

CARERS NORTHUMBERLAND LIMITED

(A company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital)

CHARITY NUMBER 1122972

COMPANY NUMBER 06266972

TRUSTEES REPORT AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 March 2023

Richard Alsept Chartered Accountant
16 Burlington Terrace
Cardiff
CF5 1GG

CARERS NORTHUMBERLAND LIMITED

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

NAME OF CHARITY:	Carers Northumberland Limited
INCORPORATION:	The company was originally incorporated on 4 th June 2007 and registered as a charity on 27 February 2008.
OFFICERS: (Directors and Trustees)	S Cooke A C Arter Countess A De'Travernent D Jack J Birkin-Nicholl V Hodgson P Stonell A Moore (appointed 14 th April 2022) J Danskin – Chair (appointed 14 th April 2022) P Robertson (appointed 8 th December 2022) S Cleave (appointed 9 th February 2023)
COMPANY SECRETARY:	Mrs D Blakey
REGISTERED OFFICE:	107 & 109 Station Road Ashington Northumberland NE63 8RS
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:	Richard Alsept Chartered Accountant 16 Burlington Terrace Cardiff CF5 1GG
BANKERS:	CAF Bank 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling ME19 4JQ

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TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Introduction

The trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The trustees have prepared the annual report and financial statements in accordance with the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in January 2019.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governance

Carers Northumberland Ltd is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. It was incorporated on 4th June 2007 and registered as a charity on 27 February 2008 and its principal activity is providing support for carers throughout Northumberland.

Trustees

The Trustees are charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and are Directors of the company. One third of the Trustees retire from office together and are eligible for re-election at each Annual General Meeting (AGM) by rotation, so that each and every trustee so retires and is eligible for re-election at every third AGM from the date of their initial election. As between trustees who have been members the same length of time, those due to retire are chosen by lot. The officers of the trustee board for the ensuing year are nominated to and elected (by ballot if necessary) at every AGM.

Trustee Induction and Training

A Trustee Information Pack is available to potential and new Trustees. Potential Trustees are invited to attend a Trustee meeting to find out more about the workings of the Board and the governance of the charity, after which they may feel better informed to make the decision to become a Trustee.

New Trustees are introduced to the charity, their legal obligations under charity law, the content of the governing document, the Trustees and the decision-making process, the business plan and financial performance of the charity during an induction period soon after appointment. Trustees are also encouraged to attend appropriate training events that will support effective conduct in their role.

Risk Management

Where appropriate, policies and procedures or systems have been put in place to mitigate the risks the charity might face. Significant external risks to funding, and the nature of funding across the Community and Voluntary Sector, have led to the development of a long term strategic plan including the identification of priority activities in relation to income generation.

Policies and procedures exist to ensure compliance with health and safety of all staff, volunteers and beneficiaries of the charity. This includes the provision of adequate insurance cover. These policies and procedures are reviewed annually or more frequently, on change of circumstances, to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the charity.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Carers Northumberland provides information, advice and support for carers, seeking to ensure equality of opportunity for all sections of the community in its own affairs and in access to facilities provided by the charity. In doing so, the activities adopted by Carers Northumberland to meet those objects include the following:

- Seeking the views of carers to influence service provision
- Provision of opportunities for carers to take a break from caring by attending support groups, leisure and skills events
- Signposting carers to sources of condition-specific or specialist support
- Provision of an Information Service and dedicated information line for carer enquiries
- Administration of the Carer Support Fund
- Working in partnership with other agencies and organisations to support carers
- Supporting the development and delivery of a voice for carers in consultation, policy and service development and delivery in the county

Achievement and performance – Operational Review 2022-2023

Early 2022 saw the majority of Covid-19 restrictions lifted which enabled the team to plan for in-person groups, events and activities as well as being able to get back out to community events and things have definitely returned to the new 'normal'.

There were some changes to the staff team throughout the year, with the Kickstart scheme ending on 31 March 2022 resulting in our Project Assistant leaving to go on to a new job and securing a place at university. We also welcomed two new Carer Information and Advice Workers, funded by CNTW to increase our capacity, however, one of these posts left in December 2022. The uncertainty with the future of the Carers into Work Project resulted in the Carers into Work Advisor leaving her role in November 2022. Our Training Coordinator retired in April 2022, but continues to be involved as a volunteer Group Host. Going into the end of the current year the staff team consists of the Chief Executive Officer, Service Delivery Manager, three Carer Information and Advice Workers, Finance and Administration Officer, Young Carers Service Coordinator, Young Carers Activity and Link Worker and Business Admin Apprentice.

