issues relating to children were raised in its Concluding Observations. These included recommendations to provide clear procedures against the use of Tasers on children, address racial discrimination in policing; prevent the use of solitary confinement of children in prison; ensure alternatives to child immigration detention; prohibit corporal punishment of children in all settings, significantly raise the age of criminal responsibility and consider raising the age of voluntary recruitment to the armed forces to 18 years. These recommendations will be a useful tool for pushing for change in these areas.

Given our organisation's focus on challenging racism and discrimination, we also submitted a detailed report to the UN Committee for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) to influence its 'List of Themes.' This will form the focus of its examination of the UK later in the year. We were the only children's organisation in the UK to do so and several of the issues raised in our report were picked up by the CERD Committee. These included racial disproportionality in school exclusions, the increase of police in schools, overrepresentation of racialised children in the youth justice system, and the treatment of unaccompanied children seeking asylum. We also issued a call for evidence from CRAE members, and the wider sector, to inform a civil society report which will be submitted to the UN in July 2024.

Influencing the Covid 19 Inquiry

We used the opportunity of securing Core Participant Status in Module 2 of the Covid 19 Public Inquiry to ensure it scrutinised how well the UK Government considered children's rights as part of its decision-making during the pandemic. Ahead of the public hearings for Module 2 commencing, we published a report in September with Save the Children; 'What about the Children?'. This powerfully highlighted how the pandemic impacted on children and what needs to change as a result. The report was endorsed by Anne Longfield, former Children's Commissioner for England as well 42 organisations and academics and secured a significant amount of media attention.

As the public hearings for Module 2 got underway, we undertook extensive and diverse work. This involved submitting a witness statement and making written and oral opening and closing submissions. These highlighted how non-pharmaceutical interventions disproportionately negatively impacted children and evidenced how the UK Government failed to sufficiently consider children's rights during the pandemic. We also suggested questions for Counsel to the Inquiry to ask key witnesses and our Counsel directly questioned key witnesses. These included former Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, the then Prime Minister, Rishi Sunak, who was Chancellor during the Pandemic, and Micheal Gove, who was Cabinet Secretary. Our closing submissions included clear recommendations to address the harm caused to children during the pandemic and ensure that the rights laws and processes are in place so that children's rights are considered in Government decision-making. We expect the report into Module 2 to be published in early 2025.

Alongside our engagement with the Inquiry as core participants, we also continued to undertake broader advocacy to make sure the Inquiry hears directly from a diverse range of children and young people, including those living in different settings during the pandemic. We were pleased that following our work the Inquiry announced it would commission a bespoke piece of research to hear from a broad range of children. This research began in April 2024.

We collaborated with Save the Children, delivering a joint letter to the Chair of the Inquiry to raise our concern about the delay in setting a timetable for the module that would focus specifically on children and young people. Our letter was covered in the Daily Telegraph and subsequently, the Chair announced the opening of the children's module in May 2024.

Financial review

Following the changes to the 2022-23 budget year this report covers the 10-month financial period from the 1st August 2023 to the 31st May 2024.

The income for the ten-month period was £1,202,867 calculated as an average for 12 months it would be £1,443,440 a 37% decrease on the previous year. Expenditure for the 10 months was £1,065,857, calculated as an average for the 12 months it would be £1,279,028 a 52% decrease on the previous year.

At the end of the reduced accounting period the charity holds £693,436 total funds of which £86,126 are restricted and not for general purpose. These restricted funds are committed for

project expenditure in the next budget year. After making allowance for the restricted funds overall there was a net increase in funds of £139,702, resulting in an unrestricted reserves balance of £607,310.

The principal funding sources of the charity during the reporting period are trusts and foundations, with this source totalling £468,371 making up 39% of the total income. Just for Kids Law receives funding from a wide variety of trusts and foundations and would like to thank them for their support. A full list of funders can be found at the end of the financial statements. During the year, the legal aid contract contributed £240,770 of the total income and the income from the COVID-19 Inquiry totalled £423,265.

Reserves policy and going concern

A level of reserves is required to protect Just for Kids Law and ensure continued operation in the result of delayed grant income, or to ensure a well organised closure in the event of financial risk being realised.

The Board considers it prudent to set the target reserves position at four and a half months' running costs. Keeping this in reserves allows for contractual obligations and liabilities arising from legal aid obligations, alongside salaries, redundancy and committed expenditure, in the result of the charity needing to wind down.

The Board of Trustees will consider current costs of closure and examine the level of reserves each year when setting the following years' budget.

At the end of 2023-24 the unrestricted reserves are £607,310, four months income above the target position. After a period of uncertainty over funding in 2022-23, the subsequent re-structure and scaling down of the whole charity in 2023-24, the trustees identified 2024-25 as an opportunity to review and re-invest into growth. As such, 2024-25 was agreed as a deficit Budget to utilise the increased reserves effectively. This commenced with the appointment of an additional Co-Lead and Director of Development to support the current leadership team and sustainable, long-term income delivery. Other roles have been identified and will be recruited.

Principle risks and uncertainties

Alongside Just for Kids Law Co-Leads, the Board has reviewed the major risks to which the charity is exposed. Systems have been established, including policies, training, and regular control to mitigate those risks.

The Risk Register is regularly reviewed by the Co-Leads and at the Finance & Risk Sub-Committee quarterly, with discussion at the Board Meeting every six months. Three key risks across the reporting period and into 2024-25 are:

- Failure to meet fundraising targets including achieving funding for core costs due to lack of diverse income streams.

Mitigations: Regular fundraising meetings reviewing the income pipeline. Recruitment of fundraising role and development of a new fundraising strategy. Additional support to ensure legal income continues at expected level.

- **Loss of key staff**

Mitigations: Line managers monitor staff hours worked and outputs of work, TOIL policy introduced and to be kept under review, SMART Clinic Confidential employee support line in place for all staff including counselling, physio etc, Clinical supervision/reflective practice offered to frontline staff

- **Failure to adequately safeguard vulnerable clients and manage incidents/ allegations.**

Mitigations: Annual safeguarding training being delivered by independent provider for all Staff.

As in 2022–23 'Failure to meet fundraising targets' is the highest risk regarding Likelihood and Impact. 'Loss of Key Staff' has increased in Likelihood with the continued resource pressure of a smaller charity delivering above expectations. 'Failure to adequately safeguard' continues to be a key risk, the Impact of failure will disrupt parts of the charity and impact wider across reputation and trust.

Plans for the Future

Just for Kids Law, hosting Children's Rights Alliance for England, have worked extensively to deliver a revised strategic direction which commenced 1st June 2024 and continues until 31st May 2027. During Year 1 of this new strategy our priority is to consolidate our operations and secure funding for our priority areas of activity:

- Ensuring children (under-18s) & young people (18–25) have their rights respected in their interactions with the police
- Ensuring children & young people experiencing criminal exploitation are recognised as victims and supported
- Supporting care experienced children & young people to secure care entitlements
- Promoting and protecting children's rights, ensuring the UK Government is held to account on its child rights obligations and that children's rights are embedded in government policy making

In prioritising these four areas of work over the next three years, we are seeking to deliver these outcomes:

- Positive changes for individual children and young people who we work with directly
- System
- Professionals understand & fulfil obligations to those most at risk of rights being denied
- System change for broader impact. In particular:
 - Public policy making, legislation and guidance is informed by the rights and experiences of children and young people.

- Strategic litigation establishes and clarifies children's and young people's entitlements, in particular in the youth justice system.

Fundraising Achievements and Disclosures

The income for Just for Kids Law is from four primary sources: restricted and unrestricted trusts and foundation grants, legal aid contracts, donations, and corporate income.

In the 10 months from the 1st of August 2023 to the 31st of May 2024 £1,202,867 income was received. Of the total income, Trust and Foundation grants accounted for £468,371, making it 39% of the total income. This reduction in the percentage of income from Trusts and Foundations is a result of changes across the mix of income; the inclusion of COVID-19 Inquiry income, as well as the overall reduction in programmes to fund.

Key achievements have been maintaining relationships and continued funding through the move to a more focused strategic framework: Aurum Charitable Trust, The Blgrave Trust, Esmee Fairbairn, John Ellerman Foundation, Legal Education Foundation and Segelman Trust all funded into 2023-24 and we thank them for their continued efforts in supporting our work with children and young people.

We give thanks to all our donors and grant giving organisations. The impact for the children and young people that Just for Kids Law achieves would not be possible without your continued trust and generosity. A full list of grants received can be found in the notes to financial statements.

In the reporting period Just for Kids Law was not registered with the Fundraising Regulator, although we uphold ethical fundraising practices as outlined in our Ethical Fundraising Policy. As in previous years, the charity received no complaints about our fundraising activities during the 2023-24 reporting period.

Remuneration policy for key management personnel

Just for Kids Law reviewed and revised its remuneration policy for all staff in 2019/2020. The policy includes the following key elements:

- Salary ranges are completely transparent.
- The policy applies equally to fixed term and permanent staff.
- Salary increments are awarded through either annual inflationary cost of living increases subject to affordability, a discretionary organisational bonus scheme subject to affordability, progression within a salary range based on length in post, taking on additional responsibilities or acting up into a role.

Funds held as custodian trustee

No funds are being held on behalf of others.

Statement of responsibilities of the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees (who are also directors of Just for Kids Law for the purposes of company law) is responsible for preparing the Board of Trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

- Select suitable accounting policies and then 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 and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that 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.

In so far as the Board of Trustees is aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware.
- The Board of Trustees has taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make itself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

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

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 May 2024 was 10 (2023 – 12). Trustees are members of the charity, but this entitles them only to voting rights. The Board of Trustees has no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP was re-appointed as the charitable company's auditor during the period and has expressed its willingness to continue in that capacity.

The annual report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies' subject to the small companies' regime.

The Board of Trustees' annual report has been approved by the Board of Trustees on the 2 December 2024 and signed on their behalf by

Shauneen Lambe
Interim Chair of the Board of Trustees

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

Just for Kids Law Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Just for Kids Law (the 'charitable company') for the period ended 31 May 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (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 May 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
- 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 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 Just for Kids Law's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

Just for Kids Law Limited

report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. 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 course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- The information given in the trustees' annual report, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- The trustees' annual report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' annual report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- Adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- The financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- Certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- The directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' annual report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

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

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

Just for Kids Law Limited

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.

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 are set out below.

Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities

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

- We enquired of management and the finance and risk committee, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charity's policies and procedures relating to:
 - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
 - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
 - The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the charity from our professional and sector experience.
- We communicated applicable laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We reviewed any reports made to regulators.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

Just for Kids Law Limited

- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: 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 members as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an 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 the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Noelia Serrano (Senior statutory auditor)

Date: 8 January 2025

for and on behalf of Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor
110 Golden Lane, LONDON, EC1Y 0TG

Just for Kids Law Limited

Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

For the period ended 31 May 2024

				10 months to 31 May 2024					14 months to 31 July 2023
	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Continuing Unrestricted £	Discontinued Unrestricted £	Continuing Restricted £	Discontinued Restricted £	Total £
Income from:									
Donations and legacies	2	387,734	-	387,734	558,090	-	-	-	558,090
Charitable activities									
Legal	3	674,034	45,208	719,242	490,197	-	265,679	293,977	1,049,853
Programmes	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	636,313	636,313
Policy	3	22,421	67,663	90,084	35,314	57,563	113,026	207,058	412,961
Other	4	4,786	-	4,786	4,146	-	-	-	4,146
Investments	5	1,021	-	1,021	1,652	-	-	-	1,652
Total income		1,089,996	112,871	1,202,867	1,089,399	57,563	378,705	1,137,348	2,663,015
Expenditure on:									
Raising funds	6	30,715	-	30,715	101,772	-	-	-	101,772
Charitable activities									
Legal	6	843,838	47,724	891,562	696,648	-	259,195	263,236	1,219,078
Programmes	6	-	-	-	-	338,839	-	589,945	928,784
Policy	6	75,741	67,839	143,580	272,347	-	82,283	255,209	609,840
Transfer of assets	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	266,141	266,141
Total expenditure		950,294	115,563	1,065,857	1,070,767	338,839	341,478	1,374,531	3,125,615
Net income/ (expenditure) for the period	7	139,702	(2,692)	137,010	18,632	(281,276)	37,227	(237,183)	(462,600)
Net movement in funds		139,702	(2,692)	137,010	18,632	(281,276)	37,227	(237,183)	(462,600)
Reconciliation of funds:									
Total funds brought forward		467,608	88,818	556,426	448,976	281,276	51,591	237,183	1,019,026
Total funds carried forward		607,310	86,126	693,436	467,608	-	88,818	-	556,426

Discontinued activities relate to business transfers of certain areas of work for further information please see the Trustees report. All other activities are continuing. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 17a.

Balance sheet

Company no. 5815338

As at 31 May 2024

		As at 31 May 2024		As at 31 July 2023
	Note	£	£	£
Current assets:				
Work in progress		97,005		154,398
Debtors	13	246,178		185,386
Cash at bank and in hand		436,072		674,512
		<u>779,255</u>		<u>1,014,296</u>
Liabilities:				
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	85,819		457,870
		<u></u>		<u></u>
Net current assets			<u>693,436</u>	<u>556,426</u>
Total net assets			<u>693,436</u>	<u>556,426</u>
The funds of the charity:	17			
Restricted income funds			86,126	88,818
Unrestricted income funds:				
General funds		607,310		467,608
		<u>607,310</u>		<u>467,608</u>
Total unrestricted funds			<u>607,310</u>	<u>467,608</u>
Total charity funds			<u>693,436</u>	<u>556,426</u>

Approved by the trustees on 2 December 2024 and signed on their behalf by

Shauneen Lambe
Interim Chair of Board of Trustees

Statement of cash flows

For the period ended 31 May 2024

Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	10 months to 31 May 2024		14 months to 31 July 2023	
	£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities				
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	137,010		(462,600)	
Depreciation charges	-		16,754	
Dividends and interest	(1,021)		(1,652)	
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-		80,371	
(Increase) in debtors	(60,792)		(101,140)	
(Decrease)/Increase in creditors	(372,051)		256,208	
Decrease in work in progress	57,393		24,568	
Net cash (used in) operating activities		(239,461)		(187,491)
Cash flows from investing activities:				
Dividends and interest	1,021		1,652	
Net cash provided by investing activities		1,021		1,652
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the period		(238,440)		(185,839)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		674,512		860,351
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period		436,072		674,512

1 Accounting policies

a) Statutory information

Just for Kids Law is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in the United Kingdom. The registered office address and principal place of business is Ec1 Offices 338 City Road London EC1V 2PY .

b) Basis of preparation

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

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

c) Public benefit entity

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

d) Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

e) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that 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 is recognised on casework earned and due ("work in progress" or "WIP") according to the time booked on the matter multiplied by the relevant legal aid or interpartes rate. Appropriate provision is made for irrecoverable WIP.

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

f) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

g) Interest receivable

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.

h) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

i) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

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

- Costs of raising funds relate to the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering services undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

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

Notes to the financial statements

For the period ended 31 May 2024

1 Accounting policies (continued)

j) Allocation of 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.

Where information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is provided to potential beneficiaries, the costs associated with this publicity are allocated to charitable expenditure.

Where such information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is also provided to potential donors, activity costs are apportioned between fundraising and charitable activities on the basis of area of literature occupied by each activity.

● Raising Funds	2%
● Legal	82%
● Programmes	0%
● Policy	16%

Governance costs are re-allocated to each of the activities on the following basis which is an estimate, based percentage of expenditure, of the amount attributable to each activity.

● Raising funds	3%
● Legal	81%
● Programmes	0%
● Policy	16%

Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity. These costs are associated with constitutional and statutory requirements and include any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities.

k) Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

l) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where purchase prices exceeds £1000.

m) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

n) Cash at bank and in hand

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

o) Creditors and provisions

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

p) Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value.

q) Pensions

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund. The charitable company has no liability under the scheme other than for the payment of those contributions.

r) Work in progress

Legal work in progress is valued at the net realisable value. Provision is made when necessary for irrecoverable amounts of work in progress.

2 Income from donations and legacies

			10 months to 31 May 2024	Continuing	Discontinued	Continuing	Discontinued	14 months to
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Unrestricted	Restricted	Restricted	31 July 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	Total £
Donations	37,234	-	37,234	29,065	-	-	-	29,065
Donated Services	-	-	-	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
Aurum Charitable Trust	25,000	-	25,000	25,000	-	-	-	25,000
The Blagrove Trust	55,000	-	55,000	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
Dr. Marten's Foundation	20,000	-	20,000	-	-	-	-	-
Esmée Fairbairn Core Grant	120,000	-	120,000	168,000	-	-	-	168,000
Family Charitable Trusts	30,000	-	30,000	62,500	-	-	-	62,500
Family Foundation 2	-	-	-	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
Garden Court Gardens	8,000	-	8,000	-	-	-	-	-
John Ellerman	50,000	-	50,000	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
Small Trusts	17,500	-	17,500	26,525	-	-	-	26,525
Stewarts Foundation	-	-	-	40,000	-	-	-	40,000
Segelman Trust	25,000	-	25,000	27,000	-	-	-	27,000
Swire Charitable Trust	-	-	-	20,000	-	-	-	20,000
	387,734	-	387,734	558,090	-	-	-	558,090

Notes to the financial statements

For the period ended 31 May 2024

3 Income from charitable activities

			10 months to 31 May 2024	Continuing	Discontinued	Continuing	Discontinued	14 months to
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Unrestricted	Restricted	Restricted	31 July 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	Total £
Donations	10,000	-	10,000	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
Access to Justice	-	-	-	-	-	162,196	-	162,196
Allen & Overy Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,000	10,000
City Bridge Trust (casework)	-	-	-	-	-	-	22,000	22,000
Comic Relief (Safer Places)	-	-	-	-	-	-	37,939	37,939
CMS Social Impact	-	-	-	-	-	5,000	-	5,000
Goldsmiths	-	-	-	-	-	-	18,700	18,700
Legal Education Foundation (including Justice First)	-	11,387	11,387	-	-	56,489	-	56,489
Mission 44	-	-	-	-	-	-	45,415	45,415
Oak Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	-	62,173	62,173
Talent Fund	-	10,000	10,000	-	-	-	-	-
Trust for London	-	-	-	-	-	-	97,750	97,750
Development (Other)	-	23,821	23,821	-	-	41,994	-	41,994
Case work and LAA	240,770	-	240,770	304,330	-	-	-	304,330
Cabinet Office (C19 inquiry)	423,265	-	423,265	175,867	-	-	-	175,867
Sub-total for Legal	674,035	45,208	719,243	490,197	-	265,679	293,977	1,049,853
BBC Children in Need	-	-	-	-	-	-	44,125	44,125
BBC Children in Need (Small grants)	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,000	10,000
John Lyons	-	-	-	-	-	-	26,935	26,935
Mission 44	-	-	-	-	-	-	25,003	25,003
National Lottery	-	-	-	-	-	-	83,751	83,751
National Lottery Strive to Thrive	-	-	-	-	-	-	52,343	52,343
Oak Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	-	262,750	262,750
Peter Stebbings Memorial Charity	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,000	10,000
The Pilgrim Trust	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,000	20,000
Trust For London (Good Homes)	-	-	-	-	-	-	37,580	37,580
Hardship fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	200	200
Development (Other)	-	-	-	-	-	-	63,627	63,627
Sub-total for Programmes	-	-	-	-	-	-	636,313	636,313

Notes to the financial statements

For the period ended 31 May 2024

3 Income from charitable activities (continued)

			10 months to 31 May 2024	Continuing	Discontinued	Continuing	Discontinued	14 months to
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Unrestricted	Restricted	Restricted	31 July 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	Total £
Donations	60	-	60	-	-	-	-	-
AB Charitable	-	30,000	30,000	-	-	30,000	-	30,000
Baring Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	-	30,000	30,000
Barrow Cadbury	-	-	-	-	-	32,000	-	32,000
Barrow Cadbury (BAME)	-	-	-	-	-	1,500	-	1,500
Dulverton Trust	-	-	-	-	-	-	30,021	30,021
EHRC	-	-	-	-	-	3,000	-	3,000
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	350	-	350
Impact Social Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	500	500
Joseph Rowntree Foundation	-	5,451	5,451	-	-	9,542	-	9,542
Mission 44	-	-	-	-	-	-	44,142	44,142
Oak Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,224	16,224
Paul Hastings (Corp Social Resp Fund)	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,000	20,000
Paul Hastings (Equitable Ed Fund)	-	-	-	-	-	-	45,000	45,000
Wilmington Trust	-	27,333	27,333	-	-	-	-	-
The Bromley Trust	-	-	-	-	-	15,000	-	15,000
Trust for London (Good Homes)	-	-	-	-	-	-	21,170	21,170
TUUT Charitable Trust	5,000	-	5,000	-	-	-	-	-
Other Policy income	17,361	-	17,361	35,314	57,563	-	-	92,877
Development (Other)	-	4,879	4,879	-	-	21,634	-	21,634
Sub-total for Policy	22,421	67,663	90,084	35,314	57,563	113,026	207,058	412,961
Total income from charitable activities	696,455	112,871	809,326	525,512	57,563	378,704	1,137,348	2,099,127

4 Income from other activities

			10 months to 31 May 2024	Continuing	Discontinued	Continuing	Discontinued	14 months to
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Unrestricted	Restricted	Restricted	31 July 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	Total £
Events and sponsorships	1,265	-	1,265	4,146	-	-	-	4,146
Book sales	3,521	-	3,521	-	-	-	-	-
	4,786	-	4,786	4,146	-	-	-	4,146

5 Income from investments

			10 months to 31 May 2024	Continuing	Discontinued	Continuing	Discontinued	14 months to
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Unrestricted	Restricted	Restricted	31 July 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	Total £
Bank interest receivable	1,021	-	1,021	1,652	-	-	-	1,652
	1,021	-	1,021	1,652	-	-	-	1,652

Notes to the financial statements

For the period ended 31 May 2024

6a Analysis of expenditure (current period)

	Charitable activities									10 months to 31 May 2024 Total £	14 months to 31 July 2023 Total £
	Raising funds £	Legal £	Programmes Discontinued activities £	Policy £	Legal Discontinued activities £	Policy Discontinued activities £	Asset transfers	Governance costs £	Support costs £		
Staff costs (Note 8)	-	232,585	-	65,437	-	-	-	-	92,413	390,436	1,706,232
Other staff costs	-	1,710	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,399	22,109	88,043
Client support	-	581	-	-	-	-	-	-	260	841	3,946
Consultancy	24,800	10,989	-	-	-	-	-	-	22,150	57,939	129,729
Insurance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,259	9,259	6,462
Promotion	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,594	7,594	5,409
Legal fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	785	785	125
Audit and accountancy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,000	-	12,000	8,995
Governance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,203	-	4,203	2,747
Premises costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	47,660	47,660	119,801
Office costs	-	19,410	-	-	-	-	-	-	45,654	65,064	149,448
Other costs	-	-	-	31,980	-	-	-	-	1,213	33,193	157,306
Subscriptions	-	420	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,456	2,876	5,643
LAA Costs	-	390,134	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	390,134	230,394
VAT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21,631	21,631	40,988
Project Costs	-	-	-	134	-	-	-	-	-	134	137,452
Other *	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	266,141
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,754
Donated Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50,000
	24,800	655,828	-	97,551	-	-	-	16,203	271,475	1,065,857	3,125,615
Support costs	5,429	222,610	-	43,436	-	-	-	-	(271,475)	-	-
Governance costs	486	13,124	-	2,593	-	-	-	(16,203)	-	-	-
Total expenditure 2024	30,715	891,562	-	143,580	-	-	-	-	-	1,065,857	
Total expenditure 2023	101,772	955,843	928,784	354,631	263,236	255,209	266,141	-	-		3,125,615

* Other expenditure refers to the transfer of assets of our discontinued activities. Please refer to Trustees' report for more information.

6b Analysis of expenditure (prior period)

	Charitable activities							Governance costs £	Support costs £	14 months to 31 July 2023 Total £
	Raising funds £	Legal £	Programmes Discontinued activities £	Policy £	Legal Discontinued activities £	Policy Discontinued activities £	Asset transfers			
Staff costs (Note 8)	40,464	278,598	463,066	127,755	261,221	170,208	-	-	364,920	1,706,232
Other staff costs	-	8,401	1,588	49	2,015	1,646	-	-	74,343	88,043
Client support	-	1,267	2,628	-	-	-	-	-	51	3,946
Consultancy	42,750	25,100	7,383	1,025	-	29,128	-	-	24,343	129,729
Insurance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,462	6,462
Promotion	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,409	5,409
Legal fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	125	125
Audit and accountancy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,995	-	8,995
Governance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,747	-	2,747
Premises costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	119,801	119,801
Office costs	-	27,307	2,136	28	-	5,425	-	-	114,552	149,448
Other costs	-	3,006	215	30,940	-	44,670	-	-	78,475	157,306
Subscriptions	-	1,090	-	-	-	75	-	-	4,478	5,643
LAA Costs	-	230,394	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	230,394
VAT	-	250	-	2,949	-	3,857	-	-	33,932	40,988
Project Costs	-	-	62,057	52,703	-	200	-	-	22,493	137,452
Other *	-	-	-	-	-	-	266,141	-	-	266,141
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,754	16,754
Donated Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50,000	-	50,000
	83,214	575,412	539,074	215,449	263,236	255,209	266,141	61,742	866,139	3,125,615
Support costs	17,323	355,117	363,778	129,921	-	-	-	-	(866,139)	-
Governance costs	1,235	25,314	25,932	9,261	-	-	-	(61,742)	-	-
Total expenditure 2023	101,772	955,843	928,784	354,631	263,236	255,209	266,141	-	-	3,125,615

Notes to the financial statements

For the period ended 31 May 2024

7 Net income for the year

This is stated after charging / (crediting):

	10 months to 31 May 2024 £	14 months to 31 July 2023 £
Depreciation	-	16,754
Auditor's remuneration (excluding VAT):		
Audit	12,000	11,500
Other services	-	-
	12,000	11,500

8 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

Staff costs were as follows:

	10 months to 31 May 2024 £	14 months to 31 July 2023 £
Salaries and wages	337,452	1,468,596
Redundancy and termination costs	-	24,739
Social security costs	38,125	154,895
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	14,858	58,000
	390,436	1,706,231

The following number of employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs and employer's national insurance) during the period between:

	10 months to 31 May 2024 No.	14 months to 31 July 2023 No.
£60,000 - £69,999	-	3

The total employee benefits (including pension contributions and employer's national insurance) of the key management personnel were £152,582 (2023: £367,731).

The charity trustees were neither paid nor received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the period (2023: £nil). One charity trustee, Shauneen Lambe, received payment of £700 in relation to providing support in the charity's strategic litigation legal work (2023: £nil). The transaction was on an arm's length basis and the trustee was not involved in the decision making process. During the year, £40 travel expenses were reimbursed as trustee expenses (2023: £nil).

9 Staff numbers

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the period was 11 (2023: 39).

Staff are split across the activities of the charitable company as follows (average head count):

	10 months to 31 May 2024 No.	14 months to 31 July 2023 No.
Raising funds	-	1.0
Legal	6.4	12.0
Programmes	-	12.0
Policy	1.8	7.0
Support	2.5	7.0
	10.7	39.0

Notes to the financial statements

For the period ended 31 May 2024

10 Related party transactions

Trustee Sufina Ahmad is the Director of the John Ellerman Foundation which gave Just for Kids Law a grant of £50,000 (2023: £50,000).

Honorary Founder and Interim Chair Shauneen Lambe is a Trustee of the Baring Foundation, which gave a grant to Just for Kids Law of £nil (2023: £30,000).

During the period, trustees in aggregate donated unrestricted funds of £330 (2023: £590).

11 Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

12 Tangible fixed assets

There were no tangible fixed assets for the period and previous period.

13 Debtors

	At 31 May 2024 £	At 31 July 2023 £
Trade debtors	226,930	176,334
Other debtors	19,248	9,052
	246,178	185,386

All of the charity's financial instruments, both assets and liabilities, are measured at amortised cost. The carrying values of these are shown above and also in note 14 below.

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	At 31 May 2024 £	At 31 July 2023 £
Trade creditors	17,495	68,081
Taxation and social security	29,912	36,895
Other creditors	38,412	83,803
Transfers	-	266,141
Deferred income	-	2,950
	85,819	457,870

15 Deferred income

Deferred income comprises the deferment of grant income received in the period which must be recognised in following years as per the terms of the specific grants.

	At 31 May 2024 £	At 31 July 2023 £
Balance at the beginning of the year	2,950	16,571
Amount released to income in the year	(2,950)	(16,571)
Amount deferred in the year	-	2,950
Balance at the end of the year	-	2,950

Notes to the financial statements

For the period ended 31 May 2024

16a Analysis of net assets between funds (current period)

	General unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total funds £
Net current assets	607,310	86,126	693,436
Net assets at 31 May 2024	607,310	86,126	693,436

16b Analysis of net assets between funds (prior period)

	General unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total funds £
Net current assets	467,608	88,818	556,426
Net assets at 31 July 2023	467,608	88,818	556,426

17a Movements in funds (current period)

	At 1 August 2023 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	At 31 May 2024 £
Restricted funds:					
Legal					
Legal Education Foundation (including Justice First)	11,614	11,387	(23,001)	-	-
Talent Fund	-	10,000	(2,000)	-	8,000
Education funds and one-off grants	-	-	-	912	912
Hardship fund	-	-	(281)	8,460	8,179
Development (other)	11,529	23,821	(22,442)	17,469	30,377
	23,143	45,208	(47,724)	26,842	47,468
Programmes					
Education funds and one-off grants	912	-	-	(912)	-
Hardship fund	8,460	-	-	(8,460)	-
Development (other)	17,469	-	-	(17,469)	-
	26,842	-	-	(26,842)	-

Notes to the financial statements

For the period ended 31 May 2024

17a Movements in funds (current period) (continued)

Policy	At 1 August 2023 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	At 31 May 2024 £
Donations	-	-	-	-	-
AB Charitable Trust	22,625	30,000	(31,700)	-	20,925
Barrow Cadbury Trust (T18)	4,425	-	(2,925)	-	1,500
Comic Relief (Change It!)	3,284	-	-	-	3,284
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	2,560	5,451	(3,284)	-	4,727
Wilmington Trust	-	27,333	(25,333)	-	2,000
Development (other)	5,940	4,879	(4,597)	-	6,222
	38,834	67,663	(67,839)	-	38,658
Total restricted funds	88,818	112,871	(115,563)	-	86,126
	At 1 August 2023 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	At 31 May 2024 £
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	467,608	1,089,996	(950,294)	-	607,310
Total funds	556,426	1,202,867	(1,065,857)	-	693,436

The narrative to explain the purpose of each fund is given at the foot of the following note.

17b Movements in funds (prior period)

	At 1 June 2022 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	At 31 July 2023 £
Restricted funds:					
Legal					
Access to Justice	-	162,196	(162,196)	-	-
Allen & Overy Foundation	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Baring Foundation (Custody Time Limits)	1,253	-	(1,253)	-	-
City Bridge Trust (casework)	-	22,000	(22,000)	-	-
Comic Relief (Safe Place to Be)	5,164	37,939	(43,103)	-	-
CMS Social Impact	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Goldsmiths Company Charity	-	18,700	(18,700)	-	-
Legal Education Foundation (including Justice Mission 44)	5,532	56,489	(50,407)	-	11,614
Oak Foundation	-	45,415	(45,415)	-	-
Oak Foundation	-	62,173	(62,173)	-	-
Trust for London	2,259	97,750	(100,009)	-	-
Development (other)	4,619	41,994	(35,084)	-	11,529
	18,827	559,656	(555,340)	-	23,143
Programmes					
Act for Change Fund	6,500	-	(6,500)	-	-
BBC Children in Need (Main Grant)	2,684	44,125	(46,809)	-	-
BBC Children in Need (Small Grant)	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Garden Court Chambers	6,646	-	(6,646)	-	-
John Lyon's Charity	-	26,935	(26,935)	-	-
Mission 44	-	25,003	(25,003)	-	-
National Lottery Community Fund	70,435	83,751	(154,186)	-	-
National Lottery Strive to Thrive	-	52,343	(52,343)	-	-
Oak Foundation	16,803	262,750	(279,553)	-	-
Permira Equinox (TCS)	43,378	-	(43,378)	-	-
Peter Stebbings Memorial Charity	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
The Pilgrim Trust	-	20,000	(20,000)	-	-
Trust For London (Good Homes)	-	37,580	(37,580)	-	-
Education funds and one-off grants	912	-	-	-	912
Hardship fund	9,843	200	(1,583)	-	8,460
Development (other)	7,000	63,627	(53,158)	-	17,469
	164,201	636,314	(773,674)	-	26,842

Notes to the financial statements

For the period ended 31 May 2024

17b Movements in funds (prior period) (continued)

	At 1 June 2022	Income & gains	Expenditure & losses	Transfers	At 31 July 2023
Policy					
Donations	10,103	-	(10,103)	-	-
AB Charitable Trust	-	30,000	(7,375)	-	22,625
Baring Foundation	-	30,000	(30,000)	-	-
Barrow Cadbury Trust (T18)	-	32,000	(27,575)	-	4,425
Barrow Cadbury Trust (BAME)	5,218	1,500	(6,718)	-	-
Comic Relief (Change It!)	3,284	-	-	-	3,284
Dawes Trust	60,078	-	(60,078)	-	-
Dulverton Trust	-	30,021	(30,021)	-	-
EHRC	-	3,000	(3,000)	-	-
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	-	350	(350)	-	-
Impact Social Fund	-	500	(500)	-	-
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	-	9,542	(6,982)	-	2,560
KPMG Foundation	76	-	(76)	-	-
Mission 44	-	44,142	(44,142)	-	-
Oak Foundation	13,897	16,224	(30,121)	-	-
Paul Hastings	7,631	-	(7,631)	-	-
Paul Hastings (Corp Social Resp Fund)	-	20,000	(20,000)	-	-
Paul Hastings (Equitable Ed Fund)	-	45,000	(45,000)	-	-
Porticus	1,565	-	(1,565)	-	-
The Bromley Trust	-	15,000	(15,000)	-	-
The Hadley Trust	-	-	-	-	-
The Listening Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Trust for London (Good Homes)	1,514	21,170	(22,684)	-	-
Development (other)	2,380	21,634	(18,074)	-	5,940
	105,746	320,083	(386,995)	-	38,834
Total restricted funds	288,774	1,516,053	(1,716,009)	-	88,819
	At 1 June 2022	Income & gains	Expenditure & losses	Transfers	At 31 July 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	730,252	1,146,962	(1,409,606)	-	467,608
Total funds	1,019,026	2,663,015	(3,125,615)	-	556,426

Purposes of restricted funds

Legal

Legal Education Foundation (including Justice First) - Funding to support the Justice First Fellowship trainee solicitor.

Talent Fund (under the aegis of HughBonGo Fund) - Funding to provide legal representation to children and young people in contact with the criminal justice system and fight for systemic change.

Hardship Funds - are given as small one-off grants where there is an immediate need.

Policy

Donations - Funds contributing to our central costs.

AB Charitable Trust - Funding towards tackling racial disproportionality and infringement of rights in police treatment of children.

Barrow Cadbury Trust - Funding to develop reform proposals to assist children turning 18 in the criminal justice system.

Comic Relief (Change It!) - Funding towards Just For Kids Law child-led campaign Change It!, and towards advocacy and education community care, focused on West London.

Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust - Funding towards us holding the government to account for the impact of the pandemic on children

Wilmington Trust - Funding towards our Youth Justice Advice Line in collaboration with Youth Justice Legal Centre.

Notes to the financial statements

For the period ended 31 May 2024

17b Movements in funds (prior period) (continued)

Development (other)

Access to work - Funding to support a member of staff.

The Blgrave Trust - Funding towards core operational costs.

CAF Keystone - A grant towards core development

Drapers Charitable Fund - A grant towards core costs supporting casework.

