

Families Together Suffolk

England & Wales · Charity number 1127760

Details

Other names	HOME-START MID & WEST SUFFOLK, HOME-START MID SUFFOLK, Home-Start Families Together in Suffolk, Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	06674059
Registered	2009-01-28
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Families Together Suffolk Waterworks Centre 17 Station Road West Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 1EF
Phone	01379678552
Email	office@famielstogethersuffolk.org.uk
Website	www.famielstogethersuffolk.org.uk

Activities

Objects: The objects of the Charity are:A) to safeguard, protect and preserve the good health, both mental and physical of children and parents of children;B) to prevent cruelty to or maltreatment of children;C) to relieve sickness, poverty and need amongst children and parents of children;D) to promote the education of the public in child development and care;within the area of Suffolk and its environs ('the Objects').

Activities: We recruit and train volunteers to visit families with at least one child under the age of twelve and who live in the area of Suffolk county. Volunteers offer informal, friendly and confidential support. Families are encouraged to widen their network of relationships and use services available within the community. Family groups and workshops are also provided.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Other Defined Groups

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** LOCAL
- Suffolk

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£659,433	£686,297	£269,752	24
2024-03-31	£628,413	£699,476	£296,616	25
2023-03-31	£788,911	£691,555	£367,679	24
2022-03-31	£665,044	£617,109	£270,323	21
2021-03-31	£547,488	£445,024	£222,388	16

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Carol Diana Lilian Read	Chair	2014-01-21
Colin Lay		2022-01-17
Gary Morgan		2026-05-19
Kathleen Allen		2024-11-25
Nina Sherwood		2024-11-25

Accounts

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 06674059

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1127760

**Families Together Suffolk
Company Limited by Guarantee
Unaudited financial statements
31 March 2025**

Families Together Suffolk
Company Limited by Guarantee
Financial statements
Year ended 31 March 2025

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Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report)

Year ended 31 March 2025

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Companies Act 2006 and 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 published in October 2019.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Families Together Suffolk
Charity registration number	1127760
Company registration number	06674059
Principal office and registered office	20 Broad Street Eye Suffolk IP23 7AF

The trustees

The trustees who served during the year and at the date of approval were as follows:

C Read (Chair)
K Allen (Appointed 25/11/2024)
J Hawes (Appointed 26/09/2024)
S Holden (Resigned 29/05/2025)
H Jackson
C Lay
K Sansom (Resigned 25/11/2024)
N Sherwood (Appointed 25/11/2024)
G Tryon (Resigned 26/09/2024)

Independent examiner	A Robinson FCA Lovewell Blake LLP Chartered accountants First Floor Suite 2 Hillside Business Park Bury St Edmunds IP32 7EA
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Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

Objectives and activities

The objects of the Charity are:

1. to safeguard, protect and preserve the good health, both mental and physical of children and parents of children,
2. to prevent cruelty to or maltreatment of children,
3. to relieve sickness, poverty and need amongst children and parents of children,
4. to promote the education of the public in child development and care, within the area of Suffolk and its environs.

Public benefit

In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the trustees have considered the Charity Commissions guidance on public benefit when setting the objectives for the year.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011.

Achievements and performance

This past year has been one of impact, growth, and resilience. Families Together Suffolk has supported hundreds of children, parents, staff, volunteers, and trustees to adapt, grow, and develop together.

Our work is unique-bringing practical and emotional support to families while strengthening communities. None of this would be possible without the dedication of our staff and the 107 volunteers who give their time across family support, groups, our charity shop in Eye, our eBay hub in Stowmarket, and preparations for our soon-to-open shop in Halesworth. Together, they ensure families receive the support they need while generating vital income to sustain our services.

Change is not always easy. At times, it can feel uncomfortable. Yet, when we reflect on what we have achieved by working side by side, it is inspiring. This past year has shown that, together, we can overcome challenges and create real, lasting difference.

Our Impact in 2024-2025

This year, Families Together Suffolk has been privileged to support more than **700 families** across Suffolk. Over **300 families were newly referred** to our home-visiting service, while a further **350 families benefited from groups and projects**.

The growing demand-particularly in Ipswich-highlights the continuing pressures families face: mental health challenges, isolation, loneliness, budgeting difficulties, children's development needs, and SEND.

Our focus has remained on improving wellbeing, confidence, and community engagement. The results speak for themselves:

- **69%** of parents reported increased confidence and wellbeing for themselves and their children.
- **78%** felt less isolated and more connected to community services.
- **75%** reported improved relationships with their children.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

Parents consistently tell us that our support is transformative.

"Goodness, I so looked forward to the visits. Having someone supportive and non-judgemental who I could trust was invaluable during the dismantling of my life that happened. My life got very dark, the support was vital to my emotional survival."

"FTS has given me the confidence to trust my own voice and instincts when it comes to my son and not be afraid to ask for what he needs from other professionals."

"...helped me to build myself up again and believe in myself. I now have the confidence to parent my son in a far more positive way and deal with challenges when they arise."

"This summer holiday is quite different to last year, where we can now enjoy family days out! Without your service we would not be where we are today-of that, I am sure!!"

And from one parent who attended our groups from babyhood through to school age:

"It has been a staple of support for me as well as other mums, during the most difficult time of my life. A lifeline to many of us. Days when it was hard to get out of my own home and face the world-I knew people at the group would make me feel better about anything and everything. The leader is fantastic at her job. The group has given me some very special mother-daughter memories. The positive impact it is having on us all."

Financial review

Families Together Suffolk has continued to strengthen its financial position over the past year, with income rising from **£628,413 in 2023 to £650,562 in 2024**. This growth was reflected across all income streams, including grants and donations, trading, and investment returns.

A key contributor to this increase was our savings platform strategy, which enabled us to generate **£5,631 in interest**, more than double the **£2,623 achieved last year**, despite slight reductions in interest rates. Our trading activities also continued to perform well, with income growing from **£167,100 to £178,838**.

While overall income improved, expenditure continued to exceed income for the second consecutive year. However, the deficit was significantly reduced from **£71,000 in 2023 to £27,000 in 2024**, demonstrating the positive impact of careful cost management. Total expenditure decreased from **£699,476 to £677,426**, with charitable and support costs remaining stable and within budget.

A reduction in staffing available during the year helped to offset the rise in employer national insurance contributions. While the increase in the employers' allowance provided some relief, it did not cover the full additional cost. We were grateful to The Henry Smith Foundation for recognising these pressures and providing additional funding to offset the increased cost within their funded project.

Like many charities, we continue to face a highly competitive funding environment. Many funding pots have remained static over time and have not kept pace with inflation. Our full cost recovery approach ensures that project budgets reflect the true cost of delivery, but when changes to employer contributions and other expenses are introduced quickly, it can be challenging to adapt existing multi-year grants.

Against this backdrop, we remain committed to strengthening our financial sustainability through the continued development of our retail operations. Since opening our first shop in Eye in 2017, retail has become a vital source of unrestricted income. The Eye shop and our eBay Hub have both performed strongly, supported by our dedicated staff and volunteers who maximise Gift Aid on donations. Looking ahead, we are preparing to open a second shop in Halesworth in 2025, marking the beginning of a new phase of planned retail expansion.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

Our fundraising activity also grew significantly this year, raising **£8,431 compared to £3,237 last year**. Success was driven by three major initiatives-the First Light Festival, the Ipswich Half Marathon, and our Christmas Raffle-supplemented by smaller community events that helped raise awareness of our services and attract new volunteers.

Securing multi-year funding remains critical to our ability to plan and deliver consistent support to families. We currently hold seven such awards, which provide much-needed stability. Alongside this, we successfully delivered contracts for the Suffolk and North East Essex ICB and look forward to the opportunity of contributing to the new NDD pathway from 2025-26.

The year also saw the continued success of our **Children in Crisis** project, which expanded the age range of children we support and broadened our partnerships with other organisations. Outcomes from this work clearly demonstrate the positive impact of our interventions.

Our financial performance is underpinned by the organisation's wider growth in visibility and community reach. Since implementing a new PR and strategy plan in 2024, we have strengthened the FTS brand and extended our audience, ensuring families and communities are more aware of the support and opportunities available to them.

Conclusion

Despite the challenges of rising costs and increased competition for grant funding, Families Together Suffolk remains financially resilient and forward-looking. With a diverse mix of income streams, careful cost management, and a clear strategy for growth through retail expansion and fundraising, the organisation continues to be a going concern. We remain committed to building sustainability so that we can provide vital support services to families across Suffolk for many years to come.

Reserves policy

At 31 March 2025, Families Together Suffolk held **£234,615 in free reserves**. This figure includes match funding to support the continuation of our core work and is expected to reduce during the year as these commitments are met.

The trustees' policy is to maintain reserves at a level equivalent to a **minimum of three months and up to a maximum of six months of unrestricted running costs, plus provision for redundancy liabilities**. On current expenditure levels, this equates to a minimum reserve requirement of £117,349 (2024: £91,507).

The trustees consider this level of reserves to be **prudent and appropriate** in light of the prevailing economic climate and the charity's expenditure patterns over recent years. The reserves position is **reviewed regularly** to ensure it remains aligned with the charity's risk profile, operational needs, and strategic plans for future growth.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

Plans for future periods

The year ahead offers us fresh opportunities to build on our successes and face new challenges with confidence. Families Together Suffolk continues to adapt, evolve, and grow-like a jigsaw puzzle where each piece, whether family support, retail, volunteers, or trustees, plays its part in completing the whole picture.

Our commitment remains clear:

- To reach more families in need.
- To adapt our services as circumstances change.
- To ensure the voices of parents and children remain at the heart of everything we do.

Together, we will continue bringing hope and sunshine into the lives of others, helping families not only to survive but to thrive.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The charity was incorporated on 15 August 2008. The trustees are responsible for making decision on all matters of general concern and importance, including deciding on how the funds are to be spent. All charity information and registered numbers can be found on the legal and administrative information page, along with the trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the period.

None of the trustees have a beneficial interest in the company, and all of the trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

At Families Together Suffolk, our team of trustees, together with the support of staff and volunteers, are committed to our ongoing work to support parents and their children. We will continue to diversify to meet the needs of children and families in Suffolk now and in the future, whilst still providing the invaluable, reliable support that we are known for.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

New trustees are appointed from a recruitment and selection process to enhance the skills and experience of the board as a whole. Once appointed, trustees are provided with all the information required to assist them in performing their role as covering all aspects of the organisation.

Trustee induction and training

Following an induction by the charity, Families Together Suffolk provides trustees with training regarding the responsibilities of being a charity trustee. Additional trustee training is budgeted for should any trustee require this. All trustees undertake regular safeguarding training.

