

Charity registration number 1122021 (England and Wales)

THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Dr Jane Pavitt Hayley Aherne James Harward
Charity number (England and Wales)	1122021
Registered office	Unit 5 Riverside Business Centre Station Road Lawford, Manningtree CO11 1FJ
Auditor	Streets Audit LLP c/o The Old Exchange 64 West Stockwell Street Colchester Essex CO1 1HE
Bankers	Barclays Bank Plc Hearts Delight Garden Centre Long Rd Manningtree CO11 2EF

THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

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THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "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)".

Objectives and activities

The Objects of the Charity are:

1. To provide the necessary facilities for the daily care, recreation and education of children, during school hours, and out of school hours and throughout holidays, in the villages of Brantham and East Bergholt in the county of Suffolk, and in surrounding areas accessible to the facilities provided by the Charity, including and serving the surrounding areas of North Essex, and South Suffolk.
1. To advance the education and training of the persons in the provision of such care, education and recreational facilities.
1. To achieve all of the above within a caring Christian ethos.

Public benefit

These activities are considered to be for the public benefit and in running the Charity the Trustees have regard for the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

Application of Income

All income received, from whatever source, is applied in full to the running of the charity, and to the achievement of the Charity's aims.

The charity seeks to achieve its objects by the efficient utilisation of the premises available to us, Training and incentivising staff to aid in staff retention and ensure that families in our care receive the highest quality of care. We do all that we can to meet the needs of the communities it serves whilst also seeking additional premises to expand capacity as the community continues to grow.

The charity hold significant funds as we continue to seek opportunities to acquire new premises to expand our service offering to the community. The trustees have explored several sites in the year with a view to designing and building a purpose-built facility to boost capacity. The search is ongoing but it is hoped that the accumulated reserves will be sufficient to cover the costs of acquisition, design, construction and fitting out a high quality setting whilst leaving sufficient funds to meet the ongoing needs of the charity and safeguard against any unforeseen emergencies (such as a covid like epidemic).

THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Achievements and performance

Significant activities and achievements against objectives

- The charity has recorded a significant surplus of £637k (2023: £470k). This has resulted in a significant increase in cash reserves and given the Trustees and Management Committee the confidence to pursue their plans to grow the service offering without fear that it may put other settings at risk.
- The income from charitable activities has increased from £1.7m in 2023 to £2.1m reflecting the excellent service we provide to the local community and an increase in the number of children, and families, benefitting from our activities.
- The charity took out a lease on Unit 5 Riverside Business Centre during the year. This serves the charity as both a head office and a training and meeting place for the staff. Several courses have been held at the centre and the management team have been very pleased with the new facilities.
- Staff retention remains high and this is a key objective of the management team who believe that the charity can best meet its quality service objectives by training and retaining high quality staff.

Financial review

The charity remains in a strong financial position and is actively exploring opportunities to increase the benefits provided to families in the local community without increasing income. This will ensure that the operating surplus is reduced in future periods (2026 and beyond).

The government has implemented an expansion of free childcare which has seen a decreased reliance on parent fees and an increase in the number of funded hours families can receive. This change has had a significant impact on the charity and is the primary reason for increased turnover in both the year under review and the current year. This increase in our income is a great opportunity for us to increase our unfunded offerings to the community and we remain committed to exploring ways to reduce the recurring operating surplus and we will pursue these opportunities where we can see that they are consistent with our charitable objects and provide benefit to our communities.

The charity holds unrestricted funds of £2.2m as of 31st December 2024 (2023: £1.5m) and £1.7m (2023: £0.9m) of these are invested in low risk savings accounts offering competitive returns at minimal risk (the vast majority are covered by the FSCS guarantee). It is hoped that these funds can be used for the furtherance of the charity's objects in 2-3 years.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between six and twelve month's expenditure. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been exceeded throughout the year however this is primarily due to uncertainty around the funds needed for the anticipated new setting and the inability to designate funds towards this until such time as a viable proposal is put forward and a viable costing obtained.

Plans for future periods

In accordance with the charity's ambition to reduce its reliance on rented accommodation (albeit benefitting from generous charitable discounts) the charity acquired the freehold of The Institute, a property the charity previously leased from the PCC.

THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Structure, governance and management

The charity is unincorporated and run in accordance with its constitution as adopted on 21 February 2017.

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Dr Jane Pavitt

Hayley Aherne

James Harward

Michael O'Brien

(Resigned 17 December 2024)

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Constitution. Some appointments are ex-officio. As vacancies for Trustees arise applications are sought from potential candidates known to the Trustees and other suitable local people. Applicants are then considered by the Trustees and appointments made by resolution of the Trustees and ratified at the Annual meeting.