Legal Education Foundation - A grant to support strengthening sector capacity

Paul Hamlyn - Funding towards core operational costs

London Legal Support Trust - Funding towards the salary of a Billing Co-ordinator role.

The breakdown of development funds for 2023/24 was as follows:

	At 1 August 2023	Income & gains	Expenditure & losses	Transfers	At 31 May 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
BBC Children in Need	-	12,000	(10,000)	-	2,000
CAF Keystone	34,938	-	(13,438)	-	21,500
Esmee Fairbairn	-	4,800	(3,600)	-	1,200
Mark Leonard Trust	-	11,900	-	-	11,900
	34,938	28,700	(27,038)	-	36,600

18 Operating lease commitments

The charity's total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows for each of the following periods:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Less than one year	19,753	10,824
One to five years	37,892	43,296
	57,645	54,120

19 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £10.

JUST FOR KIDS LAW LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1121638

Accounts

Company number: 05815338

Charity number: 1121638

Just for Kids Law Limited

Report and financial statements

For the period ended 31 July 2023

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Just for Kids Law Limited

Reference and administrative details

For the period ended 31 July 2023

Company number 05815338

Charity number 1121638

Registered office and operational address EC1 Offices
338 City Road
London
EC1V 2PY

Country of registration England & Wales

Country of incorporation United Kingdom

Board of Trustees Board of Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the period and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Anthony David Landes	Trustee and Chair
Sophia Wiginton	Trustee (resigned 31 January 2023)
Maureen Cole Burns	Trustee and Treasurer (resigned July 2022)
Peter George Gibbs	Trustee
Amira Bhatt	Trustee (resigned 31 January 2023)
Sufina Ahmad	Trustee
Claire Hubberstey	Trustee
Wendy Brewer	Trustee
Joanne Cecil	Trustee (resigned September 2023)
Janet Latinwo	Trustee (appointed August 2022)
Rachel Rand	Trustee and Treasurer (appointed November 2022)
Brianne Campbell	Trustee (appointed November 2022)

Honorary Founder Shauneen Lambe

Senior Management Team	Louisa McGeehan	CEO (resigned February 2023)
	Aika Stephenson	Legal Director (Co-Lead from 1 August 2023)
	Chloe Grant	Director of Programmes and Participation (resigned December 2022)
	Julie Bentley	Director of Finance and Resources
	Louise King	Director of Policy and Campaigns/Director of Children's Rights Alliance for England (Co-Lead from 1 August 2023)
	Mark Foster	Interim Director Programmes and Participation (January to July 2023)

Just for Kids Law Limited

Reference and administrative details

For the period ended 31 July 2023

Bankers	CAF Bank 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ
Auditor	Sayer Vincent LLP Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor Invicta House 108-114 Golden Lane LONDON EC1Y 0TL

The Board of Trustees presents their report and the audited financial statements for the period ended 31 July 2023.

Reference and administrative information set out on pages 1–2 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

Objectives and activities

To promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the public, particularly children and young people in the UK and abroad, with particular regard to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, including by advancing the rights and needs of children through:

- Research, education, training, awareness-raising, and increasing understanding and knowledge.
- Monitoring, promoting and advocating for children's human rights, including compliance at both national and international levels.
- The provision of specialist legal advice, support and representation, including taking legal action to prevent disadvantage, discrimination or exclusion.
- The provision of advice, support and direct advocacy to children and young people, and promoting participation.
- All other such lawful things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of these aims.

The Board of Trustees reviews the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year. This report looks at what the charity has achieved and the outcomes of its work over the reporting period. The Board of Trustees reports the success of each key activity and the benefits the charity has brought to those groups of people that it is set up to help. The review also helps the Board of Trustees ensure that the charity's aims, objectives and activities remain focused on its stated purposes.

The Board of Trustees has referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the Board of Trustees has considered how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

Structure, governance and management

The Board of Trustees has overall responsibility for ensuring that the charity meets its charitable objectives and has an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity. The Board is chaired by Anthony Landes who was appointed in January 2022. The Board currently has 8 members.

In February 2023 Louisa McGeehan resigned as CEO because of health issues. The Board did not recruit a new CEO but worked out a Scheme of Delegation for managing the organisation with

SMT. SMT consisted of the Director of Programmes and Participation, Legal Director, Director of Policy and Campaigns/Director of CRAE (Children's Rights Alliance for England) and Director of Finance and Resources, who in turn managed their individual teams.

Organisational Re- Structure

The year began with successful fundraising, linked in the most part to the new strategic plan. Over £2,000,000 (spread over several financial years) was raised in restricted income. However, as the year progressed it became apparent that achieving the necessary level of unrestricted funds to support the central services part of the organisation, particularly for future financial years, was going to be a challenge.

In response, the Board began reviewing the structure of the organisation to ensure it would be fit for purpose and viable over the long-term given the current economic context and the continued and rising demand for the work. The Senior Management Team and Board took the view that taking a proactive approach to reviewing the structure was crucial since the cost-of-living challenges and demand for our work were not going to diminish in the near/medium term.

Following the Board review and considering the financial challenges the organisation was grappling with, it was decided that it would be in the best interests of the charity – both in terms of securing our work with and for children and young people and safeguarding as many roles as possible – to pursue a merger, preferably with a larger children's charity. Various options were explored and eventually a Business Transfer for around 65% of Just for Kids Law's work was agreed with the children's charity Coram. There were, unfortunately some redundancies for Just for Kids Law staff.

Alongside the transfer of work to Coram, the Just for Kids Law Board agreed to our Youth Justice Legal Centre becoming an independent Community Interest Company. It will continue its work sharing knowledge, convening expertise and circulating innovation to support a community of youth justice practitioners fighting for better outcomes for children and will retain close links with Just for Kids Law.

The Business Transfers enabled Just for Kids Law to contract to a smaller organisation, with a new strategic focus, vision and leadership to take effect from 1 August 2023.

To help facilitate the organisational re-structure expeditiously, in March 2023 the board appointed a Delegated Authority Sub-committee, Chaired by Anthony Landes. This sub-committee met either weekly or bi-weekly for the following four months and replaced the other sub-committees listed below which had been in place up to that point.

- Finance & Risk (including Audit)
- Fundraising
- HR & People

Each sub-committee was chaired by a trustee and had at least one further trustee and one senior member of staff on it.

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 12 May 2006 and registered as a charity on 21 November 2007.

The company was established under a memorandum of association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed according to its articles of association.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in note 8 to the accounts.

Appointment of Board of Trustees

Trustees are recruited to the Board either through a recruitment process or through networks linked to the organisation. Their appointment is agreed by the entire Board of Trustees. There is no external body that is entitled to appoint one or more of the Board of Trustees.

Trustee induction and training

Before starting in their role on the Board, trustees are provided with a detailed role description, and receive a comprehensive induction which includes:

- A full information pack containing the current governing documents; strategic and shorter-term plans; recent statutory accounts and current management accounts; recent board minutes; an organisation chart/ organogram; and general background information.
- An opportunity to visit the charity's offices and projects, meet other trustees and staff and attend a board meeting.
- A clear explanation of the trustee's expected role, responsibilities and legal obligations, input to the Board and time commitment.
- Access to Charity Commission guidance.

Related parties and relationships with other organisations

The charity has no subsidiary undertakings. However, we connect with and have relationships with organisations in a variety of ways. Through our casework we receive referrals from organisations in the voluntary and statutory sector who we will link up with as part of our direct work with young people. In the delivery of our work to achieve wider change to policy and practice we partner with many organisations to work collaboratively on our campaigning, our strategic litigation and on our work empowering young people to lead social change. We have relationships through our income generation work with funders such as trusts and foundations, with national children's charities and other members through our hosting of CRAE, and with corporates who provide us with pro bono support.

Achievements and performance

Achievements and performance 1 June 2022 – 31st July 2023

"Just for Kids Law has literally changed my life. The best part? Everything was the best part. You have changed my life and made my dreams come true. The entire organisation supported me to achieve my dream and walked with me through the process and then even gave opportunities to practice and learn more. You all empowered me as a person. I'm not just a number that you just helped, I'm someone to you. It means a lot. You gave me an opportunity to give back and be recognised too"
(JfKL Ambassador)

Introduction

We agreed new strategic priorities that build on our strengths and expertise to increase our impact, fill gaps not filled by others, and complement the work of others through partnership working.

Our strategic priorities were:

1. Creating a justice system fit for children.
2. Ensuring that children and young people experiencing criminal exploitation are recognised as victims and supported.
3. Preventing school exclusions and its consequences.
4. Supporting care experienced children and young people to secure their housing and care entitlements.
5. Enabling children and young people to achieve a secure immigration status and thrive in the UK.
6. Protecting and promoting children's rights using human rights mechanisms.

While our legal and advocacy casework remains at the heart of our work, therefore achieving change for individual children and young people, the evidence from our case work also informs our work to achieve strategic change and the children and young people with experience of these issues are also supported to have a voice in debates and campaign for change.

In this way, we tackle the problems that children and young people are currently experiencing, while also working in a preventative way by:

- Working to achieve change in the policy and legislative environment through our expertise, the evidence we gather through our direct case work and the lived experience of the children and young people we work with.
- Advising and training professionals to improve practice in youth justice for the benefit of current and future clients.
- Modelling through advocacy to enable children and young people to discover their inherent strengths and develop self-advocacy skills for life.
- Supporting groups of children and young people to have a greater knowledge of their rights and entitlements.

• Empowering children and young people to play a role in our organisation through our Ambassadors group and supporting them to make plans for education, training and employment to live the lives they choose for themselves through our youth opportunities offer. We know, however, particularly in these difficult economic times with rising inflation some children and young people also need immediate financial support in times of crisis. We have therefore maintained our hardship fund, so children and young people are able to access short term financial support. Usually this is in the form of help with transport costs to attend appointments with professionals or vouchers to ensure that they have food and energy while trying to resolve financial issues or problems with receiving their benefits. Occasionally we will support young people with overnight accommodation costs where this is a last resort to prevent them being at risk by having to sleep on the streets.

The highlights of our work set out below is testament to our expert, dedicated and extremely hard-working team of colleagues. Despite the financial challenges being faced by the organisation, alongside a difficult external environment, we were able to achieve significant positive outcomes for the individual children and young people we work with alongside strategic success.

In the fourteen months covered by this report we worked with 764 children and young people, mainly across London, on 922 pieces of casework providing youth advocacy, legal advice and representation and youth opportunities support. Of these cases, 455 were worked on by our legal team, 362 were worked on by our programmes and participation team and 105 cases consisted of one-off advice.

As tackling racial discrimination and disadvantage is a strong theme in our work it is not surprising that the majority of our clients are from minoritised groups – children and young people from Black and minoritised backgrounds are disproportionately represented in the criminal justice system, in school exclusions and among children and young people with care experience. This has a number of roots – racism resulting in the adultification of Black children, their behaviour being viewed through an adult lens and them being seen as less innocent and worthy of protection than their white peers. Addressing the issues they face and tackling discrimination through our individual case work and work to achieve systemic change is at the heart of Just for Kids Law's work.

1. Creating a justice system fit for children

Children in the contact with the criminal justice system are some of the most vulnerable in society, yet all too often they are not treated as such and regularly have their rights infringed. This year we continued to directly represent this group of children alongside seeking reform of the system so it better respects children's rights.

- Influencing policy and practice

We continue to make good progress on our policy and influencing work focusing on policing, children in the CJS who turn 18 before their case is completed and the need for expert legal representation of children in contact with the CJS.

We were particularly pleased with two successful legal challenges we took relating to College of Policing (the College) guidance. These concerned guidance on the retention of criminal records created in relation to children under 10 suspected of committing an offence, and guidance on arrests and detention of children for breaches of court bail conditions and conditions attached to court remand. Both of our cases resulted in the College needing to revise its guidance to ensure children's rights are better respected.

After more than seven years and five separate legal challenges, the court finally quashed convictions of our client who was only 14 years-old when he pleaded guilty to a number of indecent images offences and who was later found by the Criminal Case Review Commission ("CCRC") to have been a victim of child sexual exploitation at the time the alleged offences occurred. As a result of our submissions in the most recent legal challenge in the High Court, the law on appeals via the CCRC has been clarified and simplified. This will make future appeals following a guilty plea more straightforward, not just for children, but also for adults.

Another key highlight this year was working with Janet Daby MP to set up a new All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on children in police custody, which will also examine the issue of strip searching. Its year-long inquiry will culminate in a report with recommendations. We worked with the secretariat of the group to support children and young people to give direct evidence of their experiences of being held in police detention and of being stripped searched. The Co-Head of our Youth Justice Legal Centre (YJLC) also gave evidence on the importance of expert legal advice and representation for children being held at police stations.

We have continued to have strong engagement from key stakeholders following the launch of our briefing *It's Horrible when they keep you there at night* on overnight detention of children in police custody. This resulted in two of our recommendations being taken forward – the Home Office published national data on this issue for the first time and the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) published a *Learning the Lessons* Magazine focussing on police custody, including case examples and learning from child detention. An article from our Director of Policy and Campaigns on the harm children are caused by holding them in police cells overnight was also included.

As part of our continued membership of the National Stakeholder Taser Advisory Group, we successfully convinced the National Police Chief's Council and the IOPC to carry out research examining instances of where a Taser was fired on a child. This followed the findings of a previous IOPC report and recommendations on the use of Taser, which we successfully influenced to include a number of specific recommendations on children.

YJLC successfully developed a business plan and launched a membership and training model in September 2022. The model allows for YJLC to operate a blended grant supported and revenue model. The pilot was a success, and we outperformed our targets in terms of new members and income through training. Since the start of the new model, we have trained over 300 youth justice services and over 40 lawyers from across the country. In doing so we have helped ensure that legal professionals working with children in the CJS have improved knowledge and skills to better advice

and represent children and young people as well as continue to grow a community of specialist youth justice legal practitioners.

Together with the Institute for Crime and Justice Policy Research (ICPR) at Birkbeck, we published research on the quality of legal representation for children in the CJS. The findings cemented the urgent need for clear guidance around training for solicitors to ensure children are adequately represented. We have subsequently had meetings with the Law Society and Solicitors Regulatory Authority to discuss how we can take forward the recommendations identified by the research. Alongside this, YJLC continued its project on fighting racial injustice by equipping legal practitioners to better identify and challenging racism facing Black and other racialised children and young adults in the CJS.

We also supported young people with experience of the CJS to facilitate training to educate junior barristers on youth justice law. They shared their lived experience, responded to questions, took part in roleplay, and gave advice on what made a good barrister.

We started our new project on children turning 18 in the criminal justice system before their case is complete, building on our briefing and legal guide on the issue, published in 2020. We held a number of useful meetings with officials in the Ministry of Justice and other stakeholders, including the Magistrates Association, to inform our work to prioritise recommendations on this issue which would have the most impact.

Finally, we also secured key recommendations in relation to policing and youth justice by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (UN Committee) in its 'Concluding Observations on the UK' – see below. The UN Committee concluded that addressing issues with the youth justice system, so it complies with child rights standards, must be a priority area for the UK Government to take forward. It also made specific recommendations for the first time on the need for action to end the overnight detention of children in police custody and on children in the justice system turning 18.

- Direct legal and advocacy case work

We have continued to directly represent children in the CJS from a one-off case representing a child at a police station to long complex cases taking several years. Our YJLC advice line has also continued to offer advice to young people, parents and carers and youth justice professionals.

We have seen a number of cases involving children who have turned 18 during the course of either police investigations or proceedings and concerning levels of delay in terms of the time police and prosecutors are taking to make charging decisions in cases where there is little evidential justification for it. The YJLC legal guide on Turning 18 is proving highly useful to practitioners in these cases. We have also been made aware of concerning gaps in knowledge within the legal profession in this area through our work on these enquiries.

Below are some highlights of our case work in this are this year, including a case study.

- ✓ Successfully challenging the Disclosure and Barring Service decision to disclose our client's youth caution for sexting, which would have potentially ended her successful employment as a carer.
- ✓ Successfully arguing that the Crime Prosecution Service (CPS) should drop a case against a 17-year-old who was charged with offences relating to her being restrained in the accommodation she was placed in by social services when she was subject to a Deprivation of Liberty Order.
- ✓ Successfully arguing that the CPS drop a case against a 22-year-old young person who was accused of possession of a knife. The case had taken nearly four years to come to trial and the matter was dropped on the day before the trial was due to start.
- ✓ Successfully challenged the Legal Aid Agency's refusal to grant legal aid to a vulnerable client who had issued a claim against the Metropolitan Police Service for race discrimination; the absence of legal aid would mean that the client would have had to abandon his claim.

Case study

In the autumn, we were contacted by a 16-year-old through our YJLC advice line who was waiting for a charging decision in respect of a possession with intent to supply matter. This was a first offence and the child in question was going through a very difficult period with his mental health.

The supply in question was border-line in nature as he was supplying to the friends he tended to smoke with. We prepared a detailed letter of representations against prosecution and also liaised with the relevant police and youth justice officers. As a result of this intervention, this child avoided criminalisation and was given a Community Resolution.

He feels immense relief and is making huge efforts to stop smoking and engage in positive activities. His parents are grateful for our support and have expressed a keen desire to speak out about their experience with the criminal justice system at the pre-charge stage and publicise our service, without which they feel things could have been very different for them.

2. Ensuring that children and young people experiencing criminal exploitation are recognised as victims and supported

- Influencing policy and practice

The focus of our policy work in this area mainly relates to school exclusions and is covered under strategic aim 3. However, due to her expertise in representing child victims of child criminal exploitation (CCE), our Legal Director joined the Contextual Safeguarding UK Advisory Panel with Professor Carlene Firmin who has established the Contextual Safeguarding hub at Durham University. The team at Durham have been developing Contextual Safeguarding as a body of work since 2013. This work has influenced changes to statutory guidance and influenced 63 local areas across the UK to adapt their safeguarding responses to include harm that occurs outside of the

family home, which ensures children being groomed and exploited are provided protection and support by social services.

This year, we have also worked with other children's organisations to push for a statutory definition of child criminal exploitation (CCE) in the Victims Bill and raised many issues relating to CCE in our report to the UN Committee where we secured many strong recommendations in this area (see below).

- Direct legal and advocacy case work

We continue to provide trauma-informed legal representation for children and young people experiencing CCE. We have seen a significant increase in the number of children and young people being referred through the National Referral Mechanism (which identifies victims of human trafficking or modern slavery). This increase is due not least to the work we have been doing to raise awareness of the prevalence of CCE and offering guidance and training to professionals through the work of YJLC.

Unfortunately, at the same time as we are educating legal professionals in this area, the courts are severely limiting the ability to submit evidence of criminal exploitation as a defence. Our legal work representing clients and providing evidence to the Crime prosecution Service (CPS) that CCE has taken place, is therefore more important than ever – getting the CPS to discontinue the prosecution pre-trial.

Below are just some examples of the difference we have made to the lives of criminally exploited children and a more detailed case study:

- ✓ A 17-year-old client was found not guilty at trial of Possession with Intent to Supply Class A drugs. Our client was recruited into drug supply by older men while he was in foster care. As a result, he ran a successful defence that he had been a victim of CCE.
- ✓ Successfully arguing that the CPS should drop the case against a 21-year-old young person who had been criminally exploited aged 17 to sell Class A drugs.
- ✓ Representing a 16-year-old child who was charged with dangerous driving as a result of being criminally exploited.
- ✓ Representing an 18-year-old asylum-seeking young person who was charged with driving offences as a result of being criminally exploited. This young person is Albanian and it is our view that the CPS has displayed racism in the way that they are dealing with the matter.
- ✓ Supporting a care leaver who had just come out of prison and had no recourse to public funds due to his immigration status. He was at threat of being exploited back into gang-affiliated crime as the Local Authority were not offering the support he was entitled to as a care leaver. The Local Authority was held accountable for their duty of care and are now providing a weekly allowance to the young person, they are also paying for him to do a Construction Skills Certificate course to get him into work and will also cover his rent whilst his immigration status is disputed.

- ✓ Supporting a vulnerable 17-year-old client in securing section 20 (child in care) status with Cambridgeshire County Council Social Services. The young person was fleeing gang affiliation in London, which was having significant impact on his family including younger siblings.

Case study

T is a 19-year-old young man who was charged with three counts of Being Concerned in Supply of Class A drugs, dating from when he was 16. T was aged 12 when he began to use cannabis and was initially offered free drugs by a group of older boys. The older males then used the fact that they had given him free drugs to require him to start drug running. He was placed in houses that had been 'cuckooed' from vulnerable drug users and were in poor condition. He was generally placed in the nearby area as his parents would notify the police if he was missing. Although he was promised financial payment he was never provided with this, though he would be given drugs in return.

T's father had cancer and his grandfather passed away around this time, and although he felt scared he could not share his feelings. When he did share his concerns with members of staff at school this led to criminalisation and exclusion rather than support.

When T tried to stop drug running, he was contacted by a man higher in the hierarchy and told that he could not leave and that he knew where he and his family lived. After he was first arrested, he was informed that he owed approximately £12,000 to compensate for the loss of drugs and cash. He gradually paid this, using his wages as an apprentice carer, but when he was close to having paid the debt in full he was robbed at knifepoint, during which he was stabbed in the legs. He was then told he owed an extra £2,000. On another occasion, when he tried to resist holding a large amount of money, ammonia was squeezed from a Lucozade bottle onto his face.

T and his family also received a number of threats of violence. On his 18th birthday an adult male attended the family home and followed this up with threats to petrol bomb the house, in order to extort £6,000 on the pretence of a drug debt. The family have also received notes through their door demanding further payment. T's family have reported every threat to the police but they have not been acted upon.

After T was charged with the offences, he pleaded not guilty and his case was set down for trial. We wrote representations requesting a review of the matter, in light of the ways in which T case clearly fitted the criteria of a victim of CCE. Despite extensive chasing, no response was received from the CPS. As a result, we further wrote to the CPS, this time stating that we would undertake judicial review proceedings against them unless they discontinued his case. Finally, the CPS agreed, and T's charges were dropped.

3. Preventing school exclusions and its consequences

During the year we have continued to represent children being unfairly excluded from school with many of these children being Black or from other racialised groups and having diagnosed or

suspected Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND). Using the evidence from our case work, we have also persisted with our campaigns for much-needed reform of school behaviour policies and the exclusions process alongside children and young people with direct experience of the system.

- Policy and practice influencing

After our work last year influencing the Government's revised statutory guidance on exclusions and behaviour, we were pleased to see a new reference to CCE in the behaviour guidance. There were also strengthened sections around pupil voice in the exclusions process after our young campaigners (see below) raised this in their submissions and in meetings with the Department for Education (DfE). However, we were disappointed that the Government removed a key paragraph from the guidance, which set out the groups of children who are more likely to be excluded from school. We continued to raise our concerns with this change and explored the possibility of taking a legal challenge.

We were also pleased to give evidence at a joint meeting of the APPG for Knife Crime and the APPG for Exclusions and Alternative Provision at a session focussing on the link between CCE and school exclusions. This followed our suggestion to have an evidence session specifically looking at this issue.

- Empowering children and young people to campaign for their rights

We maintained our support for our school exclusions campaign supporting and empowering young people to speak up for their right to an education. There have been some fantastic achievements this year including securing a meeting with the Schools' Minister, Nick Gibb, where they talked powerfully about their experiences of school exclusions and what needs to change in relation to supporting children in schools, responses to challenging behaviour and the exclusions process.

The young campaigners also gave evidence to the APPG for Exclusions and Alternative Provision sharing experience and insight on the connections between school exclusion and criminal exploitation. They highlighted the need for better protection for children and young people at risk of CCE due to being excluded from school.

An exciting new project to develop a School Behaviour Policy Checklist also began with The Children's Society. The Checklist is being developed in consultation with other groups of children who have been excluded from school, with a view to ensuring standardised positive practice in behaviour policies in schools in London with a view to reducing school exclusions.

- Legal and advocacy case work

Our direct work and school exclusions hub, alongside our school exclusion legal clinic has provided much needed legal advice and representation. We continued to receive more education referrals than we can accommodate so as well as developing referral networks, we have also

continued to develop our free School Exclusion Clinic alongside our School Exclusions Hub as a point of information and advice at an early stage.

Our Clinic works with volunteer lawyers from Allen & Overy supervised by our Education Lawyer. The lawyers receive training in both school exclusions and how to holistically represent our vulnerable clients, many of whom have SEND and mental health issues. We were also grateful to our clinic partners, Allen & Overy, for updating content in relation to recent changes to statutory guidance and planning some more user testing to enable us to make the Hub more user friendly for children and parents. This year we also began working with a production company to produce a short film promoting the Clinic. We worked directly with young people to help create the film, including creating script, editing and acting in the film itself.

As a result of working with our school exclusions legal team, we are also pleased that the Equality and Human Rights Commission agreed to make their race fund more accessible for Independent Review Panel hearings. Although this will not resolve the fundamental unfairness in school exclusion and disproportionate impact on Black and Mixed-Race children, we hope more solicitors and barristers will be willing to take cases as they can now receive some payment, albeit slightly lower than legal aid rates.

This year our advocacy team also began to focus on pre-school exclusion cases as we identified this as an area of need. We have seen an increase in requests for advocacy support in relation to children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), in particular support with requesting or updating Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs). We also needed to respond to a challenge around some advocacy referrals coming from parents /carers of younger children. This created a tension, since advocacy support is client-led and therefore focuses on the advocacy goals of the child whereas parents often want to influence the advocacy support, particular for younger children with education advocacy cases. To support communications with parents/ carers, we developed a Parent/carers Agreement Form explaining how Just for Kids Law is client-instructed.

Below are some of the highlights of our case work in this area alongside a case study:

- ✓ Represented two sisters aged 14 and 16 who are being cared for by their grandmother as they are unable to live with their parents: One sister had been out of school since June 2022; and the other did not have an EHCP in place despite her grandmother making an application for one in March 2022. As a result of our intervention two positive outcomes were achieved – a school place has been found for the sister out of school and the EHCP was finalised for the other sister in a timely manner.
- ✓ Issuing a judicial review in the high court in a challenge against the Legal Aid Agency for refusing to fund a school exclusion independent review hearing through its Exceptional Case Funding. This school exclusion case involved a child where race and SEND were at the core of the challenge to the exclusion. We were fortunate that the judicial review challenge was funded

by the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) race fund. We are still awaiting a permission decision.

Case study

A 14-year-old girl, AM, initially approached us after she was permanently excluded. AM is a vulnerable girl, who had recently come out as lesbian and was severely struggling with her mental health. She had been experiencing issues at home and was temporarily placed under the care of the Local Authority. She was very upset by the school exclusion and was very eager to return to school. She has a particular interest in art. After a conversation and email correspondence with the school, explaining the impact that the exclusion would have on AM, the headteacher agreed to rescind the exclusion.

4. Supporting care experienced children and young people to secure their housing and care entitlements.

We continued to hold local authorities to account on their obligations to children in relation to community care and housing. We have continued to receive referrals for care experienced young people, current 'care leavers', and those requesting support with retrospective s.20 cases (where they were not accommodated under the Children Act 1989 and therefore miss out on entitlements as care leavers when they turn 18) demonstrating the importance of our work. Alongside our direct work with children, we worked closely with our young campaigners to ensure that care experienced children's housing rights are better respected and that recommendations in this area made in the Independent Review of Children's Social Care were accepted and taken forward by the Government.

- Policy and practice influencing

A key highlight of the year was working closely with BBC Newsnight on a feature about homeless 16- and 17-year-olds who are denied their right to be taken into care. It included an interview with our Director of Policy and Campaigns and one of our clients. The story also ran on BBC Newsbeat featuring our Head of Policy and Public Affairs. This resulted in significant publicity for this often-underreported issue and resulted in the children's minister confirming in Parliament that homeless 16- and 17-year-olds should be housed under children's welfare legislation as the default (rather than homeless legislation where they receive less care and support).

We continued to undertake significant work in relation to implementation of the Independent Review of Children's Social Care (the Care Review), following our success last year in ensuring it included recommendations concerning addressing housing and homelessness issues relating to care experienced children. This included engagement with officials in the DfE and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) and resulted in the Government accepting the Review's recommendations in this area – a key influencing success.

We also ensured that DLUHC's new Rough Sleeping Strategy recommended that better use be made of joint housing protocols between housing and children's services – a key issue raised in

our 'Hitting Brick Walls' report published last year. The Strategy also supported the mission in the Care Review to *“reduce homelessness among care leavers before ending it entirely.”* Our evidence on care leavers was also included in the final report of the APPG for Ending Homelessness as part of their inquiry into whether the Government is on track to meet its manifesto commitment to ‘end the blight of rough sleeping’ in England.

We also began working more actively with London Councils this year and were invited to join its Life off the Streets Youth Homelessness Workstream Sub-committee, which included representatives from the Greater London Authority, DLUHC and London authorities – a key opportunity to influence at a pan-London level.

- Empowering children and young people to campaign for their rights

We continued to support and empower our young campaigners for care and housing rights. This year they have continued to powerfully speak out on the housing issues facing care experienced children and the young people.

A particular highlight was two of the housing and care campaigners attending the Inter-Ministerial Care Leaver Covenant Board, co-chaired by the Secretary of State for Education and the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and representatives from 11 Government Departments. One campaigner gave testimony of her own experience of being made homeless when leaving care and the detrimental impact this had on her. She also discussed the key housing recommendations that the Government should implement to improve the outcomes for homeless care leavers. The campaigner was praised by Ministers in the room. During a debrief following the meeting, the campaigner expressed how she felt *‘heard and respected in a room full of powerful people’*.

The group also met with senior civil servants from the DfE to discuss recommendations from the Care Review focusing on those areas they felt most strongly about. Each shared their lived experience of various levels of abuse within the care system and experiences of being left homeless when they came to leave care. The campaigners demonstrated a deep level of understanding and analysis of the structural issues which caused these experiences and presented key solutions to addressing these systematic failings. The civil servants who joined were visibly moved by what they heard.

In addition to the BBC News Night feature, the young campaigners also secured other high-profile media. This included participating in an interview for the BBC Radio 4 documentary series, *File on Four*, on the privatisation of children’s homes where one of the campaigners recounted her experience of abuse in these settings, and the failures of the systems to keep children and young people safe. Another campaigner spoke to The Observer newspaper about her experience of being placed out of area by social services and the impact this had on her wellbeing and safety.

- Direct legal and advocacy case work

We continued to support homeless children and young people or children at risk of homelessness through providing legal advice and representation and advocacy. One of the trends we saw this year was a number of advocacy referrals that initially appeared to focus on housing issues, but further engagement between the advocate and the young person revealed their prior experience of local authority care, which impacts their housing entitlements and the support available to them. This demonstrates how important advocacy is to help them to understand their full range of entitlements.

Some examples of our direct case work in this area include:

- ✓ Making representations to the London Borough of Brent in relation to a care-leaver subject to domestic violence requesting they have regard to new guidance in the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, which aims to improve access to social housing for victims of domestic abuse. The representations were successful, the case was referred to the Exceptional Housing Panel and the client was made an offer of affordable council housing. The client was delighted, and said this was life changing as she is now able to live safely.
- ✓ Providing support to an 18-year-old young person who is unable to live with her parents due to difficulties in their relationship. The young person has autism and was accommodated by the local authority when she was 17-years-old, but she was not accommodated under Section 20 of the Children Act 1989 and as a consequence missed out on additional support she should have been entitled to. Through pre-action correspondence, the local authority agreed that the young person should have been accommodated under s20 and provided her with leaving care support.
- ✓ Supporting a vulnerable care leaver with mental and physical health issues secure permanent housing by referring to an Occupational Therapist for an assessment. This resulted in him being given the correct banding in line with a health condition and disability, leading to a successful bid for permanent housing.
- ✓ Advocated for a young care leaver, aged 18, who had Council Tax arrears due to the Local Authority not dealing with her exemption eligibility. After explaining to the young person her rights and entitlements, she self-advocated to the Local Authority making them aware of their responsibilities and to the council tax providers and her arrears were cleared.
- ✓ Successfully securing a resident support fund grant for a vulnerable care leaver: The grant application was initially refused but with our advocacy support, the young care leaver was able to file a complaint, have the grant application re-open and re-assessed, which resulted in an award of £400, which the client desperately needs.

5. Enabling children and young people to achieve a secure immigration status and thrive in the UK

Children with insecure immigration status are extremely vulnerable, often struggling to navigate the immigration system and understand their rights and entitlements. The often-hostile rhetoric towards asylum-seekers, together with a raft of punitive legislation, has made our direct work alongside our policy influencing in this area even more important than ever.

- Policy and practice influencing

Given the huge concerns with the Illegal Migration Act, which will be hugely detrimental to the rights and welfare of children, we worked in collaboration with others in the children's sector to speak out against the Government's proposals and supported amendments during the Act's parliamentary passage. We also ensured key issues relating to the infringements of the rights of children in the immigration system were clearly articulated in our report to the UN Committee – see below – and worked closely with the Refugee and Migrant Children's Consortium on a briefing for the UN Committee on the then Illegal Migration Bill to ensure the Committee was up to date on the proposed legislation. This resulted in a strong recommendation from the UN Committee to repeal the Illegal Migration Act and address issues relating to the rights of children in the asylum and immigration system as a matter of priority.

- Direct legal and advocacy case work

Our immigration lawyer has continued to offer much needed legal advice and representation to extremely vulnerable children and young people and our advocates have also help ensure that they can also access other rights and entitlements owed to them. Below are some examples of our work in this area alongside a case study.

- ✓ Achieving a successful outcome for a client who was granted Settlement having completed Limited Leave to Remain as a refugee for five years. This client will be eligible to apply for British citizenship after 12 months, subject to meeting the prevailing rules. He was unable to study or work because of his mental health (PTSD) and he was also supported by the youth advocacy team.
- ✓ Assisting a very vulnerable young person with applying for Settlement having completed five years of Refugee status. He is an Afghani national who arrived in the UK in February 2016, having entered the UK clandestinely in the back of a lorry at 16 years old. He then claimed asylum, but his asylum claim was subsequently refused as the Home Office asserted that he could internally relocate in Afghanistan (to Kabul). He appealed against this decision. The Immigration Judge allowed his appeal on both Asylum and Human Rights grounds, and he was granted Refugee status in March 2017. We assisted the client with applying for Settlement and this was successfully granted in October 2022. He is now in a position of stability with regards to his immigration status (no further applications to be made), has reduced uncertainty and improved understanding of his legal rights and entitlements.

- ✓ Providing advocacy support to a vulnerable client (a 19-year-old care leaver from Leeds City Council fleeing violence from Leeds) who is also a refugee with no family in the UK and a single parent to a newborn daughter. She succeeded in avoiding homelessness by being provided with a self-contained placement with keywork support in Enfield by her Leaving Care Team in Leeds. Although she is currently still receiving ongoing and intensive advocacy support to find a placement in/nearby Southwark, which is close to her support network, it is promising to note that through advocacy support and being made aware of her rights and entitlements, the client has been able to change her Personal Advisor (as the relationship had broken down) and request an up-to-date assessment of needs and a pathway plan review.
- ✓ Assisting two 23-year-old clients with their initial asylum applications. They have both been granted Humanitarian Protection (alternative to Asylum). The grant of leave has been issued for five years following which they can make an application for Settlement in the UK. In addition, both the young people were conclusively recognised as victims of human trafficking.

Case study

This case involves assisting a vulnerable young person making a fresh asylum claim based on the current situation in Afghanistan.

S is a single, 23-year-old man from northern Afghanistan. His parents are both deceased. His father, a farmer, was murdered in Afghanistan and his mother, a housewife, died following his departure from the country.

When he was still a child, S's mother arranged for him to flee Afghanistan after the death of his father. He embarked on a perilous journey to the UK travelling via Iran, Turkey, Greece, Italy and several other countries until he arrived in France. He then travelled from there to the UK. There were several occasions during the journey that food supplies were scarce and getting adequate sleep was a challenge. The people traffickers attacked Mr S at times, and they threatened to kill him when he asked for food or water leaving him scared and traumatised.

S arrived in the UK in 2015 and on arrival claimed asylum but it was refused as were subsequent appeals. He became Appeals Right Exhausted in 2019 and in 2020 he approached us for legal representation in respect of his asylum matter.