The Information Service continues to be the first point of contact for most carers via the Information Line, website and social media. As of 31 March 2023, there were 5,862 carers registered with Carers Northumberland (this includes 522 parent carers and 342 young carers), this is an increase of 36% based on the number of carers registered at the end of March 2022. 1,035 new adult carers have registered in the period 1 April 22 to 31 March 23, this too is an increase of 24.5% when compared with the number of new registrations in the same period last year. Contacts with carers have also increased with 7,244 contacts and 11,335 actions carried out between 1 April 22 and 31 January 2023 compared with 6,232 contacts and 10,465 actions based on the same period for 2021-22. The average number of registrations per month continues to increase year on year. In 2021-22 the 6-month average for new adult carer registrations was 65. In 2022-23 this has increased to an average of 89 new carer registrations each month.

The Information Service deal with a varied range of queries, the majority this year has been around finance and issues related to the cost-of-living crisis. The main issues are

around finance and benefits, as well as care and support, how to access services, grants, health and wellbeing, form filling, and planning for the future.

Carers who register are asked to complete a baseline assessment of their needs at the point of registration to ensure that any immediate concerns can be addressed. Carers who register but do not have an immediate concern or query are contacted by a member of the Information Team after two months to check that they are receiving the newsletter and that they know how to get in contact should they have a query. All carers who register with us and complete the initial baseline are contacted after six months and asked to complete a follow-up evaluation so we can measure how being registered with Carers Northumberland has (or has not) had an impact on their caring role. Where carers have had contact with a member of staff and have been supported with a particular issue a separate feedback form will be completed. 90 baseline reviews have been completed up to 31 January 2023 with positive increases shown for taking a break/time off myself and finance, money and benefits. 116 evaluations have been returned for the same period. As a result of being supported by Carers Northumberland:

- 100% of carers agreed they know more about their rights as a carer now
- 99% of carers agreed they feel more confident
- 99% of carers agreed they feel more in control
- 97% of carers agreed they feel less lonely/isolated
- 100% of carers agreed they know where to go for advice and support

The newsletter is one of the main ways that Carers Northumberland communicates with carers who are registered. The majority of carers receive the newsletter bi-monthly by email, but there are around 750 carers who prefer a printed copy to be posted. Our social media presence is also key and continues to be a source of information dissemination sought by carers and professionals in many different ways. Between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023 our Facebook posts have reached an average of 9,917 people, our tweets have reached an average of 476 people, and our Instagram (which is still fairly new) has reached an average of 147 people. Unique visits to the Carers Northumberland website averages 4,121 per month which is a vast increase on the average unique visit throughout 2021-22 of 650. The new website, which was launched in March 2021 is considerably more user friendly and allows greater interaction.

Carers Northumberland continues to administer the Carer Support Fund (CSF) on behalf of the local authority which provides adult carers of adults with an individual grant to enable them to take a break from their caring role. At the end of March 2023 202 carers had applied for CSF and £20,725 had been awarded. Main uses for the fund have been day trips, short breaks, therapies, leisure and exercise activities, crafts and ongoing hobbies and interests. Carers have also been supported by the Information Service to access larger amounts with £26,902 in grants from Carers Trust, Turn 2 Us, Northumberland Communities Together and the Family Holiday Fund secured for essential household items such as washing machines, beds, fridge-freezers, moving costs, flooring as well as short breaks, holidays and driving lessons. Since April 2022, Carers Northumberland have supported carers with benefit checks, and subsequent applications, which has resulted in £225,395 in annual benefit gains for carers so far (mainly Attendance Allowance and Carers Allowance). These amounts gained for carers are

significantly higher this year, due in part to the cost-of-living crisis and the need for carers to maximise their income.

Following a successful pilot scheme in 2020-21 the Information Service has offered carers support to complete Lasting Power of Attorney paperwork as part of the Advanced Planning Service. Since April 2022, 25 carers have accessed this service and are at various stages in the procedure. Carers Northumberland have also produced a Bereavement Guide for carers which can be accessed at any time. The guide has both practical information and emotional coping tools to support carers and 9 guides have been sent out since 1 April 2022.