Risk assessment

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks. This work has identified the loss of personnel as a major risk which is addressed through retention activities and succession planning.

Independent examiner reappointment

A resolution to appoint A Robinson FCA of Lovewell Blake LLP as independent examiner will be proposed at the next relevant board meeting.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared taking advantage of the small companies' exemption of section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 23rd September 2025 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:


C Read
Chair

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Families Together Suffolk

Year ended 31 March 2025

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), balance sheet, statement of cash flows and the related notes.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the company 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 company's financial statements 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 charity'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 (ICAEW), 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 the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the financial statements 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 and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other 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.

Abigail Robinson

A Robinson FCA
Independent Examiner

Lovewell Blake LLP
Chartered accountants
First Floor Suite
2 Hillside Business Park
Bury St Edmunds
IP32 7EA
30/9/2025

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2025

			2025		2024
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	5	53,454	421,510	474,964	458,690
Other trading activities		178,838	–	178,838	167,100
Investment income		5,631	–	5,631	2,623
Total income		<u>237,923</u>	<u>421,510</u>	<u>659,433</u>	<u>628,413</u>
Expenditure					
Raising funds					
Costs of other trading activities	6	50,863	–	50,863	50,685
Charitable activities	7	175,336	460,098	635,434	648,791
Total expenditure		<u>226,199</u>	<u>460,098</u>	<u>686,297</u>	<u>699,476</u>
Net expenditure and net movement in funds		<u>11,724</u>	<u>(38,588)</u>	<u>(26,864)</u>	<u>(71,063)</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		222,891	73,725	296,616	367,679
Total funds carried forward		<u>234,615</u>	<u>35,137</u>	<u>269,752</u>	<u>296,616</u>

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

The notes on pages 11 to 20 form part of these financial statements.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Balance sheet

31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	11		1,145		3,167
Current assets					
Debtors	12	110,082		162,434	
Cash at bank and in hand		177,753		265,725	
		<u>287,835</u>		<u>428,159</u>	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(19,228)</u>		<u>(134,710)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>268,607</u>		<u>293,449</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>269,752</u>		<u>296,616</u>
Net assets			<u>269,752</u>		<u>296,616</u>
Funds of the charity					
Restricted funds			35,137		73,725
Unrestricted funds			234,615		222,891
Total charity funds	16		<u>269,752</u>		<u>296,616</u>

For the year ending 31 March 2025 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on C Read, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Carol Read
C Read
Chair

Company registration number: 06674059

The notes on pages 11 to 20 form part of these financial statements.

Families Together Suffolk**Company Limited by Guarantee****Statement of cash flows****Year ended 31 March 2025**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net expenditure	(26,864)	(71,063)
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	2,022	2,022
Other interest receivable and similar income	(5,631)	(2,623)
<i>Changes in:</i>		
Trade and other debtors	52,352	(140,509)
Trade and other creditors	(115,482)	127,754
Cash generated from operations	(93,603)	(84,419)
Interest received	5,631	2,623
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>(87,972)</u>	<u>(81,796)</u>
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(87,972)	(81,796)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	265,725	347,521
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>177,753</u>	<u>265,725</u>

The notes on pages 11 to 20 form part of these financial statements.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2025

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 20 Broad Street, Eye, Suffolk, IP23 7AF.

2. Statement of compliance

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. 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 issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis. The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

Income tax

As a registered charity, the activities are exempt from United Kingdom Income and Corporation taxation, provided that the income is applied to charitable purposes.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds, where necessary are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

Income

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity, it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Income *(continued)*

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.

Operating leases

Lease payments are recognised as an expense over the lease term on a straight-line basis. The aggregate benefit of lease incentives is recognised as a reduction to expense over the lease term, on a straight-line basis.

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Computer equipment, plant and machinery	-	33% straight line
Charity shop equipment	-	33% straight line

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

4. Limited by guarantee

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and does not have share capital. Every member of the charity undertakes to contribute such amounts (not exceeding £1) as required in the event of a winding up.

5. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Donations			
Donations including gift aid	29,454	750	30,204
Grants			
Grants	24,000	420,760	444,760
	<u>53,454</u>	<u>421,510</u>	<u>474,964</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Donations			
Donations including gift aid	15,859	373	16,232
Grants			
Grants	35,296	407,162	442,458
	<u>51,155</u>	<u>407,535</u>	<u>458,690</u>

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

5. Donations and legacies *(continued)*

Grants

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	2024 £
500 Suffolk Reasons	–	1,000	1,000	–
Adnams Community Trust	–	–	–	875
Awards for All	–	–	–	19,528
B&Q	–	5,000	5,000	–
BBC Children in Need	–	–	–	9,996
East of England Co-operative	–	–	–	1,100
Essex Community Foundation Saffron Fund	–	–	–	3,796
Garfield Weston	–	20,000	20,000	12,500
Glasspool Charity Trust	–	–	–	1,000
Havebury Housing	–	–	–	3,907
Haverhill Town Council	–	–	–	4,892
Ipswich Area Committee	–	3,958	3,958	–
Locality Budget Beccles	–	1,500	1,500	–
Masonic Foundation	–	59,354	59,354	–
Mid Suffolk District Council	4,000	14,230	18,230	9,489
Mrs LD Rope	–	15,000	15,000	180
Nationwide	–	–	–	4,750
NHS Suffolk and North East Essex ICB	–	190,203	190,203	264,896
Norfolk Community Foundation - Various projects	–	–	–	34,509
Postcode places trust	20,000	–	20,000	–
RAF Honington	–	–	–	8,559
Simon Gibson Charitable Trust	–	6,000	6,000	–
St Edmundsbury Trust	–	–	–	7,730
Stowmarket and District Lions	–	–	–	400
Stowmarket Town Council	–	–	–	500
Suffolk County Council	–	–	–	14,635
Tesco Stronger starts	–	375	375	1,125
The Belstead Ganzoni Charitable Trust	–	2,000	2,000	–
The Armed Forces Covenant Fund	–	7,144	7,144	6,295
The Henry Smith Foundation	–	30,000	30,000	30,000
The National Foundation for Youth Music	–	–	–	13,321
Trusthouse	–	–	–	30,000
West Suffolk District Council	–	–	–	5,908
Youth Music	–	11,988	11,988	–

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

5. Donations and legacies *(continued)*

Suffolk Community Foundation:

SCF - Beckett Health and Wellbeing

Fund	–	2,000	2,000	–
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SCF - E and J Legacy	–	3,000	3,000	–
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SCF - Early Diagnosis and Cancer				
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Screening Fund	–	4,358	4,358	–
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SCF - Equity in Mind	–	–	–	25,000
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SCF - Frank Jackson	–	4,702	4,702	4,940
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SCF - Food and drink Fund	–	1,500	1,500	–
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SCF - Giving Fund	–	2,000	2,000	–
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SCF - Household Support Fund	–	17,500	17,500	20,000
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SCF - Hubble Bubble	–	–	–	1,639
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SCF - J and A Grantmaking Programme	–	2,000	2,000	–
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SCF - Kingsfleet	–	948	–	–
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SCF - Miller Trust	–	1,500	1,500	–
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SCF - Sheriffs Fund	–	–	–	2,000
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SCF - Suffolk Cancer Screening Fund	–	–	–	3,934
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SCF - Technology Networks Fund	–	–	–	1,500
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SCF - Violence against Women and				
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Girls	–	13,500	13,500	16,500
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SCF - Women and Girls Fund	–	–	–	1,000
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	<u>24,000</u>	<u>420,760</u>	<u>443,812</u>	<u>566,404</u>
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6. Costs of other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Charity shop costs	49,089	–	49,089
Fundraising costs	1,774	–	1,774
	<u>50,863</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>50,863</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Charity shop costs	48,729	1,032	49,761
Fundraising costs	924	–	924
	<u>49,653</u>	<u>1,032</u>	<u>50,685</u>

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

7. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Grants expended	–	18,500	18,500
Premises costs	13,840	12,846	26,686
Staff and salary related costs	130,668	420,817	551,485
Support costs	30,828	7,935	38,763
	<u>175,336</u>	<u>460,098</u>	<u>635,434</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Grants expended	–	19,577	19,577
Premises costs	17,894	12,241	30,135
Staff and salary related costs	84,440	471,879	556,319
Support costs	31,028	11,732	42,760
	<u>133,362</u>	<u>515,429</u>	<u>648,791</u>

Support costs

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Trustees' expenses	691	–	691	952
Independent examiner fees	3,000	–	3,000	2,916
Equipment costs	2,553	7,935	10,488	14,264
License and subscriptions	6,051	–	6,051	7,866
Legal and professional fees	1,873	–	1,873	1,725
Advertising	4,073	–	4,073	4,702
Printing, postage and stationery	3,901	–	3,901	3,004
Bank charges	112	–	112	82
Telephone costs	7,573	–	7,573	6,317
Website costs	1,001	–	1,001	932
	<u>30,828</u>	<u>7,935</u>	<u>38,763</u>	<u>42,760</u>

8. Net expenditure

Net expenditure is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2025 £	2024 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>2,022</u>	<u>2,022</u>

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

9. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages, salaries and other employee costs	493,122	499,110
Social security costs	33,895	32,852
Pension costs	24,468	24,357
	<u>551,485</u>	<u>556,319</u>

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Trustees, the Families and Development Manager (replacing the former Operations Manager) and the Business Manager. The total employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) of the key management personnel of the charity were £70,108 (2024: £84,540).

The average head count of employees during the year was 24 (2024: 25).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2024: Nil).

10. Trustee remuneration and expenses

The trustees were neither entitled to, nor received, any remuneration from the charity (2024: Nil). Trustee were reimbursed expenses amounting to £311 (2024: £199) during the year.

11. Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment, plant and machinery £	Charity shop equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025	<u>11,342</u>	<u>45,719</u>	<u>57,061</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2024	9,242	44,652	53,894
Charge for the year	<u>1,312</u>	<u>710</u>	<u>2,022</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>10,554</u>	<u>45,362</u>	<u>55,916</u>
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2025	<u>788</u>	<u>357</u>	<u>1,145</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>2,100</u>	<u>1,067</u>	<u>3,167</u>

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

12. Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	51,644	146,453
Prepayments and accrued income	30,157	—
Gift aid tax debtor	28,281	15,981
	<u>110,082</u>	<u>162,434</u>

13. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	33	75
Accruals and deferred income	3,000	126,256
Social security and other taxes	16,195	8,379
	<u>19,228</u>	<u>134,710</u>

14. Deferred income

	2025	2024
	£	£
Amount deferred in year	<u>—</u>	<u>123,946</u>

Deferred income relates to conditional grant income received in the year in relation to projects being completed in following years.

15. Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £24,468 (2024: £24,357).

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

16. Analysis of charitable funds

2025

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Birth and Beyond	72,626	403,010	(440,499)	–	35,137
Hardship Fund	1,099	18,500	(19,599)	–	–
	<u>73,725</u>	<u>421,510</u>	<u>(460,098)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>35,137</u>

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
General fund	<u>222,891</u>	<u>237,923</u>	<u>(226,199)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>234,615</u>

2024

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Birth and Beyond	181,655	387,855	(496,884)	–	72,626
Hardship Fund	996	19,680	(19,577)	–	1,099
	<u>182,651</u>	<u>407,535</u>	<u>(516,461)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>73,725</u>

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	<u>185,028</u>	<u>220,878</u>	<u>(183,015)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>222,891</u>

Birth and Beyond - Represents amounts received and set aside as dictated by various funding providers towards the core costs and primary projects of the charity. This fund was fully completed and expended in the year to 31 March 2025 with the overspend made up from general funds by way of a transfer at the year end date.

Hardship Fund - Represents amounts received from Suffolk Community Foundation, Glasspool Charity and 500 Suffolk Reasons to grant directly to families experiencing hardship due to the pandemic and cost of living crisis. Final amounts in respect of this fund were expended in the year ended 31 March 2025.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,145	–	1,145
Current assets	252,698	35,137	287,835
Creditors less than 1 year	(19,228)	–	(19,228)
Net assets	234,615	35,137	269,752

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	3,167	–	3,167
Current assets	230,488	197,671	428,159
Creditors less than 1 year	(10,764)	(123,946)	(134,710)
Net assets	222,891	73,725	296,616

18. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 Apr 2024 £	Cash flows £	At 31 Mar 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	265,725	(87,972)	177,753

19. Operating lease commitments

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

	2025 £	2024 £
Not later than 1 year	7,150	19,300
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	8,125	15,275
	15,275	34,575

20. Related parties

There were no related party transactions in this or the prior year.

Accounts

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 06674059

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1127760

**Families Together Suffolk
Company Limited by Guarantee
Unaudited financial statements
31 March 2024**

Families Together Suffolk
Company Limited by Guarantee
Financial statements
Year ended 31 March 2024

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Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report)

Year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Companies Act 2006 and 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 published in October 2019.

Chair's report

As we mark our 40th year of providing essential practical and emotional support to families, we reflect on a journey that began in 1983 and saw us officially registered as a charity in 1984. Our organization, which started with a small team of dedicated staff and volunteers, has grown substantially over the years. Today, we boast a large team that works closely with parents both in their homes and through community-based group support settings that parents can attend with their children.

Over the past year, our services have expanded significantly across Suffolk, offering more specialized support in areas such as perinatal care, mental health, and Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). The impact of our work is best captured in the heartfelt feedback from the parents we have supported:

- "After each visit, I felt more motivated and able to carry on. The support is always uplifting, improving my mental health, and helps me to feel more positive and confident that I am doing my best for my children's future."
- "I have gained more confidence in myself and am in a better place than I was before receiving support."
- "Families Together Suffolk gave me reassurance and encouragement to believe in myself, even through stressful situations."
- "I am looking after my mental health, making more time for myself, and not feeling bad about reaching out to family and friends. It was good to have someone to talk to about my circumstances who validated my feelings and wasn't personally involved."

Providing a space where parents can talk, be heard, and receive both emotional and practical support is vital in helping them move forward with their lives and secure a brighter future for their children. Our work within the community is particularly impactful in areas where local services and support are lacking. We help parents become more resilient, happier, more confident, and less isolated, offering them a welcoming place where they feel part of a supportive community.

This past year, our dedicated staff, together with our 72 volunteers, have supported and encouraged 761 families across Suffolk. This incredible achievement would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of our team.

Thank you to all our staff and volunteers across Families Together Suffolk, including those in Family and Group Support, Business Support, and Retail. Your commitment and hard work continue to make a profound difference in the lives of so many families.

I'd also like to take the opportunity to thank all our funders, partners and supporters who provide the resources to make these services available in our county, providing lifelines to those who need it.

Carol Read

Carol Read
Chair of Trustees
17/9/2024

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Families Together Suffolk
Charity registration number	1127760
Company registration number	06674059
Principal office and registered office	20 Broad Street Eye Suffolk IP23 7AF

The trustees

The trustees who served during the year and at the date of approval were as follows:

C Read (Chair)
S Hudson
H Jackson
C Lay
K Sansom
G Tryon

Independent examiner	L Thurston FCCA Lovewell Blake LLP Chartered accountants First Floor Suite 2 Hillside Business Park Bury St Edmunds IP32 7EA
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Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Objectives and activities

The objects of the Charity are:

1. to safeguard, protect and preserve the good health, both mental and physical of children and parents of children,
2. to prevent cruelty to or maltreatment of children,
3. to relieve sickness, poverty and need amongst children and parents of children,
4. to promote the education of the public in child development and care, within the area of Suffolk and its environs.

The charity acknowledges its requirement to have charitable purposes or 'aims' that are for the public benefit. The trustees confirm that they have paid due regards to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit before deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Achievements and performance

Support services are provided to families through home-visiting and groups with some activities specifically designed to meet a need for example our Chill, Chat and Play perinatal mental health support groups. Within our frontline staff we also have a dedicated SEND support team who work with the neurodevelopment delay pathway and across Suffolk with children and families needing SEND support.

Parents report improved relationships with partners and wider family after engaging with FTS as well as improved confidence, self esteem and social networks. Almost 100% of families cite isolation as a factor in asking for help.

Through ongoing monitoring of our work we have measured the following outcomes achieved over the year:

- 82% of parents have reported an improvement in their ability to cope with their mental health and wellbeing.
- 80% reported that support and regular contact from volunteers and/or coordinators had helped to alleviate their sense of isolation and widened their social support networks.
- 81% of parents inform us that FTS home visiting support has helped them to improve their relationship with their child and become more interested in their development.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Financial review

Overview

The past year has been one of resilience and adaptation as we faced significant challenges brought on by the ongoing cost-of-living crisis. Inflationary pressures have impacted all sectors, including charities, and we continue to experience an increasing demand for our services. The number of beneficiaries we are asked to support is growing however we remain steadfast in our mission to provide essential services to families with young children and to navigate these financial difficulties with long-term sustainability in mind.

Income and Funding

Securing sufficient funding to meet rising demand remains one of our greatest challenges. This year, total income amounted to £628,413, a vital contribution to our programs, although this represents a 20.3% decrease from the previous year. Despite this reduction, we are proud that our income remains stable, enabling us to continue delivering critical services. We also saw a significant 10.1% increase in fundraising income due to a renewed fundraising strategy, which will be built on to provide greater flexibility and security for our future planning.

Our retail activities, both on the high street and online, saw a rise to £167,100, up from £151,780 in 2022-23.

A key financial achievement this year was the growth in free reserves, which has strengthened our ability to weather economic uncertainties. These reserves are essential as we face increased financial pressures from both rising costs and higher demand for services.

Beneficiaries and Strategic Partnerships

The growing needs of our beneficiaries have driven us to deepen our collaboration with partners. Through strategic partnerships, we successfully distributed hardship funds, including the Household Support Fund, to families grappling with the rising costs of food and fuel in early 2024. Additionally, we have secured eight multi-year funding streams, which are critical to our long-term strategic goals and provide a more stable foundation for the future.

However, the most pressing challenge remains securing ongoing funding to ensure we can continue delivering essential services. As the needs of families grow, the gap between available resources and demand widens, requiring continuous efforts to raise funds and seek new partnerships.

Branding, Communications, and Technology Integration

To better communicate our services and attract much-needed volunteers and supporters, we completed the second phase of our branding and promotions project with Brix. This project helped raise awareness of our work in the community and increased our visibility among potential beneficiaries. Additionally, we built on our social media presence and launched a new website, improving our digital footprint and enhancing our ability to engage with supporters and service users alike.

Learning from the challenges of the pandemic, we are developing plans to further integrate technology into our communication and service delivery to better support both families and staff. These enhancements will allow us to maintain regular contact with families even as the pressures of family life and childcare demands grow. By offering flexible communication options-such as virtual check-ins, digital resources, and remote support-staff will be able to provide timely assistance without placing additional burdens on families' schedules. This approach will not replace our face-to-face support but rather complement and enhance it, ensuring families receive continuous, personalized care while improving the efficiency and reach of our services.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Financial Risk Management

The recent rise in interest rates provided an opportunity to enhance our financial risk management strategy. Trustees and directors have allocated funds to maximize the benefits of the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS), reducing risk associated with our bank-held assets and safeguarding our reserves. Investment income increased from £689 in 2022-23 to £2,623 in the current year and we expect this strategy to raise significantly more interest in the year 2024-25.

Conclusion and Outlook

The year ahead presents both opportunities and challenges. While we are proud of our financial stability, successful fundraising efforts, and technological advancements, the growing needs of our beneficiaries mean that we must continually adapt and innovate. Securing ongoing funding remains a significant challenge, but with our increased focus on branding, partnerships, and technology, we are well-positioned to meet the needs of the families we support.

As we continue to grow our unrestricted income, leverage long-term partnerships, and integrate new technology into our operations, we remain dedicated to making a lasting impact on the communities we serve. Our commitment to sustainability, resilience, and innovation will guide us through these uncertain times and ensure that we continue to meet the evolving needs of our beneficiaries.

Reserves policy

Our reserves policy is to maintain a minimum of three months and up to a maximum of six months running costs along with redundancies held in reserves. Currently this would amount to a minimum level of £91,507 (2023: £156,000). We are pleased to report unrestricted reserves have been increased and currently stand at £222,891 (2023: £185,028). The trustees believe this amount to be prudent given the current economic climate and recent expansion of the charity.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The charity was incorporated on 15 August 2008. The trustees are responsible for making decision on all matters of general concern and importance, including deciding on how the funds are to be spent. All charity information and registered numbers can be found on the legal and administrative information page, along with the trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the period.

None of the trustees have a beneficial interest in the company, and all of the trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

At Families Together Suffolk, our team of trustees, together with the support of staff and volunteers, are committed to our ongoing work to support parents and their children. We will continue to diversify to meet the needs of children and families in Suffolk now and in the future, whilst still providing the invaluable, reliable support that we are known for.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

New trustees are appointed from a recruitment and selection process to enhance the skills and experience of the board as a whole. Once appointed, trustees are provided with all the information required to assist them in performing their role as covering all aspects of the organisation.