For much of his time in the UK, S has been unable to concentrate, and his sleep has been disrupted. He had nightmares of being chased and there were several instances of attempted self-harm. In addition he was unable to enjoy hobbies or activities and his appetite and energy levels were all subjectively impaired.

In 2016, S was assessed by Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services where he was diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and subsequently referred to Adult Mental Health services in 2017 where he was assessed as having a Major Depressive Disorder on account of his low moods, impaired concentration, sleep disturbance and variable appetite.

On the facts of the case, it was evident that the client was likely to struggle to establish a new life for himself in Afghanistan, and any threat of forced return may significantly worsen his mental state. Further, without adequate personal and professional support it would be very difficult for

him to engage in tasks needed to establish a new life for himself, such as securing employment and accommodation.

S also feared that in the event of being returned to Afghanistan, his life would be in danger because the Taliban would persuade him to work with them and would inevitably try to kill him if he failed to do so. We therefore assisted the client with submitting a new asylum application. In order to meet the high threshold in submitting an application under the Immigration Rules the client would need to fulfil the requirements as outlined below:

Overall, for a reasonable prospect of success, the application will likely need to argue and find support for the following grounds: (i) that Mr S does in fact have certain mental health conditions, which create difficulties for the recollection of memory and justify the discrepancies that the First-tier Tribunal noted in his initial testimony; (ii) that there is inadequate mental health infrastructure and support for his conditions in Afghanistan and this, among other factors, creates significant barriers for his reintegration in Afghanistan; and (iii) that he is of interest to the Taliban.

Thanks to our legal representation, S was successful in securing Refugee status which has been granted for 5 years. He is now in a position of stability with regards to his immigration status, has reduced uncertainty and improved understanding of his legal rights and entitlements.

6. Protecting and promoting children's rights using human rights mechanisms

- Policy and practice influencing

This year was a particularly critical one for our children's rights monitoring and advocacy work given that the UK was examined on its child rights obligations by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (UN Committee) in May 2023. In addition to this examination, the UK was also examined under Universal Periodic Review, which is UN Human Rights Council peer review process, and examines how well a State is meeting its obligations across all human rights treaties it has ratified. We also had to persist with our work in safeguarding the Human Rights Act.

We were delighted to secure Core Participant Status in Module 2 of the Covid 10 Public Inquiry giving us a unique opportunity to ensure the Inquiry examines how well the UK Government took children's rights into account as part of its decision-making processes during the pandemic.

- UNCRC reporting process

We co-ordinated and drafted the civil society alternative report for England as part of the UN Committee's examination of the UK. It was informed by 50 experts giving oral evidence and 47 organisational written submissions from NSPCC, NCB, Save the Children, the Children and Young People's Mental Health Coalition, the Alliance for Youth Justice and many others.

CRAE also represented civil society at the pre-sessional working group in February 2023 to give oral evidence to the UN Committee on key child rights issues in England, alongside our sister organisations from other parts of the UK, the Equality and Human Rights Commission, UNICEF UK and the four Children's Commissioners in the UK.

As well as working closely with civil society to submit evidence to the UN Committee, we also supported children to engage with the UK examination. We held four workshops with children and

young people in partnership with The Children's Society, Friend's Families and Travellers, Leaders Unlocked, Alliance for Youth Justice and the Kids Network where children learnt more about the UNCRC and share views on how well they thought their rights were being respected. Their views fed directly into our civil society report. We also supported children to directly meet with UN Committee members alongside other children from across the UK.

Ahead of the constructive dialogue session between the UN Committee and the UK delegation, we met with the head of the UK delegation – a senior civil servant in the DfE – and co-ordinated a letter to the Prime Minister calling for a child rights strategy and action plan to be developed in response to the UN Committee's recommendations alongside a cabinet minister for children. The letter was signed by 50 organisations including NSPCC, Barnardo's, Save the Children and UNICEF UK.

We were delighted that 93% of the recommendations we suggested to the UN Committee were either fully or partially included in its 'Concluding Observations on the UK' published in June 2023. Recommendations covered many areas impacting on children's lives including mental health, the asylum and immigration system, issues related to care experienced children and children in contact with the criminal justice system. These will be a useful policy tool for pushing for a children's rights strategy as well as for a wide range of organisations working on issues affecting children. We were also delighted to secure an in-depth piece in [The Mirror](#) on the UN's verdict on the UK's child rights record.

- Defending the Human Rights Act

We continued our work on defending the Human Rights Act and ensuring that its role in safeguarding the rights of children was widely known. This included submitting detailed evidence to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights, following its call for evidence on legislative scrutiny of the Bill of Rights Bill, and drafting a briefing for the Bill's second reading in the House of Commons – supported by 50 organisations. Following concerted effort from ourselves and many other organisations the Government announced it would be dropping these proposals. This is a considerable success, although we are alert to the fact that several pieces of recent legislation, including the Illegal Migration Act, dilute the Human Rights Act for particular groups. There are also serious concerns around calls for the UK to withdraw from the European Convention on Human Rights.

- Universal Periodic Review

This year we also continued our work to influence the UK examination under Universal Periodic Review (UPR) – a Human Rights Council process where States review each other's human rights records and obligations across all the UN human rights treaties. We worked with our children's rights partners across the UK (Together, the Wales UNCRC Monitoring Group and the Children's Law Centre) to produce a series of eight thematic briefings on our top priorities. We were pleased to see that due to this work, 59 out of 302 recommendations specifically mentioned children's rights issues (19.5%). This is a significant achievement given that UPR examines implementation of all of the human rights treaties and covers many different issues. We also worked with Just Fair

and others to issue a joint statement highlighting key human rights concerns raised at the examination.

- Influencing the Covid 19 Inquiry

We were extremely pleased that Just for Kids Law and CRAE were accepted to be core participants for module 2 of the UK Covid 19 Inquiry alongside Save the Children UK. Module 2 is focussing on the core political and administrative governance and decision-making in the pandemic. Having this status means we are able to actively participate in the Inquiry, for example, we have made opening and closing statements at the pre-liminary hearings and inputted in relation to the experts the Inquiry is engaging to support its work. We will also be submitting a witness statement and making opening and closing written and oral submissions and suggesting lines of questioning to be pursued by Counsel to the Inquiry during the module 2 hearings starting in early October 2023.

We have also been undertaking a significant amount of work to ensure that the Inquiry hears directly from children with a wide range of backgrounds, experiences and living in different settings. This included co-ordinating a joint open letter to the Chair of the Inquiry with Save the Children UK, which was supported by 43 organisations, including the NSPCC and NCB. The letter was picked up by the Daily Telegraph, which ran it as its front-page lead story.

Youth opportunities

Alongside directly supporting children and young people through our advocacy and legal work and empowering them to campaign, as part of our holistic offer we also provide a youth opportunities offer, which provides a variety of support to our clients ranging from bitesize support, for example, support with developing a CV, to work experience, the opportunity to participate on interview panels and interview skills workshops. Some highlights of this work include:

- ✓ Supporting a young person receiving legal and advocacy support from us with resolving his immigration status. The young person was not attending school due to moving to the country and a different school system. After they attended the Excel London Careers Fair with our youth opportunities support worker they chose to enrol in school with a view to continue to college to study sport.
- ✓ Holistically supporting a young person who was receiving advocacy support after a school exclusion, to create a personal statement for their university application to study law. After advocacy support the young person is now back in school and working towards their goal.
- ✓ Supporting young people to take part in a week-long Youth Opportunities work experience programme. All who took part worked alongside all teams, developing understanding of our work and developing knowledge and skills linked to their goals.
- ✓ Holistically supporting a young person in care to start paying rent at their accommodation due to turning 18. We supported them with applications and interviews to secure part-time employment to pay their rent, which enables them to still be able to continue their studies in

Illustration at University. As part of this work, we supported them to attend the London Excel Careers fair to meet employers and find part-time roles.

Ambassadors

Youth participation is central to all we do at Just for Kids Law and our Ambassadors Group continued to influence all aspects of our organisation. We were particularly pleased that following a recruitment process co-led by one of our existing young trustees, one of our Ambassadors, an ex-client, became a trustee. It has been a long-standing ambition to ensure we have our clients represented at the highest levels of our governance, so we are particularly delighted that we have been able to put in place the right support required to ensure that our ambition was able to come to fruition.

Other highlights of the Ambassadors Group include:

- ✓ Helping to plan and take part in our fundraising event which we held with the support of the Paul Hamlyn Foundation. The group generated ideas including helping to plan the format of the event, speeches and even designing a tote bag for attendees to take away with them.
- ✓ Working with our Communications Officer to select a creative agency to create a short film to promote our holistic casework offer externally, including to new clients. The young people also fed back on the brief by sharing reflections on their experience of our services and support for inclusion in the film as well as taking part in the film itself.

A New Strategy, Vision and Leadership from 1 August 2023 onwards:

Children and young people in contact with the criminal justice system are some of the most vulnerable in society, yet the police and youth justice system fail to respect their rights and cause trauma and harm. Black and other racialised groups are disproportionately represented at all stages of the criminal justice system. Victims of child criminal exploitation are too often treated as perpetrators instead of getting the help they desperately need.

Just for Kids Law challenges this injustice by providing trauma informed, anti-racist, innovative legal representation to children and young people in contact with the criminal justice system and using evidence from this case work to fight for systematic change, including tackling racial disproportionality. The work of the Children's Rights Alliance for England (CRAE) holds the Government to account on its child rights obligations and pushes for change so that government decision-making respects the rights of all children.

The subsequent areas of work will support the delivery of this new focus:

Representing children in the criminal justice system

Our expert criminal defence lawyers provide trauma informed and innovative legal representation for children in contact with the youth justice system. Our Legal Director was one of the first lawyers to trailblaze the use of the section 45 defence in the Modern Slavery Act for victims of child criminal exploitation. On average we represent children in 220 cases annually from one off representation of a child at a police station who secures an out of court disposal, to complex cases which may last several years. The majority of the children we represent are Black or from other racialised groups and have experienced multiple adverse childhood experiences.

Achieving strategic change

As well as working with individual children and young people to secure their rights in the criminal justice system we will use the evidence from our case work to achieve strategic change in law, policy and practice through policy and public affairs work and strategic litigation focusing on policing and youth justice. Recent key strategic change achievements include:

- Removing children from the Covid-19 Regulations concerning custody time limits. Without our intervention, children could have spent an extra two months on remand because of delays in the courts.
- Changing the law so that 16 and 17-year-olds are treated as children in police stations and therefore entitled to additional protections such as an appropriate adult.

We also punch above our weight in securing high profile media coverage to shine a light on issues and challenges that children face, that often get little attention as highlighted in our annual report above.

Promoting and protecting children's rights

Through our hosting of the Children's Rights Alliance for England (CRAE) we lead work on monitoring the implementation of the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). This gives us a wide range of partnerships, contacts, and policy levers as well as expertise in using human rights mechanisms as a tool for change. CRAE has developed a reputation for speaking out on children's rights in a way that has cut through and gains traction with decision-makers and CRAE's Director Co-Chairs the UNCRC Action Group with a Department for Education (DfE) senior civil servant. The group brings together civil society organisations and civil servants from across Whitehall and devolved Government to work in partnership to take forward UNCRC implementation.

Influencing the UK Covid 19 Inquiry

As noted above, Just for Kids Law and CRAE are core participants for module 2 of the UK Covid 19 Inquiry and we will be ensuring that the impact on children of decisions made by the Government during the pandemic are fully scrutinised.

Leadership

The smaller Just for Kids Law will be Co-Led by our Co-Founder and Legal Director, [Aika Stephenson](#) and our Director of Policy and Campaigns and Director of CRAE, [Louise King](#). Aika Co-Founded the Charity in 2006 and Louise joined Just for Kids Law in 2015. Between them they have a wealth of expertise in a broad range of areas including children's rights, trauma informed legal advice and representation, policy and public affairs as well as senior charity leadership, governance and fundraising.

Financial review

Because of the exceptional circumstances Just for Kids law found itself in during the 2022/23, the Board made the decision to extend the financial year from an end date of the 31st May 2023 to an end date of the 31st July 2023. This allowed for the transactions related to the Coram and YJLC business transfers as well as the office move to all be accounted for in the one financial year.

The income for the fourteen month period was £2,663,015, calculated as an average for the standard twelve months the income would have been £2,282,584 a 18% increase on the previous year. Expenditure for the 14 months was £3,125,615, calculated as an average for the 12 months it would be £2,679,099 a 23% increase on the previous year.

At the end of the extended accounting period the charity holds £556,426 total funds of which £88,818 are restricted and not for general purpose. These restricted funds are committed for project expenditure in the next financial year. After making allowance for the restricted funds overall there was a net decrease in funds of £462,600, resulting in an unrestricted reserves balance of £ 467,608.

The principal funding sources of the charity during the reporting period are trusts and foundations, with this source making up 77% of the total income. Just for Kids Law receives funding from a wide variety of trusts and foundations and would like to thank them for their support. A full list of funders can be found at the end of the financial statements. During the year the legal aid contract contributed £304,330 of the total income.

Following the two business transfers of work the smaller Just for Kids set a budget anticipating a turnover in the region of £700,000. The income from the Covid-19 Inquiry work has helped the organisation through the transition period and there has been support from Trusts and Foundations who have agreed to continue funding the new organisation. The focus is now to develop a new strategic plan alongside a fundraising strategy and pipeline linked to the organisation's priorities to move forward into 24/25.

Reserves policy and going concern

Just for Kids Law needs reserves to:

- Meet contractual liabilities should the organisation have to close. This includes any contractual pay owed to staff paid from unrestricted funds, redundancy pay for all staff, amounts due to creditors and commitments under any leases.
- Meet unexpected costs such as the unexpected need to move and essential staff-cover in the case of illness.
- Provide working capital when funding is paid in arrears, to help manage any cashflow issues.
- From time to time, funding has certain restrictions which mean that by law it must be held in a restricted reserve until it is spent in line with the funding agreement.

The Board considers that overall, it would be prudent to set aside a minimum amount of £285,000 that is made up of the following items:

- Four and a half month's salary costs of any staff whose salary is not paid for from restricted funding: £128,000.
- Redundancy costs for all staff: £24,000.
- Three months of rent £15,000.
- An allowance of £93,000 to cover contractual obligations .
- An allowance of £25,000 to cover liabilities arising from our legal aid contracts.

The Board of Trustees will consider current costs of closure and examine the level of reserves each year when setting the following years' budget.

At the end of 22/23 the unrestricted reserves are £467,608.

Principle risks and uncertainties

The Board has undertaken its own review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and systems have been established to mitigate those risks.

The Board has produced a Risk Register which is regularly reviewed by the Finance & Risk Sub-Committee and discussed at the Board Meeting every six months. The Risk Register identifies a number of key risks and mitigating actions including:

- Financial risk (difficulty to cover central organisational costs; lack of capacity to raise funds; loss of relationships with key donors; cash flow issues).
Mitigations: Regular fundraising meetings reviewing the pipeline.
Development of new fundraising strategy and detailed pipeline .
Additional support to the legal team to ensure legal income continues at expected level

- HR risks (staff burnout; non-compliance with HR and other employment legislation; loss of key staff).
Mitigations: Line managers monitor staff hours worked and outputs of work, TOIL policy introduced and to be kept under review, SMART Clinic Confidential employee support line in place for all staff including counselling, physio etc, Clinical supervision/reflective practice offered to frontline staff
- Safeguarding risks (failure to adequately safeguard vulnerable children and young people the organisation works with and manage incidents/allegations).
Mitigations: Annual safeguarding training being delivered by independent provider for all Staff.
Reduced risk following transfer of advocacy and youth projects work.
Additional related training being delivered to client facing staff, Updated safeguarding policy and process in place,
- Reputational risks (under-delivery of funded work compared to donor expectations of time required; inadequate and/or inappropriate response to negative media coverage).
Mitigations: JFKL has strong internal expertise in Communications,
Director of Campaigns and Policy having clear oversight and accountability for all campaigning work

Plans for the Future

Just for Kids will consolidate during this transitional financial year, ensuring it delivers under its current funding commitments and continues to support children and young people in the criminal justice system under the legal aid contracts. The organisation has a reasonable level of reserves to take into future financial years while it develops new income strategies.

Fundraising Disclosures

Just for Kids Law's funding is from four primary sources: grants from trusts and foundations, legal aid contracts, high net worth donations and support from corporates. We do not employ any professional fundraisers or commercial participators to carry out fundraising activities directly with the public. We also do not have any fundraising carried out by third parties. We therefore do not subscribe to any fundraising schemes or codes. We also do not directly involve vulnerable people in our fundraising activities. We have not received any complaints about our fundraising activity.

Remuneration policy for key management personnel

Just for Kids Law reviewed and revised its remuneration policy for all staff in 2019/2020. The policy includes the following key elements:

- Salary ranges are completely transparent.

- The policy applies equally to fixed term and permanent staff.
- Salary increments are awarded through either annual inflationary cost of living increases subject to affordability, a discretionary organisational bonus scheme subject to affordability, progression within a salary range based on length in post, taking on additional responsibilities or acting up into a role.

Funds held as custodian trustee

No funds are being held on behalf of others.

Statement of responsibilities of the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees (who are also directors of Just for Kids Law for the purposes of company law) is responsible for preparing the Board of Trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

- Select suitable accounting policies and then 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 and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that 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.

In so far as the Board of Trustees is aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware.
- The Board of Trustees has taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make itself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

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

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 July 2023 was 12 (2022 – 9). Trustees are members of the charity, but this entitles them only to voting rights. The Board of Trustees has no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP was re-appointed as the charitable company's auditor during the period and has expressed its willingness to continue in that capacity.

The annual report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies' subject to the small companies' regime.

The Board of Trustees' annual report has been approved by the Board of Trustees on 21 November 2023 and signed on their behalf by

Anthony Landes
Chair of the Board of Trustees

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

Just for Kids Law Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Just for Kids Law (the 'charitable company') for the period ended 31 July 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (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 July 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the period then ended
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice
- 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 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 Just for Kids Law's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. 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. 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 course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- The information given in the trustees' annual report, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- The trustees' annual report, has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' annual report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- Adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- The financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- Certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- The directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' annual report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities set out in the trustees' annual report, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

Just for Kids Law Limited

company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

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 are set out below.

Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities

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

- We enquired of management and the finance and risk committee, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charity's policies and procedures relating to:
 - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
 - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
 - The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

Just for Kids Law Limited

financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the charity from our professional and sector experience.

- We communicated applicable laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We reviewed any reports made to regulators.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: 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 members as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an 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 the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Noelia Serrano (Senior statutory auditor)

29 November 2023

for and on behalf of Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor

Invicta House, 108–114 Golden Lane, LONDON, EC1Y 0TL

Just for Kids Law Limited
Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

For the period ended 31 July 2023

	Note	Continuing Unrestricted £	Discontinued Unrestricted £	Continuing Restricted £	Discontinued Restricted £	14 months to 31 July 2023 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	12 months to 31 May 2022 Total £
Income from:									
Donations and legacies	2	558,090	–	–	–	558,090	715,181	–	715,181
Charitable activities									
Legal	3	490,197	–	265,679	293,977	1,049,853	177,820	310,364	488,184
Programmes	3	–	–	–	636,313	636,313	–	468,848	468,848
Policy	3	35,314	57,563	113,026	207,058	412,961	–	223,356	223,356
Other	4	4,146	–	–	–	4,146	39,745	–	39,745
Investments	5	1,652	–	–	–	1,652	37	–	37
Total income		1,089,399	57,563	378,705	1,137,348	2,663,015	932,783	1,002,568	1,935,351
Expenditure on:									
Raising funds	6	101,772	–	–	–	101,772	59,313	–	59,313
Charitable activities									
Legal	6	696,648	–	259,195	263,236	1,219,078	601,822	325,140	926,962
Programmes	6	–	338,839	–	589,945	928,784	237,217	578,500	815,717
Policy	6	272,347	–	82,283	255,209	609,840	157,459	222,868	380,327
Transfer of assets	6	–	–	–	266,141	266,141	–	–	–
Total expenditure		1,070,767	338,839	341,478	1,374,531	3,125,615	1,055,811	1,126,508	2,182,319
Net income/ (expenditure) for the year	7	18,632	(281,276)	37,227	(237,183)	(462,600)	(123,028)	(123,940)	(246,968)
Net movement in funds		18,632	(281,276)	37,227	(237,183)	(462,600)	(123,028)	(123,940)	(246,968)
Reconciliation of funds:									
Total funds brought forward		448,976	281,276	51,591	237,183	1,019,026	853,280	412,714	1,265,994
Total funds carried forward		467,608	–	88,818	–	556,426	730,252	288,774	1,019,026

Discontinued activities relate to business transfers of certain areas of work for further information please see the Trustees' report. All other activities are continuing. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 17a.

Just for Kids Law Limited

Balance sheet

Company no. 5815338

As at 31 July 2023

	Note	£	As at 31 July 2023 £	As at 31 May 2022 £
Fixed assets:				
Tangible assets	12		–	97,125
			–	97,125
Current assets:				
Work in progress		154,398	178,966	
Debtors	13	185,386	84,246	
Cash at bank and in hand		674,512	860,351	
		1,014,296	1,123,563	
Liabilities:				
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	457,870	201,662	
Net current assets			556,426	921,901
Total net assets			556,426	1,019,026
The funds of the charity:	17			
Restricted income funds			88,818	288,774
Unrestricted income funds:				
General funds		467,608	730,252	
Total unrestricted funds			467,608	730,252
Total charity funds			556,426	1,019,026

Approved by the trustees on 21 November 2023 and signed on their behalf by

Anthony Landes
Chair of Board of Trustees

Just for Kids Law Limited

Statement of cash flows

For the period ended 31 July 2023

Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	14 months to 31 July 2023	12 months to 31 May 2022
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net (expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(462,600)	(246,968)
Depreciation charges	16,754	16,755
Dividends and interest	(1,652)	(37)
(Profit)/loss on disposal of fixed assets	80,371	–
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	(101,140)	53,612
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	256,208	(154,874)
Decrease/ (Increase) in work in progress	24,568	(35,153)
Net cash (used in) operating activities	(187,491)	(366,665)
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Dividends and interest	1,652	37
Purchase of fixed assets	–	–
Net cash provided by investing activities	1,652	37
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	(185,839)	(366,628)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	860,351	1,226,979
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	674,512	860,351

1 Accounting policies

a) Statutory information

Just for Kids Law is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in the United Kingdom. The registered office address and principal place of business is Ec1 Offices 338 City Road London EC1V 2PY .

b) Basis of preparation

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

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

c) Public benefit entity

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

d) Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

e) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that 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 is recognised on casework earned and due ("work in progress" or "WIP") according to the time booked on the matter multiplied by the relevant legal aid or interpartes rate. Appropriate provision is made for irrecoverable WIP.

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

f) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

g) Interest receivable

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.

h) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

i) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

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

- Costs of raising funds relate to the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering services undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

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

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 July 2023

1 Accounting policies (continued)

j) Allocation of 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.

Where information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is provided to potential beneficiaries, the costs associated with this publicity are allocated to charitable expenditure.

Where such information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is also provided to potential donors, activity costs are apportioned between fundraising and charitable activities on the basis of area of literature occupied by each activity.

● Raising Funds	2%
● Legal	41%
● Programmes	42%
● Policy	15%

Governance costs are re-allocated to each of the activities on the following basis which is an estimate, based percentage of expenditure, of the amount attributable to each activity.

● Raising funds	3%
● Legal	41%
● Programmes	41%
● Policy	15%

Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity. These costs are associated with constitutional and statutory requirements and include any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities.

k) Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

l) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where purchase prices exceeds £1000. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.

Where fixed assets have been revalued, any excess between the revalued amount and the historic cost of the asset will be shown as a revaluation reserve in the balance sheet.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

● Computer equipment	3 years
● Leasehold Improvements	3 years
● Fixtures and fittings	5 years

During the course of the financial year the break-clause in the office lease was invoked and as all assets were related to the office they were disposed of fully.

m) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

n) Cash at bank and in hand

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

o) Creditors and provisions

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

p) Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value.

q) Pensions

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund. The charitable company has no liability under the scheme other than for the payment of those contributions.

r) Work in progress

Legal work in progress is valued at the net realisable value. Provision is made when necessary for irrecoverable amounts of work in progress.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 July 2023

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Continuing Unrestricted £	Discontinued Unrestricted £	Continuing Restricted £	Discontinued Restricted £	14 months to 31 July 2023 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	12 months to 31 May 2022 Total £
Donations	29,065	-	-	-	29,065	87,588	-	87,588
Donated Services	50,000	-	-	-	50,000	-	-	-
AB Charitable Trust	-	-	-	-	-	20,000	-	20,000
Aurum Charitable Trust	25,000	-	-	-	25,000	-	-	-
The Blagrove Trust	50,000	-	-	-	50,000	50,000	-	50,000
Brooks Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	5,000	-	5,000
Childhood Trust	-	-	-	-	-	5,193	-	5,193
Esmée Fairbairn Core Grant	168,000	-	-	-	168,000	120,000	-	120,000
Family Charitable Trusts	62,500	-	-	-	62,500	30,000	-	30,000
Family Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	75,000	-	75,000
Family Foundation 2	10,000	-	-	-	10,000	10,000	-	10,000
John Ellerman	50,000	-	-	-	50,000	50,000	-	50,000
London Community Response Fund	-	-	-	-	-	50,000	-	50,000
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	130,000	-	130,000
Small Trusts	26,525	-	-	-	26,525	12,400	-	12,400
Stewarts Foundation	40,000	-	-	-	40,000	45,000	-	45,000
Segelman Trust	27,000	-	-	-	27,000	25,000	-	25,000
Swire Charitable Trust	20,000	-	-	-	20,000	-	-	-
	558,090	-	-	-	558,090	715,181	-	715,181

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 July 2023

3 Income from charitable activities

	Continuing Unrestricted £	Discontinued Unrestricted £	Continuing Restricted £	Discontinued Restricted £	14 months to 31 July 2023 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	12 months to 31 May 2022 Total £
Donations	10,000	-	-	-	10,000	10,000	-	10,000
Access to Justice	-	-	162,196	-	162,196	-	-	-
Allen & Overy Foundation	-	-	-	10,000	10,000	-	15,000	15,000
City Bridge Trust (casework)	-	-	-	22,000	22,000	-	35,000	35,000
Comic Relief (Safer Places)	-	-	-	37,939	37,939	-	44,553	44,553
CMS Social Impact	-	-	5,000	-	5,000	-	-	-
Goldsmiths	-	-	-	18,700	18,700	-	17,000	17,000
Legal Education Foundation (including Justice First)	-	-	56,489	-	56,489	-	81,105	81,105
Mission 44	-	-	-	45,415	45,415	-	-	-
Oak Foundation	-	-	-	62,173	62,173	-	20,923	20,923
Trust for London	-	-	-	97,750	97,750	-	50,000	50,000
Development (Other)	-	-	41,994	-	41,994	-	46,783	46,783
Case work and LAA	304,330	-	-	-	304,330	167,820	-	167,820
Cabinet Office (C19 inquiry)	175,867	-	-	-	175,867	-	-	-
Sub-total for Legal	490,197	-	265,679	293,977	1,049,853	177,820	310,364	488,184
BBC Children in Need	-	-	-	44,125	44,125	-	43,625	43,625
BBC Children in Need (Small grants)	-	-	-	10,000	10,000	-	-	-
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	-	375	375
Garden Court Chambers	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,000	4,000
John Lyons	-	-	-	26,935	26,935	-	6,065	6,065
KPMG Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mission 44	-	-	-	25,003	25,003	-	-	-
National Lottery	-	-	-	83,751	83,751	-	165,794	165,794
National Lottery Strive to Thrive	-	-	-	52,343	52,343	-	-	-
Oak Foundation	-	-	-	262,750	262,750	-	67,263	67,263
Permira Equinox (TCS)	-	-	-	-	-	-	75,000	75,000
Peter Stebbings Memorial Charity	-	-	-	10,000	10,000	-	-	-
The Pilgrim Trust	-	-	-	20,000	20,000	-	10,000	10,000
Trust For London (Good Homes)	-	-	-	37,580	37,580	-	25,842	25,842
Hardship fund	-	-	-	200	200	-	-	-
Development (Other)	-	-	-	63,627	63,627	-	70,884	70,884
Sub-total for Programmes	-	-	-	636,313	636,313	-	468,848	468,848

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 July 2023

3 Income from charitable activities (continued)

	Continuing Unrestricted £	Discontinued Unrestricted £	Continuing Restricted £	Discontinued Restricted £	14 months to 31 July 2023 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	12 months to 31 May 2022 Total £
Donations	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,703	5,703
AB Charitable	-	-	30,000	-	30,000	-	-	-
Baring Foundation	-	-	-	30,000	30,000	-	-	-
Barrow Cadbury	-	-	32,000	-	32,000	-	-	-
Barrow Cadbury (BAME)	-	-	1,500	-	1,500	-	29,250	29,250
Dawes Trust	-	-	-	-	-	-	59,000	59,000
Dulverton Trust	-	-	-	30,021	30,021	-	-	-
EHRC	-	-	3,000	-	3,000	-	-	-
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	-	-	350	-	350	-	375	375
Impact Social Fund	-	-	-	500	500	-	-	-
Joseph Rowntree Foundation	-	-	9,542	-	9,542	-	29,344	29,344
Mission 44	-	-	-	44,142	44,142	-	-	-
Oak Foundation	-	-	-	16,224	16,224	-	31,425	31,425
Paul Hastings (Corp Social Resp Fund)	-	-	-	20,000	20,000	-	-	-
Paul Hastings (Equitable Ed Fund)	-	-	-	45,000	45,000	-	-	-
Porticus	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,000	20,000
The Bromley Trust	-	-	15,000	-	15,000	-	15,000	15,000
Trust for London (Good Homes)	-	-	-	21,170	21,170	-	9,158	9,158
Other Policy income	35,314	57,563	-	-	92,878	-	-	-
Development (Other)	-	-	21,634	-	21,634	-	24,101	24,101
Sub-total for Policy	35,314	57,563	113,026	207,058	412,961	-	223,356	223,356
Total income from charitable activities	525,512	57,563	378,704	1,137,348	2,099,127	177,820	1,002,568	1,180,388

4 Income from other activities

	Continuing Unrestricted £	Discontinued Unrestricted £	Continuing Restricted £	Discontinued Restricted £	14 months to 31 July 2023 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	12 months to 31 May 2022 Total £
Events and sponsorships	4,146	-	-	-	4,146	39,745	-	39,745
	4,146	-	-	-	4,146	39,745	-	39,745

5 Income from investments

	Continuing Unrestricted £	Discontinued Unrestricted £	Continuing Restricted £	Discontinued Restricted £	14 months to 31 July 2023 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	12 months to 31 May 2022 Total £
Bank interest receivable	1,652	-	-	-	1,652	37	-	37
	1,652	-	-	-	1,652	37	-	37

6a Analysis of expenditure (current period)

	Raising funds £	Charitable activities					Asset transfers	Governance costs £	Support costs £	14 months to 31 July 2023	12 months to 31 May 2022
		Legal £	Programmes Discontinued activities £	Policy £	Legal Discontinued activities £	Policy Discontinued activities £				Total £	Total £
Staff costs (Note 8)	40,464	278,598	463,066	127,755	261,221	170,208	-	-	364,920	1,706,232	1,455,101
Other staff costs	-	8,401	1,588	49	2,015	1,646	-	-	74,343	88,043	104,569
Client support	-	1,267	2,628	-	-	-	-	-	51	3,946	5,598
Consultancy	42,750	25,100	7,383	1,025	-	29,128	-	-	24,343	129,729	71,038
Insurance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,462	6,462	7,864
Promotion	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,409	5,409	6,372
Legal fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	125	125	125
Audit and accountancy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,995	-	8,995	12,250
Governance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,747	-	2,747	1,764
Premises costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	119,801	119,801	111,053
Office costs	-	27,307	2,136	28	-	5,425	-	-	114,552	149,448	105,836
Other costs	-	3,006	215	30,940	-	44,670	-	-	78,475	157,306	31,839
Subscriptions	-	1,090	-	-	-	75	-	-	4,478	5,643	6,297
LAA Costs	-	230,394	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	230,394	95,126
VAT	-	250	-	2,949	-	3,857	-	-	33,932	40,988	49,640
Project Costs	-	-	62,057	52,703	-	200	-	-	22,493	137,452	101,092
Other *	-	-	-	-	-	-	266,141	-	-	266,141	-
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,754	16,754	16,755
Donated Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50,000	-	50,000	-
	83,214	575,412	539,074	215,449	263,236	255,209	266,141	61,742	866,139	3,125,615	2,182,319
Support costs	17,323	355,117	363,778	129,921	-	-	-	-	(866,139)	-	-
Governance costs	1,235	25,314	25,932	9,261	-	-	-	(61,742)	-	-	-
Total expenditure 2023	101,772	955,843	928,784	354,631	263,236	255,209	266,141	-	-	3,125,615	
Total expenditure 2022	59,313	926,962	815,717	380,327	-	-	-	-	-		2,182,319

* Other expenditure refers to the transfer of assets of our discontinued activities. Please refer to Trustees' report for more information.

6b Analysis of expenditure (prior year)

	Charitable activities						
	Raising funds £	Legal £	Programmes £	Policy £	Governance costs £	Support costs £	2022 Total £
Staff costs (Note 8)	43,936	462,460	414,595	216,491	–	317,619	1,455,101
Other staff costs	–	3,569	303	–	–	100,697	104,569
Client support	–	1,384	3,406	375	–	433	5,598
Consultancy	–	21,810	–	12,754	–	36,474	71,038
Insurance	–	–	–	–	–	7,864	7,864
Promotion	–	–	–	–	–	6,372	6,372
Legal fees	–	–	–	–	–	125	125
Audit and accountancy	–	–	–	–	12,250	–	12,250
Governance	–	–	–	–	1,764	–	1,764
Premises costs	–	–	–	–	–	111,053	111,053
Office costs	–	18,274	2,227	80	–	85,255	105,836
Other costs	–	8,105	–	16,480	–	7,254	31,839
Subscriptions	–	1,004	–	–	–	5,293	6,297
LAA Costs	–	95,126	–	–	–	–	95,126
VAT	–	–	–	–	–	49,640	49,640
Project Costs	–	–	72,268	18,819	–	10,005	101,092
Depreciation	–	–	–	–	–	16,755	16,755
	43,936	611,732	492,799	264,999	14,014	754,839	2,182,319
Support costs	15,097	309,484	317,032	113,226	–	(754,839)	–
Governance costs	280	5,746	5,886	2,102	(14,014)	–	–
Total expenditure 2022	59,313	926,962	815,717	380,327	–	–	2,182,319

Notes to the financial statements

For the period ended 31 July 2023

7 Net expenditure for the year

This is stated after charging / (crediting):

	14 months to 31 July 2023 £	12 months to 31 May 2022 £
Depreciation	16,754	16,755
Auditor's remuneration (excluding VAT):		
Audit	11,500	9,800
Other services	-	-
	<u>16,754</u>	<u>16,755</u>

8 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

Staff costs were as follows:

	14 months to 31 July 2023 £	12 months to 31 May 2022 £
Salaries and wages	1,468,596	1,270,123
Redundancy and termination costs	24,739	3,400
Social security costs	154,895	131,467
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	58,000	50,111
	<u>1,706,231</u>	<u>1,455,101</u>

The following number of employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs and employer's national insurance) during the year between:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
£60,000 – £69,999	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>

The total employee benefits (including pension contributions and employer's national insurance) of the key management personnel were £367,731 (2022: £321,083).

The charity trustees were neither paid nor received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2022: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2022: £nil).

During the year, no travel expenses were reimbursed as trustee expenses (2022: £nil).

9 Staff numbers

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the year was 39 (2022: 40).