Carers Northumberland have supported carers to complete an Emergency Care Plan which will help them document important information about the person they care and their usual routine and medication requirements. 56 forms have been sent to carers since April 2022, with 157 having been sent since starting the offer in May 2021. 47 carers currently have their Emergency Care Plans attached to their Charity Log record.

Regular monthly peer support groups are currently running in Ponteland, Cramlington, Berwick, Alnwick, Blyth, Ashington, Prudhoe, Morpeth and Amble. The weekly online Zoom group was moved to monthly in February 2023 and from April 2023 there will be a monthly online Welcome Group, specifically aimed at newly registered carers to find out what Carers Northumberland can offer and to ask questions. The weekly online Zoom group has been continuing every Tuesday afternoon; however, this has moved to monthly from February 2023. There will be new introductory groups each month from April 2023. In addition to the regular monthly groups at fixed venues, the Information Team have also had carer catch-ups at different venues across the county, these have been in Hexham, Amble, Belford, Rothbury, Bellingham and Seahouses. Carer walks have continued to be popular throughout the year and have taken place at QEII country park, Plessey Woods, Warkworth, Ponteland, Berwick, Cambois and Hauxley Nature Reserve. Carers Northumberland also publicise other support groups for carers which are run by individual carers such as the Hexham Mental Health Carers Group and the Wooler group. Carers have also enjoyed meals out at Sambuca in Blyth and Cramlington and a trip to Alnwick Garden. In partnership with Community Action Northumberland's Slow Cooking Communities Project, we facilitated two slow cooker demonstration sessions in November which were attended by 23 carers with each participant receiving a free slow cooker and recipe book at the end of each session. In the run up to Christmas there were Festive Afternoon Tea events for carers in Bedlington, Hexham and Berwick which included a festive afternoon tea, Christmas crafts and a quiz. 186 Christmas gifts boxes were delivered to adult and young carers in December, and Alnwick Garden also offered tickets to the Alnwick Garden Light Trail with 88 being allocated to unpaid carers and their families via Carers Northumberland.

Carers Week ran from 6 – 12 June 2022 with the theme 'Making Carers Visible, Valued and Supported'. Events and activities were held across the county to encourage carers to come together and take some time for themselves including:

- Afternoon tea events at Cramlington, Wooler, Blyth and Corbridge
- Carer walks in Craster, Newbiggin promenade, Whitley Bay sea front, Morpeth Carlisle Park and Bolam Lake.
- Fire station tours at West Hartford, Berwick and Alnwick – courtesy of Northumberland Fire and Rescue Service.

- Online cookery workshop – hosted by Rea, our Carers into Work Advisor

In addition, 300 tickets were distributed to carers and their families for Alnwick Garden on 11 June 2022 – with thanks to Alnwick Garden for supplying the free tickets. 180 letterbox gifts were sent to carers who couldn't attend events in person, these were supplied by Northumbrian Gifts and contained tea, coffee, shortbread and fudge.

Carers Rights Day took place on 24 November 2022, and we held an information event in Alnwick which was attended by 56 carers. Carers who attended were able to get information from Carers Northumberland and a whole host of other organisations such as Northumberland Communities Together, Escape Family Support, Alzheimer's Society, Healthwatch Northumberland and many others. Carers Northumberland's patron, her Grace the Duchess of Northumberland opened the event and shared some of her own experiences with caring. Evaluations of the day indicated that attendees enjoyed the event with the average rating for the venue and the information on the day being 4.85/5. There have been 36 evaluations returned with lots of positive comments on the good variety of services and organisations in attendance:

- *"Good variety of organisations represented at the event".*
- *"The set-up of the whole thing was great and the refreshments".*
- *"Lovely atmosphere and friendly".*

There have been 1,231 attendances at groups and events since the 1 April 2022. This is an increase of 54% from 2021-22. The closed Facebook group now has 367 members as of 31 March 2023, an increase of 102 since 31 March 2022.

There are currently 20 active volunteers which includes 11 trustees. In the period 1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023, volunteers have provided 386 hours of volunteering to support the organisation. Blyth, Morpeth, Amble, Berwick, Ashington, Alnwick and Ponteland groups are currently supported by one of our volunteer Group Hosts. In late 2022 we also welcomed our first young carer volunteer to the team, who will be helping with young carer activities, trips and events. Carers Northumberland have also welcomed four new trustees to the board this year. At the AGM in July 2022, the Board welcomed a new Chair of Trustees, Julie Danskin, who took over the role from Anne Arter.