Trustee induction and training

Following an induction by the charity, Families Together Suffolk provides trustees with training regarding the responsibilities of being a charity trustee. Additional trustee training is budgeted for should any trustee require this. All trustees undertake regular safeguarding training.

Risk assessment

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks. This work has identified the loss of personnel as a major risk which is addressed through retention activities and succession planning.

Independent examiner reappointment

A resolution to appoint L Thurston FCCA of Lovewell Blake LLP as independent examiner will be proposed at the next relevant board meeting.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Plans for future periods

It is the aim of Families Together Suffolk to meet the needs of children and families in the county by providing support services through home-visiting and group work that parents from any background can access.

During 2024-26 we will:

- Work in partnership with other organisations in the area and are seeking new ways we can work with others to meet the needs in the county.
- Develop our offer for all ages and stages of early parent hood through our Birth and Beyond project.
- Complete a new quality assurance framework to demonstrate accountability and quality.
- Consult families to ensure services are meeting their expectations and requirements.
- Aim to increase the value of multiyear funding for sustainability of service strands.
- Maintain presence on stakeholder feedback boards and meetings to continue to shape Suffolk services.
- Develop environmentally friendly credentials at core of service.
- Streamline and review policy and procedures.
- Monitor and safeguard staff wellbeing.
- Utilise technology to increase both internal and external communications.
- Recruit new trustees with skills identified from skills audit.
- Recruit and train more volunteers to carry out all activities.
- Offer an ongoing training programme to volunteers bi-monthly.
- Improve our ability to report on outcomes by adopting new software system.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared taking advantage of the small companies' exemption of section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 17/9/2024..... and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

Carol Read

C Read
Chair

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Families Together Suffolk

Year ended 31 March 2024

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), balance sheet, statement of cash flows and the related notes.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the company 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 company's financial statements 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 charity'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 Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, 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 the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the financial statements 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 and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other 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.



L Thurston FCCA
Independent Examiner

Lovewell Blake LLP
Chartered accountants
First Floor Suite
2 Hillside Business Park
Bury St Edmunds
IP32 7EA
17/9/2024

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2024

			2024		2023
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	5	51,155	407,535	458,690	636,442
Other trading activities		167,100	–	167,100	151,780
Investment income		2,623	–	2,623	689
Total income		<u>220,878</u>	<u>407,535</u>	<u>628,413</u>	<u>788,911</u>
Expenditure					
Raising funds					
Costs of other trading activities	6	49,653	1,032	50,685	51,523
Charitable activities	7	133,362	515,429	648,791	640,032
Total expenditure		<u>183,015</u>	<u>516,461</u>	<u>699,476</u>	<u>691,555</u>
Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds		<u>37,863</u>	<u>(108,926)</u>	<u>(71,063)</u>	<u>97,356</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		185,028	182,651	367,679	270,323
Total funds carried forward		<u>222,891</u>	<u>73,725</u>	<u>296,616</u>	<u>367,679</u>

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

The notes on pages 12 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

Families Together Suffolk
Company Limited by Guarantee
Balance sheet
31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	11		3,167		5,189
Current assets					
Debtors	12	162,434		21,925	
Cash at bank and in hand		265,725		347,521	
		428,159		369,446	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	(134,710)		(6,956)	
Net current assets			293,449		362,490
Total assets less current liabilities			296,616		367,679
Net assets			296,616		367,679
Funds of the charity					
Restricted funds			73,725		182,651
Unrestricted funds			222,891		185,028
Total charity funds	16		296,616		367,679

For the year ending 31 March 2024 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 17/9/2024, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Carol Read
C Read
Chair

Company registration number: 06674059

The notes on pages 12 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

Families Together Suffolk
Company Limited by Guarantee
Statement of cash flows
Year ended 31 March 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net (expenditure)/income	(71,063)	97,356
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	2,022	2,280
Other interest receivable and similar income	(2,623)	(689)
Accrued expenses	1,206	—
<i>Changes in:</i>		
Trade and other debtors	(140,509)	(7,132)
Trade and other creditors	126,548	(1,584)
Cash generated from operations	(84,419)	90,231
Interest received	2,623	689
Net cash (used in)/from operating activities	<u>(81,796)</u>	<u>90,920</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of tangible assets	—	(6,068)
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>—</u>	<u>(6,068)</u>
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	(81,796)	84,852
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	347,521	262,669
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>265,725</u>	<u>347,521</u>

The notes on pages 12 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2024

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 20 Broad Street, Eye, Suffolk, IP23 7AF.

2. Statement of compliance

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. 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 issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

Income tax

As a registered charity, the activities are exempt from United Kingdom Income and Corporation taxation, provided that the income is applied to charitable purposes.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds, where necessary are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Income

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity, it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impracticable to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Operating leases

Lease payments are recognised as an expense over the lease term on a straight-line basis. The aggregate benefit of lease incentives is recognised as a reduction to expense over the lease term, on a straight-line basis.

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Computer equipment, plant and machinery	-	33% straight line
Charity shop equipment	-	33% straight line

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

4. Limited by guarantee

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and does not have share capital. Every member of the charity undertakes to contribute such amounts (not exceeding £1) as required in the event of a winding up.

5. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Donations			
Donations including gift aid	15,859	373	16,232
Grants			
Grants	35,296	407,162	442,458
	<u>51,155</u>	<u>407,535</u>	<u>458,690</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Donations			
Donations including gift aid	16,414	—	16,414
Grants			
Grants	26,021	594,007	620,028
	<u>42,435</u>	<u>594,007</u>	<u>636,442</u>

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

5. Donations and legacies *(continued)*

Grants

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	2023 £
500 Suffolk Reasons	–	–	–	1,000
Adnams Community Trust	–	875	875	–
Awards for All	–	19,528	19,528	–
BBC Children in Need	–	9,996	9,996	20,288
Bury St Edmunds Town Council Locality Funding	–	–	–	1,584
Chidwick Trust	–	–	–	10,000
East of England Co-operative	–	1,100	1,100	–
Essex Community Foundation Saffron Fund	–	3,796	3,796	–
Garfield Weston	–	12,500	12,500	12,500
Glasspool Charity Trust	–	1,000	1,000	1,000
Havebury Housing	–	3,907	3,907	–
Haverhill Town Council	–	4,892	4,892	–
Mid Suffolk District Council	4,000	5,489	9,489	25,000
Mrs LD Rope	–	180	180	10,000
National Lottery Community Fund	–	–	–	42,005
Nationwide Building Society	–	4,750	4,750	–
NHS Suffolk and North East Essex ICB	31,296	233,600	264,896	122,991
Norfolk Community Foundation Healthy Young Minds	–	24,511	24,511	–
Norfolk Community Foundation Gt Yarmouth and Waveney Maternity Care Fund	–	9,998	9,998	7,953
RAF Honington	–	8,559	8,559	11,375
Suffolk Community Foundation:				
SCF - Circle of Care	–	–	–	1,000
SCF - Cost of Living Grant	–	–	–	1,500
SCF - Equity in Mind	–	25,000	25,000	25,000
SCF - Frank Jackson	–	4,940	4,940	–
SCF - Giving Fund	–	–	–	2,000
SCF - Growing Minds	–	–	–	98,874
SCF - Hardship Fund	–	–	–	17,355
SCF - Household Support Fund	–	20,000	20,000	–
SCF - Hubble Bubble	–	1,639	1,639	–
SCF - RSM Fund	–	–	–	2,000
SCF - Sheriffs Fund	–	2,000	2,000	–
SCF - Suffolk Cancer Screening Fund	–	3,934	3,934	3,496
SCF - Technology Networks Fund	–	1,500	1,500	–
SCF - Violence against Women and Girls	–	16,500	16,500	19,834
SCF - Women and Girls Fund	–	1,000	1,000	994
St Edmundsbury Trust	–	7,730	7,730	–
Stowmarket and District Lions	–	400	400	–
Stowmarket Town Council	–	500	500	–
Suffolk County Council	–	14,635	14,635	30,984
Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner	–	–	–	2,500
Tesco Stronger starts	–	1,125	1,125	–

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

5. Donations and legacies *(continued)*

The Armed Forces Covenant Fund	—	6,295	6,295	47,941
The Four Acre Trust	—	—	—	22,021
The Henry Smith Charity	—	30,000	30,000	30,000
The Lord Belstead Settlement	—	—	—	3,000
The National Foundation for Youth Music	—	13,321	13,321	—
Trusthouse Charitable Foundation	—	30,000	30,000	30,000
Waitrose	—	—	—	833
West Suffolk District Council	—	5,908	5,908	15,000
	<u>35,296</u>	<u>531,108</u>	<u>566,404</u>	<u>620,028</u>

6. Costs of other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Charity shop costs	48,729	1,032	49,761
Fundraising costs	924	—	924
	<u>49,653</u>	<u>1,032</u>	<u>50,685</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Charity shop costs	51,228	—	51,228
Fundraising costs	295	—	295
	<u>51,523</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>51,523</u>

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

7. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Third party projects	–	19,577	19,577
Office costs	17,894	12,241	30,135
Staff and salary related costs	84,440	471,879	556,319
Support costs	31,028	11,732	42,760
	<u>133,362</u>	<u>515,429</u>	<u>648,791</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Third party projects	–	21,863	21,863
Office costs	12,738	11,993	24,731
Staff and salary related costs	65,332	489,010	554,342
Support costs	33,279	5,817	39,096
	<u>111,349</u>	<u>528,683</u>	<u>640,032</u>

Support costs

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Trustees' expenses	952	–	952	306
Independent examiners fees	2,916	–	2,916	1,104
Equipment costs	3,537	10,727	14,264	9,759
License and subscriptions	7,802	64	7,866	8,082
Legal and professional fees	1,725	–	1,725	1,609
Advertising	3,812	890	4,702	7,935
Printing, postage and stationery	2,996	8	3,004	2,764
Bank charges	82	–	82	57
Telephone costs	6,274	43	6,317	6,040
Website costs	932	–	932	1,440
	<u>31,028</u>	<u>11,732</u>	<u>42,760</u>	<u>39,096</u>

8. Net (expenditure)/income

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

	2024 £	2023 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>2,022</u>	<u>2,280</u>

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

9. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages, salaries and other employee costs	499,110	496,500
Social security costs	32,852	33,676
Pension costs	24,357	24,166
	<u>556,319</u>	<u>554,342</u>

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Trustees, Operations Manager and Business Manager. The total employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) of the key management personnel of the charity were £84,540 (2023: £81,571).