Staff are split across the activities of the charitable company as follows (average head count):

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Raising funds	1.0	1.0
Legal	12.0	12.0
Programmes	12.0	12.0
Policy	7.0	7.0
Support	7.0	8.0
	<u>39.0</u>	<u>40.0</u>

Notes to the financial statements

For the period ended 31 July 2023

10 Related party transactions

Trustee Maureen Cole-Burns' husband is a trustee of Trust for London, which gave grants to Just for Kids Law totalling £156,500 (2022: £85,000). These were restricted and can be seen in notes 2 and 3 of the financial statements. Maureen Cole-Burns resigned as a trustee in July 2022.

Trustee Sufina Ahmad is the Director of the John Ellerman Foundation which gave Just for Kids Law a grant of £50,000.

Honorary Founder Shauneed Lambe is a Trustee of the Baring Foundation, which gave a grant to Just for Kids Law of £30,000 (2022: £0). This was restricted and can be seen in notes 2 and 3 of the financial statements.

During the year, trustees in aggregate donated unrestricted funds of £590 (2022: £357).

11 Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold Improvements £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost			
At the start of the period	82,008	15,117	97,125
Additions in the period	–	–	–
Disposals in the period	(46,863)	(930)	(47,793)
At the end of the period	35,145	14,187	49,332
Depreciation			
At the start of the period	23,430	9,148	32,578
Charge for the period	11,715	5,039	16,754
Eliminated on disposal	(35,145)	(14,187)	(49,332)
At the end of the period	–	–	–
Net book value			
At the end of the period	–	–	–

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

13 Debtors

	At 31 July 2023 £	At 31 May 2022 £
Trade debtors	176,334	39,922
Other debtors	9,052	35,565
Accrued income	–	8,759
	185,386	84,246

All of the charity's financial instruments, both assets and liabilities, are measured at amortised cost. The carrying values of these are shown above and also in note 14 below.

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	At 31 July 2023 £	At 31 May 2022 £
Trade creditors	68,081	58,443
Taxation and social security	36,895	42,444
Other creditors	83,803	84,204
Transfers	266,141	–
Deferred income	2,950	16,571
	457,870	201,662

15 Deferred income

Deferred income comprises the deferment of grant income received in the year which must be recognised in following years as per the terms of the specific grants.

	At 31 July 2023 £	At 31 May 2022 £
Balance at the beginning of the year	16,571	137,071
Amount released to income in the year	(16,571)	(137,071)
Amount deferred in the year	2,950	16,571
Balance at the end of the year	2,950	16,571

16a Analysis of net assets between funds (current period)

	General unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	–	–	–
Net current assets	467,608	88,818	556,426
Net assets at 31 July 2023	467,608	88,818	556,426

16b Analysis of net assets between funds (prior year)

	General unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	97,125	–	97,125
Net current assets	633,127	288,774	921,901
Net assets at 31 May 2022	730,252	288,774	1,019,026

Notes to the financial statements

For the period ended 31 July 2023

17a Movements in funds (current period)

	At 1 June 2022 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	At 31 July 2023 £
Restricted funds:					
Legal					
Access to Justice	-	162,196	(162,196)	-	-
Allen & Overy Foundation	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Baring Foundation (Custody Time Limits)	1,253	-	(1,253)	-	-
City Bridge Trust (casework)	-	22,000	(22,000)	-	-
Comic Relief (Safe Place to Be)	5,164	37,939	(43,103)	-	-
CMS Social Impact	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Goldsmiths Company Charity	-	18,700	(18,700)	-	-
Legal Education Foundation (including					
Justice First)	5,532	56,489	(50,407)	-	11,614
Mission 44	-	45,415	(45,415)	-	-
Oak Foundation	-	62,173	(62,173)	-	-
Trust for London	2,259	97,750	(100,009)	-	-
Development (other)	4,619	41,994	(35,084)	-	11,529
	18,827	559,656	(555,340)	-	23,143
Programmes					
Act for Change Fund	6,500	-	(6,500)	-	-
BBC Children in Need (Main Grant)	2,684	44,125	(46,809)	-	-
BBC Children in Need (Small Grant)	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Garden Court Chambers	6,646	-	(6,646)	-	-
John Lyon's Charity	-	26,935	(26,935)	-	-
Mission 44	-	25,003	(25,003)	-	-
National Lottery Community Fund	70,435	83,751	(154,186)	-	-
National Lottery Strive to Thrive	-	52,343	(52,343)	-	-
Oak Foundation	16,803	262,750	(279,553)	-	-
Permira Equinox (TCS)	43,378	-	(43,378)	-	-
Peter Stebbings Memorial Charity	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
The Pilgrim Trust	-	20,000	(20,000)	-	-
Trust For London (Good Homes)	-	37,580	(37,580)	-	-
Education funds and one-off grants	912	-	-	-	912
Hardship fund	9,843	200	(1,583)	-	8,460
Development (other)	7,000	63,627	(53,158)	-	17,469
	164,201	636,314	(773,674)	-	26,841

Notes to the financial statements

For the period ended 31 July 2023

17a Movements in funds (current period) (continued)

Policy	At 1 June 2022 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	At 31 July 2023 £
Donations	10,103	–	(10,103)	–	–
AB Charitable Trust	–	30,000	(7,375)	–	22,625
Baring Foundation	–	30,000	(30,000)	–	–
Barrow Cadbury Trust (T18)	–	32,000	(27,575)	–	4,425
Barrow Cadbury Trust (BAME)	5,218	1,500	(6,718)	–	–
Comic Relief (Change It!)	3,284	–	–	–	3,284
Dawes Trust	60,078	–	(60,078)	–	–
Dulverton Trust	–	30,021	(30,021)	–	–
EHRC	–	3,000	(3,000)	–	–
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	–	350	(350)	–	–
Impact Social Fund	–	500	(500)	–	–
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	–	9,542	(6,982)	–	2,560
KPMG Foundation	76	–	(76)	–	–
Mission 44	–	44,142	(44,142)	–	–
Oak Foundation	13,897	16,224	(30,121)	–	–
Paul Hastings	7,631	–	(7,631)	–	–
Paul Hastings (Corp Social Resp Fund)	–	20,000	(20,000)	–	–
Paul Hastings (Equitable Ed Fund)	–	45,000	(45,000)	–	–
Porticus	1,565	–	(1,565)	–	–
The Bromley Trust	–	15,000	(15,000)	–	–
Trust for London (Good Homes)	1,514	21,170	(22,684)	–	–
Development (other)	2,380	21,634	(18,074)	–	5,940
	105,746	320,083	(386,995)	–	38,834
Total restricted funds	288,774	1,516,053	(1,716,009)	–	88,818
	At 1 June 2022 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	At 31 July 2023 £
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	730,252	1,146,962	(1,409,606)	–	467,608
Total funds	1,019,026	2,663,015	(3,125,615)	–	556,426

The narrative to explain the purpose of each fund is given at the foot of the following note.

Notes to the financial statements

For the period ended 31 July 2023

17b Movements in funds (prior year)

	At 1 June 2021 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	At 31 May 2022 £
Restricted funds:					
Legal					
Allen & Overy Foundation	-	15,000	(15,000)	-	-
Baring Foundation (Custody Time Limits)	5,003	-	(3,750)	-	1,253
City Bridge Trust (casework)	-	35,000	(35,000)	-	-
Comic Relief (Safe Place to Be)	5,705	44,553	(45,094)	-	5,164
Goldsmiths Company Charity	-	17,000	(17,000)	-	-
Legal Education Foundation (including Justice First)	9,718	81,105	(85,291)	-	5,532
Mercers' Company	5,000	-	(5,000)	-	-
Oak Foundation	3,107	20,923	(24,030)	-	-
Trust for London	2,634	50,000	(50,375)	-	2,259
Development (other)	2,436	46,783	(44,600)	-	4,619
	33,603	310,364	(325,140)	-	18,827
Programmes					
Act for Change Fund	37,568	-	(31,068)	-	6,500
BBC Children in Need (Main Grant)	6,510	43,625	(47,451)	-	2,684
BBC Children in Need (Small Grant)	5,888	-	(5,888)	-	-
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	26,010	375	(26,385)	-	-
Garden Court Chambers	5,286	4,000	(2,640)	-	6,646
John Lyon's Charity	29,482	6,065	(35,547)	-	-
KPMG Foundation	25,000	-	(25,000)	-	-
National Lottery Community Fund	59,109	165,794	(154,468)	-	70,435
Oak Foundation	34,884	67,263	(85,344)	-	16,803
Permira Equinox (TCS)	-	75,000	(31,622)	-	43,378
Permira Foundation	28,099	-	(28,099)	-	-
The Pilgrim Trust	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Trust For London (Good Homes)	-	25,842	(25,842)	-	-
Education funds and one-off grants	912	-	-	-	912
Hardship fund	11,414	-	(1,571)	-	9,843
Development (other)	3,691	70,884	(67,575)	-	7,000
	273,853	468,848	(578,500)	-	164,201

Notes to the financial statements

For the period ended 31 July 2023

17b Movements in funds (prior year) (continued)

	At 1 June 2021	Income & gains	Expenditure & losses	Transfers	At 31 May 2022
Policy					
Donations	4,400	5,703	–	–	10,103
Act for Change	6,512	–	(6,512)	–	–
Barrow Cadbury Trust	840	–	(840)	–	–
Barrow Cadbury Trust (BAME)	8,640	29,250	(32,672)	–	5,218
Comic Relief (Change It!)	3,284	–	–	–	3,284
Dawes Trust	46,966	59,000	(45,888)	–	60,078
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	896	375	(1,271)	–	–
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	2,141	29,344	(31,485)	–	–
KPMG Foundation	6,143	–	(6,067)	–	76
Oak Foundation	7,255	31,425	(24,782)	–	13,897
Paul Hastings	16,927	–	(9,296)	–	7,631
Porticus	–	20,000	(18,435)	–	1,565
The Bromley Trust	–	15,000	(15,000)	–	–
Trust for London (Good Homes)	–	9,158	(7,644)	–	1,514
Development (other)	1,255	24,101	(22,976)	–	2,380
	<u>105,258</u>	<u>223,356</u>	<u>(222,868)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>105,746</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>412,714</u>	<u>1,002,568</u>	<u>(1,126,508)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>288,774</u>
	At 1 June 2021 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	At 31 May 2022 £
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	853,280	932,783	(1,055,811)	–	730,252
Total funds	<u>1,265,994</u>	<u>1,935,351</u>	<u>(2,182,319)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>1,019,026</u>

Purposes of restricted funds

Legal

Access to Justice – Funding to help access to legal support.

Allen & Overy – Funding to support our school exclusions work.

Baring Foundation – Funding to support our youth justice work.

City Bridge Trust – Funding to support our casework.

Comic Relief (Safe Place to Be) – Funding for a housing solicitor.

CMS Social Impact Fund – Funding to support our casework

Goldsmiths Company Charity – Funding to support our casework.

Legal Education Foundation (including Justice First) – Funding to support the Justice First Fellowship trainee solicitor.

Mission 44 – Funding to support our School Exclusions work.

Oak Foundation – Funding for reforming housing and support for children and young people through participation.

Trust For London – Funding for our immigration work.

Programmes

Act for Change Fund – Funding towards our work on school exclusion.

BBC Children in Need (Main Grants) – Funding for youth advocacy, for clients who are under 18.

BBC Children in Need (small grant) – Funding towards our Young Ambassadors

John Lyon's Charity – Funding towards the youth advocacy project.

Mission 44 – Funding to support our School Exclusions work.

National Lottery Community Fund – Funding for our youth advocacy including our trainee programme.

Oak Foundation – Funding for reforming housing and support for children and young people through participation.

Permira Equinox (TCS)– Funding for a pilot in-house therapy service for Jfkl clients whose mental health needs were not met through statutory services for children and young people.

Peter Stebbings Memorial Charity – Funding towards our Young Parents Advocate

The Pilgrim Trust – Funding for our young parents advocate.

Trust for London Funding to support our campaigning work on housing.

Hardship Funds – are given as small one-off grants where there is an immediate need.

Purposes of restricted funds (continued)

Policy

Donations – Funds contributing to our central costs.

AB Charitable Trust – Funding towards tackling racial disproportionality and infringement of rights in police treatment of children.

Baring Foundation – funding for our Youth Justice Legal Centre to design, market and deliver specialist training on racial injustice to criminal defence lawyers

Barrow Cadbury Trust – Funding to develop reform proposals to assist children turning 18 in the criminal justice system.

Barrow Cadbury Trust (BAME) – Funding to improve legal representation for BAME young people.

Comic Relief (Change It!) – Funding towards Just For Kids Law child-led campaign Change It!, and towards advocacy and education community care, focused on West London.

Dawes Trust – Funding to improve legal representation for children and young people.

Dulverton Trust – Funding towards our Youth Justice Advice Line

EHRC – Support towards the costs for children to participate in a working group in Geneva with the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child

Esmée Fairbairn – Funding towards participation in the Leaving Care Learning Programme.

Oak Foundation – Funding for reforming housing and support for children and young people through participation.

Paul Hastings – Funding to create new and updating practitioner guides.

Paul Hastings (CSRF) – Funding towards staff costs to support the Youth Justice Legal Centre.

Paul Hastings (EEF) – Funding towards consultancy costs to support the Youth Justice Legal Centre.

Porticus – Funding for our policy and legal work on school exclusion.

The Bromley Trust – Funding towards child rights policy, and public affairs work.

Trust for London – Funding to support care experienced children with experience of homelessness to campaign for change.

Development (other)

Access to work – Funding to support a member of staff.

CAF Keystone – A grant towards core development

Drapers Charitable Fund – A grant towards core costs supporting casework.

Legal Education Foundation – A grant to support strengthening sector capacity

Paul Hamlyn – Funding towards core operational costs

London Legal Support Trust – Funding towards the salary of a Billing Co-ordinator role.

The breakdown of development funds for 2022/23 was as follows:

	At 1 June 2022 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	At 31 July 2023 £
Access to Work	-	5,144	(5,144)	-	-
CAF Keystone	-	34,938	-	-	34,938
Drapers Charitable Trust	-	20,000	(20,000)	-	-
Mark Leonard Trust	28	50,000	(50,028)	-	-
Philip King	(7)	-	7	-	-
Legal Education Foundation	3,780	-	(3,780)	-	-
Paul Hamlyn	8,222	-	(8,222)	-	-
London Legal Support Trust	1,977	17,172	(19,149)	-	-
	14,000	127,254	(106,316)	-	34,938

18 Operating lease commitments

The charity's total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows for each of the following periods

	2023 £	2022 £
Less than one year	10,824	84,204
One to five years	43,296	78,000
	54,120	162,204

19 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £10.

JUST FOR KIDS LAW LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1121638

Accounts

Company number: 05815338

Charity number: 1121638

Just for Kids Law Limited

Report and financial statements

For the year ended 31 May 2022

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Just for Kids Law Limited

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 May 2022

Company number	05815338	
Charity number	1121638	
Registered office and operational address	Unit 2, Crystal Wharf 36 Graham Street London N1 8GJ	
Country of registration	England & Wales	
Country of incorporation	United Kingdom	
Board of Trustees	Board of Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:	
	Anthony David Landes	Trustee and Chair (appointed Chair January 2022)
	Carolyn Ann Regan	Trustee and Chair (resigned July 2021)
	Sophia Wiginton	Trustee
	Maureen Cole Burns	Trustee and Treasurer (resigned July 2022)
	Peter George Gibbs	Trustee
	Amira Bhatt	Trustee
	Sufina Ahmad	Trustee
	Claire Hubberstey	Trustee
	Wendy Brewer	Trustee
	Joanne Cecil	Trustee
	Janet Latinwo	Trustee (appointed August 2022)
Honorary Founder	Shauneen Lambe	
Senior Management Team	Louisa McGeehan	CEO
	Aika Stephenson	Legal Director
	Chloe Grant	Director of Programmes and Participation
	Julie Bentley	Director of Finance and Resources
	Louise King	Director of Policy and Campaigns/Director of Children's Rights Alliance for England
Bankers	CAF Bank 25 Kings Hill Avenue	

Just for Kids Law Limited

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 May 2022

Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor
Invicta House
108-114 Golden Lane
LONDON
EC1Y 0TL

The Board of Trustees presents their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 May 2022.

Reference and administrative information set out on pages 1–2 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

Objectives and activities

To promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the public, particularly children and young people in the UK and abroad, with particular regard to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, including by advancing the rights and needs of children through:

- Research, education, training, awareness-raising, and increasing understanding and knowledge.
- Monitoring, promoting and advocating for children's human rights, including compliance at both national and international levels.
- The provision of specialist legal advice, support and representation, including taking legal action to prevent disadvantage, discrimination or exclusion.
- The provision of advice, support and direct advocacy to children and young people, and promoting participation.
- All other such lawful things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of these aims.

The Board of Trustees reviews the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year. This report looks at what the charity has achieved and the outcomes of its work over the reporting period. The Board of Trustees reports the success of each key activity and the benefits the charity has brought to those groups of people that it is set up to help. The review also helps the Board of Trustees ensure that the charity's aims, objectives and activities remain focused on its stated purposes.

The Board of Trustees has referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the Board of Trustees has considered how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

Structure, governance and management

The Board of Trustees has overall responsibility for ensuring that the charity meets its charitable objectives and has an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity. The Board is chaired by Anthony Landes who was appointed in January 2022. The Board currently has 9 members.

The Board has a number of sub-committees which ensure that the legal obligations of the charity are met, and that the charity pursues its charitable objectives as set out in the governing documents.

Just for Kids Law currently has the following sub-committees:

- Finance & Risk (including Audit)
- Fundraising
- HR & People

Each sub-committee is chaired by a trustee and has at least one further trustee and one senior member of staff on it.

The Board of Trustees employs the CEO, Louisa McGeehan, to whom the charity's Board of Trustees delegates day-to-day management of the charity. The CEO manages a Senior Management Team consisting of the Director of Programmes and Participation, Legal Director, Director of Policy and Campaigns/Director of CRAE and Director of Finance and Resources, who in turn manage their individual teams.

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 12 May 2006 and registered as a charity on 21 November 2007.

The company was established under a memorandum of association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed according to its articles of association.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in note 8 to the accounts.

Appointment of Board of Trustees

Trustees are recruited to the Board by the Chair, and their appointment is agreed by the entire Board of Trustees. There is no external body that is entitled to appoint one or more of the Board of Trustees.

Trustee induction and training

Before starting in their role on the Board, trustees are provided with a detailed role description, and receive a comprehensive induction which includes:

- A full information pack containing the current governing documents; strategic and shorter-term plans; recent statutory accounts and current management accounts; recent board minutes; an organisation chart/ organogram; and general background information.
- An opportunity to visit the charity's offices and projects, meet other trustees and staff and attend a board meeting.
- A clear explanation of the trustee's expected role, responsibilities and legal obligations, input to the Board and time commitment.
- Access to Charity Commission guidance.

Related parties and relationships with other organisations

The charity has no subsidiary undertakings. However, we connect with and have relationships with organisations in a variety of ways. Through our casework we receive referrals from organisations in the voluntary and statutory sector who we will link up with as part of our direct work with young people. In the delivery of our work to achieve wider change to policy and practice we partner with many organisations to work collaboratively on our campaigning, our strategic litigation and on our work empowering young people to lead social change. Finally, we have relationships through our income generation work with funders such as trusts and foundations, and also corporates who provide us with pro bono support.

Achievements and performance

Introduction

As the year in which Just for Kids Law turned sixteen years old, the year from June 2021 to May 2022 was a significant one in which our charity moved from surviving during the pandemic, working in best way possible as a result the restrictions placed on our clients and our operations, to starting to thrive again. During this year we re-connected with clients and each other, we began using our great new office space, we recruited a new Chair to complete our leadership transition, celebrated our 16th birthday and went on to develop our new strategic plan for 2022–25.

In January 2021, the Board was delighted to appoint Anthony Landes to the substantive post of Chair of our Board following a thorough recruitment process. Alongside the breadth of his professional knowledge and experience in governance, he brings a long organisational memory and deep commitment to JfKL. We also appointed a new trustee, Janet Latinwo, who brings to our Board extensive experience of social care, education and safeguarding, especially in relation to Black and minoritised children and young people in her former role as a trustee at the charity, Africa.

In this year we also put in place arrangements for us to achieve our ambition to appoint two new trustees who have had experience of our work as clients as fully participating members of our Board. This has been planned for with great care to ensure that the experience is rewarding and meaningful for the new trustees. Current trustees, supported by our Chair, have worked with the Young Trustee Movement, Just for Kids Law Ambassadors and the staff that support them to create a recruitment process to appoint the new trustees in autumn 2022.

A new strategic plan for Just for Kids Law

A major development was the development of our new strategic plan for June 2022 to May 2025, which was adopted by the Board in April 2022.

In reviewing our strategy for the charity, our vision, mission and values remained the same:

- Just for Kids Law's vision is for all children and young people in the UK to have their legal rights and entitlements respected and promoted, and their voices heard and valued.

- We exist to work with and for children and young people to hold those with power to account and fight for wider reform.
- We do this by providing legal representation and advice, direct advocacy and support, and through strategic litigation, campaigning and equipping others to work for children's rights.
- Our values are to act with integrity, respect, courage and compassion. We put these values into practice in our relationships with the children and young people we work with, our colleagues and our partner organisations.

While reviewing our strategy, we further developed our Theory of Change in which we are aiming to demonstrate particular impact in relation to children and young people who are most at risk of having their rights and entitlements denied.

After a period of growth over recent years, expanding to develop additional complementary elements to our model to provide a more holistic service for the children and young people we work with, it is a plan which consolidates growth and integrates all the elements of Just for Kids Law's model to maximise our impact.

While our legal and advocacy casework remains at the heart of our work, achieving change for individual children and young people, the evidence from our case work informs our work to achieve strategic change and the children and young people with experience of these issues will be supported to have a voice in debates and campaign for change. In this way, we tackle the problems that children and young people are currently experiencing, while also working in a preventative way by:

- Working Government to achieve change in the policy and legislative environment through our expertise, the evidence we gather through our work and the lived experience of the children and young people we work with.
- Advising and training professionals to improve practice in youth justice for the benefit of current and future clients.
- Modelling through advocacy to enable children and young people to discover their inherent strengths and develop self-advocacy skills for life.
- Supporting groups of children and young people to have a greater knowledge of their rights and entitlements.
- Empowering children and young people to play a role in our organisation and supporting them to make plans for education, training and employment to live the lives they choose for themselves.

As a small organisation, we recognise that we can't do everything, so we have agreed a set of strategic priorities that build on our strengths and expertise to increase our impact, fill gaps not filled by others, and complement the work of others through partnership working.

Our strategic priorities for 2022–25 are:

- Creating a justice system fit for children.
- Ensuring that children and young people experiencing criminal exploitation are recognised as victims and supported.
- Preventing school exclusions and its consequences.
- Supporting care experienced children and young people to secure their housing and care entitlements.
- Enabling children and young people to achieve a secure immigration status and thrive in the UK.
- Protecting and promoting children's rights using human rights mechanisms.

It is an ambitious but achievable plan that plays to our particular strengths and knowledge in recognising the interaction between the different areas of legal and social policy that present challenges for so many of our young clients.

Strategic Plan 2018 to 2022

As a result of the pandemic, we extended our previous strategic plan for a fourth year through to 2021/22, so it is that plan we report on below, highlighting progress against the following aims:

- Secure outcomes for individual children and young people.
- Secure changes to the legal, policy and practice environment for children and young people.
- Maintain and develop a robust organisation using our strengths to maximum impact.
- Develop an organisation in which participation is central to all our activities.

Strategic Aim 1: Secure outcomes for individual children and young people

Direct work with children and young people is at the heart of Just for Kids Law's model. We continued to support our young clients to address a range of needs, relating to housing, social care, education,

finance, immigration and criminal justice issues. Some children and young people were supported on more than one case relating to their different needs in line with our holistic way of working.

Our most recent casework data shows that in the 2021–22 financial year we worked with 873 children and young people, mainly across London, on 1160 pieces of casework providing youth advocacy, legal advice and representation and youth opportunities support. Of these cases, 560 were worked on by our legal team, 344 were worked on by our programmes and participation team and 256 cases consisted of one-off advice.

We regularly survey our clients to assess the impact of our work. In the most recent survey in May 2022:

- 90% felt that their situation had improved since being supported by JfKL.
- 93% felt more confident about-facing problems since having help from JfKL.
- 87% reported knowing more about their rights and entitlements since they've been working with JfKL.

We also commissioned an independent evaluation of our casework model to help us better understand how we make a difference in the lives of the children and young people we work with. The mixed methods evaluation, which ran from May 2021 to May 2022, was based on 15 in-depth interviews with children and young people, four interviews with staff, two surveys (with 36 children and young people, and 19 staff), a review of evaluation data held by Just for Kids Law and three co-production workshops held with young people and staff to explore the findings and co-produce recommendations.

Overall, we found out how important and distinct our work is to the children and young people we work with, with client interviewees reporting being very satisfied by our work's impact on their lives. Our support was also found to be largely accessible and equitable: there were no examples of children and young people feeling they had been treated differently because of who they were which stood in contrast to their experience outside of Just for Kids Law. Highlights from the findings include:

Satisfaction with support

Children and young people reported being very satisfied with our support, which they attributed to the way they were treated by staff, who they found to be empathetic, supportive, positive, and approachable. They also noted that having multiple support options in one place was the most useful aspect of our support.

"[Caseworker] gave me respect; he wasn't pompous or anything like that. He was just literally always reassuring me. And I thought that was nice. He ... said look, we'll get to the bottom of this, and I can imagine how you felt. ... He had empathy. And I thought that took some of the stress out of it." JfKL client

Young people's outcomes

The majority of the children and young people interviewed reported progress on the issues we have been working with them on, despite our staff having to work through multiple complex issues during the pandemic. Progress meant improved life situations, such as securing more stable housing, being allowed to return to school, maintaining custody/access to a child, and avoiding prison.

Our clients felt more confident, less isolated, more stable, calmer and less worried as a result of our support, and there was also a strong sense that they better understand their rights and entitlements too. This gave them a newfound sense of power and a new ability to challenge external agencies if needed. Many children and young people said their relationships with external agencies had improved and they felt professionals listened to them more as a result of our work.

"When I was with the advocate [Just for Kids Law advocate] ... they told me I was stronger than I look. We had to go through a lot of battles, especially with my caseworker [external to Just for Kids Law]. That made me think actually I can do this. I'm strong enough to overcome this." JfKL client

Looking ahead, many children and young people felt more hopeful about their lives and future, feeling that they better understood their options moving forwards and that they would be in a better position to tackle future issues themselves.

You can [read the full report on our website](#).

Further information on the impact of our work is contained in our Impact and Learning report.

Advocacy and youth opportunities

Key developments:

Like many organisations, the end of the pandemic brought about changes in staffing with a number of long-term members of our advocacy team moving on to fresh challenges. Our recruitment was very successful, bringing a large number of applications from skilled and experienced practitioners and recruitment panels, which included some of children and young people we work with, have made some good appointments.

To meet children and young people's increasing need for support with their mental health, which was not always accessible to them, we launched a therapy pilot in partnership with The Children's Society and funded by the Permira Foundation. We worked with The Children's Society to recruit a therapist to work with JfKL and be embedded with our team to provide an in-house service, adding to our holistic offer to clients, while working under their clinical supervision arrangements. In line with the JfKL model, a youth panel contributed to the recruitment. There were initially 15 referrals from staff, resulting in 11 clients being allocated to the therapist when she began working with clients.

Building on our learning from our Impact and Learning report for 2020–21, we began to address the challenge of working with more younger clients, promoting our advocacy offer to organisations working with under 18-year olds and prioritising this age group at the new client enquiry stage. To accommodate new younger clients, a major focus of the year has been supporting clients at the upper end of our age range to conclude their work with us and disengage from our services in a positive way. Engaging NCVO to carry out an independent evaluation of our work – as detailed above – was another major focus of the year.

We further developed our advocacy model, completing a new Advocacy Manual, which summarises our advocacy model and supports consistency. It covers key stages of our advocacy support, standard resources used, information about safeguarding and case recording, supervision and wider support for Advocates, and our approach to disengagement. We also developed self-advocacy resource packs for use with longer-term advocacy clients, providing information relevant to a client and strengths-based self-advocacy tips.

We also continued to develop our use of data to support our work with children and young people by developing our Apricot case recording system. We carried out a phased re-design and improved the recording and reporting functionality.

We re-designed our external referral form to gather new client information consistently and to streamline the process. As a result of the restructure of the Central Team, we created a new role of Client Engagement and Data Officer sitting within the Programmes and Participation Team.

Advocacy highlights included:

- Supporting two young people to submit complaints against their respective Local Authorities and supported accommodation providers. One complaint is now being investigated by the Children's Commissioners office.
- Supporting a care leaver (recently 18) with obtaining a back payment from his Local Authority, amounting to £400, after they unexpectedly stopped his weekly allowance payments.
- Supporting a care experienced young person who is on universal credit in securing limited capability for work– and work-related activity status. This has resulted in him being granted a higher level of benefit and he is now receiving almost twice as much in benefits each week.
- Supporting a care experienced young person who had recently been released from prison in securing temporary hostel accommodation.
- Supporting a young person with considerable health needs resulting from injuries he sustained from a previous stabbing and being tasered by the police in securing urgent medical priority for housing.

- Supporting a young care experienced mother to secure legal support for the legal planning and pre-care proceedings process. Since securing this support she was able to engage with the process of trying to keep her child in her care.
- Supporting a care experienced young person with housing after his release from prison, persuading a housing association to allow him to succeed his late mother's tenancy and securing temporary accommodation while he waited for his allocated accommodation to be made ready.
- Advocating for a young mother with an infant daughter in overcrowded temporary accommodation to request a transfer of property when her second child arrives.
- Supporting a young care experienced mother to access legal support to appeal a decision not to accept her onto the housing register, and to understand her rights to accommodation. She moved into a larger private rented property and her solicitor made a case for her to be accepted onto the register.
- Supporting a young mother and care leaver experiencing domestic abuse to understand the process of the public law outline and care proceedings, to advocate her wishes and feelings in child protection and Public Law Outline (PLO) meetings, and to secure good quality urgent legal support for care proceedings.
- Supporting a 17-year-old looked after child in building his confidence in preparation for his substantive asylum interview with the Home Office. He was able to confidently communicate his wishes and feelings that underpinned his decision to claim asylum in the UK. He has since been granted refugee status.
- Supporting a care leaver to confidently putting her case to her local authority requesting that they pay for her Indefinite Leave to Remain application and associated costs after they failed to support her to secure her immigration entitlements before her 18th birthday when she was in care.
- Supporting a care leaver with a transfer to social housing in a different borough after she was attacked by a relative and consequentially hospitalised under Section. She has now been offered alternative accommodation through her housing association and has reported this positively impacting her outlook on life, mental health, and wellbeing.
- Supporting a young man who had been in care and custody most of his life into living independently in his own home, including via an Adult Social Care referral and accessing ASD support. We advocated for him with the Probation Service to lower his offending risk from high to medium and to receive home visits as he cannot travel due to ASD. We also encouraged and supported him into campaigning activities with JfKL and external organisations.

- Supporting an Afghani young man with contacting Red Cross to search for missing relatives and advocated for more engaged support / trauma support for him from his Leaving Care Team.
- Advocating for better support for a young woman with complex mental and physical health needs as they were closing her case due to non-engagement. The CMHT finally agreed that they will take a proactive and trauma-informed approach to her care and provide a care coordinator who will work closely with the therapist and art therapist to support her mental health needs, and to address her physical health needs.
- Supporting a young woman to move into temporary emergency accommodation as a result of her being the victim of harassment and a hate crime. She was successfully supported back into her home, where she was able to be reunited with her pets who offer emotional support. She continued to receive holistic support through JfKL advocacy and our legal team, then being referred to Youth Opportunities to re-engage with her studies.

Youth Opportunities highlights included:

- Further refining our Youth Opportunities offer to include six different forms of support for young people: one-to-one individual medium-term support, bitesize project support, information advice and guidance, monthly themed workshops, youth interview panels and work experience. This created more capacity for internal referrals, enabling us to support more clients with greater flexibility.
- Forming a partnership with Ministry of Justice and co-leading a workshop with our Engagement and Participation Manager and MoJ staff on how to create a youth-friendly workshop. Facilitated an evening workshop run by MoJ staff. As a follow-up from the workshop, one of the young people's feedback was given to the MoJ's Prisons Policy team. A member of MoJ staff contacted this young person directly to hear more about their experience leaving prison and consider what MoJ could do to improve their policies in this area.
- Supporting young people in their transition to university, offering information, advice and guidance and also sourcing pro-bono tutoring support for a young person who is independently studying towards their A-Level exams.
- Sourcing financial education and money management training in response to demand from young clients. Six young people completed the training and the accompanying workbooks and were eligible for a Level 1 Award in Personal Money Management.
- Creating a workshop on 'How to be Your Best in an Interview' including information and advice on how to answer questions well in an interview and an opportunity to answer questions in a mock interview setting with their peers.

- Preparing young people to contribute to recruitment panels, creating effective questions for interviewees and having their voices and opinions heard.
- Supporting five young people to succeed in receiving offers of employment with help setting goals, CV support, support with applications, providing information, advice and guidance and supporting a young person to get a laptop from DwP to enable their job search. One young person was supported with her UCAS application and then went on to receive offers from all the universities to which she applied to study Mental Health Nursing.
- Organising a work experience placement for a young person (aged 17) supported by our legal team. She aspired to be a criminal defence solicitor and spent a day with each JfKL team, gaining an insight into their work and completing tasks, including a visit to the Old Bailey.
- Referring two young mothers who have experienced multiple disadvantage and gender based violence to Luminary Bakery's Employability and Independence 2-year programme.
- Supporting a young person who left prison earlier this year to create a CV that reflects all the experience he has gained from working with JfKL youth campaigns, JfKL youth interview panels and participation activities, and other projects he has been referred to by advocacy. He felt very proud of this CV and said that he planned to send it out and put it on his wall.
- Supporting a young dad to have regular contact with his daughter again and, despite his nervousness, he has been learning how to play with her again after an extended period of limited and supervised contact.
- Advocating for a young man with significant mental health issues to secure a £1,000 Discretionary Housing Payment to pay off historic rent arrears.
- Supporting a vulnerable young mother and child to access a free holiday with the Family Holiday Association which raised her spirits and helped her bond with her son.

Legal advice and representation

Key developments:

Following the end of the Covid-19 pandemic, the team began to operate at full strength again and re-built caseloads to usual levels. We welcomed a new group of trainee solicitors and the team was boosted by a full-time Education Solicitor working on school exclusions and building a productive partnership with pro bono lawyers at Allen & Overy to boost our capacity.

In September 2021 the crime team was devastated to hear of the death of an 18-year-old client in a random shooting incident that was witnessed by his brother, also a Just for Kids Law client. This

had a significant impact on all members of the team – as well as offering support to his family, we provided additional psychological support for the team.

In our crime work we had to navigate the impact of the recent judgement in the case of Brecani, which has led to a sea change in relation to the prosecution of children who have been deemed victims of Modern Slavery/Child Criminal Exploitation. In this case the Court of Appeal has said that the assessment made by the Home Office through the National Referral Mechanism is not admissible at trial, which could have devastating effects when trying to raise this defence on behalf of children who have been subjected to child criminal exploitation. Prior to this judgement the JfKL Crime Team were able to ensure that proceedings were discontinued in every case of a child or young person who had been deemed a victim of child criminal exploitation or modern slavery.

Once again, our legal work achieved specialist quality mark accreditation and we have worked to increase our legal aid billing. Through the London Legal Support Trust we have been granted the opportunity to employ a Billing Coordinator. The role is funded by them and is a shared post between three organisations. It is hoped that through assisting organisations with billing the role becomes self-sustaining and increases the income generated through legal aid work.