New Trustees are briefed by the Clerk and the existing Trustees on the history and activities of the Charity. They are provided with a copy of the Charity Commission publication "The Essential Trustee" detailing their responsibilities and providing guidance on being a Trustee. The new Trustee(s) is/are provided with a copy of the Charity Scheme and the latest audited accounts and minutes.

The day-to-day executive management of the Charity is delegated by Trustees to a Management Committee, comprising appropriately qualified individuals. The chairman of that committee is a Trustee, (during the year this was initially Michael O'Brien and subsequently Hayley Aherne). The other members of the Management Committee are appointed by the trustees. The Management Committee reports to the Board of Trustees, and may co-opt other suitably qualified individuals from time to time as necessary.

Remuneration policy

The pay of the Group Manager is set by the Trustees in accordance with a historic benchmarking process to ensure that remuneration reflects value for the charity and fair wages for the employee.

Other matters

None of the trustees have any beneficial interest in the charity other than those employment relationships disclosed in the notes to the accounts.

There have been no related party transactions beyond those disclosed in the appropriate note to the accounts and the charity does not have close ties with any other charities or organisations.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Dr Jane Pavitt
Chair of trustees



27 October 2025

THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are 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 accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Constable Country Childcare (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the 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 Financial Reporting Standard 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 charity's affairs as at 31 December 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

The audit tests, including planning procedures, adopted for the audit of these financial statements are designed to assess and detect the risk of irregularities, including fraud. Our risk assessment of the likelihood of irregularities included the high degree of involvement of the experienced directors, which reduces the risk of 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:

- The engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- We identified the laws and regulations applicable to the Charity through discussions with trustees and from our knowledge and experience of the sector;
- We focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the Charity, including the Charities Act 2011, Data protection, employment, health and safety legislation, provision of childcare and safeguarding regulatory frameworks.
- We assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of trustees; and
- Identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

In response to risks identified the following procedures were performed:

- Enquiries were made to management regarding their susceptibility to fraud and their knowledge of any wrong doing;
- Analytical procedures and reviews of key items to assess for unexpected items;
- Judgements and assumptions in accounting estimates were assessed; and
- Internal control procedures considered that would mitigate fraud risks.

The specific procedures performed to address the potential risk of fraud and non-compliance to relevant laws and regulations are outlined below:

- An understanding of the revenue process and flow of financial information from the general ledger and determination over its correct classification within the financial statements
- Testing of the cut-off assertion was performed by reviewing after date banking records to identify items which needed to be accrued or provided for within the accounting period being audited. Additionally, the same process was followed for expenditure.
- Specific procedures relating to the risk of management override were conducted as part of our obligation under the UK ISA's. To conduct this, accounting records and adjustments kept were reviewed for any abnormal adjustments.
- Specific procedures relating to the compliance with laws and regulations in relation to the provision of childcare services including the Office for Standards in Education (OFSTED).

THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

Additionally, procedures undertaken to respond to the risk identified included:

- Financial statement disclosures reviewed by testing items to supporting documentation to ensure compliance with relevant laws and regulations which would have a direct effect on the financial statements
- Analytical procedures were performed in order to identify abnormal relationships between items which may indicate material misstatement due to fraud.
- Management were enquired of any knowledge concerning actual and potential litigation claims and instances of non-compliance for the year being audited.

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: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Other matters

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements 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)" (as amended) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

This has been done in order for the financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with current Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Daniel Insley BA FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Streets Audit LLP, Statutory Auditor

Chartered Accountants

c/o The Old Exchange

64 West Stockwell Street

Colchester

Essex

CO1 1HE

Date:

30 October 2015

Streets Audit LLP is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

		Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
	Notes						
Income from:							
Charitable activities	3	2,147,874	-	2,147,874	1,731,037	-	1,731,037
Investments	4	68,735	-	68,735	39,544	-	39,544
Total income		2,216,609	-	2,216,609	1,770,581	-	1,770,581
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	5	1,574,020	5,524	1,579,544	1,295,425	5,524	1,300,949
Total expenditure		1,574,020	5,524	1,579,544	1,295,425	5,524	1,300,949
Net income/(expenditure) and movement in funds		642,589	(5,524)	637,065	475,156	(5,524)	469,632
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 January 2024		1,523,795	45,209	1,569,004	1,048,639	50,733	1,099,372
Fund balances at 31 December 2024		2,166,384	39,685	2,206,069	1,523,795	45,209	1,569,004