The average head count of employees during the year was 25 (2023: 24).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2023: Nil).

10. Trustee remuneration and expenses

The trustees were neither entitled to, nor received, any remuneration from the charity (2023: Nil). Trustees were reimbursed expenses amounting to £199 (2023: £306) during the year.

11. Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment, plant and machinery £	Charity shop equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024	<u>11,342</u>	<u>45,719</u>	<u>57,061</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2023	7,930	43,942	51,872
Charge for the year	<u>1,312</u>	<u>710</u>	<u>2,022</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>9,242</u>	<u>44,652</u>	<u>53,894</u>
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2024	<u>2,100</u>	<u>1,067</u>	<u>3,167</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>3,412</u>	<u>1,777</u>	<u>5,189</u>

12. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	146,453	10,492
Gift aid tax debtor	15,981	11,433
	<u>162,434</u>	<u>21,925</u>

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

13. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	75	–
Accruals and deferred income	126,256	1,104
Social security and other taxes	8,379	5,852
	<u>134,710</u>	<u>6,956</u>

14. Deferred income

	2024	2023
	£	£
Amount deferred in year	<u>123,946</u>	<u>–</u>

Deferred income relates to conditional grant income received in the year on behalf of projects being completed in following years.

15. Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £24,357 (2023: £24,166).

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

16. Analysis of charitable funds

2024

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Birth and Beyond	181,655	387,855	(496,884)	—	72,626
Hardship Fund	996	19,680	(19,577)	—	1,099
	<u>182,651</u>	<u>407,535</u>	<u>(516,461)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>73,725</u>

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	<u>185,028</u>	<u>220,878</u>	<u>(183,015)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>222,891</u>

2023

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Birth and Beyond	113,824	574,652	(506,821)	—	181,655
Hardship Fund	3,503	19,355	(21,862)	—	996
	<u>117,327</u>	<u>594,007</u>	<u>(528,683)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>182,651</u>

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	<u>152,996</u>	<u>194,904</u>	<u>(162,872)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>185,028</u>

Birth and Beyond - Represents amounts received and set aside as dictated by various funding providers towards the core costs and primary projects of the charity.

Hardship Fund - Represents amounts received from Suffolk Community Foundation, Glasspool Charity and 500 Suffolk Reasons to grant directly to families experiencing hardship due to the pandemic and cost of living crisis.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	3,167	–	3,167
Current assets	230,488	197,671	428,159
Creditors less than 1 year	(10,764)	(123,946)	(134,710)
Net assets	222,891	73,725	296,616

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	5,189	–	5,189
Current assets	186,795	182,651	369,446
Creditors less than 1 year	(6,956)	–	(6,956)
Net assets	185,028	182,651	367,679

18. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 Apr 2023 £	Cash flows £	At 31 Mar 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	347,521	(81,796)	265,725

19. Operating lease commitments

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

	2024 £	2023 £
Not later than 1 year	19,300	34,300
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	15,275	34,575
	34,575	68,875

20. Related parties

Other than those disclosed elsewhere in the accounts, there were no related party transactions in this or the prior year.

Accounts

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 06674059

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1127760

**Families Together Suffolk
Company Limited by Guarantee
Unaudited financial statements
31 March 2023**

Families Together Suffolk
Company Limited by Guarantee
Financial statements
Year ended 31 March 2023

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Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report)

Year ended 31 March 2023

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Companies Act 2006 and 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 published in October 2019.

Chair's report

'Many parts make up the whole'

As we enter our 40th year of supporting families within Suffolk there are many things to celebrate including the achievements of families past and present in meeting the challenges of parenting and we are now meeting some of those who were originally involved with the organisation in the early days including parents, children, volunteers and supporters.

During the past year we have supported 226 new families in Suffolk through our home visiting service. As well as a total of 622 families who have attended one or more of our groups. We have seen an increase in referrals for our home visiting service which has provided support for families including mental health, isolation, loneliness, budgeting, children's development, SEND and many other challenges.

Parents, with support from our committed staff and dedicated volunteers, have identified more opportunities to bond and play with their children and this has helped parents with their understanding of children's development and behaviour. This has empowered them to identify how they can meet the children's and their needs to thrive together.

Some of the quotes received from parents who have used our services:

'Group has been really beneficial for me in managing concerns and worries I have had throughout my first year of being a parent; it has been incredibly helpful to have a place where I can go and seek non-judgemental advice or support when I have been worried about things like teething, supporting my baby's safety when she started crawling, concerns about sleep etc. Talking to other mums I have been able to sometimes get tips which have helped at home (like cucumber for teething) or just been able to share experiences and not feel so alone!'

'It has been a revelation to me to meet other mums with mental health concerns who are open to talking about and sharing their experiences because there can be such pressure to be perfect that I think a lot of people wear a facade of everything being ok. At group it doesn't feel like there is any of that pressure and we are all there because we are fallible, which is really refreshing.'

'Having help from Families Together Suffolk has made such a big difference in finding ways to help with my son's frustration and techniques to calm him down. My son's behaviour is so much better and I have a better understanding of his needs.' 'We have had home visiting support from Families Together Suffolk and have been having visits for some months now. It has been so lovely to have one to one support and someone to talk through problems with, in privacy and more detail, whilst at the same time giving me the opportunity to do different activities I want to but have needed some support to achieve, like visiting somewhere new with my baby (an outdoor park) and going litter picking to help improve my local environment.'

'I have made friends with a few of the mums from group and been able to talk to them about their and my mental health and feel understood by them in ways I never have by others before, this has made me feel less of an "outsider" and less alone in life generally, so this has been a really special outcome of attending group for me.'

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

'Families Together Suffolk gave me someone who gets it - when life is so complicated it's good to feel that you have someone on your side.'

Families grow and change over the years just as Families Together grows and adapts to meet the needs that are challenging families now.

One thing is consistent though, by giving support and a listening ear, we can do a great deal to enable and empower families and to meet children's needs and development.

Thank you to our committed staff who make up the many parts of our organisation and to all the dedicated volunteers who help with home-visiting, groups, retail and e-Bay and our board of trustees.



Carol Read
Chair of Trustees

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Families Together Suffolk
Charity registration number	1127760
Company registration number	06674059
Principal office and registered office	20 Broad Street Eye Suffolk IP23 7AF

The trustees

The trustees who served during the year and at the date of approval were as follows:

C Read (Chair)
S Hudson (Appointed 25/07/2022)
H Jackson
C Lay
K Sansom
G Tryon
C Such (Resigned 27/09/2022)

Independent examiner	L Thurston FCCA Lovewell Blake LLP Chartered accountants First Floor Suite 2 Hillside Business Park Bury St Edmunds IP32 7EA
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Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

Objectives and activities

The objects of the Charity are:

1. to safeguard, protect and preserve the good health, both mental and physical of children and parents of children,
2. to prevent cruelty to or maltreatment of children,
3. to relieve sickness, poverty and need amongst children and parents of children,
4. to promote the education of the public in child development and care, within the area of Suffolk and its environs.

The charity acknowledges its requirement to have charitable purposes or 'aims' that are for the public benefit. The trustees confirm that they have paid due regards to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit before deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Achievements and performance

Support services are provided to families through home-visiting and groups with some activities specifically designed to meet a need for example our Chill, Chat and Play perinatal mental health support groups. Within our frontline staff we also have a dedicated SEND support team who work with the neurodevelopment delay pathway and across Suffolk with children and families needing SEND support.

Parents report improved relationships with partners and wider family after engaging with FTS as well as improved confidence, self esteem and social networks. Almost 100% of families cite isolation as a factor in asking for help.

Through ongoing monitoring of our work we have measured the following outcomes achieved over the year:

- 72% of parents have reported an improvement in their ability to cope with their mental health and wellbeing.
- 66% reported that support and regular contact from volunteers and/or coordinators had helped to alleviate their sense of isolation and widened their social support networks.
- 70% of parents inform us that FTS home visiting support has helped them to improve their relationship with their child and become more interested in their development.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

Financial review

2022-23 saw the country emerging from the pandemic years and into a cost of living crisis with inflation rising and the ongoing effects of conflict and political decisions taking effect. Operating against this backdrop is a challenge for all charities including Families Together Suffolk (FTS) as funding is increasingly sought after to support worthy causes, the cost of living crisis affects the population at large and is particularly impactful on those with lower incomes.

We have worked hard to continue to secure vital funding to support families with young children in our county and have increased our income by 19% this year compared to 2021-22. Of the increased income totalling £123,867, £28,781 was an increase in trading income from our retail operation including the charity shop and eBay Hub. Overall expenditure rose by £74,446 or 12% in the year. The result of increasing our unrestricted income has been to increase the sustainability of our operations and to increase the amount of free reserves we have available to keep in line with the trustees' reserves policy.

We have worked in partnership with other organisations including health and VCSE's (Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise) to coordinate skills and expertise. Demand for services continues and is often more complex in nature. Working collaboratively ensures families have access to the right services for them at the right time which will ultimately deliver better support outcomes in our communities in Suffolk.

Alongside our core support services to families, we were able to continue to apply for and distribute hardship funds directly to families facing extreme circumstances. Funds received have been through Suffolk Community Foundation, 500 Suffolk Reasons and the Glasspool Charity.

Our dedicated funding team gained a new member during the year to help us to apply for and monitor the impact of our work. We were pleased to be successful in our applications to many new (to us) funders who share the objectives and vision of FTS. Our long-term strategy is to apply for funds that span multiple years which has remained stable at 9 funds (10 in 2021-22). Some of the exciting projects we have been involved in have a county widespread including SEND support and supporting families in crisis where children are suffering from severe mental health problems.

We have made ongoing investment in our IT hardware and software infrastructure to enable our team to function efficiently and maintain communications over a distributed workforce. Our customer relationship database, financial systems, cloud-based systems, and back-office functions all provide a strong foundation for great frontline support work. During 2023-24 we will improve our systems for monitoring the impact of our work across the whole scope of our services which will have a range of benefits for families, funders, service management and staff.

There has been a welcome return to higher interest rates on savings meaning our reserves have started to attract a more significant amount in returns. We have also been successful in attracting generous donations to our retail outlets and capturing gift aid on donations where donors are UK taxpayers and sign up to the HMRC scheme. Retail performance has exceeded expectations and the strategy for this operation will be reviewed in the coming year.