Crime highlights included:

- Successfully arguing that the Crown should not prosecute a number of children and young people deemed victims of child criminal exploitation. One client gave evidence about the harrowing experiences he had had whilst being forced to carry drugs in his anus and sell cocaine and heroine from a crack house. The client showed the jury his scars from a recent stabbing, at which point the Prosecutor decided to review the matter and offered no evidence.
- Representing an 18-year-old student, of good character, who had been accused of common assault following an altercation between his mum and their neighbours, who had a history of racist abuse against the family. After proceedings (protracted by Covid19 and evidential issues), our client was acquitted following a trial in September 2021, 15 anxious months after the incident. He is now getting on with his degree and in the meantime his mum also moved away from the address which has greatly improved the family's wellbeing.
- Representing a 13-year-old who was living in London when he was arrested for possession with intent to supply Class A drugs in Cambridge. He was charged and taken to court the following day when he was advised by his then solicitors to plead guilty before an Adult Magistrates' Court. His case was remitted to London for sentencing, at which point we were instructed and took steps to remedy the situation. Sentencing was put on hold and the client's guilty pleas vacated. Unfortunately, the judgment in the case of Brecani was handed down in the meantime, and despite robust representations, the Crown initially decided to continue with the prosecution. We instructed a psychologist, an intermediary and an expert in Child Criminal Exploitation to assess our client, putting further pressure on the Crown to review, and they eventually discontinued the proceedings against him. He was moved out of

London as a result of this matter, and is said to be thriving where he lives now.

- Defending two young people against applications for Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBOs). Both were opposed and eventually refused by the court/abandoned by the Crown. If granted, the CBOs would put these young vulnerable boys at risk of further criminalisation. Instead, they are being supervised by their respective YOS/probation services as part of their sentences and receive the support they need.
- Representing a 17-year-old looked after child charged with burglary. In light of the client's vulnerabilities, including his diagnosis of ADHD, conduct disorder and substance misuse, legal representations were made asking the Crown to review the case and divert it for an out of court disposal. A youth caution was issued to the client and the court proceedings discontinued.
- Assisting a 16-year-old boy, who is a looked after child with history of being exploited, in relation to number of breaches of his recently imposed youth rehabilitation order. These matters were particularly challenging as the Youth Offending Team was seeking to increase his sentence at every hearing in an apparent attempt to safeguard him as well prevent him from breaching or committing further offences. We argued successfully that his current order should continue, and solutions sought outside of the criminal justice system to safeguard him.
- Succeeding in having a drug possession case against a 16-year-old client discontinued on the basis of the exploitation he suffered as a victim of Modern Slavery.
- Ensuring proceedings were discontinued against a 17-year-old client who had been deemed a victim of child criminal exploitation having been found in a vehicle with a man known to be involved in a county lines drug operation in possession of a large quantity of drugs.
- Representing a 15-year-old girl who had been arrested for stealing pyjamas, who said she was going to shower at her friend's house and had no clean clothes to change into. Her life had taken a downward spiral following the sudden death of her father three years earlier. Following a series of periods missing from home, concerns were raised that she was being sexually exploited. She is now living in a residential care home where she is stable and happy and receiving a high level of support. Her local Youth Offending Team agreed to deal with the matter by way of an out-of-court intervention and the court proceedings were discontinued.

Youth Justice Legal Centre Advice Line highlights included:

- Responding to enquiries relating to children who are thought to be the victims of child criminal exploitation. Many of these enquiries came from the professionals supporting and representing these child victims. This is a fast evolving and increasingly restrictive area of law and it is clear that whilst there are huge numbers of children in the youth justice system

affected by exploitation, practitioners still lack the confidence and experience to deal with these cases.

- Assisting children to push for an informal out-of-court disposal rather than a charge or more formal diversionary measure made up the majority of cases taken on. It is increasingly apparent that there are huge inconsistencies in the guidance in this area and the way in which different police forces, Youth Justice Teams and prosecutors interpret it.
- Receiving increased numbers of enquiries from Youth Justice Teams. We believe this to be partly due to our specialist training provision and is, in part, a consequence of our increasingly strong relationship with the Youth Justice Board.

Strategic Litigation highlights included:

- Working with the Information Commissioner, who upheld our complaint that the Metropolitan police failed to respond to our complaint about the police arresting and investigated a 9-year-old for a criminal matter, despite being under the age of criminal responsibility. We are now hoping to progress this matter with the police to remove all the data they hold about him.
- Succeeding in the case of our client who was detained overnight at the police station following Waltham Forest Local Authority failing to provide secure accommodation. The Court of Appeal found that the lack of secure accommodation puts Waltham Forest (and by analogy all London Boroughs) in breach of their statutory duties to children.
- Overturning a decision to bar a client from working with children based on a reprimand from when he was 12 years old.
- Supporting children in relation to age assessment cases – one of which ended up in a successful outcome with the local authority moving our child into appropriate accommodation from the Home Office hotel and giving him a social worker. He is now happy to go to college.

Housing highlights included:

- Supporting a severely disabled client who was living in unsuitable temporary accommodation affected by damp and severe mould growth.
- Successfully securing a suitable placement for a homeless client under Section in hospital following written representations to the local authority.
- Establishing priority need to secure interim accommodation for a number of clients who were homeless by persuading local authorities to accept their duties to the young people concerned.

- Securing temporary accommodation for a 21-year-old care leaver who suffers from mental health difficulties.
- Halting an eviction from temporary accommodation by the local authority for a young pregnant mother with a five-year-old son.

Education highlights included:

- Representing a child client who found herself in the glare of the media spotlight as 'Child Q' in a Hackney Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review. The case highlighted racism in education leading to the child experiencing an horrendous situation as a result of 'adultification' of her as Black child and failures to safeguard her by her school and the police.
- Persuading an Independent Review Panel (IRP) to quash a decision to permanently exclude a child for creating a social media account joking about school staff, which led to the Governing Body reinstating the child on reconsideration (which is a rare outcome).
- Overturning the decision of a Governing Body to permanently exclusion a 13 year-old child with autism who was clearly excluded due to the school being unable to meet her needs – the Governing Body was persuaded to consider the impact of the multiple lockdowns on the young person and meeting the child's needs.
- Supporting a young person through a delayed IRP hearing and issuing pre-action to challenge the decision to uphold the exclusion.
- Obtaining permission for a judicial review of a permanent exclusion of a young person in relation to 'sexting'. The young person was excluded prior to the pandemic two years ago and the family (with our support) has been fighting for two years against the unreasonableness of an exclusion.
- Providing training to over 100 SENDIAS (Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support) professionals to support them to feel more empowered to challenge school exclusions.
- Supporting a 21 year old young person with learning difficulties with a SEND Tribunal hearing to appeal the decision to cease support.
- Supporting two children to challenge their exclusions process via Judicial review. In one case the governing body upheld the exclusion on reconsideration and in the other case the Independent Review Panel upheld the exclusion. Both cases involve allegations of sexual conduct and both challenges include arguments that practices were discriminatory.
- Supporting a child regarding issues around implementation or lack of implementation of their education health and care plans and unlawful exclusions as well as schools not taking

into account the impact of Covid.

- Supporting a young person and their parents to make a complaint against a school regarding the young person being placed in isolation indefinitely. The client was sent to isolation for 'talking back' to a teacher, who had commented on the state of her afro hair. The complaint resulted in the school changing their policy in relation to isolation rooms. The young person was taken out of isolation, the family was provided with an apology and the school agreed that staff will have unconscious bias training.
- Supporting a young person in challenging a fixed term exclusion that related to his behaviour, which was clearly linked to his SEND (Special Educational Needs Disability) and continuing to support the young person in finalising his EHCP (Education Health Care Plan).

Community Care highlights included:

- Representing a 17-year-old child who was referred to us by a family friend as she had been removed from the family home by her father and had no choice but to sleep in a park near to her sixth form college. She had been having difficulty paying for food and had lost over a stone in weight during this period. We argued that the Local Authority were unlawfully failing to accommodate her under Section 20 Children Act 1989 and she was provided with a placement with a family and with maintenance to enable her to travel to college.
- Succeeding in persuading a local authority that they should urgently accommodate a homeless 17-year-old under section 20 Children Act 1989. The young person was close to her 18th birthday so we then argued that she should be accepted as a care leaver.
- Successfully arguing that an 18-year-old young person should be treated as a Former Relevant Child and receive accommodation and support from the local authority until she is 25 years old.
- Supporting a young person to finally move to permanent accommodation after waiting 7 years as a care leaver.
- Successfully supporting a care leaver aged 22 to challenge the Leaving Care Team's decision to close his case due to his immigration status.
- Successfully obtaining compensation for young person who the local authority failed to support when she was homeless at 17 years old.
- Supporting a young person to receive compensation following a complaint in relation to their retrospective care leaver status.
- Supporting a young person with a complaint to the local government Ombudsman about their treatment by a local authority.

Immigration highlights included:

- Settling a case with the Home Office subsequent to issuing Judicial Review proceedings. The Home Office agreed to register the client as British within 3 months of the consent order being sealed by the Court.
- Assisting four young people to become registered as British Citizens and another to be recognised as settled under the EU Settlement Scheme.
- Assisting a young person who was granted indefinite leave to remain following an application outside the rules which cited failures by the local authority.
- Successfully obtaining funding for DNA tests and an independent social worker's report in support of a young person's family reunion application.
- Supporting a young person to be conclusively recognised as a victim of human trafficking, after a 3-year delay. We applied for discretionary leave on the basis of their rights under the Trafficking Convention.
- Securing funding for a psychiatric report for a young person appealing a decision to refuse entry clearance for his family members in Kenya.
- Assisting two 20-year-old clients in obtaining updated Application Registration Cards as the Home Office had issued them in the names and details of the identity under which they had been trafficked into the UK. We also successfully obtained a positive conclusive grounds decision for their trafficking case and made further representations to the Home Office in support of their asylum claims.
- Successfully obtaining Exceptional Case Funding for a complex nationality matter for a 17 year-old.
- Assisting a 22-year-old vulnerable client with making a Further Submissions claim in light of the situation in Afghanistan.

Strategic Aim 2: Secure changes to the legal, policy and practice environment for children and young people

It is not just the children and young people we work with directly who benefit from the impact of our work: we create wider change that benefits children and young people across the UK, taking the evidence from our direct casework as a starting point. While our casework itself is holistic, we are increasingly working in a holistic way across the whole organisation through thematic groups bringing policy, practice and participation staff together to tackle the key issues faced by the

children and young people we work with. We do this through strategic litigation, policy work, campaigning, rights monitoring and equipping others to work to protect and promote children's rights.

Our work in this area includes the Children's Rights Alliance for England (CRAE) and our Youth Justice Legal Centre (YJLC).

Child Rights Highlights included:

- Co-chairing with the Department for Education (DfE) the UNCRC Action Group and holding thematic sessions with other Government departments to assess progress against the UN Committee's previous recommendations and prepare for the next examination. These included mental health, school exclusions and behaviour and youth justice. They were well-attended by all the leading children's charities, as well as specialists from charities in the relevant area. We also ran training sessions on children's rights for new civil servant 'Fast Stream' graduates for the fourth year in a row with DfE and UNICEF UK.
- Working with the DfE to survey children, via members of CRAE, to find out about children's awareness of the UNCRC and which child rights issues are important to them. The results will be used for roundtable discussions next year with children and will be set out in an annex to the UK State Party Report which will be submitted to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child next year.
- Receiving a pledge from Children and Families Minister, Will Quince, committing to creating a child rights action plan to take forward the recommendations coming out of the next CRC examination (the Government didn't do this for the last reporting cycle and this has been one of our key calls).
- Preparing for our civil society alternative report and commenting on the UK Government's State Party report.
- Submitting evidence to the Government's consultation on the Human Rights Act (HRA) to replace it with a "Modern Bill of Rights". The proposals will undermine and weaken the Act in a number of areas. We were really pleased that 15 organisations endorsed our submission, including The Children's Society, Children England and Mind. We also co-ordinated a joint letter to the Secretary of State for Justice with our sister children's rights alliances across the UK.
- Attending a roundtable with the new Chair of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child and raising key child rights issues in England. We also held two events on CRC incorporation as part of the Rights of the Child UK (ROCK) Coalition.

- Succeeding in including many of the issues we raised in the civil society submission on the International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination. Our submissions included racial disproportionality in police use of force and school exclusions.
- Giving a presentation on the State of Children's Rights in England at the annual conference of the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health and writing a paper for the British Academy on taking a child rights approach to policy making.
- Influencing the Care Review to carry out a Child Rights Impact Assessment on the case for change and resulting recommendations.

School exclusions highlights included:

- Working with the Centre for Social Justice as the Secretariat for the APPG on Exclusions to feed into their new Inquiry on the exclusions process, which came about as a result of our influencing. We also advised them on how to effectively involve children and young people in the inquiry.
- Responding to the long-awaited Government consultation on the statutory guidance on exclusions and behaviour. We co-ordinated our responses with the Centre for Social Justice, the Equality and Human Rights Commission, the Children and Young Peoples Mental Health Coalition, and the Special Education Needs Consortium. We also facilitated a discussion between the DfE and the School Exclusion Campaigners where they had the opportunity to share their views on the guidance.
- Working with the young people in our school exclusions steering group on the exclusions policy context to inform the development of their own campaign and how they feed into the policy influencing opportunities coming up. The DfE also agreed to hold a session with the young people in the school exclusions campaign.
- Co-ordinating our influencing work on exclusions with several organisations including The Difference, The Centre for Justice Innovation, Chance UK, the School Inclusion Project, Alliance for Inclusive Education, and Tackling Child Exploitation programme.
- Making the links between school exclusion and child criminal exploitation in presentations to the Traveller Movement's Annual Conference and a Government Events Conference on child criminal exploitation.

Housing and social care highlights included:

Care Review

- Contributing to the Independent Care Review, highlighting many of our priority issues on housing and social care. Our submission included input from across JfKL including young people, advocates and the legal team and highlighted issues including a lack of focus on children's rights and homelessness amongst care experienced young people. We were pleased to see this omission recognised and worked with the Care Review team to enable them to speak to care leavers who experienced homelessness. We also remained an active member of the Care Review sub-group of the Alliance for children in care and care leavers.

Homeless 16 and 17-year-olds being accommodated as looked-after children

- Developing and publishing guidance with Homeless Link for front-line organisations to better support homeless 16 and 17-year-olds, The guidance received extremely positive feedback from frontline organisations, many of whom also attended a capacity building event we held in partnership with Homeless Link.
- Continuing to highlight the findings of our report Not in Care Not Counted in Parliament, submitting to the Education Select Committee's inquiry on children's homes and sending a briefing to Peers for a debate on unregulated accommodation. We are part of the steering group for the Keep Caring for children up to 18 campaign which is campaigning for all unregulated accommodation to be banned for children under 18.
- Joining with London Councils and the GLA to sit on their new Youth Homelessness subgroup due to our expertise around care experienced homeless young people alongside New Horizon Youth Centre, Centrepont and Homeless Link as part of a recent initiative to end rough sleeping in London.

Policing and Youth Justice highlights included:

- Raising key issues with Ministers and the Opposition relating to the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill including children turning 18 in the criminal justice system, child criminal exploitation, the use of video links in criminal justice proceedings and remand. We also supported the Alliance for Youth Justice on a broader set of amendments to the Bill.
- Briefing Peers on the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill (PCSC Bill) resulting in Conservative Peer, Baroness Sater, raising this issue through an amendment at Lords Committee. We also contributed to the Public Accounts Committee inquiry on 'reducing the backlog in criminal courts' raising the impact of delays for those who are nearly 18.
- Meeting with the Ministry of Justice Race and Ethnic Disparities team about key priorities in this area and contributing to a Youth Justice Board (YJB) stakeholder group focussing on

reducing racial disproportionality in the youth justice system and feeding into the development of a new race disparity protocol.

- Collaborating with the Institute for Crime and Justice Policy Research at Birkbeck on research into the skills which criminal solicitors have / need to represent children effectively in the criminal courts.
- Working with the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) to improve the skills and competencies of criminal lawyers representing children and assisting them with the production of information for lawyers on issues they should be aware of when representing children from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic groups.
- Working with the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) to discuss their youth justice training for prosecutors. The CPS were open to contributions from YJLC to their courses and materials. We also contributed to training for Metropolitan Police detention custody officers as part of their professional development.
- Welcoming the publication of The Independent Review of Legal Aid, chaired by Sir Christopher Bellamy QC, which recommended priority is given to increasing fees payable for Youth Court work as well as a training and accreditation scheme to be put in place. Although the Government's response fell short of making accreditation a formal condition of lawyers receiving any increased fees at this stage, they did recognise the significant amount of work that has been done by the sector to increase appropriate training. Specific reference is made to YJLC in their response: *'...For example, we are aware that the Youth Justice Legal Centre runs training courses with good uptake among newly qualified practitioners. We encourage the sector to identify leads to further develop standard, formal training which all practitioners are encouraged to undertake.'*
- Providing legal updates on relevant case law and guidance to assist lawyers representing children in the criminal justice system. These are uploaded on to the YJLC website and are disseminated through our regular mail-outs to subscribers.
- Producing YJLC guides in collaboration with the Children's Rights Group at Doughty Street Chambers. Several high-profile speakers took part in the launches including the judicial lead for youth justice in England and Wales.
- Making a short film with the BAFTA nominated animator and director Renaldho Pelle, to illustrate the need for better representation of children in criminal proceedings.
- Forming an expert advisory group to come together and explore ways of improving outcomes for Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic children and young people in the criminal justice system by improving the quality of legal representation. We also held discussions with a group of lawyers specialising in representing children who have been victims of child criminal exploitation in response to a concerning new landmark ruling – *R v Breckani*. This

case threatens to reduce the chances of successfully defending a child facing criminal charges on the basis that they were being exploited at the time. In response we developed a toolkit on instructing experts to support lawyers representing children in these circumstances.

- Developing a joint briefing for Parliamentarians with The Children's Society and ECPAT UK as part of our work on the Nationality and Borders Bill. This highlighted proposals to exclude numerous children from the right to be investigated by the National Referral Mechanism, which will affect the ability of these children to defend charges which arose out of actions they took as a direct consequence of their exploitation.
- Delivering an annual pupil barrister training course online, training more than 65 pupil barristers and providing training on youth justice issues for Youth Offending Teams.
- Contributing to the National Taser Stakeholder Advisory Group meeting discussing the National Police Chief's Council's (NPCC) review on racial disproportionately in the use of tasers. We also gave feedback to the Independent Office of Police Conduct (IOPC) on its Taser Review and we are pleased that many of our recommendations have been included. We also worked with the IOPC on how to make complaints about police conduct more accessible to children and young people.
- Holding a round table with key stakeholders including the police and local authorities to prevent the overnight detention of children and young people in police custody and the disproportionate impact this has on those from Black and Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities.

Strategic Aim 3: Maintain and develop a robust organisation using our strengths to maximum impact

Our direct work with children and young people is supported by our small central team. This 'behind the scenes' work – finance, fundraising, operations support, recruitment and employment and communications – is essential to achieving our other strategic aims.

Highlights included:

- Surviving the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on our operations and bringing our teams back together and thriving in our new office space. This included close monitoring of health and safety for staff working throughout the pandemic and finding new ways of working for staff returning to work in a hybrid model afterwards. Following the appointment of our new Chair we brought staff, trustees and ambassadors together to celebrate our 16th Birthday.
- Restructuring our central team that supports our frontline operations within the same budget to create a new post of HR and Resources manager – a much needed specialist skills

set in the organisation to reduce pressure of the leadership team. As part of this we created a new post of Client Engagement and Data Officer, to work directly with clients, improve our referral and intake processes and to support the continual improvements we are making to the way we record and use data for service improvements.

- Supporting staff wellbeing with an additional 'wellbeing day' around the August bank holiday, a weekly wellbeing hour to spend as they choose and a package of online applications and individual telephone support for those who may need it. We also continued to provide reflective practice and clinical supervision to support staff working directly with children and young people.
- Completing our work on equality, diversity and inclusion, supported by an external consultancy, DoltNowNow, in a year-long focussed piece of work involving trustees, two independent members with relevant experience, two members of the JfKL senior management team, staff representatives of each directorate and a staff trade union representative. This resulted in a new equality, diversity and inclusion policy and action plan being agreed by our Board of Trustees in April 2022. All staff and trustees were provided with training and our next steps are to work together with our staff to implement our action plan over the period of our new strategic plan from 2022–25.
- Setting ourselves ambitious targets to achieve a staff profile that better reflects our client group as part of our work on equality, diversity and inclusion. We have set ourselves a 3-year target of achieving a staff group that is 60% from Black and minoritised communities, rising to 75% by 2030. We also aim to have a staff group that is 20% from LGBT+ communities with 15% having a disability within 3 years. Allied to our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion policy, we also worked on an organisational position on lived experience, learning that this was a defining characteristic of JfKL – 70% of staff who responded to a survey reported having experience of one or more of the adverse childhood experiences that our clients have often experienced.
- Working with Trustees and staff to revise our theory of change and set a new organisational strategic plan from 2022–25, as detailed in the introduction to this report. This process involved a detailed review of our activities and priorities as an organisation to enable us to continue to work in our unique model, filling gaps in support needed by our clients and collaborating with others as good partners. This will enable us to unlock the benefits of our multi-disciplinary teams working together around a set of outcomes – achieving change for individual children and young people and, through our insights from this, bringing about broader systemic change.

Reviewing our fundraising strategy to ensure our organisation is attractive to potential funders, and diversifying our income streams to enable us to be sustainable over the period of the next strategic plan.

- Improving our web presence and building our social media presence as well as running an effective press office service for journalists interested in reporting on our work. We used our

communications channels to share information and updates on successes internally and externally we supported the dissemination of policy reports and good practice guides to our stakeholders.

Over the year we have benefited from the generosity of our funders and supporters who enabled us to support our staff and the children and young people we worked with during a difficult time. We are deeply grateful for all their support and understanding in enabling us to achieve the work outlined in this report.

Strategic Aim 4: Develop an organisation in which participation is central to all our activities

Participation and youth campaigning highlights included:

- Developing a Participation Resource Bank and a range of other tools to support staff when involving young people in participation/ influencing opportunities.
- Continuing our rolling Ambassadors programme for children and young people with experience of being clients of JfKL to contribute to our organisation according to the priorities they themselves set. In their monthly meetings they considered options for organisational influence that also offered personal developmental opportunities including reviewing client legal letters, contributing to development of our new strategic plan, supporting our work experience offer, and contributing to a film promoting JfKL to future clients. Particular efforts were made to engage more children under 18 years of age in this work.
- Supporting a young person to join a meeting with Vicky Ford (previously Children's Minister) and Eddie Hughes (previously Homeless and Rough Sleeping Minister) with three other young people to speak on the issues they faced with accommodation as a care leaver. She spoke with determination, hope and gravitas and said *"the experience was empowering"*.
- Developing our support for youth campaigning with a skilled member of staff supporting youth campaigns on school exclusions and supporting young care leavers to campaign on housing and homelessness issues.
- Empowering children and young people with experience of school exclusion to come together and gain skills to campaign for change. The group contributed to a range of influencing activities including a podcast with The Children's Society Disrupting Exploitation Team, making a film in partnership with Each Other, carrying out interviews with My London News. The campaigners' approach included creating awareness of the disproportionate exclusion of children from Black and minoritised background and pressing for a more solution-focused approach to managing behaviour in school. A group attended a parliamentary debate on the Timpson review on school exclusions, enabling them to learn

about the political context from JfKL's policy team and prepare to engage in opportunities to influence the DfE consultation on school exclusion and the APPG enquiry into school exclusions and behavioural policy. The group submitted their own response to the Government consultation, alongside that of our policy team.

- Supporting school exclusion campaigners to facilitate an awareness session for students at the London East Alternative Provision. The campaigners designed the session with three main aims; to inform, inspire and motivate the young people who are currently experiencing exclusion. It was attended by 40 young people who they were engaged throughout, asking insightful questions to the campaigners, and sharing their own experiences. Two campaigners delivered a second session to a smaller cohort of 5 young people who, due to their increased vulnerabilities, were separated from the rest of the school. The feedback was positive and staff asked the campaigners to return to the PRU for more awareness sessions and to be kept updated on the campaign. The campaigners really enjoyed this experience, commenting that this made them feel like they were creating real change with these individual young people.
- Supporting a group of young care leavers to share their insights with the Independent Care Review and promote the need to consider the housing needs of care experienced young people within this. They met directly with a member of the Care Review team, sharing their experiences of the social care system, highlighting failings and their impact on them. One young person wrote a blog on their experience of engaging with Government officials on their experience in the social care system which was published during Care Leaver's Week.
- Enabling six young people to complete a 12-week training programme on campaigns and journalism in partnership with Headliners UK. The young people all completed OCN level 2 in journalism and recorded, edited and published a podcast each on an area of social justice they feel passionate about.
- Establishing a new Trustee Recruitment Working Group to lead work to ensure two new Trustees who have been JfKL clients are recruited to the Board and can meaningfully contribute as full Board Members. This was led by existing young trustees and included Ambassadors – together they considered the barriers to becoming an effective trustee and how they could be overcome.

Financial review

The charity has been consolidating over the past year resulting in a slightly reduced turnover. In the year to 31 May 2022 there was a decrease in both income and expenditure. Income decreased by 25% to £1,935,351 and expenditure decreased by 7% to £2,182,319. Overall, there was a net decrease in funds of £246,968. The charity's policy on reserves is detailed below and the Board considers that it is prudent to set aside a minimum unrestricted amount of £500,000. At the end of the reporting period the charity holds £1,019,026 total funds, of which £288,774 is restricted and not available for general purpose. These restricted funds are committed for project

expenditure within the next year. After making allowance for these restricted funds, the amount of unrestricted reserves is £730,252

The principal funding sources of the charity during the reporting period are trusts and foundations, with this source making up 84% of the total income. Just for Kids Law receives funding from a wide variety of trusts and foundations and would like to thank them for their support. A full list of funders can be found at the end of the financial statements. During the year the legal aid contract contributed £167,820 of the total income.

The budget agreed for 2022/2023 has been set with a target income of £2,030,000 and planned expenditure of £2,192,000, we are continuing to build our funding pipeline to close the gap between the income and expenditure.

Reserves policy and going concern

Just for Kids Law needs reserves to:

- Meet contractual liabilities should the organisation have to close. This includes any contractual pay owed to staff paid from unrestricted funds, redundancy pay for all staff, amounts due to creditors and commitments under any leases.
- Meet unexpected costs such as the unexpected need to move and essential staff-cover in the case of illness.
- Provide working capital when funding is paid in arrears, to help manage any cashflow issues.
- From time to time, funding has certain restrictions which mean that by law it must be held in a restricted reserve until it is spent in line with the funding agreement.

The Board considers that overall, it would be prudent to set aside an amount of £500,000 that is made up of the following items:

- Four and a half month's salary costs of any staff whose salary is not paid for from restricted funding: £349,000.
- Redundancy costs for all staff: £51,000.
- Six months of rent not covered by restricted funding plus any other contractual obligations: £70,000.
- An allowance of £20,000 for unforeseen circumstances (e.g., key staff being ill, an unexpected office move).
- An allowance of £10,000 for cashflow issues arising from our legal aid contracts.

The Board of Trustees will consider current costs of closure and examine the level of reserves each year when setting the following years' budget.

At the end of 21/22 the unrestricted reserves are £730,252. The forecast outturn of our deficit budget for 22/23 of £162,000 would further reduce our reserves to approximately £ 570,000 a figure much closer to our target figure of £500,000.

Principle risks and uncertainties

The Board has undertaken its own review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. We have invested more resources in fundraising and have updated our fundraising strategy. Our new Strategic Plan should help us to develop relationships with new Trusts and Foundations. We are also looking at diversifying our income streams with the development of a pilot membership scheme by the Youth Justice Legal Centre. Internal risks are minimised through a series of procedures including on safeguarding, lone working, financial management, staff engagement and data protection.

The Board has produced a Risk Register which is regularly reviewed by the Finance & Risk Sub-Committee and discussed at the Board Meeting every six months. The Risk Register identifies a number of key risks and mitigating actions including:

- Financial risk (difficulty to cover central organisational costs; lack of capacity to raise funds; loss of relationships with key donors; cash flow issues).
Mitigations: Review of pipeline including confidence levels every two weeks by CEO and SMT,
Refreshed strategy and detailed pipeline in place with prospects of success rated,
Identifying new potential funders, diversifying sources of income, trialling pilot for YJLC to become a source of income
- HR risks (staff burnout; non-compliance with HR and other employment legislation; loss of key staff).
Mitigations: Line managers monitor staff hours worked and outputs of work, TOIL policy introduced and to be kept under review, SMART Clinic Confidential employee support line in place for all staff including counselling, physio etc, Greater visibility of staff and their workloads by staff working together with colleagues in the office now the pandemic restrictions have lifted, Clinical supervision/reflective practice offered to frontline staff
- Organisational risks (inadequate security of IT systems and data; failure to achieve key/strategic objectives due to lack of funding and/or the ongoing impact of the Covid-19 pandemic).
Mitigations: Director of Finance & Resources regular meeting with IT provider, Cyber essentials being worked towards, Quarterly finance reviews by all Directors including Legal Aid WIP review meetings, Identifying new potential funders, diversifying sources of income
- Safeguarding risks (failure to adequately safeguard vulnerable children and young people the organisation works with and manage incidents/allegations).
Mitigations: Annual safeguarding training being delivered by independent provider for all

Staff.

Additional related training being delivered to client facing staff, Updated safeguarding policy and process in place, New safeguarding structure implemented

- Reputational risks (under-delivery of funded work compared to donor expectations of time required; inadequate and/or inappropriate response to negative media coverage). Mitigations: JFKL has strong internal expertise in Communications, All sensitive communication / media issues discussed amongst SMT and if necessary, escalated to Board members. Communications officer actively monitors all platforms, Director of Campaigns and Policy having clear oversight and accountability for all campaigning work

Plans for the Future

Our turnover has grown over the last five years, and we are now in a period of consolidating our financial position and stabilising our turnover. We will use our new Strategic Plan to demonstrate the level of income that is achievable post pandemic and plan to diversify our income streams over the next few years.

The charity has used unrestricted reserves in the last year; and it is likely that the charity will do so again in the 22/23 financial year, these reductions have been agreed by the Board and will not continue into future financial years.

Fundraising Disclosures

Just for Kids Law's funding is from four primary sources: grants from trusts and foundations, legal aid contracts, high net worth donations and support from corporates. We do not employ any professional fundraisers or commercial participators to carry out fundraising activities directly with the public. We also do not have any fundraising carried out by third parties. We therefore do not subscribe to any fundraising schemes or codes. We also do not directly involve vulnerable people in our fundraising activities. We have not received any complaints about our fundraising activity.

Remuneration policy for key management personnel

Just for Kids Law reviewed and revised its remuneration policy for all staff in 2019/2020. The policy includes the following key elements:

- Salary ranges are completely transparent.
- The policy applies equally to fixed term and permanent staff.
- Salary increments are awarded through either annual inflationary cost of living increases subject to affordability, a discretionary organisational bonus scheme subject to affordability, progression within a salary range based on length in post, taking on additional responsibilities or acting up into a role.

Funds held as custodian trustee

No funds are being held on behalf of others.

Statement of responsibilities of the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees (who are also directors of Just for Kids Law for the purposes of company law) is responsible for preparing the Board of Trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

- Select suitable accounting policies and then 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 and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that 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.

In so far as the Board of Trustees is aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware.
- The Board of Trustees has taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make itself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

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

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 May 2022 was 9 (2021 – 9). Trustees are members of the charity, but this entitles them only to voting rights. The Board of Trustees has no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP was re-appointed as the charitable company's auditor during the year and has expressed its willingness to continue in that capacity.

The annual report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies' subject to the small companies' regime.

The Board of Trustees' annual report has been approved by the Board of Trustees on **3 November 2022** and signed on their behalf by

Anthony Landes
Chair of the Board of Trustees

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

Just for Kids Law Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Just for Kids Law (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 May 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (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 May 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
- 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 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 Just for Kids Law's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

Just for Kids Law Limited

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. 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. 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 course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- The information given in the trustees' annual report, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- The trustees' annual report, has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' annual report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- Adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- The financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- Certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- The directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' annual report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities set out in the trustees' annual report, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

Just for Kids Law Limited

company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

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 are set out below.

Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities

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

- We enquired of management and the finance and risk committee, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charity's policies and procedures relating to:
 - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
 - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
 - The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

Just for Kids Law Limited

financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the charity from our professional and sector experience.

- We communicated applicable laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We reviewed any reports made to regulators.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: 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 members as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an 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 the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Noelia Serrano (Senior statutory auditor)

11 November 2022

for and on behalf of Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor
Invicta House, 108–114 Golden Lane, LONDON, EC1Y 0TL

Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

For the year ended 31 May 2022

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	2	715,181	–	715,181	744,014	–	744,014
Charitable activities							
Legal	3	177,820	310,364	488,184	382,769	369,740	752,509
Programmes	3	–	468,848	468,848	–	672,243	672,243
Policy	3	–	223,356	223,356	–	355,407	355,407
Other	4	39,745	–	39,745	50,309	–	50,309
Investments	5	37	–	37	316	–	316
Total income		932,783	1,002,568	1,935,351	1,177,408	1,397,390	2,574,798
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	6	59,313	–	59,313	73,521	–	73,521
Charitable activities							
Legal	6	601,822	325,140	926,962	719,533	380,576	1,100,109
Programmes	6	237,217	578,500	815,717	239,638	507,458	747,096
Policy	6	157,459	222,868	380,327	133,304	283,658	416,962
Total expenditure		1,055,811	1,126,508	2,182,319	1,165,996	1,171,693	2,337,689
Net income for the year	7	(123,028)	(123,940)	(246,968)	11,412	225,697	237,109
Transfer between funds		–	–	–	108,276	(108,276)	–
Net movement in funds		(123,028)	(123,940)	(246,968)	119,688	117,421	237,109
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		853,280	412,714	1,265,994	733,592	295,293	1,028,885
Total funds carried forward		730,252	288,774	1,019,026	853,280	412,714	1,265,994

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 17a.

Just for Kids Law Limited

Balance sheet

Company no. 5815338

As at 31 May 2022

	Note	£	2022 £	£	2021 £
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	12		97,125		113,880
			97,125		113,880
Current assets:					
Work in progress		178,966		143,813	
Debtors	13	84,246		137,858	
Cash at bank and in hand		860,351		1,226,979	
		1,123,563		1,508,650	
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	201,662		356,536	
Net current assets			921,901		1,152,114
Total net assets			1,019,026		1,265,994
The funds of the charity:	17				
Restricted income funds			288,774		412,714
Unrestricted income funds:					
General funds		730,252		853,280	
Total unrestricted funds			730,252		853,280
Total charity funds			1,019,026		1,265,994

Approved by the trustees on 3 November 2022 and signed on their behalf by

Anthony Landes
Chair of Board of Trustees

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 May 2022

Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities				
Net (expenditure)/ income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(246,968)		237,109	
Depreciation charges	16,755		15,823	
Dividends and interest	(37)		(316)	
Decrease/ (Increase) in debtors	53,612		(93,275)	
(Decrease)/Increase in creditors	(154,874)		40,064	
Decrease/ (Increase) in work in progress	(35,153)		81,800	
Net cash (used in)/ provided by operating activities	(366,665)		281,205	
Cash flows from investing activities:				
Dividends and interest	37		316	
Purchase of fixed assets	–		(129,703)	
Net cash provided by/ (used in) investing activities		37		(129,387)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	(366,628)		151,818	
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	1,226,979		1,075,161	
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	860,351		1,226,979	

1 Accounting policies

a) Statutory information

Just for Kids Law is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in the United Kingdom. The registered office address and principal place of business is Unit 2 Crystal Wharf, 36 Graham Street, London, N1 8GJ.

b) Basis of preparation

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

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

c) Public benefit entity

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

d) Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

e) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that 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 is recognised on casework earned and due ("work in progress" or "WIP") according to the time booked on the matter multiplied by the relevant legal aid or interpartes rate. Appropriate provision is made for irrecoverable WIP.