Training for carers – there has been a programme of regular carer workshops through the year being delivered both remotely via Zoom and in-person. 42 carers have attended training sessions so far this year on How to Say No, Carer Resources, Managing Guilt, Planning Ahead and Stress Awareness. 46 carers have attended Memory group sessions in person so far this year (this is part of our CNTW Older Person's Pathway work). The Information Service are working on some new workshop content for next year which will be delivered as a mix of online sessions and a face-to-face sessions in venues across the county.

Training for professionals – Carers Northumberland are able to offer training to professionals around carer awareness and identification. This has mainly been delivered remotely. CNTW have an ongoing commitment to offer carer awareness and identification training to all their staff. This training is co-delivered with CNTW staff and carers. An ongoing programme of carer awareness and identification training is also available to social care and primary health care professionals. 238 professionals have received Carer

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Awareness and Identification training so far this year. There is now a regular Professional Update being sent which details what services are offered which goes out monthly to all professionals registered on the mailing list. In addition to formal training, the Information Service has provided information and updates on the services available for carers in a range of settings and organisations. Carers Northumberland were also pleased to be named as the Charity of the Year for 2022 by Rothbury Women's Institute.

Carers Northumberland successfully re-tendered for the Young Carer Support Contract from NCC Children's Services and were awarded the contract initially up to 31 March 2025, but with the potential for extension to 31 March 2027. This has enabled Carers Northumberland to build on the success of the Young Carer Service which began on 1 August 2020. The service has grown, and as a result now has two full time members of staff, a Young Carer Service Coordinator and Young Carer Activity and Link Worker. The additional funding which was secured for one year from the Masonic Charitable Foundation for young carer activities came to an end in July 2022, however, funding has been secured from a private donor to allow this work to continue up to 31 March 2025 alongside the main contract. As a result of the renewed funding, the Young Carer Service is now part of the overall carer offer from Carers Northumberland as no longer being referred to as a project.

There are 342 young carers registered with the service up to 31 March 2023. Support for young carers is a mixture of intensive one to one support for those young carers who are struggling with their caring role as well as opportunities for young carers to access other means of support to take a break and get involved in other activities such as an annual Active Northumberland Leisure Pass and the Young Carer Support Fund to provide financial support to access a break from their caring role. Young carers have enjoyed a programme of activities, events and trips throughout the year with a mix of online and in-person sessions including, craft, cookery, paddleboarding, ice skating, pony riding, book club, golf and much more.

A comprehensive School Offer has been put together which offers schools the support needed to implement the recommendations made in the Supporting Young Carers in Schools Toolkit which was rolled out to all schools in Northumberland in March 2022. The aim of the School Offer is to provide schools with support to identify and support young carers. The overall aim is to encourage schools to implement useful changes to support young carers in education and this will be rewarded with a Recognition of Excellence in Supporting Young Carers Award from Carers Northumberland. The school offer has been distributed to schools via the school safeguarding lead who is a member of the Young Carer Steering Group. The Young Carer Team have been in contact with 13 individual schools so far, and although this work is still in the early stages, it is expected that the first schools could have their award in place by the end of March 2023.

Carers Northumberland are also supporting parent carers (caring for a child under 18 with additional needs) as the number registering has continued to increase. There are 522 parent carers currently registered. Although no specific funding is received to support parent carers, the Trustee's took the decision following the successful pilot in 2021-22 with funding from the Edward Gostling Foundation, that the support to access grants, information and support would continue. Since April 2022 we have secured individual grants totalling £10,888 for parent carers for short breaks, white goods, furniture and general household costs. Parent carers are able to attend any of our current carer groups, and any of our other events, trips or workshops. Support for parent carers (who do not

meet the local authority criteria for support) has been debated at the Northumberland Carers Partnership Board which has resulted potential funding being identified enable this support to continue from 1 April 2023 in recognition of the work already being done. The North of Tyne Carers into Work Project began on 1 April 2020 and funding was due to end on 31 March 2023. The initial project aims were to support carers who wanted to return to work and is a collaboration between the North of Tyne Combined Authority (the funder), Carers Northumberland, Newcastle Carers and North Tyneside Carers Centre. The project was available to unpaid carers aged 16 and over to support them into employment, education or training, or to maintain their current employment with support to implement strategies to balance their work and caring responsibilities and to assist carers who wanted to look for a change of employment which better suits their caring needs. By January 2023, 63 carers had registered on the project in Northumberland, with the Carer into Work Advisor supporting them in a variety of ways including, supporting with CV updates, application forms, and interview techniques as well as advising on job searches, volunteering opportunities and education and skills training. The project overall has had 247 participants across the North of Tyne partnership. The Carers into Work Project Steering Group have secured an extension of funding by the North of Tyne Combined Authority until 31 March 2024, however the way the project is delivered will change slightly. From 1 April 2023 North Tyneside Carers' Centre will employ all three Carers into Work Advisors directly, although each advisor will still have a main responsibility for each locality.