The organisation is celebrating working its 40th year in 2023 and we have now completed our first successful year under our new name. We continue to promote the new branding to ensure those who need our services can find the support they need. As a celebration of our 40th year we have joined with the Run for All organisation in a three-year partnership to take part in the Ipswich Half Marathon where we have 10 runners undertaking the course, race marshals and a cheer station. Runners each have a fundraising page on the Just Giving Platform all linked into our main Just Giving page.

We are grateful to our funders, fundraisers, partners and donors who have supported the ongoing work of Families Together Suffolk and helped families to meet challenges and achieve their goals. The impact of the funding received can make a lifelong impact in a child and parents' lives and we thank you for it.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

Financial review *(continued)*

Reserves policy

Our reserves policy is to maintain a minimum of three months and up to a maximum of six months running costs along with redundancies held in reserves. Currently this would amount to a minimum level of £156,000. We are pleased to report unrestricted reserves have been increased to reach the minimum level and currently stand at £185,028 (2022: £152,996). The trustees believe this amount to be prudent given the current economic climate and recent expansion of the charity. The trustees will maintain reserves to track a minimum level of 3 months operating costs over the course of the year.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The charity was incorporated on 15 August 2008. The trustees are responsible for making decision on all matters of general concern and importance, including deciding on how the funds are to be spent. All charity information and registered numbers can be found on the legal and administrative information page, along with the trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the period.

None of the trustees have a beneficial interest in the company, and all of the trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

On the 10 May 2022 a special written resolution to change the name of the company from Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk to Families Together Suffolk was agreed and passed by Trustees with the Memorandum and Articles of Association updated on the 1 July 2022. It was felt 'Families Together Suffolk' better reflected the type of work undertaken and the area supported by the charity.

At Families Together Suffolk, our team of trustees, together with the support of staff and volunteers, are committed to our ongoing work to support parents and their children. We will continue to diversify to meet the needs of children and families in Suffolk now and in the future, whilst still providing the invaluable, reliable support that we are known for.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

New trustees are appointed from a recruitment and selection process to enhance the skills and experience of the board as a whole. Once appointed, trustees are provided with all the information required to assist them in performing their role as covering all aspects of the organisation.

Trustee induction and training

Following an induction by the charity, Families Together Suffolk provides trustees with training regarding the responsibilities of being a charity trustee. Additional trustee training is budgeted for should any trustee require this. All trustees undertake regular safeguarding training.

Risk assessment

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks. This work has identified the loss of personnel as a major risk which is addressed through retention activities and succession planning.

Independent examiner reappointment

A resolution to appoint L Thurston FCCA of Lovewell Blake LLP as independent examiner will be proposed at the next relevant board meeting.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

Plans for future periods

It is the aim of Families Together Suffolk to meet the needs of children and families in the county by providing support services through home-visiting and group work that parents from any background can access.

During 2023-24 we will:

- Work in partnership with other organisations in the area and are seeking new ways we can work with others to meet the needs in the county.
- Develop our offer for all ages and stages of early parent hood through our Birth and Beyond project.
- Complete a new quality assurance framework to demonstrate accountability and quality.
- Consult families to ensure services are meeting their expectations and requirements.
- Aim to increase the value of multiyear funding for sustainability of service strands.
- Maintain presence on stakeholder feedback boards and meetings to continue to shape Suffolk services.
- Develop environmentally friendly credentials at core of service.
- Streamline and review policy and procedures.
- Monitor and safeguard staff wellbeing.
- Utilise technology to increase both internal and external communications.
- Recruit new trustees with skills identified from skills audit.
- Recruit and train more volunteers to carry out all activities.
- Offer an ongoing training programme to volunteers bi-monthly.
- Improve our ability to report on outcomes by adopting new software system.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared taking advantage of the small companies' exemption of section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 06/09/2023..... and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



C Read
Chair

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Families Together Suffolk

Year ended 31 March 2023

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), balance sheet, statement of cash flows and the related notes.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the company 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 company's financial statements 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 charity'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 Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, 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 the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the financial statements 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 and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other 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.



L Thurston FCCA
Independent Examiner

Lovewell Blake LLP
Chartered accountants
First Floor Suite
2 Hillside Business Park
Bury St Edmunds
IP32 7EA

11 September 2023

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2023

		Unrestricted funds £	2023 Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
	Note				
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	5	42,435	594,007	636,442	542,019
Other trading activities		151,780	–	151,780	122,999
Investment income		689	–	689	26
Total income		<u>194,904</u>	<u>594,007</u>	<u>788,911</u>	<u>665,044</u>
Expenditure					
Raising funds					
Costs of other trading activities	6	51,523	–	51,523	57,708
Charitable activities	7	111,349	528,683	640,032	559,401
Total expenditure		<u>162,872</u>	<u>528,683</u>	<u>691,555</u>	<u>617,109</u>
Net income and net movement in funds		<u>32,032</u>	<u>65,324</u>	<u>97,356</u>	<u>47,935</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		152,996	117,327	270,323	222,388
Total funds carried forward		<u>185,028</u>	<u>182,651</u>	<u>367,679</u>	<u>270,323</u>

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

The notes on pages 11 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

Families Together Suffolk
Company Limited by Guarantee
Balance sheet
31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	11		5,189		1,401
Current assets					
Debtors	12	21,925		14,793	
Cash at bank and in hand		347,521		262,669	
		<u>369,446</u>		<u>277,462</u>	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(6,956)</u>		<u>(8,540)</u>	
Net current assets			362,490		268,922
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>367,679</u>		<u>270,323</u>
Net assets			<u>367,679</u>		<u>270,323</u>
Funds of the charity					
Restricted funds			182,651		117,327
Unrestricted funds			185,028		152,996
Total charity funds	15		<u>367,679</u>		<u>270,323</u>

For the year ending 31 March 2023 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on ...06/09/2023..., and are signed on behalf of the board by:

C. Read

C Read
Chair

Company registration number: 06674059

The notes on pages 11 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

Families Together Suffolk
Company Limited by Guarantee
Statement of cash flows
Year ended 31 March 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net income	97,356	47,935
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	2,280	7,670
Other interest receivable and similar income	(689)	(26)
Accrued income	—	(66)
<i>Changes in:</i>		
Trade and other debtors	(7,132)	(11,178)
Trade and other creditors	(1,584)	1,583
Cash generated from operations	90,231	45,918
Interest received	689	26
Net cash from operating activities	<u>90,920</u>	<u>45,944</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of tangible assets	(6,068)	—
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(6,068)</u>	<u>—</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	84,852	45,944
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<u>262,669</u>	<u>216,725</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>347,521</u>	<u>262,669</u>

The notes on pages 11 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2023

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 20 Broad Street, Eye, Suffolk, IP23 7AF.

2. Statement of compliance

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. 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 issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

Income tax

As a registered charity, the activities are exempt from United Kingdom Income and Corporation taxation, provided that the income is applied to charitable purposes.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds, where necessary are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Income

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity, it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impracticable to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Operating leases

Lease payments are recognised as an expense over the lease term on a straight-line basis. The aggregate benefit of lease incentives is recognised as a reduction to expense over the lease term, on a straight-line basis.

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Computer equipment, plant and machinery	-	33% straight line
Charity shop equipment	-	33% straight line

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

4. Limited by guarantee

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and does not have share capital. Every member of the charity undertakes to contribute such amounts (not exceeding £1) as may be required in the event of a winding up.

5. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Donations			
Donations	5,678	—	5,678
Gift aided donations	10,736	—	10,736
Grants			
Grants	26,021	594,007	620,028
	<u>42,435</u>	<u>594,007</u>	<u>636,442</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Donations			
Donations	2,286	230	2,516
Gift aided donations	11,178	—	11,178

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

5. Donations and legacies *(continued)*

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Grants			
Grants	45,016	483,309	528,325
	<u>58,480</u>	<u>483,539</u>	<u>542,019</u>

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

5. Donations and legacies *(continued)*

Grants

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	2022 £
500 Suffolk Reasons	–	500	500	500
Awards for All	–	–	–	9,964
BBC Children In Need	–	20,288	20,288	9,960
NHS Suffolk and North East Essex ICB	–	122,991	122,991	–
Childwick Trust	–	10,000	10,000	–
The Four Acre Trust	22,021	–	22,021	–
Garfield Weston	–	12,500	12,500	–
Glasspool Charity Trust	–	1,000	1,000	1,000
The Henry Smith Charity	–	30,000	30,000	30,000
Bury St Edmunds Town Council Locality Funding	–	1,584	1,584	–
Haverhill Town Council	–	–	–	4,000
HMRC CJRS Scheme	–	–	–	4,349
Home-Start UK	–	–	–	5,316
Mid Suffolk District Council	4,000	21,000	25,000	55,800
Mrs LD Rope	–	10,000	10,000	–
Norfolk Community Foundation Gt Yarmouth and Waveney Maternity Care Fund	–	7,953	7,953	–
National Lottery Community Fund	–	42,005	42,005	84,009
Nationwide Building Society	–	–	–	31,673
NHS Ipswich and East Suffolk CCG	–	–	–	43,326
NHS West Suffolk CCG	–	–	–	42,697
People's Postcode Lottery	–	–	–	14,931
RAF Honington	–	11,375	11,375	3,780
Rural Coffee Caravan	–	500	500	–
Stowmarket Town Council	–	–	–	394
Suffolk Community Foundation (SCF):				
SCF - Anglia water	–	–	–	4,974
SCF - Cervical Awareness	–	–	–	3,010
SCF - Community Foundation	–	–	–	2,500
SCF - Circle of Care	–	1,000	1,000	–
SCF - Cost of Living Grant	–	1,500	1,500	–
SCF - Coronavirus Grant	–	–	–	4,992
SCF - Equity in Mind	–	25,000	25,000	–
SCF - Frank Jackson Foundation	–	–	–	4,876
SCF - Giving Fund	–	2,000	2,000	–
SCF - Growing Minds	–	98,874	98,874	53,360
SCF - Hardship Fund	–	17,355	17,355	15,000
SCF - Martinueau Fund	–	–	–	1,967
SCF - Mens Mental Health	–	–	–	2,692
SCF - RSM Fund	–	2,000	2,000	–
SCF - Suffolk Cancer Screening	–	3,496	3,496	–
SCF - Violence against Women and Girls	–	19,834	19,834	–
SCF - Woman and Girls	–	994	994	1,000
Suffolk County Council	–	30,984	30,984	2,000
Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner	–	2,500	2,500	7,500