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

f) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

g) Interest receivable

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.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

h) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

i) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

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

- Costs of raising funds relate to the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering services undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

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

j) Allocation of 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.

Where information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is provided to potential beneficiaries, the costs associated with this publicity are allocated to charitable expenditure.

Where such information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is also provided to potential donors, activity costs are apportioned between fundraising and charitable activities on the basis of area of literature occupied by each activity.

• Raising Funds	2%
• Legal	41%
• Programmes	42%
• Policy	15%

Governance costs are re-allocated to each of the activities on the following basis which is an estimate, based percentage of expenditure, of the amount attributable to each activity.

• Raising funds	3%
• Legal	41%
• Programmes	41%
• Policy	15%

Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity. These costs are associated with constitutional and statutory requirements and include any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities.

k) Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

l) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £1,000. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.

Where fixed assets have been revalued, any excess between the revalued amount and the historic cost of the asset will be shown as a revaluation reserve in the balance sheet.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| ● Leasehold Improvements | 3 years |
| ● Fixtures and fittings | 5 years |

m) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

n) Cash at bank and in hand

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

o) Creditors and provisions

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

p) Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value.

q) Pensions

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund. The charitable company has no liability under the scheme other than for the payment of those contributions.

r) Work in progress

Legal work in progress is valued at the net realisable value. Provision is made when necessary for irrecoverable amounts of work in progress.

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £
Donations	87,588	–	87,588	81,064	–	81,064
AB Charitable Trust	20,000	–	20,000	20,000	–	20,000
Aurum Charitable Trust	–	–	–	50,000	–	50,000
Bernard Lewis Family Charitable	30,000	–	30,000	30,000	–	30,000
The Blgrave Trust	50,000	–	50,000	50,000	–	50,000
Brooks Foundation	5,000	–	5,000	10,000	–	10,000
Batchworth Trust	–	–	–	10,000	–	10,000
Childhood Trust	5,193	–	5,193	11,250	–	11,250
Esmée Fairbairn Core Grant	120,000	–	120,000	65,000	–	65,000
Esmée Fairbairn Additional Grant	–	–	–	60,000	–	60,000
Family Foundation	75,000	–	75,000	80,000	–	80,000
John Ellerman	50,000	–	50,000	–	–	–
London Community Response	50,000	–	50,000	–	–	–
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	130,000	–	130,000	165,000	–	165,000
Small Trusts	12,400	–	12,400	17,700	–	17,700
Stewarts Foundation	45,000	–	45,000	39,000	–	39,000
Segelman Trust	25,000	–	25,000	35,000	–	35,000
Taurus Foundation	10,000	–	10,000	20,000	–	20,000
Trust for London	–	–	–	–	–	–
	715,181	–	715,181	744,014	–	744,014

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 May 2022

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022 Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021 Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations	10,000	-	10,000	15,094	-	15,094
Allen & Overy Foundation	-	15,000	15,000	-	-	-
Baring Foundation	-	-	-	-	19,017	19,017
City Bridge Trust (casework)	-	35,000	35,000	-	45,000	45,000
Comic Relief (Safer Places)	-	44,553	44,553	-	43,442	43,442
Community Justice	-	-	-	-	28,500	28,500
Goldsmiths	-	17,000	17,000	-	17,000	17,000
Legal Education Foundation (including Justice First)	-	81,105	81,105	-	72,738	72,738
Mercers' Company	-	-	-	-	5,000	5,000
National Lottery Community Fund	-	-	-	-	14,550	14,550
Oak Foundation	-	20,923	20,923	-	20,318	20,318
Persula	-	-	-	-	10,293	10,293
Porticus	-	-	-	-	7,408	7,408
Trust for London	-	50,000	50,000	-	24,500	24,500
Development (Other)	-	46,783	46,783	-	61,974	61,974
Case work and LAA	167,820	-	167,820	367,675	-	367,675
Sub-total for Legal	177,820	310,364	488,184	382,769	369,740	752,509
Act for Change	-	-	-	-	69,294	69,294
BBC Children in Need	-	43,625	43,625	-	42,609	42,609
BBC Children in Need (Small grant)	-	-	-	-	10,000	10,000
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	-	375	375	-	44,700	44,700
Garden Court Chambers	-	4,000	4,000	-	4,000	4,000
John Lyons	-	6,065	6,065	-	33,000	33,000
KPMG Foundation	-	-	-	-	25,000	25,000
National Lottery	-	165,794	165,794	-	181,514	181,514
Oak Foundation	-	67,263	67,263	-	90,426	90,426
On Our Radar	-	-	-	-	2,800	2,800
Permira Equinox (TCS)	-	75,000	75,000	-	-	-
Permira Foundation	-	-	-	-	53,600	53,600
The Listening Fund	-	-	-	-	150	150
The Pilgrim Trust	-	10,000	10,000	-	15,000	15,000
Trust For London (Good Homes)	-	25,842	25,842	-	-	-
Hardship fund	-	-	-	-	6,250	6,250
Development (Other)	-	70,884	70,884	-	93,900	93,900
Sub-total for Programmes	-	468,848	468,848	-	672,243	672,243

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 May 2022

3 Income from charitable activities (continued)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £
Donations	–	5,703	5,703	–	4,400	4,400
Act for Change	–	–	–	–	12,113	12,113
Baring Foundation	–	–	–	–	6,639	6,639
Barrow Cadbury	–	–	–	–	1,940	1,940
Barrow Cadbury (BAME)	–	29,250	29,250	–	29,250	29,250
Comic Relief policy	–	–	–	–	6,500	6,500
Dawes Trust	–	59,000	59,000	–	60,000	60,000
EHRC	–	–	–	–	24,822	24,822
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	–	375	375	–	20,750	20,750
Howard League	–	–	–	–	10,000	10,000
Joseph Rowntree Foundation	–	29,344	29,344	–	29,546	29,546
KPMG	–	–	–	–	25,000	25,000
Oak Foundation	–	31,425	31,425	–	30,510	30,510
Paul Hastings	–	–	–	–	25,000	25,000
Persula	–	–	–	–	3,419	3,419
Porticus	–	20,000	20,000	–	12,592	12,592
Small Trusts	–	–	–	–	6,000	6,000
The Bromley Trust	–	15,000	15,000	–	15,000	15,000
Trust for London (Good Homes)	–	9,158	9,158	–	–	–
Development (Other)	–	24,101	24,101	–	31,926	31,926
Sub-total for Policy	–	223,356	223,356	–	355,407	355,407
Total income from charitable activities	177,820	1,002,568	1,180,388	382,769	1,397,390	1,780,159

4 Income from other activities

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £
Events and sponsorships	39,745	–	39,745	40,353	–	40,353
HMRC JRS	–	–	–	9,956	–	9,956
	39,745	–	39,745	50,309	–	50,309

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £
Bank interest receivable	37	–	37	316	–	316
	37	–	37	316	–	316

6a Analysis of expenditure (current year)

	Charitable activities							
	Raising funds £	Legal £	Programmes £	Policy £	Governance costs £	Support costs £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Staff costs (Note 8)	43,936	462,460	414,595	216,491	–	317,619	1,455,101	1,382,567
Other staff costs	–	3,569	303	–	–	100,697	104,569	123,968
Client support	–	1,384	3,406	375	–	433	5,598	4,679
Consultancy	–	21,810	–	12,754	–	36,474	71,038	63,272
Insurance	–	–	–	–	–	7,864	7,864	4,323
Promotion	–	–	–	–	–	6,372	6,372	5,716
Legal fees	–	–	–	–	–	125	125	125
Audit and accountancy	–	–	–	–	12,250	–	12,250	8,120
Governance	–	–	–	–	1,764	–	1,764	–
Premises costs	–	–	–	–	–	111,053	111,053	184,378
Office costs	–	18,274	2,227	80	–	85,255	105,836	82,508
Other costs	–	8,105	–	16,480	–	7,254	31,839	28,284
Subscriptions	–	1,004	–	–	–	5,293	6,297	6,885
LAA Costs	–	95,126	–	–	–	–	95,126	263,867
VAT	–	–	–	–	–	49,640	49,640	75,426
Project Costs	–	–	72,268	18,819	–	10,005	101,092	87,749
Depreciation	–	–	–	–	–	16,755	16,755	15,823
	43,936	611,732	492,799	264,999	14,014	754,839	2,182,319	2,337,690
Support costs	15,097	309,484	317,032	113,226	–	(754,839)	–	–
Governance costs	280	5,746	5,886	2,102	(14,014)	–	–	–
Total expenditure 2022	59,313	926,962	815,717	380,327	–	–	2,182,319	–
Total expenditure 2021	73,521	1,100,109	747,096	416,962	–	–	2,337,690	

6b Analysis of expenditure (Prior year)

		Charitable activities					
	Raising funds £	Legal £	Programmes £	Policy £	Governance costs £	Support costs £	2021 Total £
Staff costs (Note 8)	54,399	430,615	365,456	213,655	–	318,442	1,382,567
Other staff costs	–	3,485	496	–	–	119,987	123,968
Client support	–	194	4,485	–	–	–	4,679
Consultancy	–	28,304	–	12,172	–	22,796	63,272
Insurance	–	2,053	–	–	–	2,270	4,323
Promotion	2,151	–	–	–	–	3,565	5,716
Legal fees	–	–	–	–	–	125	125
Audit and accountancy	–	–	–	–	8,120	–	8,120
Premises costs	–	–	–	–	–	184,378	184,378
Office costs	–	21,513	2,346	4,781	–	53,868	82,508
Other costs	–	1,393	–	26,262	–	629	28,284
Subscriptions	–	776	–	–	–	6,109	6,885
LAA Costs	–	263,867	–	–	–	–	263,867
VAT	–	–	–	–	–	75,426	75,426
Project Costs	–	–	17,918	32,808	–	37,023	87,749
Depreciation	–	–	–	–	–	15,823	15,823
	56,550	752,200	390,701	289,678	8,120	840,441	2,337,690
Support costs	16,809	344,580	352,985	126,066	–	(840,440)	–
Governance costs	162	3,329	3,410	1,218	(8,120)	–	–
Total expenditure 2021	73,521	1,100,109	747,096	416,962	–	–	2,337,690

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 May 2022

7 Net expenditure for the year

This is stated after charging / (crediting):

	2022 £	2021 £
Depreciation	16,755	15,823
Auditor's remuneration (excluding VAT):		
Audit	9,800	8,120
Other services	-	-
	<u>16,755</u>	<u>15,823</u>

8 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

Staff costs were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Salaries and wages	1,270,123	1,212,541
Redundancy and termination costs	3,400	1,630
Social security costs	131,467	121,161
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	50,111	47,236
	<u>1,455,101</u>	<u>1,382,567</u>

The following number of employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs and employer's national insurance) during the year between:

	2022 No.	2021 No.
£60,000 – £69,999	1	-

The total employee benefits (including pension contributions and employer's national insurance) of the key management personnel were £321,083 (2021: £282,432).

The charity trustees were neither paid nor received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2021: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2021: £nil).

During the year, no travel expenses were reimbursed as trustee expenses (2021: £nil).

9 Staff numbers

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the year was 40 (2021: 38).

Staff are split across the activities of the charitable company as follows (average head count):

	2022 No.	2021 No.
Raising funds	1.0	2.0
Legal	12.0	12.0
Programmes	12.0	11.0
Policy	7.0	6.0
Support	8.0	7.0
	<u>40.0</u>	<u>38.0</u>

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 May 2022

10 Related party transactions

Trustee Maureen Cole-Burns' husband is a trustee of Trust for London, which gave grants to Just for Kids Law totalling £85,000 (2021: £24,500). These were restricted and can be seen in notes 2 and 3 of the financial statements. Maureen Cole-Burns resigned as a trustee in July 2022.

Trustee Sufina Ahmad is the Director of the John Ellerman Foundation which gave Just for Kids Law a grant of £50,000.

Trustee Peter Gibbs who is the Managing Director of Permira which gave to Just for Kids Law a grant of £75,000.

Honorary Founder Shauneed Lambe is a Trustee of the Barings Foundation, which gave a grant to Just for Kids Law of £0 (2021: £25,656). This was restricted and can be seen in notes 2 and 3 of the financial statements.

During the year, trustees in aggregate donated unrestricted funds of £357 (2021: £nil).

11 Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold Improvements £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost			
At the start of the year	93,723	20,157	113,880
Additions in year	–	–	–
Disposals in year	–	–	–
At the end of the year	93,723	20,157	113,880
Depreciation			
At the start of the year	11,715	4,108	15,823
Charge for the year	11,715	5,040	16,755
Eliminated on disposal	–	–	–
At the end of the year	23,430	9,148	32,578
Net book value			
At the end of the year	82,008	15,117	97,125
At the start of the year	93,723	20,157	113,880

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

13 Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	39,922	54,990
Other debtors	35,565	29,228
Accrued income	8,759	53,640
	84,246	137,858

All of the charity's financial instruments, both assets and liabilities, are measured at amortised cost. The carrying values of these are shown above and also in note 14 below.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 May 2022

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	58,443	86,377
Taxation and social security	42,444	31,595
Other creditors	84,204	101,493
Deferred income	16,571	137,071
	201,662	356,536

15 Deferred income

Deferred income comprises the deferment of grant income received in the year which must be recognised in following years as per the terms of the specific grants.

	2022 £	2021 £
Balance at the beginning of the year	137,071	165,550
Amount released to income in the year	(137,071)	(165,550)
Amount deferred in the year	16,571	137,071
Balance at the end of the year	16,571	137,071

16a Analysis of net assets between funds (current year)

	General unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	97,125	–	97,125
Net current assets	633,127	288,774	921,901
Net assets at 31 May 2022	730,252	288,774	1,019,026

16b Analysis of net assets between funds (prior year)

	General unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	113,880	–	113,880
Net current assets	739,400	412,714	1,152,114
Net assets at 31 May 2021	853,280	412,714	1,265,994

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 May 2022

17a Movements in funds (current year)

	At 1 June 2021 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	At 31 May 2022 £
Restricted funds:					
Legal					
Allen & Overy Foundation	–	15,000	(15,000)	–	–
Baring Foundation (Custody Time Limits)	5,003	–	(3,750)	–	1,253
City Bridge Trust (casework)	–	35,000	(35,000)	–	–
Comic Relief (Safe Place to Be)	5,705	44,553	(45,094)	–	5,164
Goldsmiths Company Charity	–	17,000	(17,000)	–	–
Legal Education Foundation (including Justice First)	9,718	81,105	(85,291)	–	5,532
Mercers' Company	5,000	–	(5,000)	–	–
Oak Foundation	3,107	20,923	(24,030)	–	–
Trust for London	2,634	50,000	(50,375)	–	2,259
Development (other)	2,436	46,783	(44,600)	–	4,619
	33,603	310,364	(325,140)	–	18,827
Programmes					
Act for Change Fund	37,568	–	(31,068)	–	6,500
BBC Children in Need (Main Grant)	6,510	43,625	(47,451)	–	2,684
BBC Children in Need (Small Grant)	5,888	–	(5,888)	–	–
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	26,010	375	(26,385)	–	–
Garden Court Chambers	5,286	4,000	(2,640)	–	6,646
John Lyon's Charity	29,482	6,065	(35,547)	–	–
KPMG Foundation	25,000	–	(25,000)	–	–
National Lottery Community Fund	59,109	165,794	(154,468)	–	70,435
Oak Foundation	34,884	67,263	(85,344)	–	16,803
Permira Equinox (TCS)	–	75,000	(31,622)	–	43,378
Permira Foundation	28,099	–	(28,099)	–	–
The Pilgrim Trust	–	10,000	(10,000)	–	–
Trust For London (Good Homes)	–	25,842	(25,842)	–	–
Education funds and one-off grants	912	–	–	–	912
Hardship fund	11,414	–	(1,571)	–	9,843
Development (other)	3,691	70,884	(67,575)	–	7,000
	273,853	468,848	(578,500)	–	164,201

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 May 2022

17a Movements in funds (current year) (continued)

Policy	At 1 June 2021 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	At 31 May 2022 £
Donations	4,400	5,703	–	–	10,103
Act for Change Fund	6,512	–	(6,512)	–	–
Barrow Cadbury Trust	840	–	(840)	–	–
Barrow Cadbury Trust (BAME)	8,640	29,250	(32,672)	–	5,218
Comic Relief (Change It!)	3,284	–	–	–	3,284
Dawes Trust	46,966	59,000	(45,888)	–	60,078
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	896	375	(1,271)	–	–
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	2,141	29,344	(31,485)	–	–
KPMG Foundation	6,143	–	(6,067)	–	76
Oak Foundation	7,255	31,425	(24,782)	–	13,897
Paul Hastings	16,927	–	(9,296)	–	7,631
Porticus	–	20,000	(18,435)	–	1,565
The Bromley Trust	–	15,000	(15,000)	–	–
Trust for London (Good Homes)	–	9,158	(7,644)	–	1,514
Development (other)	1,255	24,101	(22,976)	–	2,380
	105,258	223,356	(222,868)	–	105,746
Total restricted funds	412,714	1,002,568	(1,126,508)	–	288,774
	At 1 June 2021 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	At 31 May 2022 £
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	853,280	932,783	(1,055,811)	–	730,252
Total funds	1,265,994	1,935,351	(2,182,319)	–	1,019,026

The narrative to explain the purpose of each fund is given at the foot of the following note.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 May 2022

17b Movements in funds (prior year)

	At 1 June 2020 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	At 31 May 2021 £
Restricted funds:					
Legal					
Baring Foundation (Custody Time Limits)	–	19,017	(14,014)	–	5,003
City Bridge Trust (casework)	–	45,000	(45,000)	–	–
Comic Relief (Safe Place to Be)	4,853	43,442	(42,590)	–	5,705
Community Justice Fund	–	28,500	(28,500)	–	–
Goldsmiths Company Charity	–	17,000	(17,000)	–	–
Legal Education Foundation (including Justice First)	1,570	72,738	(64,590)	–	9,718
Mercers' Company	–	5,000	–	–	5,000
National Lottery Community Fund	–	14,550	(14,550)	–	–
Oak Foundation	3,276	20,318	(20,487)	–	3,107
Persula	–	10,293	(10,293)	–	–
Porticus	–	7,408	(7,408)	–	–
The Big Give	14,583	–	(14,583)	–	–
Trust for London	23,560	24,500	(45,426)	–	2,634
Development (other)	22,997	61,974	(56,135)	(26,400)	2,436
	70,839	369,740	(380,576)	(26,400)	33,603
Programmes					
Act for Change	–	69,294	(31,726)	–	37,568
BBC Children in Need (Main grant)	1,078	42,609	(37,177)	–	6,510
BBC Children in Need (Small Grants)	–	10,000	(4,112)	–	5,888
Clifford Chance	7,100	–	(7,100)	–	–
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	19,217	44,700	(37,907)	–	26,010
Garden Court Chambers	2,841	4,000	(1,555)	–	5,286
Henry Smith Foundation	7,488	–	(7,488)	–	–
John Lyons Charity	17,855	33,000	(21,373)	–	29,482
KPMG Foundation	–	25,000	–	–	25,000
National Lottery Community Fund	36,915	181,514	(159,320)	–	59,109
Oak Foundation	7,914	90,426	(63,456)	–	34,884
On our Radar	–	2,800	(2,800)	–	–
Premira Foundation	–	53,600	(25,501)	–	28,099
The Listening Fund	3,320	150	(3,470)	–	–
The Pilgrim Trust	–	15,000	(15,000)	–	–
Trust For London COVID19 Hardship	2,450	–	(2,450)	–	–
Education funds and one-off grants	1,659	–	(747)	–	912
Hardship fund	6,386	6,250	(1,222)	–	11,414
Donations	13,276	–	–	(13,276)	–
Development (other)	34,845	93,900	(85,054)	(40,000)	3,691
	162,344	672,243	(507,458)	(53,276)	273,853

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 May 2022

17b Movements in funds (prior year) (continued)

	At 1 June 2020	Income & gains	Expenditure & losses	Transfers	At 31 May 2021
Policy					
Donations	-	4,400	-	-	4,400
Act for Change	-	12,113	(5,601)	-	6,512
Baring Foundation	4,700	-	(4,700)	-	-
Baring Foundation (Custody Time)	-	6,639	(6,639)	-	-
Baring Social Impact Fund	5,000	-	(5,000)	-	-
Barrow Cadbury Trust	-	1,940	(1,100)	-	840
Barrow Cadbury Trust (BAME)	-	29,250	(20,610)	-	8,640
Comic Relief (Change it)	284	6,500	(3,500)	-	3,284
Dawes Trust	-	60,000	(13,034)	-	46,966
EHRC	-	24,822	(24,822)	-	-
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	7,703	20,750	(27,557)	-	896
Howard League	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	-	29,546	(27,405)	-	2,141
KPMG Foundation	-	25,000	(18,857)	-	6,143
Oak Foundation	7,058	30,510	(30,313)	-	7,255
Paul Hastings	3,000	25,000	(11,073)	-	16,927
Persula Foundation	-	3,419	(3,419)	-	-
Porticus	-	12,592	(12,592)	-	-
Second Growth	7,518	-	(7,518)	-	-
Small Trusts	-	6,000	(6,000)	-	-
The Bromley Trust	15,000	15,000	(15,000)	(15,000)	-
Development (other)	11,847	31,926	(28,918)	(13,600)	1,255
	62,110	355,407	(283,659)	(28,600)	105,258
Total restricted funds	295,293	1,397,390	(1,171,693)	(108,276)	412,714
	At 1 June 2020 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	At 31 May 2021 £
Unrestricted funds:					
Total designated funds	250,000	-	-	(250,000)	-
General funds	483,592	1,177,408	(1,165,996)	358,276	853,280
Total unrestricted funds	733,592	1,177,408	(1,165,996)	108,276	853,280
Total funds	1,028,885	2,574,798	(2,337,689)	-	1,265,994

Purposes of restricted funds

Legal

Allen & Overy – Funding to support our school exclusions work.

Baring Foundation – Funding to support our casework.

City Bridge Trust – Funding to carry out strategic litigation relating to changes to regulations for custody time limits. Funding to support our casework.

Comic Relief (Safe Place to Be) – Funding for a housing solicitor.

Goldsmiths Company Charity – Funding to support our casework.

Legal Education Foundation (including Justice First) – Funding to support the Justice First Fellowship trainee solicitor.

Mercers' Company – Funding towards our school exclusions casework

Oak Foundation – Funding for reforming housing and support for children and young people through participation.

Trust For London – Funding for our immigration work.

Programmes

Act for Change Fund – Funding towards our work on school exclusion.

BBC Children in Need (Main Grants) – Funding for youth advocacy, for clients who are under 18.

BBC Children in Need (small grant) – Funding towards our Young Ambassadors

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation – Funding towards care leavers advocacy.

Garden Court Chambers – contribution towards our youth engagement and participation work.

John Lyon's Charity – Funding towards the youth advocacy project.

KPMG Foundation – Funding for an advocacy manager.

National Lottery Community Fund – Funding for our youth advocacy including our trainee programme.

Oak Foundation – Funding for reforming housing and support for children and young people through participation.

Permira Equinox (TCS) – Funding for a pilot in-house therapy service for JfKL clients whose mental health needs were not met through statutory services for children and young people.

Permira Foundation – Funding towards and advocacy manager

The Pilgrim Trust – Funding for our young parents advocate.

Trust for London Funding to support our campaigning work on housing.

Hardship Funds – are given as small one-off grants where there is an immediate need.

Purposes of restricted funds (continued)

Policy

Donations – Funds contributing to our central costs.

Act for Change Fund – Funding towards our work on school exclusion.

Barrow Cadbury Trust – Funding to develop reform proposals to assist children turning 18 in the criminal justice system.

Barrow Cadbury Trust (BAME) – Funding to improve legal representation for BAME young people.

Comic Relief (Change It!) – Funding towards Just For Kids Law child-led campaign Change It!, and towards advocacy and education community care, focused on West London.

Dawes Trust – Funding to improve legal representation for children and young people.

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation – Funding for policy work to influence the outcomes for care leavers.

Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust – Funding for our policy research and campaigning on BAME young people and the police.

KPMG Foundation – Funding for policy work relating to COVID-19.

Oak Foundation – Funding for reforming housing and support for children and young people through participation.

Paul Hastings – Funding to create new and updating practitioner guides.

Porticus – Funding for our policy and legal work on school exclusion.

The Bromley Trust – Funding towards child rights policy, and public affairs work.

Trust for London – Funding to support care experienced children with experience of homelessness to campaign for change.

Development (other)

AB Charitable Trust – Funding towards core operational costs.

Bernard Lewis Family Charitable Trust– Funding towards our core costs

Brooks Foundation (Core) – Funding towards core operational costs.

Childhood Trust– Funding towards core operational costs

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation (Core Grant) – Funding towards core operational costs.

Family Foundation – Funding towards core operational costs.

Paul Hamlyn Foundation (Growth Fund) – Core funding to support strategic and operational growth of organisation.

London Community Response Fund – Funding to support recovery following the Covid 19 pandemic.

Philip King Charitable Trust– Funding to support the employment of a Financial Director.

Stewarts Foundation– Funding towards our core costs supporting our Youth Opportunities Work

The Blagrove Trust – Funding towards core operational costs.

The John Ellerman Foundation – Funding towards core operational costs.

The Mark Leonard Trust – Funding towards core operational costs.

The Segelman Trust – Funding towards core operational costs.

The Taurus Foundation – Funding towards core operational costs.

Paul Hastings – Funding to create new and updating practitioner guides.

Persula Foundation – Funding for our school exclusions work and youth justice advice line.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 May 2022

The breakdown of development funds for 2021/22 was as follows:

	At 1 June 2021 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	At 31 May 2022 £
Blagrove Trust (Wellbeing grant)	–	400	(400)	–	–
Comic Relief (Recovery fund)	5,000	–	(5,000)	–	–
Drapers Charitable Trust	–	30,000	(30,000)	–	–
Mark Leonard Trust	–	50,000	(49,972)	–	28
Permira Foundation	–	7,500	(7,500)	–	–
Philip King	–	20,000	(20,007)	–	(7)
Legal Education Foundation	1,952	21,891	(20,063)	–	3,780
Esmée Fairbairn Resilience	430	–	(430)	–	–
Paul Hamlyn	–	10,000	(1,778)	–	8,222
London Legal Support Trust	–	1,977	–	–	1,977
	7,382	141,768	(135,150)	–	14,000

18 Operating lease commitments

The charity's total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows for each of the following periods

	2022 £	2021 £
Less than one year	84,204	79,303
One to five years	78,000	78,000
	162,204	157,303

19 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £10.

JUST FOR KIDS LAW LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1121638

Accounts

Company number: 05815338

Charity number: 1121638

Just for Kids Law Limited

Report and financial statements

For the year ended 31 May 2021

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Just for Kids Law Limited

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 May 2021

Company number	05815338	
Charity number	1121638	
Registered office and operational address	Unit 2, Crystal Wharf 36 Graham Street London N1 8GJ	
Country of registration	England & Wales	
Country of incorporation	United Kingdom	
Board of Trustees	Board of Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:	
	Anthony David Landes	Trustee and Acting Chair
	Carolyn Ann Regan	Trustee and Chair (resigned July 2021)
	Sophia Wiginton	Trustee (appointed October 2020)
	Maureen Cole Burns	Trustee and Treasurer
	Peter George Gibbs	Trustee
	Amira Bhatt	Trustee
	Sufina Ahmed	Trustee
	Claire Hubberstey	Trustee
	Wendy Brewer	Trustee
	Joanne Cecil	Trustee
Honorary Founder	Shauneen Lambe	(appointed July 2020)
Senior Management Team	Louisa McGeehan	CEO (appointed February 2021)
	Enver Solomon	CEO (resigned November 2020)
	Frances Mapstone	Interim CEO (November 2020 – February 2021)
	Aika Stephenson	Legal Director
	Chloe Grant	Director of Programmes and Participation (joined November 2020)
	Julie Bentley	Director of Finance and Resources
	Louise King	Director of Policy and Campaigns/Director of Children's Rights Alliance for England

Just for Kids Law Limited

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 May 2021

Bankers

CAF Bank
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor
Invicta House
108-114 Golden Lane
LONDON
EC1Y 0TL

The Board of Trustees presents their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 May 2021.

Reference and administrative information set out on pages 1–2 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

Objectives and activities

To promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the public, particularly children and young people in the UK and abroad, with particular regard to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, including by advancing the rights and needs of children through:

- Research, education, training, awareness-raising, and increasing understanding and knowledge.
- Monitoring, promoting and advocating for children's human rights, including compliance at both national and international levels.
- The provision of specialist legal advice, support and representation, including taking legal action to prevent disadvantage, discrimination or exclusion.
- The provision of advice, support and direct advocacy to children and young people, and promoting participation.
- All other such lawful things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of these aims.

The Board of Trustees reviews the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year. This report looks at what the charity has achieved and the outcomes of its work over the reporting period. The Board of Trustees reports the success of each key activity and the benefits the charity has brought to those groups of people that it is set up to help. The review also helps the Board of Trustees ensure that the charity's aims, objectives and activities remain focused on its stated purposes.

The Board of Trustees has referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the Board of Trustees has considered how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

Structure, governance and management

The Board of Trustees has overall responsibility for ensuring that the charity meets its charitable objectives and has an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity. The Board is chaired by Anthony Landes in an interim capacity until a new Chair is appointed in early 2022. The Board currently has 9 members.

The Board has a number of sub-committees which ensure that the legal obligations of the charity are met, and that the charity pursues its charitable objectives as set out in the governing documents.

Just for Kids Law currently has the following sub-committees:

- Finance & Risk (including Audit)
- Fundraising
- HR & People
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Each sub-committee is chaired by a trustee and has at least one further trustee and one senior member of staff on it.

The Board of Trustees employs the CEO, Louisa McGeehan, to whom the charity's Board of Trustees delegates day-to-day management of the charity. The CEO manages a Senior Management Team consisting of the Director of Programmes and Participation, Legal Director, Director of Policy and Campaigns/Director of CRAE and Director of Finance and Resources, who in turn manage their individual teams.

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 12 May 2006 and registered as a charity on 21 November 2007.

The company was established under a memorandum of association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed according to its articles of association.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in note 8 to the accounts.

Appointment of Board of Trustees

Trustees are recruited to the Board by the Chair, and their appointment is agreed by the entire Board of Trustees. There is no external body that is entitled to appoint one or more of the Board of Trustees.

Trustee induction and training

Before starting in their role on the Board, trustees are provided with a detailed role description, and receive a comprehensive induction which includes:

- A full information pack containing the current governing documents; strategic and shorter-term plans; recent statutory accounts and current management accounts; recent board minutes; an organisation chart/ organogram; and general background information.
- An opportunity to visit the charity's offices and projects, meet other trustees and staff and attend a board meeting.
- A clear explanation of the trustee's expected role, responsibilities and legal obligations, input to the Board and time commitment.

- Access to Charity Commission guidance.

Related parties and relationships with other organisations

The charity has no subsidiary undertakings. However, we connect with and have relationships with organisations in a variety of ways. Through our casework we receive referrals from organisations in the voluntary and statutory sector who we will link up with as part of our direct work with young people. In the delivery of our work to achieve wider change to policy and practice we partner with many organisations to work collaboratively on our campaigning, our strategic litigation and on our work empowering young people to lead social change. Finally, we have relationships through our income generation work with funders such as trusts and foundations, and also corporates who provide us with pro bono support.

Achievements and performance

Introduction

Since its foundation in 2006, Just for Kids Law has developed an innovative holistic approach which combines youth advocacy, legal representation, and youth opportunities to help young people break negative cycles and move from striving to thriving. Children and young people come to us with multiple complex challenges, from homelessness or immigration problems to social and health care needs and beyond. We hear their voices and stand up for their rights, doing our utmost to make sure they get what they need and are treated fairly. We facilitate a path from crisis to stability, and onwards to independence.

In the year 2020–21, Just for Kids Law experienced major challenges and changes internally and externally. As with many other charities, we were confronted with the continuing impact of the Covid–19 pandemic into a second financial year, with the events of 2020–21 bringing an even more difficult operating environment than the previous year. This came on top of the instability caused by Brexit, harsher conditions for migrants coming to the UK and the ongoing impact of austerity measures leading to rising levels of child poverty and public services children and young people rely on coming under greater pressure.

At the start of the pandemic there was a lull in children seeking support. The 'stay at home' guidance seemed to result in children who were homeless and sofa surfing becoming invisible. However, as restrictions eased, we had an influx of children presenting as homeless while there was a vacuum in services to assist them due to closures and reductions in provision due to the pandemic.

The prolonged lockdown situation placed great strain on our organisation. Our casework model is built on relationships of trust with young people, built through personal support and direct contact. When this has not been possible, our advocacy teams have worked through phone calls and video calls to support their young clients. For some staff, this has meant supporting young people through crisis and traumatic experiences from their own bedrooms when they lack

separate space for work at home. We responded by putting in place support systems and reflective practice arrangements, along with good IT equipment to support them with this.

Our legal team has continued its work, adapting to court closures and online hearings as necessary. We have continued to take on new criminal, immigration, public law, housing and social care cases and represent young clients in proceedings. We have also achieved a good assessment of the quality of our legal aid work.

Our policy work has had to adapt in order to respond to a raft of government policy in response to the pandemic. We succeeded in preventing the extension of time limits for children and young people in custody on remand; influencing guidance on care leavers and school exclusions; and shaping guidance to schools on planning for the return of children to school after the first long lockdown.

We have also had to adjust to running events online for the launch of our policy reports, briefings and guides, which has proven to be positive as it has enabled us to reach a larger audience and greater geographical spread.

One consequence of school closures in the pandemic has been a hiatus in our direct work on school exclusions, but we anticipate greater demand for our legal advice as we are concerned that more children will be at risk of exclusion – and the consequent risk of exploitation – as a result of inappropriate school responses to behavioural issues resulting from long periods out of school and the difficult experiences some children have had during this time.

Internally we experienced changes in leadership with the departure in November 2020 of Chief Executive, Enver Solomon, moving to a new leadership role at the Refugee Council, a short period of an interim Chief Executive, Frances Mapstone, and the arrival of a new permanent Chief Executive, Louisa McGeehan, in February 2021. We also welcomed Chloe Grant as the new Director of Programmes and Participation in November 2020.

While prioritising our work with children and young people, we also recognised the need to focus on staff wellbeing. In the latter half of the year, we focused heavily on staff engagement in our planning for a return to a more normal pattern of working from summer 2021 when we looked forward to enjoying the benefits of working together face to face again, collaborating together in our new Covid-19 compliant office.

Throughout this period of challenge and transition, our charity has demonstrated its resilience in continuing delivery of its services to children and young people. However, it was recognised that it would not have been wise to refresh the three-year strategic plan (June 2018 to June 2021) during this period, so the plan was updated in September 2020 and extended to June 2022.

Our vision, mission and values remained the same:

- Just for Kids Law's vision is for all children and young people in the UK to have their legal rights and entitlements respected and promoted, and their voices heard and valued.
- We exist to work with and for children and young people to hold those with power to account and fight for wider reform.
- We do this by providing legal representation and advice, direct advocacy and support, and through strategic litigation, campaigning and equipping others to work for children's rights.
- Our values are to act with integrity, respect, courage and compassion. We put these values into practice in our relationships with the children and young people we work with, our colleagues and our partner organisations.

Our strategic plan includes four clear aims to:

- Secure outcomes for individual children and young people.
- Secure changes to the legal, policy and practice environment for children and young people.
- Maintain and develop a robust organisation using our strengths to maximum impact.
- Develop an organisation in which participation is central to all our activities.

We report against each of these aims in this annual report and accounts and set out progress over the third year of the strategy.

Strategic Aim 1: Secure outcomes for individual children and young people

Our most recent casework data shows that in the 2020/21 financial year we worked with 785 children and young people, mainly across London, on 1297 pieces of casework providing youth advocacy, legal advice and representation and youth opportunities support. Of these cases, 492 were worked on by our legal team, 551 were worked on by our programmes and participation team and 254 cases consisted of one-off advice.