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

THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

		2024		2023	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		489,504		354,363
Current assets					
Debtors	13	119,331		134,747	
Investments	14	1,702,146		940,927	
Cash at bank and in hand		170,082		395,798	
		<u>1,991,559</u>		<u>1,471,472</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	<u>(274,994)</u>		<u>(256,831)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>1,716,565</u>		<u>1,214,641</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u><u>2,206,069</u></u>		<u><u>1,569,004</u></u>
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	16	39,685		45,209	
Unrestricted funds	17	2,166,384		1,523,795	
		<u>2,206,069</u>		<u>1,569,004</u>	

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 27 October 2025



Dr Jane Pavitt
Chair of trustees

THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	21		628,230		527,749
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(158,823)		-	
Proceeds from disposal of investments		(761,219)		(940,927)	
Investment income received		66,096		-	
Net cash used in investing activities			(853,946)		(940,927)
Net cash generated from financing activities			-		-
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents			(225,716)		(413,178)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			395,798		808,976
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			170,082		395,798

THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Constable Country Childcare is a an unincorporated charity registered in England.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "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)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold land and buildings	10% Straight Line
Leasehold land and buildings	Depreciate over the term of the lease
Fixtures and fittings	20% Straight Line
Motor vehicles	25% Reducing Balance or 20% Straight Line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Financial assets comprise cash at bank and in hand, together with trade and other debtors. A specific provision is made for debts for which recoverability is in doubt. Cash at bank and in hand is defined as all cash held in instant access bank accounts and used as working capital.

Investments, including those in subsidiary undertakings are held at fair value at the balance sheet date, with gains and losses being recognised within income and expenditure.

Financial liabilities held at amortised cost comprise all creditors except social security and other taxes, deferred income and provisions.

1.9 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

The charity applies a prudent approach to provisioning for doubtful debts. Each year the charity will make a 100% bad debt provision in respect of all balances that remain due from the prior accounting period, and will make a 50% provision against balances that remain outstanding after six months. This policy reflects management's assessment of the likelihood of recovery and ensures that the financial statements present a realistic view of the charity's financial position.

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Charitable Activity		
Services provided under contract	1,216,795	1,139,894
Performance related grants	931,079	591,143
	<u>2,147,874</u>	<u>1,731,037</u>

4 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Interest receivable	<u>68,735</u>	<u>39,544</u>

THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Charitable Activity 2024 £	Charitable Activity 2023 £
Direct costs		
Staff costs	1,125,020	1,000,689
Depreciation and impairment	23,683	24,919
Books & Equipment	26,604	24,052
Ofsted & Other Membership Fees	4,486	4,380
Rent, Rates & Room Hire	35,342	22,782
Premises Expenses & Repairs	10,819	20,028
Waste Disposal	8,326	-
Uniforms	2,186	2,146
Training	2,020	4,242
Electricity & Gas	9,233	6,811
Telephone	9,525	3,658
Materials, Consumables & Food	48,924	40,506
Motoring, Travel & Outgoings	4,284	5,794
Miscellaneous & Petty Cash Expenses	102	70
Advertising	4,696	4,388
Staff Welfare & Gifts	519	-
Bad Debt	91,910	18,000
	<u>1,407,679</u>	<u>1,182,465</u>
Share of support and governance costs (see note 6)		
Governance	171,865	118,484
	<u>1,579,544</u>	<u>1,300,949</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	1,574,020	1,295,425
Restricted funds	5,524	5,524
	<u>1,579,544</u>	<u>1,300,949</u>

THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

6 Support costs allocated to activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs	140,631	95,323
Investment Fees	2,094	-
Miscellaneous Admin Costs	3,940	7,867
Professional Fees	13,061	9,294
Postage & Stationery	2,779	-
Governance costs	9,360	6,000
	<u>171,865</u>	<u>118,484</u>
Analysed between:		
Charitable Activity	<u>171,865</u>	<u>118,484</u>

7 Net movement in funds

	2024 £	2023 £
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Fees payable for the audit of the charity's financial statements	9,360	6,000
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	<u>23,681</u>	<u>24,919</u>

8 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

Trustees are not remunerated or paid expenses for acting as Trustees. As provided in the constitution the following Trustees are employed by the Charity in the roles shown:

Hayley Aherne - Group Leader

Amounts relating to remuneration for these services are disclosed within Key Management Personnel.