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

5. Donations and legacies *(continued)*

The Armed Forces Covenant Fund	—	47,941	47,941	40,745
The Lord Belstead Settlement	—	3,000	3,000	—
Trusthouse Charitable Foundation	—	30,000	30,000	30,000
Waitrose	—	833	833	—
West Suffolk District Council	—	15,000	15,000	12,010
	<u>26,021</u>	<u>594,007</u>	<u>620,028</u>	<u>528,325</u>

6. Costs of other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Charity shop costs	51,228	—	51,228
Fundraising costs	295	—	295
	<u>51,523</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>51,523</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Charity shop costs	56,924	700	57,624
Fundraising costs	84	—	84
	<u>57,008</u>	<u>700</u>	<u>57,708</u>

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

7. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Third party projects	–	21,863	21,863
Office costs	12,738	11,993	24,731
Staff and salary related costs	65,332	489,010	554,342
Support costs	33,279	5,817	39,096
	<u>111,349</u>	<u>528,683</u>	<u>640,032</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Third party projects	–	23,924	23,924
Office costs	11,796	15,104	26,900
Staff and salary related costs	48,414	418,365	466,779
Support costs	33,500	8,298	41,798
	<u>93,710</u>	<u>465,691</u>	<u>559,401</u>

Support costs

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Trustees' expenses	306	–	306	298
Home-Start fee	–	–	–	9,505
Independent examiners fees	1,104	–	1,104	1,464
Equipment costs	3,942	5,817	9,759	8,216
License and subscriptions	8,082	–	8,082	5,923
Legal and professional fees	1,609	–	1,609	1,959
Advertising	7,935	–	7,935	4,286
Printing, postage and stationery	2,764	–	2,764	3,013
Bank charges	57	–	57	24
Telephone costs	6,040	–	6,040	6,184
Website costs	1,440	–	1,440	926
	<u>33,279</u>	<u>5,817</u>	<u>39,096</u>	<u>41,798</u>

8. Net income

Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023 £	2022 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>2,280</u>	<u>7,670</u>

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

9. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages, salaries and other employee costs	496,500	422,312
Social security costs	33,676	24,860
Pension costs	24,166	19,607
	<u>554,342</u>	<u>466,779</u>

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Trustees, Operations Manager and Business Manager. The total employee benefits (including employer national insurance and employer pension contributions) of the key management personnel of the charity were £88,772 (2022: £76,666).

The average head count of employees during the year was 24 (2022: 21).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2022: Nil).

10. Trustee remuneration and expenses

The trustees were neither entitled to, nor received, any remuneration from the charity (2022: Nil). Trustee were reimbursed expenses amounting to £306 (2022: £298) during the year.

11. Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment, plant and machinery £	Charity shop equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2022	7,406	43,587	50,993
Additions	<u>3,936</u>	<u>2,132</u>	<u>6,068</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>11,342</u>	<u>45,719</u>	<u>57,061</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2022	6,005	43,587	49,592
Charge for the year	<u>1,925</u>	<u>355</u>	<u>2,280</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>7,930</u>	<u>43,942</u>	<u>51,872</u>
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2023	<u>3,412</u>	<u>1,777</u>	<u>5,189</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>1,401</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1,401</u>

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

12. Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade debtors	10,492	–
Gift aid tax debtor	11,433	14,793
	<u>21,925</u>	<u>14,793</u>

13. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	1,104	1,104
Social security and other taxes	5,852	7,436
	<u>6,956</u>	<u>8,540</u>

14. Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £24,166 (2022: £19,607).

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

15. Analysis of charitable funds

2023

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Birth and Beyond	113,824	574,652	(506,821)	—	181,655
Hardship Fund	3,503	19,355	(21,862)	—	996
	<u>117,327</u>	<u>594,007</u>	<u>(528,683)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>182,651</u>

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	<u>152,996</u>	<u>194,904</u>	<u>(162,872)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>185,028</u>

2022

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Family Group Fund	—	4,992	(4,992)	—	—
Birth and Beyond	93,308	460,247	(439,731)	—	113,824
Hardship Fund	6,521	18,650	(21,668)	—	3,503
	<u>99,829</u>	<u>483,889</u>	<u>(466,391)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>117,327</u>

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	<u>122,559</u>	<u>181,155</u>	<u>(150,718)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>152,996</u>

Family Group Fund - This represents amounts received and set aside as dictated by the fund provider towards specific costs of running certain groups in order to further the aims and objectives of the charity, this fund was completed as at 31 March 2022, with future projects being included in Birth and Beyond restricted fund.

Birth and Beyond - Represents amounts received and set aside as dictated by various funding providers towards the core costs and primary projects of the charity.

Hardship Fund - Represents amounts received from Suffolk Community Foundation, Glasspool Charity and 500 Suffolk Reasons to grant directly to families experiencing hardship due to the pandemic and cost of living crisis.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

16. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	5,189	–	5,189
Current assets	186,795	182,651	369,446
Creditors less than 1 year	(6,956)	–	(6,956)
Net assets	185,028	182,651	367,679

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,401	–	1,401
Current assets	160,135	117,327	277,462
Creditors less than 1 year	(8,540)	–	(8,540)
Net assets	152,996	117,327	270,323

17. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 Apr 2022 £	Cash flows £	At 31 Mar 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	262,669	84,852	347,521

18. Operating lease commitments

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

	2023 £	2022 £
Not later than 1 year	27,800	20,650
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	13,450	25,000
	41,250	45,650

19. Related parties

Other than those disclosed elsewhere in the accounts, there were no related party transactions in this or the prior year.

Accounts

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 06674059

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1127760

**Families Together Suffolk
Company Limited by Guarantee
Unaudited financial statements
31 March 2022**

Families Together Suffolk
Company Limited by Guarantee
Financial statements
Year ended 31 March 2022

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Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report)

Year ended 31 March 2022

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Companies Act 2006 and 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 published in October 2019.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

Chair's report

'Change is the building block for the future'

At the start of our new year we made a fresh start and new beginnings as we initiated the process to transform from a local Home-Start into an independent charity. This lays a foundation for our future needs, development and growth to ensure we can continue to provide a quality service for families, meeting parents needs and supporting children's development through home-visiting, groups and workshops. Responding to the needs of families in Suffolk we continue to operate as a family support charity under our new name of Families Together Suffolk with an increased freedom to develop and increase our sustainability.

Supporting 952 families by the end of this year, we have achieved a great piece of work, a 'Magnum opus,' a record number of families supported. We have focused on identified areas of need in the county including Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND), speech and language development, school readiness, mental health and perinatal mental health.

With our new branding we are in the process of developing new areas of work and change.

The trustees are very proud to be part of Families Together Suffolk, the work and change formation. This year we have welcomed new trustees onto the board who will help steer the direction of work with our senior management team, staff and volunteers.

Next year we will be our 40th year of supporting families in Suffolk and we will be celebrating the impact of the work and support to families through a variety of different events where we can reflect on and be proud of where we are today.

'Rainbows take a long time forming but are beautiful and never forgotten'

At group sessions many parents are enabled and encouraged to have a 'Chill, Chat and Play' with their children, volunteers and staff, which makes a welcoming and comfortable group.

Parents have valued the support and encouragement given by staff and volunteers through face to face home visiting and, when necessary, still providing open communication online.

What parents have said:

'We have such good times. We will always remember you and how hard you work to make the group so welcoming.'

'I cannot say how refreshing it was to get to talk to other mums.'

'It is a safe place to talk to other like-minded people without being judged'

'It's invaluable for your mental health'

'Lots of craft ideas to do at home'

'Expanded our bond'

'Someone who gets it when life so complicated, it's good to have someone who feels like they are on your side.'

'I have fully utilised all the services available from Families Together Suffolk and would encourage others where possible to do so'.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

Our dedicated team of 99 volunteers help with home-visiting, group support, retail and make up the board of trustees. Our committed retail staff and volunteers have enabled us to generate income through our shop and e-Bay hub. The e-Bay hub has moved to new and expanded premises. During the year we have also increased our team of family support staff to ensure we can meet the needs in the area.

It is hard to estimate how many dedicated hours volunteers give on a weekly or yearly basis but it far exceeds expectations. Staff and trustees too give their time and effort to the ultimate goal of seeing families succeed. At Families Together Suffolk we are very grateful for this and it is this dedication that remains at the heart of what we do.

Thank you to all connected with Families Together Suffolk, you are a great team of dedicated people I am proud to work with.

Carol Read

Chair of Trustees

Families Together Suffolk

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Families Together Suffolk
Charity registration number	1127760
Company registration number	06674059
Principal office and registered office	20 Broad Street Eye Suffolk IP23 7AF

The trustees

The trustees who served during the year and at the date of approval were as follows:

C Read (Chair)
S Hudson (Appointed 25/07/2022)
H Jackson (Appointed 17/01/2022)
C Lay (Appointed 17/01/2022)
K Sansom
C Such
G Tryon

Independent examiner	L Thurston FCCA Lovewell Blake LLP Chartered accountants First Floor Suite 2 Hillside Business Park Bury St Edmunds IP32 7EA
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Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

Objectives and activities

The objectives and activities of the charity are included in the Chair's report above.

The charity acknowledges its requirement to clearly state that it must have charitable purposes or 'aims' that are for the public benefit. The trustees confirm that they have paid due regard to the Charity

Commission guidance on public benefit before deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Achievements and performance

The achievements and performance of the charity have been included in the Chair's report and within the detail as described in the financial review.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

Financial review

During 2021-22 we moved further out of the pandemic and to lessening restrictions however Covid-19 is still with us and is an ever-developing situation affecting all individuals and businesses in the country. Our tailored support services have been in demand and we have sought increased funding to meet this achieving an increase of 21% funding compared to the previous year from grant/ contract income and charity retail. We sought and recruited new staff in the year to provide additional support services in Suffolk.

The strategy to become a charity independent of the Home-Start network will produce a cost saving of nearly £12,000 next year and at least this in every subsequent year. Funders agreed to continue to work with us due to the high quality and impact of the services provided for beneficiaries. We have developed our new branding with the services of Brics CIC and this will be an investment for the coming years. Our own insurance and other services have been brokered to remain at the same level as before. It is therefore expected that this move will help improve the sustainability of our family support services to residents of Suffolk.

Another cost, as well as time, saving measure has been the move to mostly home-based working with a central office available to staff, volunteers and trustees when needed. During 2022-23 we will improve the facilities available at the office to promote a collaborative working environment and availability for meetings or training.

Our retail operation, combining our charity shop in Eye and our eBay Hub in Stowmarket, has been hugely successful in generating unrestricted income for the charity services through sales and from the Retail Gift Aid scheme provided by HMRC to receive additional donations on those items gift aided from donors who pay UK tax. Volunteers and staff have worked hard to capture the additional gift aid in both locations resulting in an additional £14,000 being available to claim in the last two years.