We supported these young people to address a range of needs, relating to housing, social care, education, finance, immigration and criminal justice issues. It is important to note that each young person we work with may have more than one case relating to the different needs that they have.

We regularly survey our clients to assess the impact of our work. In the most recent survey in May 2021:

- 90% felt that their situation had improved since being supported by JfKL.
- 93% felt more confident about facing problems since having help from JfKL.
- 87% reported knowing more about their rights and entitlements since they've been working with JfKL.

Further information on the impact of our work is contained in our Impact and Learning report.

Advocacy and youth opportunities

A key development was the appointment of a new Director of Programmes and Participation, Chloe Grant, to lead our advocacy, youth opportunities and participation work. We also expanded the advocacy team to include a second advocacy manager with management and case-holding capacity to better support our holistic casework and further define and articulate our model.

The Covid-19 pandemic had a huge impact, especially within the advocacy team, where despite a successful transition to working remotely and equipping clients with digital connectivity, working in this way placed a great strain on staff undertaking intensive and challenging work with children and young people. We put in place additional support for staff including increased access to clinical supervision.

With the inevitable interruption to statutory services as a result of the pandemic, advocacy cases took longer to resolve. Children and young people's needs changed with some needing more intensive support, including an increased demand for vital needs such as food and accommodation, as well as digital devices to engage with online services. As a consequence, we saw a drop off in the number of referrals we could accept at key points in the year. We also observed a change to the age profile of our advocacy clients, with more older young people (over 18) needing support. We noted an increasing need for mental health support, which is not always available to children and young people from statutory services in an accessible and timely way.

In response, we have reviewed caseloads for advocacy and are aiming to diversify these to include more discrete, one-off advocacy alongside longer-term multi-issue advocacy to be able to support more children and young people. We have also provided mental health first aid training for our Advocacy and Legal teams and have secured funding for a pilot mental health programme, in partnership with The Children's Society, to provide therapeutic support to young people, build capacity of staff to work with young people experiencing mental health difficulties and build evidence of unmet mental health needs of our clients.

We have begun a piece of work improving our system for recording casework – Apricot – and are strengthening our ability to capture and record outcomes. Alongside this we have initiated an independent review of our casework model. This work is expected to come to fruition in 2021/22.

We have introduced a new tiered safeguarding model for oversight and guidance on safeguarding issues and have also undertaken an external safeguarding review. We have begun implementing the review's recommendations, including training on safeguarding in the context of our work, including intersectionality and systemic practice, and recognising the signs, symptoms and responses to trauma and exploitation.

We have also developed our Youth Opportunities offer into six distinct types of support to be able to offer appropriate support to a larger number of young people:

- 1) One-to-one short/medium term individual opportunities support
- 2) Bitesize support
- 3) Information/ advice/ guidance
- 4) Youth Opportunities Workshops
- 5) Youth Panels
- 6) Work Experience.

Advocacy highlights included:

- Supporting an 18-year-old care leaver to achieve a back payment from his local authority, amounting to £400, after his weekly allowance payments were stopped without any warning or reason for seven weeks.
- Supporting a young mother to engage with a community care solicitor for a civil claim, which was opened by her former Advocate at Just for Kids Law some years ago. She has received an offer of £25,000 from the local authority for their failings to adequately support her while in their care.
- Supporting a care-experienced young person who had recently been released from prison and was living with his mother, with whom he had a strained relationship with, in securing temporary accommodation in a hostel.
- Supported a young person with considerable health needs, resulting from injuries he sustained from a previous stabbing and being tasered by the police, in securing urgent medical priority for housing.
- Supporting a 17-year-old with instructing a community care solicitor and subsequently being accommodated and financially supported by his local authority after the breakdown of his relationship with his mother who had been physically abusive towards him while he was in her care.
- Advocating for a young mother with an infant daughter in overcrowded temporary accommodation to request a transfer of property when her second child arrives.
- Supporting a young care experienced mother to access legal support to appeal a decision made by her local authority not to accept her onto the housing register.
- Supporting a client with a stage 2 complaint against her local authority which resulted in her being offered permanent social housing within an area of her borough specified by her and being offered £9,000 in compensation.
- Supporting a 21-year-old care leaver to have her leaving care case reopened after her personal advisor closed her case and said the local authority could not offer her any support beyond 21 years.
- Supporting a client to prepare for a child protection conference in relation to her two children and supported her to make a successful application for a non-molestation order against her abusive ex-partner and to report the domestic abuse to the police.

- Supporting a client in prison with getting a prison lawyer to expedite his parole hearing, changing his probation officer, securing a negligence lawyer for his claim against his local authority for abuse in care, and successfully advocating for a discretionary claim for a 1 – bedroom housing association property for his release.
- Supporting a client, who was also working with an immigration solicitor, with her application for limited leave to remain, which was granted. Support then focused on helping her to understand her rights and entitlements around accessing social housing, benefits, and a bank account, as well as Early Help support for her and her baby.
- Advocating for a care leaver who needed support working with his immigration solicitor on his trafficking case. He won his case and while awaiting confirmation of leave to remain in the UK, he was referred to our Youth Opportunities team for confidence building workshops as he was shy and lonely.
- Supporting a young mother to challenge the local authority's decision not to provide her and her 7-week-old son with emergency accommodation, after they told her to return to her family home following severe relationship breakdown.
- Supporting a street homeless 17-year-old to access emergency accommodation, and work with a community care solicitor who helped to get him accommodated under s20 of the Children's Act. He was then helped to understand his rights and entitlements for he turned 18.
- Supporting two young people to submit complaints against their respective local authorities and supported accommodation providers. One complaint is now being investigated by the Children's Commissioners office.

Youth Opportunities highlights included:

- Sourcing financial education and money management training from an external charity provider (My BNK) after young people requested training in this area. Six young people completed this and were eligible for a Level 1 Award in Personal Money Management.
- Creating and delivering a workshop on 'How to be Your Best in an Interview' which included information and advice on how to answer questions well in an interview and an opportunity to answer questions in a mock interview setting with their peers.
- Supporting a young person to disclose his criminal record to his employer, resulting in him receiving an offer of employment as a result.
- Involving and enabling several young people to take part in staff recruitment exercises at Just for Kids Law. This included preparation sessions in which they created the questions they would like to ask.
- In one quarter alone, we celebrated five young people receiving offers of employment after receiving support from Youth Opportunities. This varied from setting goals, CV support, support with applications, providing information, advice and guidance and supporting a young person to get a laptop from DwP to enable their job search.
- Supporting two young people to complete training, including a First Aid Training Course and a Journalism Training School. Both young people left these training courses feeling more equipped and with a sense of achievement.

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- Celebrating the success of a young person who was supported with her UCAS application who then received five offers from the universities she applied to and went on to study Mental Health Nursing.
- Supporting a young person to successfully apply for a job offer in her chosen career path working in youth participation with the local council through the government's Kickstart employability scheme.

Legal

The impact of Covid-19 was also felt by our Legal Team, with a number of staff affected by illness and consequent disruptions to the number of cases that we were able to take on – this particularly affected our immigration and community care teams, who rebuilt their capacity gradually. Most of the Legal Team, apart from the Crime Team, worked remotely during the pandemic, with the Crime Team continuing to deliver services in person, attending police stations, courts and prisons to support clients. Despite disruption, the team continued to achieve successful outcomes for children and young people across crime, community care, housing, education, immigration and strategic litigation.

We successfully completed an audit and achieved Specialist Quality mark accreditation with the report stating: "The scope of the work undertaken by the charity is impressive. The audit identified many areas of good practice and only 3 quality concerns". The minor areas of concern were addressed quickly.

Legal highlights included:

Crime

- Ensuring children were dealt with outside of the court process wherever possible. A particular highlight was the case of a 15-year-old girl who had been arrested for stealing pyjamas from Marks and Spencer, who said she was going to shower at her friend's house and had no clean clothes to change into. Following the sudden death of her father three years earlier she began going missing for periods of time and concerns were raised that she was being sexually exploited. She is now residing in a residential care home where she is stable and happy. Her school is next door and she is receiving a high level of support. Her local youth offending team agreed to deal with the matter by way of an out-of-court intervention and the court proceedings were discontinued.
- Representing a 17-year-old who was charged with sexual assault, who was 15 at the time of the alleged offences. The CPS Legal Guidance on Youth Offenders states that "all cases involving youth offenders must be dealt with expeditiously and avoid delay, which has at its core the principle that there is little point in conducting a trial for a young offender long after the alleged commission of an offence when the offender will have difficulty in relating the sentence to the offence." The young person would have also turned 18 between the offence and sentencing, meaning he would not have access to sentences for children, he would be subject to longer adult criminal records rehabilitation periods, and would not be

eligible for the same diversionary schemes as those who are sentenced whilst still a child. We made written representations to the Crown on behalf of the young person and the matter was subsequently discontinued.

- Ensuring proceedings were discontinued against a 17-year-old client who had been deemed a victim of child criminal exploitation having been found in a vehicle with a man known to be involved in a county lines drug operation in possession of a large quantity of drugs.
- Assisting a 15-year-old charged with driving offences which are usually prosecuted by the CPS to have his case diverted out of court. He was triaged (informal out-of-court disposal) for the taking without consent charge, meaning the youth offending team was able to put in place some intervention to address the offending behaviour without the need for a formal disposal.
- Representing a 16-year-old girl who was acquitted at trial of an offence of possession of scissors on school premises. The solicitor who represented her at the police station advised her to accept a caution as the best outcome, but her Just for Kids Law solicitor recognised the impact this would have on her life and managed to achieve an acquittal.
- Assisting a 15-year-old of good character who had suffered a life changing brain injury with three cases relating to ten counts of possession with intent to supply class A drugs and other offences alleged to have been committed prior to the accident. Once it had been established that he was a victim of child criminal exploitation and unlikely to be able to participate in the court proceedings all matters were discontinued following oral submissions.
- Assisting a 20-year-old charged with travelling on a railway without having previously paid a fare of £6.60. The case was initially adjourned due to Covid-19 and subsequently heard, without his knowledge, in the young person's absence and in the absence of his legal representatives. He was found guilty and given a total of £625 in fines and costs and a collection order made against him. We successfully made an application for the case to be re-opened and to put forward mitigation on behalf of the young person – including that he was an unaccompanied asylum-seeking child, was previously looked after by the local authority, and had been sectioned due to his severe mental health state. All charges were subsequently withdrawn.
- Assisting a 19-year-old charged with drunk and disorderly behaviour, after being arrested by police for playfighting with a friend on the streets. Despite the very minor nature of the offences, a formal conviction would have repercussions for the young person's immigration status. We successfully adjourned the case for legal representations to be made and the matter was discontinued.
- Assisting an 11-year-old found in possession of a kitchen knife within the school premises. The client had no previous contact with the police or criminal justice system. He and his friends had been approached by an older male the previous day, who intimidated them and threatened to rob them. The young person was Spanish national with strong ties with the United States (Mum US national), who was particularly worried for the repercussion on any future immigration application. We successfully argued for him to be dealt with by way of a Youth Restorative Disposal (a type of informal out of court disposal) which does not form part of a young person's criminal record.

- Representing a young adult charged with conspiring to supply Class A drugs who was remanded to custody during the coronavirus pandemic with no access to his family and/or legal representatives. He was referred to us by another organisation, who were concerned that he was being exploited and believed that this had not been explored properly in previous proceedings when he was charged as a child in relation to serious drug offences. Upon transferring his matters to us, the young person was identified as a victim of criminal exploitation and his matters discontinued.
- Representing a young adult who had entered the UK as an Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Child and was being supported by his local authority. He had been diagnosed with PTSD and was charged with common assault. We made legal representations on his behalf and submitted a psychological report detailing how his PTSD may have influenced his behaviour and made a request for a special measures application for an intermediary to support him throughout his trial. In response the matter was discontinued.
- Representing a 15-year-old who was alleged to have committed an offence under the Computer Misuse Act by tampering with the school's Wi-Fi. Despite the school's decision to take no further action and the disproportionate impact this would have on his future and ability to travel and maintain a relationship with his extended family who are based in the US, the police wanted to administer a caution. We challenged the police and asked for the matter to be dealt with by way of a community resolution.

Housing

- Supporting a young person to challenge the local authority to recognise their right to be accommodated under s20 of the Children Act. The young person's only request was to have a stable secure home. Through the legal challenge, we entered into a memorandum agreement with the local authority on the young person's behalf, in which the local authority agreed to place the young person on the housing register and was then offered a social housing tenancy.
- Assisting a client who had been unlawfully evicted shortly after his father had died and was refused re-entry to the premises. After sending a Letter Before Claim for unlawful eviction they reinstated him to the property. He was only 17 years old and therefore cannot legally succeed to the tenancy until he reaches 18 years old. Social services were asked to pay the rent until he reached 18 years old.
- Supporting a severely disabled client who was living in unsuitable temporary accommodation affected by damp and severe mould growth. We sent a Disrepair Letter before Claim and requested a Suitability Review.
- Assisting a client who was granted leave to remain as a refugee from Afghanistan to secure suitable housing for him with his wife and baby. We successfully argued that he was homeless, and his family were provided with a two-bed temporary accommodation in good condition.
- Assisting a client who became street homeless after his mother kicked him out. We successfully secured temporary accommodation despite the housing and legal officers refusing to provide their telephone numbers and ignoring our emails.

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- Making a number of complaints to a local authority which has led to admissions of failure and poor decisions withdrawn on behalf of a number of clients.
- Ensuring a number of homeless clients were provided with temporary accommodation, including one with mental health difficulties who had been sectioned and held in hospital.

Education

- Assisting a client who was unfairly taken out of her exam as the invigilator said she smelt of cannabis. The client was searched, and nothing was found, yet the police were called, and the client was subjected to a humiliating strip search. She was too scared to pursue a complaint against the school and action against the police, however her mother was extremely concerned that such poor practice goes unchallenged. Following reassurance and support from us, the client has decided to proceed with both complaints, and we have written to the school who have assured us they are looking into the matter and taking it extremely seriously. We have referred the client to a civil firm specialising in actions against the police.
- Negotiating a settlement for a young person in a SEND (Special Educational Needs Disability) Tribunal case. The young person was appealing the local authority's decision to send him to a college which was not equipped to support his needs and the fact that the EHCP (Education Health Care Plan) did not set out his current needs, and the provisions required to meet those needs. The local authority agreed to name the preferred private college in the plan provided he withdrew his appeal. The client agreed.
- Supporting a young person in challenging a fixed term exclusion that related to his behaviour, which was clearly linked to his SEND and continuing to support the young person in finalising his EHCP.
- Stepping in to support a young person and their parent at an EHCP Emergency Review as they were relying on another agency to support them at the review, but the agency pulled out last minute.
- Assisting a client who was unlawfully subjected to a fixed-term exclusion having been sent home from school for bringing a firework into school. Following our intervention, after four weeks out of school the young person has now been accepted back into school.
- Assisting a client who was sent to an offsite provision for twelve days. We successfully challenged the move, and she is now back in a mainstream setting.

Community Care

- Supporting a young man, who came to the UK as an unaccompanied minor and was looked after by the local authority as a child and then supported as a care leaver, as he had no recourse to public funds. On his 21st birthday the local authority withdrew support stating "all rights exhausted" as the reason, despite the young person informing the local authority that he had submitted a fresh asylum claim. We sent pre-action correspondence to the local authority stating that it had unlawfully ceased supporting the young person, providing evidence of his application. Prior to issuing judicial review proceedings the young person received confirmation that he had been granted asylum. We took steps to highlight this to

the local authority who has now allocated the young person a personal adviser and is assessing his needs.

- Assisting a 16-year-old client (diagnosed with SEND) who was accommodated under s17 Children Act 1989 as a Child in Need. We held a meeting with social services and the client's key worker, following which social services conceded and agreed that the client should have been assisted under s20 Children Act as a Looked after Child and provided with accommodation from the outset.
- Assisting a 17-year-old client, whose relationship with her mother was difficult and had resulted in a physical altercation and the mother asking the young person to leave the family home. The young person was staying with her grandmother which was not a suitable long-term option, however social services refused to support the young person. Following pre-action correspondence from us the local authority has accepted the young person is a child in need of accommodation and has accommodated the young person under s20 Children Act, as a Looked After Child.
- Supporting a young person to finally move to permanent accommodation after waiting seven years as a care leaver and successfully supporting a 22-year-old care leaver aged to challenge the Leaving Care Team's decision to close his case due to his immigration status.
- Successfully obtaining compensation for young person who the local authority failed to support when she was homeless at 17 years old.
- Assisting a client who was unhappy in their placement and with their social worker; we contacted the local authority, and she was moved to a much more appropriate placement and her request for a new social worker was granted.

Immigration

- Settling a case with the Home Office following issuing judicial review proceedings. The Home Office agreed to register the client as British within three months of the consent order being sealed by the Court.
- Assisting a young person who was granted indefinite leave to remain following an application outside the rules, citing failures by their local authority.
- Successfully obtaining funding for DNA tests and an independent social worker's report in support of a young person's family reunion application.
- Submitting an application for indefinite leave to remain on a discretionary basis following failures by the local authority.
- Providing a young person with their status papers confirming limited leave to remain, following a successful appeal of a decision to refuse their human rights claim.
- Assisting numerous young people to become registered as British Citizens.
- Issuing an application for judicial review in response to a failure to register a child as British Citizen by discretion.

Strategic Litigation

- Complaining to the Information Commissioner and having a complaint upheld when the police failed to respond to our complaint about arresting and investigating a 9-year-old for

a criminal matter, despite being under the age of criminal responsibility. We are now hoping to progress this matter with the police removing all the data they hold about him.

- Receiving a positive outcome in the case of D. D was one of the killers of Angela Wrightson and, at the time of the original case, the judge refused to allow the media to report the names of the two girls for a variety of reasons, but in particular because he was concerned about their mental vulnerability, self-harm and suicide attempts. The order of the trial judge, preventing their identities being reported, expired on their 18th birthdays, and we applied to the High Court for orders preventing them being named, to last indefinitely. Both have been granted life-long anonymity, but the press can apply to name them if there is a change in their circumstances. This was an enormous relief to our client, but it is also the first time that such an anonymity order has been granted due to the risk of self-harm/suicide, as the judge relied on the girls' Article 3 rights as well as their Article 8 rights. It is therefore likely to be relevant in many other cases in determining whether self-harm engages Article 3.
- Assisting in a case from the crime team, where a young and incredibly vulnerable girl was being prosecuted for two incidents where she was found in possession of drugs. The girl was clearly a victim of trafficking, had a positive National Referral Mechanism (NRM) referral and on one of the occasions the police only found the drugs because she told them where they were and asked the police for help. We wrote a very forthright pre-action letter, and the CPS dropped all charges. We have also referred her to police action solicitors to consider suing the police and the local authority for not doing more to rescue her from her traffickers sooner.

YJLC Advice Line

- Assisting at short notice a 13-year-old with complex needs where the police had attended his home to have a 'chat' without properly advising them of their right to have a legal representative present. We were able to arrange for a legal representative from our criminal team to virtually attend the interview.
- Responding to a series of enquiries relating to children who are thought to be the victims of child criminal exploitation. Many of these enquiries came from the professionals supporting and representing these child victims. This is a fast evolving and increasingly restrictive area of law and it is clear that, whilst there are huge numbers of children in the youth justice system affected by exploitation, practitioners still lack the confidence and experience to deal with these cases. Assisting children to push for an informal out-of-court disposal rather than a charge or more formal diversionary measure continues to make up the majority of cases taken on. It is increasingly apparent that there are huge inconsistencies in the guidance in this area and the way in which different police forces, youth offending teams and prosecutors interpret it.
- Challenging a fixed penalty notice and threat of legal action by TFL against a young asylum seeker for failing to comply with Covid-19 regulations by not wearing a mask on public

transport. The young person could not speak English very well and was trying to explain to the staff on the train that he had just dropped his mask.

- Receiving increased numbers of enquiries from local authority youth offending teams. We believe this to be partly due to the specialist trainings provided by our Youth Justice Legal Centre and is, in part, a consequence of our increasingly strong relationship with the Youth Justice Board. Many relate to the suitability of out-of-court disposals where we were able to assist them in justifying their decision to deal with vulnerable children outside of the court process despite the offences being on the face of it matters that would proceed to court. Many others relate to young people who were facing serious criminal charges and had either been deemed victims of modern slavery on Conclusive Grounds or were waiting for Conclusive Grounds decisions.
- Celebrating reaching a broad range of professionals with our advice including youth offending teams, legal professionals, doctors and even a police officer.

Strategic Aim 2: Secure changes to the legal, policy and practice environment for children and young people

It is not just the children and young people we work with directly who benefit from the impact of our work: we fight for wider change that affects children and young people across the UK, taking the evidence from our direct casework as a starting point. While our casework itself is holistic, we are increasingly working in a holistic way across the whole organisation through thematic groups bringing policy, practice and participation staff together to tackle the key issues faced by the children and young people we work with. We do this through strategic litigation, policy work, campaigning, rights monitoring and equipping others to work to protect and promote children's rights.

Our work in this area includes the Children's Rights Alliance for England and our Youth Justice Legal Centre project.

Child rights monitoring highlights included:

- Hosting the Children's Rights Alliance for England and continuing to undertake child rights monitoring and campaigning. This was an important year for this work as it saw the start of the next examination of the UK government on how well it is respecting children's rights.
- As part of this process, drafting the civil society submission to influence the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child's (UN Committee) List of Issues Prior to Reporting. Our UN submission was endorsed by 90 organisations – an increase from 76 endorsements of our last report to the UN Committee. 67% of the UN's List of Issues Prior to Reporting partially or wholly reflected the suggested questions in our submission.
- Holding a successful online launch of our civil society report chaired by Shadow Children's Minister Tulip Siddiq MP and Lib Dem Peer Baroness Walmsley, Co-Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Children. We were very pleased that the Children's Minister attended and gave the Government's response to the report.

- Working with the Department for Education (DfE) as co-chairs of the UNCRC Action Group and starting to hold thematic sessions with other government departments to assess progress against the UN Committee's previous recommendations and prepare for the next examination. We have also continued to hold regular meetings with the child rights team, to ensure that the drafting of the UK report is as transparent as possible, and the draft report is consulted upon. For the third year running we also ran a session on children's rights for newly recruited fast stream civil servants.

Youth Justice highlights included:

- Adapting to Covid-19 restrictions, making our Youth Justice Legal Centre's fourth annual Youth Justice Summit into an interactive, live virtual event, which brought together experts from various jurisdictions with practitioners to learn about bias and discrimination and to share ideas on how to overcome it. The purpose of the day was to hear from leading experts from across the globe about their ideas for tools that can be used to confront discrimination in order to represent children better. The summit looked at five areas where children in the criminal justice system can experience discrimination. Speakers included The Rt Hon the Baroness Hale of Richmond, Rt Hon David Lammy MP, Baroness Helena Kennedy QC, Professor Emerita Geraldine Van Bueren QC, Professor Ann Skelton, Professor Sarah-Jayne Blakemore, and Dave Merritt, amongst many more. We had well over 1000 registrations to attend and nearly 500 viewers at any one time.
- Campaigning on the issue of children turning 18 between the commission of an offence and the completion of their case, which has significant negative consequences including loss of anonymity and longer rehabilitation periods. Our work has resulted in growing awareness and support including by The Law Society and, following our written and oral evidence, the Parliamentary Justice Select Committee. We worked with Conservative MP Rob Butler to introduce a Ten-Minute Rule Bill on this issue, which secured cross-party support and raised the issue with the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice as part of discussions on the recently introduced Police, Crime Sentencing and Courts Bill. We will use the Bill as an opportunity to raise the issue further in parliament and garner further support from MPs and Peers.
- Publishing a number of new legal guides to help improve legal representation of children in contact with the criminal justice system. Topics have included intermediaries for child defendants, child criminal exploitation and Criminal Behaviour Orders. We were delighted to form a collaboration with the Children's Rights Group at Doughty Street Chambers and have launched our guides at joint webinars with a number of expert speakers.
- Engaging with others to help address racial disproportionality in the youth justice system. For our project on reducing overnight police detention, we have worked with MOPAC, the Metropolitan Police Service and the National Police Chief's Council on this issue and have submitted several submissions which raise the need to address this under-reported issue including to the Joint Committee on Human Rights. We are currently developing a policy briefing which will include both policy and practice recommendations which we are testing

with a wide range of stakeholders including the police, NGOs and academics experts in this field.

- Improving legal representation for black and ethnic minority children by establishing an expert advisory group. To ensure the inclusion of lived experience, we held two workshops with black and ethnic minority children with experience of the criminal justice system so they could share their experiences and set out what they think needs to change to improve legal representation. This expertise is feeding into the development of a legal guide and training.

School exclusions highlights included:

- Addressing key child rights issues in relation to school exclusions. We published a new report 'Excluded, exploited, forgotten: Childhood criminal exploitation and school exclusions' based on our casework highlighting the links between criminal exploitation and school exclusion and the huge impact this can have on children. It was featured in a number of media outlets including a feature on Sky News where a young person from our School Exclusions project spoke about his experience. The aim of the report was to influence the re-write of the Statutory Guidance on School Exclusions expected in autumn 2021.
- Achieving substantial changes to new regulations which changed the school exclusions challenge process during Covid-19 through a combination of legal and policy work. The changes were likely to impact SEND children in particular, but we were able to introduce new safeguards and have the most damaging parts of the regulations dropped. We were also pleased to see that new guidance from the DfE on going back to school explicitly states schools should find alternatives to discipline and not look to exclude young people whose behaviour results from trauma and a lack of support in lockdown. This is a direct result of concerns we and others in the sector raised in joint briefings and meetings with officials.
- Launching a joint briefing with 4 in 10 London's Child Poverty Network on race disparity and the over representation of children from disadvantaged backgrounds in school exclusions in London. Launched during London Challenge Poverty Week, participants at the webinar included young people with lived experience of school exclusion, David Simmonds MP from the Education Select Committee, the Shadow Education Minister, Cape Mentors, and the DfE. We also shared the findings of the briefing with a group of education leads with local authorities organised by London Councils and spoke at an event organised by Frontline on the role racism plays in school exclusions drawing on our direct practice.
- Updating the School Exclusions Hub with a new guide and new downloadable resources on legal changes during Covid-19 and their impact on the school exclusions process. We also held a webinar attended by around 100 people on how to make the most of the hub.

Housing and social care highlights included:

- Advocating for policy changes in relation to our two policy priorities – ensuring the rights of homeless 16– and 17–years olds are protected and better support for homeless care leavers.
- Producing comprehensive guidance with Homeless Link for frontline professionals working with homeless 16– and 17–year–olds. This was a truly cross–organisational piece of work with input from the legal, advocacy and youth projects teams.
- Influencing the new cross–government ministerial board on care leavers by coordinating a joint letter, signed by 14 organisations, to the Education Secretary and Housing and Communities Secretary asking for the new cross–government to prioritise housing for care leavers, and particularly to extend ‘priority need’ status to all care leavers aged up to 25. Following our letter, a meeting of the ministerial board was held focusing on housing. We also supported a young carer leaver with experiences of homelessness to meet both Secretaries of States alongside young people from other organisations.
- Contributing to the steering group of the Keep caring for children up to 18 campaign, which is campaigning for all unregulated accommodation to be banned for children under 18 despite the Government’s plans to only ban it for under 16s following its consultation.
- Engaging with the long–awaited Independent Care Review. We are working with the review to ensure the issues of housing and homelessness are fully considered including responding to it call for evidence.

Joint working between policy and strategic litigation highlights included:

- Undertaking a number of key strategic litigation cases in relation to children in the criminal justice system which combined legal and policy work. These included:
 - Influencing the Covert Human Intelligence Sources (Criminal Conduct) Act, we secured additional safeguards for children used as Covert Human Intelligence Sources.
 - Removing children from the Covid–19 (Custody Time Limits) Regulations which would have allowed children to spend an extra two months on remand. We also ensured that the change introduced by statutory instrument was retrospective, which meant that children who have been remanded in the Crown Court since the regulations came in would have their automatic custody time limits reduced and their trials relisted within the previous shorter custody time limits of 182 days. This success is particularly significant given that the UNCRC is clear that children should only be detained as a last resort and for the shortest possible time and that use of remand is a significant contributory factor in the disproportionate number of black and ethnic minority children in prison.

Strategic Aim 3: Maintain and develop a robust organisation using our strengths to maximum impact

Our direct work with children and young people is supported by our central team. This 'behind the scenes' work, finance, fundraising, operations support, managing client enquiries and referrals, recruitment and employment and communications, is essential to achieving our other strategic aims.

Given the ongoing challenge of the Covid-19 pandemic, keeping the organisation running smoothly has been an achievement in itself. However, Just for Kids Law surpassed this and made significant headway against the objective of developing and maintaining a robust organisation.

Highlights included:

- Moving into our first dedicated and fit-for-purpose office at Crystal Wharf in Islington in August 2020, following a successful but complicated move from our previous office. While managing the usual logistical challenges of an office move, a Covid-19 risk assessment was completed so that the new office was safe to use by both clients and staff.
- Providing staff with new IT equipment which proved invaluable when, inevitably, our working patterns were disrupted by the pandemic. While most staff moved to home-working, members of the legal team remained in the office and we had to furlough, on a part-time basis, one member of staff during the winter lockdown.
- Managing significant changes in leadership during this time. During the lockdown period we said goodbye to Chief Executive, Enver Solomon, welcomed an interim Chief Executive, Frances Mapstone, and then our new permanent Chief Executive, Louisa McGeehan. The senior leadership team demonstrated great resilience in supporting a smooth transition while maintaining business as usual throughout.
- Progressing work to review our policies and processes and engaging a specialist HR advice provider to support developments in our people management.
- Investing in developing the skills of our manager cohort to enable them to grow in their roles and develop into the multi-skilled leaders the organisation needs them to be.
- Improving our financial reporting and reviewed our fundraising capacity in the light of organisational growth, with the conclusion that we would recruit senior level expertise in fundraising and development in 2021/22.
- Developing our communications capacity with the appointment of a new Communications Officer resulting in significant improvements to our web presence and a greater social media reach. Our work continued to attract media attention, particularly in relation to the impact of Covid-19 measures on disadvantaged children and our significant successes in strategic litigation.
- Restoring and boosting our organisational culture after a long period of disruption and significant change. Like many charities, we engaged staff in discussion around the implications of the Black Lives Matter movement and we recognised the need to reflect on our own record as an organisation. Throughout all our work with children and young

people we have been actively challenging and working to tackle racism, for example our work on disproportionality in the criminal justice system and school exclusions. However, we realised that as a relatively young organisation with limited resources, we had not given the same attention to our internal culture and systems. We recognised that in some areas we were strong but in others we had some work to do to live up to the high standards we set ourselves.

- Setting the ambition of being as strong on addressing racism and inequality internally as we are externally. In February 2021 we created an equality, diversity and inclusion sub-committee of our Board to give this a focus at the highest level of our governance, chaired by our Treasurer and including staff representatives from across the organisation along with two independent members. We aim to complete this initial work by December 2021 with a plan for further action to include a review of our recruitment, staff development and progression as part of a wider piece of work to develop our internal culture and become an even more inclusive employer in 2021/22.

These developments will be taken further during the final year of the current strategy, 2021/22, as we are creating our new strategic plan for June 2022 and beyond.

We have benefited from the generosity of our funders and supporters who enabled us to support our staff and the children and young people we worked with during a difficult time. We are deeply grateful for all their support and understanding in enabling us to achieve the work outlined in this report.

Strategic Aim 4: Develop an organisation in which participation is central to all our activities

Despite the challenges to be overcome in working directly with children and young people as a result of Covid-19, we made good progress in realising the ambition underpinning this strategic aim in 2020/21. The arrival of a new Director of Programmes and Participation gave this work a fresh impetus and we ended the year with good foundations in place on which to build further in the year ahead.

Participation highlights included:

- Creating a new Youth Engagement & Participation Manager role to develop our participation practice and support to embed participation across the organisation.
- Launching our organisation-wide participation strategy, setting out our definition and framework for participation at JfKL to support meaningful and consistent participation practice.
- Developing a suite of templates, resources and tools for our internal participation resource bank, including: a digital online safeguarding checklist and risk assessment form, consent form for young people using Zoom, an evaluation template for group work, and checklists and planning tools to support consistent and meaningful participation practice.

- Involving children and young people in influencing our programmes, policies, working practices, and external policy/ practice environment through Government consultations, parliamentary events, and ministerial meetings around issues affecting children and young people excluded from school, care leavers, young people within the youth justice system and housing issues.
- Empowering young people to contribute their experiences to the Independent Care Review.
- Facilitating young people to be involved in YJLC training for legal professionals.
- Developing our model for youth campaigning after securing Trust for London funding to build this work.
- Facilitating and supporting the JfKL school exclusions steering group through which young people are planning and developing campaigning activity informed by their personal experiences of being excluded from school.
- Supporting young campaigners to engage with the media and produce films and podcasts with expertise from our communications officer.
- Engaging expert advice to support development of a clear approach to paying young people for their involvement in participation, to take account of complex income thresholds for state benefits that our clients often receive.

Financial review

The charity continues to see an increase in its activities and its funding; however, this year's turnover has been increased by some one-off transactions. In the year to 31 May 2021 there was an increase in both income and expenditure. Income increased by 18% to £2,574,798 and expenditure increased by 33% to £2,337,689. Overall, there was a net increase in funds of £237,109. The charity's policy on reserves is detailed below and the Board considers that it is prudent to set aside a minimum unrestricted amount of £491,000. At the end of the reporting period the charity holds £1,265,994 total funds, of which £412,714 is restricted and not available for general purpose. These restricted funds are committed for project expenditure within the next year. After making allowance for these restricted funds, the amount of unrestricted reserves is £853,280. The charity has not needed to use unrestricted reserves in the last year; however, it is anticipated that they will be drawn on over the next couple of financial years.

The principal funding sources of the charity during the reporting period are trusts and foundations, with this source making up 80% of the total income. Just for Kids Law receives funding from a wide variety of trusts and foundations and would like to thank them for their support. A full list of funders can be found at the end of the financial statements. During the year the legal aid contract contributed £367,675 of the total income. This included the settlement of a strategic litigation case, which we had been working on for a couple of years. This has resulted in our legal income and expenditure being increased by £150,000, it is not anticipated that this will occur on a regular basis.

The budget agreed for 2021/2022 has been set with a target income of £2,265,271 and planned expenditure of £2,327,870, we are continuing to build our funding pipeline to close the gap between the income and expenditure.

Reserves policy and going concern

Just for Kids Law needs reserves to:

- Meet contractual liabilities should the organisation have to close. This includes any contractual pay owed to staff paid from unrestricted funds, redundancy pay for all staff, amounts due to creditors and commitments under any leases.
- Meet unexpected costs such as the unexpected need to move and essential staff-cover in the case of illness.
- Provide working capital when funding is paid in arrears, to help manage any cashflow issues.
- From time to time, funding has certain restrictions which mean that by law it must be held in a restricted reserve until it is spent in line with the funding agreement.

The Board considers that overall, it would be prudent to set aside an amount of £491,000 that is made up of the following items:

- Six month's salary costs of any staff whose salary is not paid for from restricted funding: £340,000.
- Redundancy costs for all staff: £56,000.
- Six months of rent not covered by restricted funding plus any other contractual obligations: £60,000.
- An allowance of £20,000 for unforeseen circumstances (e.g., key staff being ill, an unexpected office move).
- An allowance of £15,000 for cashflow issues arising from our legal aid contracts.

The Board of Trustees will consider current costs of closure and examine the level of reserves each year when setting the following years' budget.

Principle risks and uncertainties

The Board has undertaken its own review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. Following the impact of the Covid 19 pandemic we plan to invest more resources in fundraising. We will also be reviewing our fundraising strategy and look at further diversifying our income streams. Internal risks are minimised through a series of procedures including on safeguarding, lone working, financial management, staff engagement and data protection.