9 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

2024 Number	2023 Number
<u>67</u>	<u>60</u>

THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

9	Employees	(Continued)	
Employment costs		2024	2023
		£	£
Wages and salaries		<u>1,265,651</u>	<u>1,096,012</u>
The number of employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000 is as follows:			
		2024	2023
		Number	Number
£60,001 to £70,000		1	1
£110,001 to £120,000		<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
Remuneration of key management personnel			
The remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:			
		2024	2023
		£	£
Aggregate compensation		<u>224,766</u>	<u>153,689</u>

10 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Leasehold land and buildings	Fixtures and fittings	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost					
At 1 January 2024	-	431,118	3,581	49,435	484,134
Additions	151,358	3,823	3,642	-	158,823
Transferred to ownership	99,431	(99,431)	-	-	-
At 31 December 2024	250,789	335,510	7,223	49,435	642,957
Depreciation and impairment					
At 1 January 2024	-	105,273	1,373	23,126	129,772
Depreciation charged in the year	-	15,660	1,444	6,577	23,681
Transferred to ownership	59,746	(59,746)	-	-	-
At 31 December 2024	59,746	61,187	2,817	29,703	153,453
Carrying amount					
At 31 December 2024	191,043	274,323	4,406	19,732	489,504
At 31 December 2023	-	325,845	2,209	26,309	354,363

The freehold property included within fixed assets is held in trust by the charity's trustees on behalf of the charity. Although legal title is vested in the trustees, the property is held to further the charitable objectives of the organisation and is accounted for as an asset of the charity in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

	2024 £	2023 £
Freehold	191,043	-
12 Financial instruments		
	2024 £	2023 £
Carrying amount of financial assets		
Instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss	1,702,146	940,927

THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

13 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	34,487	121,818
Other debtors	84,844	12,929
	<u>119,331</u>	<u>134,747</u>

14 Current asset investments

	2024	2023
	£	£
Unlisted investments	<u>1,702,146</u>	<u>940,927</u>

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	4,931	7,304
Other creditors	260,703	243,527
Accruals and deferred income	9,360	6,000
	<u>274,994</u>	<u>256,831</u>

16 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 January 2024	Resources expended	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£
Building Fund	<u>45,209</u>	<u>(5,524)</u>	<u>39,685</u>
Previous year:	At 1 January 2023	Resources expended	At 31 December 2023
	£	£	£
Building Fund	<u>50,733</u>	<u>(5,524)</u>	<u>45,209</u>

THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

17 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 January 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£
New Building Fund	639,314	-	(8,851)	630,463
General funds	884,481	2,216,609	(1,565,169)	1,535,921
	<u>1,523,795</u>	<u>2,216,609</u>	<u>(1,574,020)</u>	<u>2,166,384</u>
Previous year:	At 1 January 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£
New Building Fund	558,320	90,000	(9,006)	639,314
General funds	490,319	1,680,581	(1,286,419)	884,481
	<u>1,048,639</u>	<u>1,770,581</u>	<u>(1,295,425)</u>	<u>1,523,795</u>

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024	Restricted funds 2024	Total 2024
	£	£	£
At 31 December 2024:			
Tangible assets	449,819	39,685	489,504
Current assets/(liabilities)	1,716,565	-	1,716,565
	<u>2,166,384</u>	<u>39,685</u>	<u>2,206,069</u>

THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

(Continued)

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
At 31 December 2023:			
Tangible assets	309,154	45,209	354,363
Current assets/(liabilities)	1,214,641	-	1,214,641
	<u>1,523,795</u>	<u>45,209</u>	<u>1,569,004</u>

19 Operating lease commitments

Lessee

At the reporting end date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Within one year	33,947	2,000
Between two and five years	16,005	8,000
In over five years	-	6,000
	<u>49,952</u>	<u>16,000</u>

THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

20 Related party transactions

Transactions with related parties

During the year the charity entered into the following transactions with related parties:

	Remuneration	
	2024	2023
	£	£
Other related parties	97,421	66,189
	<u>97,421</u>	<u>66,189</u>
	<u>97,421</u>	<u>66,189</u>
21 Cash generated from operations	2024	2023
	£	£
Surplus for the year	637,065	469,632
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(68,735)	-
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	23,683	24,919
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	18,054	(42,224)
Increase in creditors	18,163	75,422
	<u>18,054</u>	<u>(42,224)</u>
	<u>18,163</u>	<u>75,422</u>
Cash generated from operations	628,230	527,749
	<u>628,230</u>	<u>527,749</u>

22 Analysis of changes in net funds

The charity had no material debt during the year.