Ongoing work with CNTW, the mental health foundation trust that covers the county, has enabled Carers Northumberland to secure some additional core funding to support the Older People's Pathway. Since April 2022 there have been 236 referrals directly from this pathway. CNTW have confirmed that funding will continue for this until 31 March 2025. CNTW have also funded two additional Carer Information and Advice Worker posts throughout 2022-23 which had added much needed resilience and capacity to the Information Team.

Carers Northumberland has also completed the self-assessment process for the Improving Quality Foundation Level Standard. This is a requirement of Carer Trust membership and is also an opportunity to be recognised for the quality of service that is provided. The external assessment will take place in May 2023. As part of the work gathering the evidence for the quality standard, the Trustee Board have completed a Board Effectiveness Survey. The results indicated that some development work would be advantageous, and this will be followed up later in the year.

The first high-level publication of the 2021 Census data for unpaid care was published in January 2023. The data for England and Wales shows a decrease in the number of people carrying out unpaid care, with the number for Northumberland having decreased from just under 36,000 to 31,116. Both Carers UK and Carers Trust have issued statements with concern about the accuracy of the data, with caveats that as people responded to the 2021 census amid the pandemic in circumstances that were far from normal, therefore many unpaid carers may not have identified as carers because they were unable to visit the homes of relatives for whom they were caring at the time they completed the census form. The definition of used in the question in 2021 was also different from that used in 2011. However, the figures and increase in carers seen this year indicates that carer services are more needed now than ever before.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The charity remains grateful for the help and support given by government agencies, charitable trusts, private donations, and other sources. For the year ended 31 March 2023, the Charity is pleased to report an increase in overall total income to £406,795 (2022: £330,061). The increased income was mainly due to increased funding for Care Projects including Carers Return to Work, Information Service and support & activities for Young Carers.

The charity continued to effectively monitor and control all costs. Total costs did increase in the year to £393,695 (2022: £293,894), but this increase was largely due to the additional project activity in the year, together with increases in staff costs. The Charity was able to report a surplus for the year of £13,100 (2022: £36,167). Cash balances as at 31 March 2023 were £300,697 (2022: £355,879), the decrease in the cash balances reflecting the release of deferred income which had been received in 2021/22, but which related to projects delivered in 2022/23. At 31st March 2023, the charity still held an amount of £29,581 shown in the balance sheet as deferred income, to be released in 2023/24 when the balance related projects will be finished.

Overall reserves increased to £241,545 at the year end, of which £18,721 was restricted, this amount relating to specific projects.

Grant Making Policy

The Charity does not make grants but administers the Carer Support Fund on behalf of Northumbria Healthcare Trust – Adult Services, and the Young Carer Support Fund on behalf of Northumberland County Council – Children’s Services.

Investment Policy

The charity holds no investments and as such has no investment policy.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees aim to have a combined unrestricted reserve of a minimum of 4 months’ operating costs, plus closure costs. This figure has been identified following consideration of the main financial risks to the charity. The strategy is to continue to build reserves through economies of scale wherever possible. The Trustees have supported expansion of operations, supported by a sound business case and regular review and in line with our aim to maintain healthy reserves.

Risk Management

As part of the charity’s business plan development, an assessment was undertaken as to the risks the Trust is exposed to. The charity has taken a proactive stance to reduce its overall reliance on external funding and to develop a portfolio of funders to further reduce the impact any one funding stream may incur. A major part of the charity’s partnership working is to keep the charity abreast of any strategic, political or legal changes that could impact upon it.

Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects.

Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety of staff, volunteers, clients and visitors to the centre. These procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the charity.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year; in preparing those financial statements, the Trustees should follow best practice and:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is not appropriate to assume that the company will continue on that basis.

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees 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.