The Board has produced a Risk Register which is regularly reviewed by the Finance & Risk Sub-Committee and discussed at the Board Meeting every six months. The Risk Register identifies a number of key risks and mitigating actions including:

- Financial risk (difficulty to cover central organisational costs; lack of capacity to raise funds; loss of relationships with key donors; cash flow issues).
- HR risks (staff burnout; staff sickness due to Covid-19 pandemic; non-compliance with HR and other employment legislation; loss of key staff).
- Organisational risks (inadequate security of IT systems and data; banking failure; failure to achieve key/strategic objectives due to lack of funding and/or the ongoing impact of the Covid-19 pandemic).
- Safeguarding risks (failure to adequately safeguard vulnerable children and young people the organisation works with and manage incidents/allegations).
- Reputational risks (under-delivery of funded work compared to donor expectations of time required; inadequate and/or inappropriate response to negative media coverage).

Fundraising Disclosures

Just for Kids Law's funding is from four primary sources: grants from trusts and foundations, legal aid contracts, high net worth donations and support from corporates. We do not employ any professional fundraisers or commercial participators to carry out fundraising activities directly with the public. We also do not have any fundraising carried out by third parties. We therefore do not subscribe to any fundraising schemes or codes. We also do not directly involve vulnerable people in our fundraising activities. We have not received any complaints about our fundraising activity.

Remuneration policy for key management personnel

Just for Kids Law reviewed and revised its remuneration policy for all staff in 2019/2020. The policy includes the following key elements:

- Salary ranges are completely transparent.
- The policy applies equally to fixed term and permanent staff.
- Salary increments are awarded through either annual inflationary cost of living increases subject to affordability, a discretionary organisational bonus scheme subject to affordability, progression within a salary range based on length in post, taking on additional responsibilities or acting up into a role.

Funds held as custodian trustee

No funds are being held on behalf of others.

Statement of responsibilities of the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees (who are also directors of Just for Kids Law for the purposes of company law) is responsible for preparing the Board of Trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

- Select suitable accounting policies and then 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 and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that 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.

In so far as the Board of Trustees is aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware.
- The Board of Trustees has taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make itself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

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

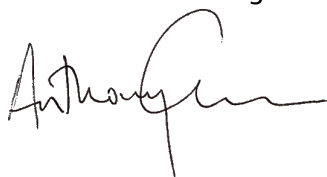
Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 May 2021 was 9 (2020 – 10). Trustees are members of the charity, but this entitles them only to voting rights. The Board of Trustees has no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP was re-appointed as the charitable company's auditor during the year and has expressed its willingness to continue in that capacity.

The annual report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies' subject to the small companies' regime.

The Board of Trustees' annual report has been approved by the Board of Trustees on 21 October 2021 and signed on their behalf by

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anthony Landes', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Anthony Landes
Interim Chair of the Board of Trustees

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

Just for Kids Law Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Just for Kids Law (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 May 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (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 May 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
- 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 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 Just for Kids Law's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

Just for Kids Law Limited

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. 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. 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 course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- The information given in the trustees' annual report, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- The trustees' annual report, has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' annual report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- Adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- The financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- Certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- The directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' annual report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities set out in the trustees' annual report, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

Just for Kids Law Limited

company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

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 are set out below.

Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities

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

- We enquired of management and the finance and risk committee, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charity's policies and procedures relating to:
 - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
 - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
 - The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the

Independent auditor's report

To the members of

Just for Kids Law Limited

financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the charity from our professional and sector experience.

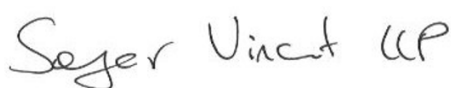
- We communicated applicable laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We reviewed any reports made to regulators.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: 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 members as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an 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 the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Noelia Serrano (Senior statutory auditor)

17 January 2022

for and on behalf of Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor
Invicta House, 108-114 Golden Lane, LONDON, EC1Y 0TL

Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

For the year ended 31 May 2021

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 Total £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	2	744,014	–	744,014	919,552	–	919,552
Charitable activities							
Legal	3	382,769	369,740	752,509	198,936	219,480	418,416
Programmes	3	–	672,243	672,243	–	516,946	516,946
Policy	3	–	355,407	355,407	–	275,342	275,342
Other	4	50,309	–	50,309	42,544	–	42,544
Investments	5	316	–	316	1,550	–	1,550
Total income		1,177,408	1,397,390	2,574,798	1,162,582	1,011,768	2,174,350
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	6	73,521	–	73,521	54,230	–	54,230
Charitable activities							
Legal	6	719,533	380,576	1,100,109	469,033	196,780	665,813
Programmes	6	239,638	507,458	747,096	211,698	483,574	695,272
Policy	6	133,304	283,658	416,962	96,745	252,189	348,934
Total expenditure		1,165,996	1,171,693	2,337,689	831,706	932,543	1,764,249
Net income for the year	7	11,412	225,697	237,109	330,876	79,225	410,101
Transfer between funds		108,276	(108,276)	–	–	–	–
Net movement in funds		119,688	117,421	237,109	–	–	–
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		733,592	295,293	1,028,885	402,716	216,068	618,784
Total funds carried forward		853,280	412,714	1,265,994	733,592	295,293	1,028,885

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 17a.

Just for Kids Law Limited

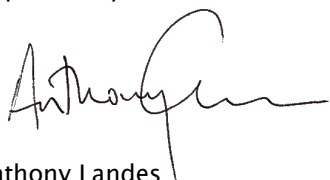
Balance sheet

Company no. 5815338

As at 31 May 2021

	Note	£	2021 £	£	2020 £
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets			<u>113,880</u>		<u>-</u>
			113,880		-
Current assets:					
Work in progress		143,813		225,613	
Debtors	13	137,858		44,583	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>1,226,979</u>		<u>1,075,161</u>	
			1,508,650	1,345,357	
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>356,536</u>		<u>316,472</u>	
Net current assets			<u>1,152,114</u>		<u>1,028,885</u>
Total net assets			<u>1,265,994</u>		<u>1,028,885</u>
The funds of the charity:	17				
Restricted income funds			412,714		295,293
Unrestricted income funds:					
Designated Funds		-		250,000	
General funds		<u>853,280</u>		<u>483,592</u>	
Total unrestricted funds			<u>853,280</u>		<u>733,592</u>
Total charity funds			<u>1,265,994</u>		<u>1,028,885</u>

Approved by the trustees on 21 October 2021 and signed on their behalf by



Anthony Landes
Interim Chair of Board of Trustees

Just for Kids Law Limited

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 May 2021

Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2021		2020	
	£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities				
Net income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	237,109		410,101	
Depreciation charges	15,823		–	
Dividends and interest	(316)		(1,550)	
(Increase) in debtors	(93,275)		(1,938)	
Increase in creditors	40,064		121,322	
Decrease/ (Increase) in work in progress	81,800		(125,971)	
Net cash provided by operating activities		281,205		401,964
Cash flows from investing activities:				
Dividends and interest	316		1,550	
Purchase of fixed assets	<u>(129,703)</u>		<u>–</u>	
Net cash provided by investing activities		(129,387)		1,550
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		151,818		403,514
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		<u>1,075,161</u>		<u>671,647</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		<u><u>1,226,979</u></u>		<u><u>1,075,161</u></u>

1 Accounting policies

a) Statutory information

Just for Kids Law is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in the United Kingdom. The registered office address and principal place of business is Unit 2 Crystal Wharf, 36 Graham Street, London, N1 8GJ.

b) Basis of preparation

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

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

c) Public benefit entity

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

d) Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

e) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that 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 is recognised on casework earned and due ("work in progress" or "WIP") according to the time booked on the matter multiplied by the relevant legal aid or interpartes rate. Appropriate provision is made for irrecoverable WIP.

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

f) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

g) Interest receivable

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.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

h) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

i) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

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

- Costs of raising funds relate to the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering services undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

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

j) Allocation of 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.

Where information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is provided to potential beneficiaries, the costs associated with this publicity are allocated to charitable expenditure.

Where such information about the aims, objectives and projects of the charity is also provided to potential donors, activity costs are apportioned between fundraising and charitable activities on the basis of area of literature occupied by each activity.

● Raising Funds	2%
● Legal	41%
● Programmes	42%
● Policy	15%

Governance costs are re-allocated to each of the activities on the following basis which is an estimate, based percentage of expenditure, of the amount attributable to each activity.

● Raising funds	3%
● Legal	41%
● Programmes	41%
● Policy	15%

Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity. These costs are associated with constitutional and statutory requirements and include any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities.

k) Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

l) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £1,000. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.

Where fixed assets have been revalued, any excess between the revalued amount and the historic cost of the asset will be shown as a revaluation reserve in the balance sheet.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

● Computer equipment	3 years
● Leasehold Improvements	3 years
● Furniture	5 years

o) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

q) Cash at bank and in hand

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

r) Creditors and provisions

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

s) Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value.

t) Pensions

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund. The charitable company has no liability under the scheme other than for the payment of those contributions.

u) Work in progress

Legal work in progress is valued at the net realisable value. Provision is made when necessary for irrecoverable amounts of work in progress.

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 Total £
Donations	81,064	–	81,064	389,957	–	389,957
Donated services	–	–	–	18,300	–	18,300
AB Charitable Trust	20,000	–	20,000	20,000	–	20,000
Aurum Charitable Trust	50,000	–	50,000	50,000	–	50,000
Bernard Lewis Family Charitable	30,000	–	30,000	–	–	–
The Blagrove Trust	50,000	–	50,000	50,000	–	50,000
Brooks Foundation	10,000	–	10,000	5,000	–	5,000
Batchworth Trust	10,000	–	10,000	–	–	–
Childhood Trust	11,250	–	11,250	–	–	–
Esmée Fairbairn Core Grant	65,000	–	65,000	65,000	–	65,000
Esmée Fairbairn Additional Grant	60,000	–	60,000	–	–	–
Family Foundation	80,000	–	80,000	40,295	–	40,295
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	165,000	–	165,000	165,000	–	165,000
Small Trusts	17,700	–	17,700	22,500	–	22,500
Stewarts Foundation	39,000	–	39,000	36,000	–	36,000
Segelman Trust	35,000	–	35,000	35,000	–	35,000
Taurus Foundation	20,000	–	20,000	15,000	–	15,000
Trust for London	–	–	–	7,500	–	7,500
	744,014	–	744,014	919,552	–	919,552

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 May 2021

3 Income from charitable activities

	2021			2020		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations	15,094	–	15,094	–	–	–
Baring Foundation (Custody Time Li	–	19,017	19,017	–	–	–
City Bridge Trust (casework)	–	45,000	45,000	–	–	–
Comic Relief (Safer Places)	–	43,442	43,442	–	21,446	21,446
Community Justice	–	28,500	28,500	–	–	–
Goldsmiths	–	17,000	17,000	–	–	–
Legal Education Foundation (including Justice First)	–	72,738	72,738	–	29,020	29,020
Mercers' Company	–	5,000	5,000	–	–	–
National Lottery Community Fund	–	14,550	14,550	–	–	–
Oak Foundation	–	20,318	20,318	–	19,654	19,654
Persula	–	10,293	10,293	–	12,243	12,243
Porticus	–	7,408	7,408	–	7,408	7,408
The Big Give	–	–	–	–	25,000	25,000
Trust for London	–	24,500	24,500	–	48,500	48,500
Development (Other)	–	61,974	61,974	–	56,209	56,209
Case work and LAA	367,675	–	367,675	198,936	–	198,936
Sub-total for Legal	382,769	369,740	752,509	198,936	219,480	418,416
Act for Change	–	69,294	69,294	–	37,078	37,078
BBC Children in Need	–	42,609	42,609	–	42,318	42,318
BBC Children in Need (Small grants)	–	10,000	10,000	–	10,000	10,000
Brooks Foundation	–	–	–	–	20,000	20,000
Clifford Chance	–	–	–	–	11,400	11,400
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	–	44,700	44,700	–	43,000	43,000
Garden Court Chambers	–	4,000	4,000	–	4,000	4,000
Henry Smith Foundation	–	–	–	–	31,300	31,300
John Lyons	–	33,000	33,000	–	33,000	33,000
KPMG Foundation	–	25,000	25,000	–	21,000	21,000
National Lottery	–	181,514	181,514	–	80,373	80,373
Oak Foundation	–	90,426	90,426	–	63,180	63,180
On Our Radar	–	2,800	2,800	–	7,800	7,800
Permira Foundation	–	53,600	53,600	–	–	–
The Listening Fund	–	150	150	–	7,856	7,856
The Pilgrim Trust	–	15,000	15,000	–	–	–
Trust for London COVID19 Hardship	–	–	–	–	4,000	4,000
Education funds and one-off grants	–	–	–	–	300	300
University of Newcastle	–	–	–	–	1,900	1,900
Hardship fund	–	6,250	6,250	–	–	–
Donations	–	–	–	–	13,276	13,276
Development (Other)	–	93,900	93,900	–	85,165	85,165
Sub-total for Programmes	–	672,243	672,243	–	516,946	516,946

3 Income from charitable activities (continued)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 Total £
Donations	–	4,400	4,400	–	–	–
Act for Change	–	12,113	12,113	–	7,042	7,042
Baring Foundation	–	6,639	6,639	–	30,000	30,000
Baring Social Impact Fund	–	–	–	–	5,000	5,000
Barrow Cadbury	–	1,940	1,940	–	18,358	18,358
Barrow Cadbury (BAME)	–	29,250	29,250	–	–	–
Comic Relief policy	–	6,500	6,500	–	26,000	26,000
Dawes Trust	–	60,000	60,000	–	–	–
EHRC	–	24,822	24,822	–	–	–
Esmee Fairbairn	–	20,750	20,750	–	20,000	20,000
Howard League	–	10,000	10,000	–	–	–
Joseph Rowntree Foundation	–	29,546	29,546	–	24,806	24,806
KPMG	–	25,000	25,000	–	15,000	15,000
Oak Foundation	–	30,510	30,510	–	29,502	29,502
Paul Hastings	–	25,000	25,000	–	5,000	5,000
Persula	–	3,419	3,419	–	13,542	13,542
Porticus	–	12,592	12,592	–	12,592	12,592
Second growth	–	–	–	–	10,000	10,000
Small Trusts	–	6,000	6,000	–	–	–
The Bromley Trust	–	15,000	15,000	–	15,000	15,000
The Hadley Trust	–	–	–	–	2,400	2,400
The Listening Fund	–	–	–	–	12,144	12,144
Development (Other)	–	31,926	31,926	–	28,956	28,956
Sub-total for Policy	–	355,407	355,407	–	275,342	275,342
Total income from charitable activities	382,769	1,397,390	1,780,159	198,936	1,011,768	1,210,704

4 Income from other activities

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 Total £
Events and sponsorships	40,353	–	40,353	33,596	–	33,596
HMRC JRS	9,956	–	9,956	8,948	–	8,948
	50,309	–	50,309	42,544	–	42,544

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 Total £
Bank interest receivable	316	–	316	1,550	–	1,550
	316	–	316	1,550	–	1,550

6a Analysis of expenditure (current year)

	Charitable activities							
	Raising funds £	Legal £	Programmes £	Policy £	Governance costs £	Support costs £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Staff costs (Note 8)	54,399	430,615	365,456	213,655	-	318,442	1,382,567	1,253,122
Other staff costs	-	3,485	496	-	-	119,987	123,968	43,700
Client support	-	194	4,485	-	-	-	4,679	5,166
Consultancy	-	28,304	-	12,172	-	22,796	63,272	30,387
Insurance	-	2,053	-	-	-	2,270	4,323	2,013
Promotion	2,151	-	-	-	-	3,565	5,716	3,921
Legal fees	-	-	-	-	-	125	125	4,418
Audit and accountancy	-	-	-	-	8,120	-	8,120	9,199
Governance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,571
Premises costs	-	-	-	-	-	184,378	184,378	59,571
Office costs	-	21,513	2,346	4,781	-	53,868	82,508	82,422
Other costs	-	1,393	-	26,262	-	629	28,284	82,912
Subscriptions	-	776	-	-	-	6,109	6,885	4,319
LAA Costs	-	263,867	-	-	-	-	263,867	48,553
VAT	-	-	-	-	-	75,426	75,426	22,116
Project Costs	-	-	17,918	32,808	-	37,023	87,749	92,559
Pro bono support	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18,300
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	15,823	15,823	-
	56,550	752,200	390,701	289,678	8,120	840,441	2,337,690	1,764,249
Support costs	16,809	344,580	352,985	126,066	-	(840,440)	-	-
Governance costs	162	3,329	3,410	1,218	(8,120)	-	-	-
Total expenditure 2021	73,521	1,100,109	747,096	416,962	-	-	2,337,690	-
Total expenditure 2020	54,230	665,813	695,271	348,935	-	-	1,764,249	-

6b Analysis of expenditure (prior year)

	Charitable activities						
	Raising funds £	Legal £	Programmes £	Policy £	Governance costs £	Support costs £	2020 Total £
Staff costs (Note 8)	41,565	317,992	380,572	176,126	–	336,867	1,253,122
Other staff costs	–	6,884	3,452	255	–	33,109	43,700
Client support	–	313	4,188	333	–	332	5,166
Consultancy	–	14,525	8,213	–	–	7,649	30,387
Insurance	–	–	–	–	–	2,013	2,013
Promotion	–	–	–	–	–	3,921	3,921
Legal fees	–	125	–	20	–	4,273	4,418
Audit and accountancy	–	–	–	–	9,199	–	9,199
Governance	–	–	–	–	1,571	–	1,571
Premises costs	–	86	342	–	–	59,143	59,571
Office costs	–	15,293	2,627	1,586	–	62,916	82,422
Other costs	–	1,510	–	12,793	–	68,609	82,912
Subscriptions	–	903	–	192	–	3,224	4,319
LAA Costs	–	48,553	–	–	–	–	48,553
VAT	–	–	–	–	–	22,116	22,116
Project Costs	–	–	29,916	62,643	–	–	92,559
Pro bono support	–	–	–	–	–	18,300	18,300
	41,565	406,184	429,310	253,948	10,770	622,472	1,764,249
Support costs	12,450	255,213	261,438	93,371	–	(622,472)	–
Governance costs	215	4,416	4,523	1,616	(10,770)	–	–
Total expenditure 2020	54,230	665,813	695,271	348,935	–	–	1,764,249

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 May 2021

7 Net income for the year

This is stated after charging / (crediting):

	2021 £	2020 £
Depreciation	15,823	-
Auditor's remuneration (excluding VAT):		
Audit	8,120	8,400
Other services	-	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

8 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

Staff costs were as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Salaries and wages	1,212,541	1,100,602
Redundancy and termination costs	1,630	5,121
Social security costs	121,161	107,914
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	47,236	39,485
	<u>1,382,567</u>	<u>1,253,122</u>

The following number of employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs and employer's national insurance) during the year between:

	2021 No.	2020 No.
£60,000 – £69,999	-	1
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The total employee benefits (including pension contributions and employer's national insurance) of the key management personnel were £282,432 (2020: £308,499).

The charity trustees were neither paid nor received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2020: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2020: £nil).

During the year, no travel expenses were reimbursed as trustee expenses (2020: £nil).

9 Staff numbers

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the year was 38 (2020: 35).

Staff are split across the activities of the charitable company as follows (average head count):

	2021 No.	2020 No.
Raising funds	2.0	2.0
Legal	12.0	10.0
Programmes	11.0	12.0
Policy	6.0	4.0
Support	7.0	7.0
	<u>38.0</u>	<u>35.0</u>

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 May 2021

10 Related party transactions

Trustee Maureen Cole-Burns' husband is a trustee of Trust for London, which gave grants to Just for Kids Law totalling £24,500 (2020: £60,000). These were restricted and can be seen in notes 2 and 3 of the financial statements.

Honorary Founder Shauneed Lambe is a Trustee of the Barings Foundation, which gave a grant to Just for Kids Law of £25,656 (2020: £30,000). This was restricted and can be seen in notes 2 and 3 of the financial statements.

During the year, trustees in aggregate donated unrestricted funds of £nil (2020: £nil).

11 Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold Improvements £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost			
At the start of the year	–	–	–
Additions in year	105,438	24,265	129,703
Disposals in year	–	–	–
At the end of the year	105,438	24,265	129,703
Depreciation			
At the start of the year	–	–	–
Charge for the year	11,715	4,108	15,823
Eliminated on disposal	–	–	–
At the end of the year	11,715	4,108	15,823
Net book value			
At the end of the year	93,723	20,157	113,880
At the start of the year	–	–	–

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

13 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	54,990	14,723
Other debtors	29,228	22,651
Accrued income	53,640	7,209
	137,858	44,583

All of the charity's financial instruments, both assets and liabilities, are measured at amortised cost. The carrying values of these are shown above and also in note 14 below.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 May 2021

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade creditors	86,377	34,153
Taxation and social security	31,595	31,888
Other creditors	101,493	84,882
Deferred income	137,071	165,550
	356,536	316,472

15 Deferred income

Deferred income comprises the deferment of grant income received in the year which must be recognised in following years as per the terms of the specific grants.

	2021 £	2020 £
Balance at the beginning of the year	165,550	56,636
Amount released to income in the year	(165,550)	(56,636)
Amount deferred in the year	137,071	165,550
Balance at the end of the year	137,071	165,550

16a Analysis of net assets between funds (current year)

	General unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	113,880	–	–	113,880
Net current assets	739,400	–	412,714	1,152,114
Net assets at 31 May 2021	853,280	–	412,714	1,265,994

16b Analysis of net assets between funds (prior year)

	General unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	–	–	–	–
Net current assets	483,592	250,000	295,293	1,028,885
Net assets at 31 May 2020	483,592	250,000	295,293	1,028,885

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 May 2021

17a Movements in funds (current year)

	At 1 June 2020 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	At 31 May 2021 £
Restricted funds:					
Legal					
Baring Foundation (Custody Time)	-	19,017	(14,014)	-	5,003
City Bridge Trust (casework)	-	45,000	(45,000)	-	-
Comic Relief (Safe Place to Be)	4,853	43,442	(42,590)	-	5,705
Community Justice Fund	-	28,500	(28,500)	-	-
Goldsmiths Company Charity	-	17,000	(17,000)	-	-
Legal Education Foundation (including Justice First)	1,570	72,738	(64,590)	-	9,718
Mercers' Company	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
National Lottery Community Fund	-	14,550	(14,550)	-	-
Oak Foundation	3,276	20,318	(20,487)	-	3,107
Persula Foundation	-	10,293	(10,293)	-	-
Porticus	-	7,408	(7,408)	-	-
The Big Give	14,583	-	(14,583)	-	-
Trust for London	23,560	24,500	(45,426)	-	2,634
Development (other)	22,997	61,974	(56,135)	(26,400)	2,436
	70,839	369,740	(380,576)	(26,400)	33,603
Programmes					
Act for Change Fund	-	69,294	(31,726)	-	37,568
BBC Children in Need (Main Grant)	1,078	42,609	(37,177)	-	6,510
BBC Children in Need (Small Grant)	-	10,000	(4,112)	-	5,888
Brooks Foundation	-	-	-	-	-
Clifford Chance	7,100	-	(7,100)	-	-
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	19,217	44,700	(37,907)	-	26,010
Garden Court Chambers	2,841	4,000	(1,555)	-	5,286
Henry Smith Foundation	7,488	-	(7,488)	-	-
John Lyon's Charity	17,855	33,000	(21,373)	-	29,482
KPMG Foundation	-	25,000	-	-	25,000
National Lottery Community Fund	36,915	181,514	(159,320)	-	59,109
Oak Foundation	7,914	90,426	(63,456)	-	34,884
On Our Radar	-	2,800	(2,800)	-	-
Permira Foundation	-	53,600	(25,501)	-	28,099
The Listening Fund	3,320	150	(3,470)	-	-
The Pilgrim Trust	-	15,000	(15,000)	-	-
Trust For London COVID19 Hardship	2,450	-	(2,450)	-	-
Education funds and one-off grants	1,659	-	(747)	-	912
Hardship fund	6,386	6,250	(1,222)	-	11,414
Donations	13,276	-	-	(13,276)	-
Development (other)	34,845	93,900	(85,054)	(40,000)	3,691
	162,344	672,243	(507,458)	(53,276)	273,853

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 May 2021

17a Movements in funds (current year) (continued)

Policy					
Donations	-	4,400	-	-	4,400
Act for Change Fund	-	12,113	(5,601)	-	6,512
Baring Foundation	4,700	-	(4,700)	-	-
Baring Foundation (Custody Time)	-	6,639	(6,639)	-	-
Baring Social Impact Fund	5,000	-	(5,000)	-	-
Barrow Cadbury Trust	-	1,940	(1,100)	-	840
Barrow Cadbury Trust (BAME)	-	29,250	(20,610)	-	8,640
Comic Relief (Change It!)	284	6,500	(3,500)	-	3,284
Dawes Trust	-	60,000	(13,034)	-	46,966
EHRC	-	24,822	(24,822)	-	-
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	7,703	20,750	(27,557)	-	896
Howard League	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	-	29,546	(27,405)	-	2,141
KPMG Foundation	-	25,000	(18,857)	-	6,143
Oak Foundation	7,058	30,510	(30,313)	-	7,255
Paul Hastings	3,000	25,000	(11,073)	-	16,927
Persula Foundation	-	3,419	(3,419)	-	-
Porticus	-	12,592	(12,592)	-	-
Second Growth	7,518	-	(7,518)	-	-
Small Trusts	-	6,000	(6,000)	-	-
The Bromley Trust	15,000	15,000	(15,000)	(15,000)	-
Development (other)	11,847	31,926	(28,918)	(13,600)	1,255
	62,110	355,407	(283,658)	(28,600)	105,259
Total restricted funds	295,293	1,397,390	(1,171,693)	(108,276)	412,714
	At 1 June 2020 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	At 31 May 2021 £
Unrestricted funds:					
Total designated funds	250,000	-	-	(250,000)	-
General funds	483,592	1,177,408	(1,165,996)	358,276	853,280
Total unrestricted funds	733,592	1,177,408	(1,165,996)	108,276	853,280
Total funds	1,028,885	2,574,798	(2,337,689)	-	1,265,994

The narrative to explain the purpose of each fund is given at the foot of the following note.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 May 2021

17b Movements in funds (prior year)

	At 1 June 2019 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	At 31 May 2020 £
Restricted funds:					
Legal					
Access to Justice	3,926	-	(3,926)	-	-
Comic Relief Safer Places	-	21,446	(16,593)	-	4,853
ILPA	6,587	-	(6,587)	-	-
Legal Education Foundation (including	5,925	29,020	(33,375)	-	1,570
 Oak Foundation	-	19,654	(16,378)	-	3,276
Persula	-	12,243	(12,243)	-	-
Porticus	-	7,408	(7,408)	-	-
The Big Give	-	25,000	(10,417)	-	14,583
Trust for London	24,910	48,500	(49,850)	-	23,560
Development (other)	6,791	56,209	(40,003)	-	22,997
	48,139	219,480	(196,780)	-	70,839
 Programmes					
Act for Change	-	37,078	(37,078)	-	-
BBC Children in Need	-	42,318	(41,240)	-	1,078
BBC Children in Need (Small grants)	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Big Lottery Fund	39,097	-	(39,097)	-	-
Brooks Foundation	-	20,000	(20,000)	-	-
Charles Hayward Foundation	12,792	-	(12,792)	-	-
Clifford Chance	12,258	11,400	(16,558)	-	7,100
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	11,476	43,000	(35,259)	-	19,217
Garden Court Chambers	-	4,000	(1,159)	-	2,841
Henry Smith Foundation	7,651	31,300	(31,463)	-	7,488
John Lyons	-	33,000	(15,145)	-	17,855
KPMG Foundation	-	21,000	(21,000)	-	-
National Lottery Community Fund	-	80,373	(43,458)	-	36,915
Oak Foundation	-	63,180	(55,266)	-	7,914
Oak Foundation	-	7,800	(7,800)	-	-
The Listening Fund	-	7,856	(4,536)	-	3,320
Trust For London COVID19 Hardship	-	4,000	(1,550)	-	2,450
University of Newcastle	-	1,900	(1,900)	-	-
Education funds and one-off grants	1,659	300	(300)	-	1,659
Hardship fund	7,609	-	(1,223)	-	6,386
Donations	26,140	13,276	(26,140)	-	13,276
Development (other)	10,290	85,165	(60,610)	-	34,845
	128,972	516,946	(483,574)	-	162,344

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 May 2021

17b Movements in funds (prior year) (continued)

Policy					
Act for Change	-	7,042	(7,042)	-	-
Baring Foundation	4,232	30,000	(29,532)	-	4,700
Baring Social Impact Fund	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
Barrow Cadbury	-	18,358	(18,358)	-	-
Comic Relief policy	18,134	26,000	(43,850)	-	284
Esmee Fairbairn	-	20,000	(12,297)	-	7,703
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	-	24,806	(24,806)	-	-
Legal Education Foundation	-	15,000	(15,000)	-	-
Oak Foundation	-	29,502	(22,444)	-	7,058
Paul Hastings	-	5,000	(2,000)	-	3,000
Persula	-	13,542	(13,542)	-	-
Porticus	-	12,592	(12,592)	-	-
Second Growth	-	10,000	(2,482)	-	7,518
The Bromley Trust	-	15,000	-	-	15,000
The Hadley Trust	-	2,400	(2,400)	-	-
The Listening Fund	2,348	12,144	(14,492)	-	-
Trust for London	10,745	-	(10,745)	-	-
Development (other)	3,498	28,956	(20,607)	-	11,847
	38,957	275,342	(252,189)	-	62,110
Total restricted funds	216,068	1,011,768	(932,543)	-	295,293

	At 1 June 2019 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	At 31 May 2020 £
Unrestricted funds:					
Total designated funds	-	250,000	-	-	250,000
General funds	402,716	912,582	(831,706)	-	483,592
Total unrestricted funds	402,716	1,162,582	(831,706)	-	733,592
Total funds	618,784	2,174,350	(1,764,249)	-	1,028,885

17b Movements in funds (prior year) (continued)

Legal

Baring Foundation (Custody Time Limits) – Funding to carry out strategic litigation relating to changes to regulations for custody time limits.

City Bridge Trust – Funding to support our casework.

Comic Relief (Safe Place to Be) – Funding for a housing solicitor.

Community Justice Fund – Funding to support our casework and for a paralegal.

Goldsmiths Company Charity – Funding to support our casework.

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation – Funding to support our legal work with care leavers.

Legal Education Foundation (including Justice First) – Funding to support the Justice First Fellowship trainee solicitor.

Mercers' Company – Funding for our school exclusions work.

National Lottery Community Fund – Funding for our community care lawyer.

Oak Foundation – Funding for reforming housing and support for children and young people through participation.

Persula Foundation – Funding for our school exclusions work and youth justice advice line.

Porticus – Funding for our policy and legal work on school exclusion.

The Big Give – Funding for our casework.

Trust For London – Funding for our immigration work.

Programmes

Act for Change Fund – Funding for our school exclusions work.

BBC Children in Need (Main Grants) – Funding for youth advocacy, for clients who are under 18.

BBC Children in Need (Small Grants) – Funding to develop a group of young ambassadors who participate in and influence the organisation.

Clifford Chance – Funding to support our trainee advocates.

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation – Funding towards care leavers advocacy.

Garden Court Chambers – contribution towards our youth engagement and participation work.

Henry Smith Foundation – Funding for our youth advocacy.

John Lyon's Charity – Funding towards the youth advocacy project.

KPMG Foundation – Funding for an advocacy manager.

National Lottery Community Fund – Funding for our youth advocacy including our trainee programme.

Programmes (continued)

Oak Foundation – Funding for reforming housing and support for children and young people through participation.

On Our Radar – Funding for our school exclusions participation work.

Permira Foundation – Funding for an advocacy manager.

The Listening Fund – Funding for our school exclusions participation work.

The Pilgrim Trust – Funding for our young parents advocate.

Trust for London COVID 19 Hardship Fund – Funding to support children and young people impacted by the pandemic.

Education Funds and one-off grants – Funds given to support individuals to access educational courses.

Hardship Funds – are given as small one-off grants where there is an immediate need.

Donations – Funds contributing to our central costs.

Policy

Donations – Funds contributing to our central costs.

Act for Change Fund – Funding towards our work on school exclusion.

Baring Foundation – Funding to support projects to ensure Concluding Observations of the UNCRC are used as an advocacy tool in the voluntary sector.

Baring Foundation (Custody Time Limits) – Funding to carry out strategic litigation relating to changes to regulations for custody time limits.

Baring Social Impact Fund – Funding towards our holistic casework.

Barrow Cadbury Trust – Funding to develop reform proposals to assist children turning 18 in the criminal justice system.

Barrow Cadbury Trust (BAME) – Funding to improve legal representation for BAME young people.

Comic Relief (Change It!) – Funding towards Just For Kids Law child-led campaign Change It!, and towards advocacy and education community care, focused on West London.

Dawes Trust – Funding to improve legal representation for children and young people.

EHRC – Funding for our UNCRC child rights monitoring.

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation – Funding for policy work to influence the outcomes for care leavers.

Howard League for Penal Reform – Funding to improve our training offering by embedding the Howard League's sentencing toolkit for children.

Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust – Funding for our policy research and campaigning on BAME young people and the police.

KPMG Foundation – Funding for policy work relating to COVID-19.

Oak Foundation – Funding for reforming housing and support for children and young people through participation.

Paul Hastings – Funding to create new and updating practitioner guides.

Persula Foundation – Funding for our school exclusions work and youth justice advice line.

Policy (continued)

Porticus – Funding for our policy and legal work on school exclusion.

Second Growth CIC – To fund the youth justice advice line and development of the YJLC website.

The Bromley Trust – Funding towards child rights policy, and public affairs work.

The Hadley Trust – Funding for policy work relating to reducing the criminalisation of young people.

The Listening Fund – To develop a project to support children excluded from school to campaign for change.

Development (other)

Aurum Charitable Trust – Funding towards core operational costs.

Brooks Foundation (Core) – Funding towards core operational costs.

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation (Core Grant) – Funding towards core operational costs.

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation (Resilience Funding) – Funding to provide resilience training for middle management.

Family Foundation – Funding towards core operational costs.

Paul Hamlyn Foundation (Emergency Fund) – Funding to support children and young people through the effects of Covid-19, particularly through the provision of laptops.

Paul Hamlyn Foundation (Growth Fund) – Core funding to support strategic and operational growth of organisation.

Philip King Charitable Trust – Funding to support the employment of a Financial Director.

A B Charitable Trust – Funding towards core operational costs.

The Blagrove Trust – Funding towards core operational costs.

The Mark Leonard Trust – Funding towards core operational costs.

The Segelman Trust – Funding towards core operational costs.

The Taurus Foundation – Funding towards core operational costs.

Trust for London – Funding to support children and young people through the effects of COVID-19.

The transfer from restricted to unrestricted funds for Bromley Trust and Donations is to adjust for funds spent in the 19/20 financial year

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 May 2021

The breakdown of development funds for 2020/21 was as follows:

	At 1 June 2020 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	At 31 May 2021 £
City Bridge Trust	10,235	-	(10,235)	-	-
Clothworkers' Foundation	-	30,000	-	(30,000)	-
Comic Relief (Recovery fund)	-	25,000	(20,000)	-	5,000
Community Justice	-	26,900	(26,900)	-	-
Drapers Charitable Trust	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Mark Leonard Trust	-	50,000	(50,000)	-	-
Permira Foundation	-	7,500	(7,500)	-	-
Philip King	-	15,000	(15,000)	-	-
Legal Education Foundation	-	23,400	(21,448)	-	1,952
Esmée Fairbairn Resilience	430	-	-	-	430
Paul Hamlyn (Exceptional Grant)	50,000	-	-	(50,000)	-
Paul Hamlyn COVID19 Emergency	9,024	-	(9,024)	-	-
	69,689	187,800	(170,107)	(80,000)	7,382

- 18 The charity's total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows for each of the following periods

	Property 2021 £	2020 £
Less than one year	79,303	8,316
One to five years	78,000	3,910
	157,303	12,226

19 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £10.