Responsibilities of the Trustees

Trustees, who are directors for the purpose of company law, and trustees for the purpose of charity law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out under Legal and Administrative Information. In accordance with company law, as the company's directors, we certify that:

- so far as we are aware, there is no relevant information of which the company's accountants are unaware; and
- as the directors of the company, we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant accounts information and to establish that the charity's accountants are aware of that information.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (issued in January 2019) and in accordance with the special provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small entities.

Approved by the Trustees on 8th June 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



J Danskin, Director and Chair of Trustees

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
TO THE TRUSTEES OF CARERS NORTHUMBERLAND LIMITED.**

I report to the Charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Trust for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 11 to 19.

Responsibilities and basis of report

The trustees, who are also the directors of Carers Northumberland Limited ('the Company') for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in Section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with my examination giving me cause to believe:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- (3) the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than the requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an Independent Examination; and
- (4) the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK (FRS102)).

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



Richard Alsept A.C.A.
Chartered Accountant
16 Burlington Terrace
Cardiff
CF5 1GG

8th June 2023

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 March 2023

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total y/e 31 March 2023	Total y/e 31 March 2022
	Note	£	£	£	£
INCOME					
Donations/fundraising	3	4,480	17,419	21,899	3,922
Charitable activities	3	212,592	169,586	382,178	325,599
<i>Investment income:</i>					
Interest received		2,718	-	2,718	540
Total Income		219,790	187,005	406,795	330,061
EXPENDITURE					
Charitable activities	4	193,862	199,833	393,695	293,894
Total Expenditure		193,862	199,833	393,695	293,894
Net Income/(expenditure)		25,928	(12,828)	13,100	36,167
Net Movement in Funds		25,928	(12,828)	13,100	36,167
Reconciliation in funds: Fund balances brought forward		196,896	31,549	228,445	192,278
Fund balances carried forward		222,824	18,721	241,545	228,445

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year / period.
All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing charitable activities.

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BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 March 2023

	Notes	March 2023 £	£	March 2022 £	£
FIXED ASSETS	2		-		28
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	5	5,000		1,000	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>300,697</u>		<u>355,879</u>	
		305,697		356,879	
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Amounts falling due within one year	6	(64,152)		(128,462)	
Net Current Assets			241,545		228,417
NET ASSETS			<u>241,545</u>		<u>228,445</u>
<hr/>					
Restricted Funds	10		18,721		31,549
Unrestricted Funds			222,824		196,896
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS			<u>241,545</u>		<u>228,445</u>

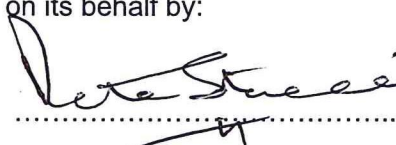
For the financial year ended 31 March 2023, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477(1) of the Companies Act 2006; and no notice has been deposited under section 476(1) requesting an audit. The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the year and of its profit or loss for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of section 394 and which otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2006, so far as applicable to the company.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime under the Companies Act 2006 and with the provisions of Financial Reporting Standard 102, Section 1a for Small Entities (effective January 2015).

Approved by the Board on 8th June 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



J Danskin, Director



P Stonell, Director

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 March 2023

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year and in the preceding year.

a. Basis of accounting

The company is a charitable company, limited by guarantee, incorporated in England. The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The address of the registered office is:
107 & 109 Station Road,
Ashington
Northumberland NE63 8RS

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the Board on 8th June 2023.

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the provisions of Financial Reporting Standard 102, Section 1a Small Entities, and the Charity Statement of Recommended Practice, (Charities SORP (FRS 102) 2019), as well as the Charities Act 2011.

b. Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are incoming resources received or generated for charitable purposes. They are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds can only be applied for a particular purpose as defined within their objects.

c. Income

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Income which is received by way of grants, donations and gifts to the charity is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities upon receipt. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.
- Bank interest and other investment income is included when receivable.
- Income from charitable activities are derived from contracts and service agreements and are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.

d. Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes unrecoverable VAT.

- Costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 March 2023

- Operation and development of the charity includes all costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services.
- Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include accountancy fees.

e. Fixed assets

Fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. All items with a useful life of more than one year are capitalised. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Office Equipment	-	25% reducing balance
Office Fixtures and Fittings	-	25% reducing balance

f. Cash and cash equivalents

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

g. Trade debtors

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

h. Trade creditors

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

i. Leasing

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged against income on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

j. Pensions

The Project operates a defined contributions pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the accounts as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

CARERS NORTHUMBERLAND LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 March 2023

2. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Website £	Office Equipment £	Fixtures & Fittings £	Total £
Cost				
As at 1 April 2022	6,000	30,011	6,584	42,595
Additions	-	-	-	-
As at 31 March 2023	<u>6,000</u>	<u>30,011</u>	<u>6,584</u>	<u>42,595</u>
Depreciation				
As at 1 April 2022	6,000	30,011	6,556	42,567
Charge for year	-	-	28	28
As at 31 March 2023	<u>6,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,584</u>	<u>42,595</u>
Net book value At 31 March 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>28</u>

CARERS NORTHUMBERLAND LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 March 2023

3. Income

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total y/e 31 March 2023	Total y/e 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£
<i>Donations and Fundraising</i>	4,480	17,419	21,899	3,922
<i>Charitable activities</i>				
Local Authority grants	172,300	-	172,300	172,300
Other care grants	31,995	35,045	67,040	73,745
Other income	8,297	-	8,297	9,082
Grants repaid/repayable	-	(21,625)	(21,625)	(16,602)
Project income	-	156,166	156,166	87,074
	<u>217,072</u>	<u>187,005</u>	<u>404,077</u>	<u>329,521</u>
<i>Interest receivable</i>				
Bank interest receivable	2,718	-	2,718	540
	<u>2,718</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,718</u>	<u>540</u>
Total	<u>219,790</u>	<u>187,005</u>	<u>406,795</u>	<u>330,061</u>

4. Expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total y/e 31 March 2023	Total y/e 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£
<i>Charitable Activities:</i>				
Service Delivery Manager	34,080	-	34,080	29,423
Training Co-ordinator	12,372	-	12,372	21,714
CNTW	58,841	-	58,841	-
Central Office	80,103	-	80,103	60,152
Carers Support Fund	-	20,870	20,870	20,800
Carers Return to Work	-	25,179	25,179	31,312
Young Carers Support	-	57,132	57,132	45,206
Young Carers Activity	-	30,289	30,289	12,363
Information Service	-	58,841	58,841	55,299
Parent Carer Support	-	1,644	1,644	6,601
Carers Trust Grants	220	3,545	3,765	4,581
Projects / (Other)	6,150	2,333	8,483	4,181
Depreciation	28	-	28	380
	191,794	199,833	391,627	292,012
<i>Governance</i>				
Trustee meetings and charity management	1,268	-	1,268	1,082
Professional fees	800	-	800	800
	2,068	-	2,068	1,882
Total	193,862	199,833	393,695	293,894

5. Debtors

	31 March 2023 £	31 March 2022 £
Trade Debtors	5,000	1,000
Prepayments	-	-
Total	5,000	1,000

6. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	31 March 2023 £	31 March 2022 £
PAYE and NIC	4,612	4,127
Creditors & accruals	29,959	7,027
Deferred grants	29,581	117,308
Total	<u>64,152</u>	<u>128,462</u>

Included within creditors and accruals is an amount of £78 (2022: £78) owed to Northumberland Care Trust, and £21,625 owed as a repayable grant as part of the Carers Return to Work project. These amounts are repayable on demand.

7. Staff costs and numbers

During the financial period the company had an average of 10 FTE employees and their remuneration was made up as follows:

	2023 £
Salary and wages	243,457
National insurance costs	22,262
Employer pension costs	7,896
Total	<u>273,615</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000.

8. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Tangible Fixed Assets	-	-	-
Current Assets	235,770	69,927	305,697
Creditors / deferred income	(12,946)	(29,581)	(42,527)
Total	<u>222,824</u>	<u>40,346</u>	<u>263,170</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 March 2023

9. Remuneration of management committee

Trustees received expenses payments of £216 (2022: £232) associated with the cost of attending meetings of the charity in the financial year ended 31 March 2023.

10. Restricted Funds

	Balance 1 April 2022	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended and transfers	Balance 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
Carers Week	2,333	-	2,333	-
Carers Trust	-	3,545	3,545	-
Carers into Work	3,894	21,285	25,179	-
Carer Information Service	-	59,000	58,841	159
Parent Carer Support	1,644	-	1,644	-
Carers Support Fund	591	21,500	20,870	1,221
Young Carers Support	14,906	57,800	57,132	15,574
Young Carers Activity	8,181	23,875	30,289	1,767
	31,549	187,005	199,833	18,721