As we continue our long-term strategy to apply for funds that span multiple years we have grown the number of these during the year to ten. As a couple of these funds come to a successful close during this next year our dedicated funding team have submitted applications to funders who share the objectives of Families Together Suffolk to secure funding for current and new projects to meet the needs in our area. We work closely with our partners to develop and provide the services that are needed in the county.

In the coming year of 2022-23 we will celebrate reaching a milestone of 40 years working in Suffolk for which we plan to increase our profile in the area and join/ facilitate a number of events including our very own sponsored Toddler Trek. We will be utilising our new donation platforms of CAF Donate and Just Giving to raise funds towards our relaunched Pennies for Play campaign.

We are aware and are preparing for an increase in energy costs, a decrease in available services and hardship being created in our society by many factors. These will affect us, our funders and the people we support. We hope that through our groups and work in the community we can keep families connected to each other and draw on shared resources to meet the challenges ahead.

We will continue to seek hardship funds to directly pass onto families in need. We have received and distributed £42,150 since August 2020 with £18,650 of that being received this last year. Funds received have largely been through Suffolk Community Foundation Hardship Fund with other donations from 500 Suffolk Reasons and the Glasspool Charity.

We are grateful to our funders, fundraisers, partners and donors who have supported the ongoing work of Families Together Suffolk and helped families to meet challenges and achieve their goals. The impact of the funding received can make a lifelong effect in a child and parents' lives and we thank you for it.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

Financial review *(continued)*

Reserves policy

Our reserves policy is to maintain a minimum of three months and up to a maximum of six months running costs along with redundancies held in reserves. Currently this would amount to a minimum level of £154,277. We are pleased to report unrestricted reserves have been increased to almost reach the minimum level and currently stand at £152,996 (2021: £113,611). The trustees believe this amount to be prudent given the current economic climate and recent expansion of the charity. The trustees endeavour to further increase reserves to the minimum level during the course of the coming year.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The charity was incorporated on 15 August 2008. The trustees are responsible for making decision on all matters of general concern and importance, including deciding on how the funds are to be spent. All charity information and registered numbers can be found on the legal and administrative information page, along with the trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the period.

None of the trustees have a beneficial interest in the company, and all of the trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

On the 10 May 2022 a special written resolution to change the name of the company from Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk to Families Together Suffolk was agreed and passed by Trustees with the Memorandum and Articles of Association updated on the 1 July 2022.

For the last 40 years, Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk have been affiliated with the national charity Home-Start UK, but after a great deal of discussion between the Trustees and the Management Team, the board decided to become independent of Home-Start UK, accordingly the name of the charity was updated as the Trustees felt 'Families Together Suffolk' better reflected the type of work undertaken and the area supported by the charity.

At Families Together Suffolk, our team of trustees, together with the support of staff and volunteers, are committed to our ongoing work to support parents and their children. We will continue to diversify to meet the needs of children and families in Suffolk now and in the future, whilst still providing the invaluable, reliable support that we are known for.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

New trustees are appointed from a recruitment and selection process to enhance the skills and experience of the board as a whole. Once appointed, trustees are provided with all the information required to assist them in performing their role as trustees covering all aspects of the organisation.

Trustee induction and training

Following an induction by the charity, Families Together Suffolk provides trustees with training regarding the responsibilities of being a charity trustee. If trustees request or require further input then the charity would arrange for them to attend external training as appropriate. All trustees undertake safeguarding training.

Risk assessment

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks. This work has identified the loss of personnel as a major risk which is addressed through succession planning.

Independent examiner reappointment

A resolution to appoint L Thurston FCCA of Lovewell Blake LLP as independent examiner will be proposed at the next relevant board meeting.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

Plans for future periods

Our aim is to continue to help children and their families in Mid & West Suffolk and surrounding areas. By increasing our income we can meet the growing level of need in the areas and reach more families.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared taking advantage of the small companies' exemption of section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 27/9/2022 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

C Read

C Read
Chair

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Families Together Suffolk

Year ended 31 March 2022

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), balance sheet, statement of cash flows and the related notes.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the company 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 company's financial statements 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.

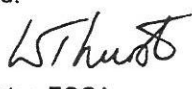
Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity'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 Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, 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 the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the financial statements 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 and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other 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.

 30/9/22

L Thurston FCCA
Independent Examiner

Lovewell Blake LLP
Chartered accountants
First Floor Suite
2 Hillside Business Park
Bury St Edmunds
IP32 7EA

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2022

		Unrestricted funds £	2022 Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
	Note				
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	5	58,480	483,539	542,019	499,329
Other trading activities		122,649	350	122,999	47,977
Investment income		26	—	26	182
Total income		<u>181,155</u>	<u>483,889</u>	<u>665,044</u>	<u>547,488</u>
Expenditure					
Raising funds					
Costs of raising donations and legacies	6	84	—	84	145
Charitable activities	7	150,634	466,391	617,025	444,879
Total expenditure		<u>150,718</u>	<u>466,391</u>	<u>617,109</u>	<u>445,024</u>
Net income and net movement in funds		<u>30,437</u>	<u>17,498</u>	<u>47,935</u>	<u>102,464</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		122,559	99,829	222,388	119,924
Total funds carried forward		<u>152,996</u>	<u>117,327</u>	<u>270,323</u>	<u>222,388</u>

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

The notes on pages 13 to 22 form part of these financial statements.

Families Together Suffolk
Company Limited by Guarantee
Balance sheet
31 March 2022

	Note	2022 £	£	2021 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	11		1,401		9,071
Current assets					
Debtors	12	14,793		3,615	
Cash at bank and in hand		262,669		216,725	
		<u>277,462</u>		<u>220,340</u>	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(8,540)</u>		<u>(7,023)</u>	
Net current assets			268,922		213,317
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>270,323</u>		<u>222,388</u>
Net assets			<u>270,323</u>		<u>222,388</u>
Funds of the charity					
Restricted funds			117,327		99,829
Unrestricted funds			152,996		122,559
Total charity funds	15		<u>270,323</u>		<u>222,388</u>

For the year ending 31 March 2022 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 27/9/2022 and are signed on behalf of the board by:

C Read

C Read
Chair

Company registration number: 06674059

The notes on pages 13 to 22 form part of these financial statements.

Families Together Suffolk
Company Limited by Guarantee
Statement of cash flows
Year ended 31 March 2022

	2022	2021
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net income	47,935	102,464
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	7,670	15,988
Other interest receivable and similar income	(26)	(182)
Accrued (income)/expenses	(66)	6,685
<i>Changes in:</i>		
Trade and other debtors	(11,178)	(1,115)
Trade and other creditors	1,583	(1,562)
Cash generated from operations	45,918	122,278
Interest received	26	182
Net cash from operating activities	<u>45,944</u>	<u>122,460</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of tangible assets	—	(4,166)
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>—</u>	<u>(4,166)</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	45,944	118,294
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	216,725	98,431
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>262,669</u>	<u>216,725</u>

The notes on pages 13 to 22 form part of these financial statements.

Families Together Suffolk
Company Limited by Guarantee
Notes to the financial statements
Year ended 31 March 2022

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 20 Broad Street, Eye, Suffolk, IP23 7AF.

2. Statement of compliance

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. 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 issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds, where necessary are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

Income

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity, it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Income *(continued)*

- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impracticable to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Operating leases

Lease payments are recognised as an expense over the lease term on a straight-line basis. The aggregate benefit of lease incentives is recognised as a reduction to expense over the lease term, on a straight-line basis.

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Computer equipment, plant and machinery	-	33% straight line
Charity shop equipment	-	33% straight line

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

4. Limited by guarantee

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and does not have share capital. Every member of the charity undertakes to contribute such amounts (not exceeding £1) as may be required in the event of a winding up.

5. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Donations			
Donations	2,286	230	2,516
Gift aid tax recoverable	11,178	—	11,178
Grants			
Grants	45,016	483,309	528,325
	<u>58,480</u>	<u>483,539</u>	<u>542,019</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Donations			
Donations	6,090	—	6,090
Gift aid tax recoverable	4,895	—	4,895
Grants			
Grants	163,435	324,909	488,344
	<u>174,420</u>	<u>324,909</u>	<u>499,329</u>

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

5. Donations and legacies *(continued)*

Grants

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	2021 £
500 Suffolk Reasons	—	500	500	—
Awards for All	—	9,964	9,964	—
BBC Children In Need	—	9,960	9,960	39,589
Childwick Trust	—	—	—	8,000
Glasspool Charity Trust	—	1,000	1,000	—
Haverhill Town Council	—	4,000	4,000	—
HMRC CJRS Scheme	4,349	—	4,349	33,459
Home-Start UK	—	5,316	5,316	29,660
Mid Suffolk District Council	10,667	45,133	55,800	65,765
National Lottery Community Fund	—	—	—	133,372
Nationwide Building Society	—	31,673	31,673	—
NHS Ipswich and East Suffolk CCG	—	43,326	43,326	—
NHS West Suffolk CCG	—	42,697	42,697	35,913
People's Postcode Lottery	—	14,931	14,931	—
RAF Honington	—	3,780	3,780	420
Reaching Communities England	—	84,009	84,009	—
Stowmarket Town Council	—	394	394	—
Suffolk Armed Forces Legacy Grant	—	—	—	2,000
Suffolk Community Foundation (SCF):	—	—	—	57,430
SCF - Anglia water	—	4,974	4,974	—
SCF - Cervical Awareness	—	3,010	3,010	—
SCF - Community Foundation	—	2,500	2,500	—
SCF - Coronavirus Grant	—	4,992	4,992	—
SCF - Frank Jackson Foundation	—	4,876	4,876	—
SCF - Growing Minds	—	53,360	53,360	—
SCF - Hardship Fund	—	15,000	15,000	—
SCF - Martinueau Fund	—	1,967	1,967	—
SCF - Mens Mental Health	—	2,692	2,692	—
SCF - Woman and Girls	—	1,000	1,000	—
Suffolk County Council	—	2,000	2,000	2,000
Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner	—	7,500	7,500	5,000
The Armed Forces Covenant Fund	—	40,745	40,745	27,806
The Four Acre Trust	—	—	—	14,930
The Henry Smith Charity	30,000	—	30,000	15,000
The Kerrison Trust	—	—	—	4,000
Trusthouse Charitable Foundation	—	30,000	30,000	—
West Suffolk District Council	—	12,010	12,010	14,000
	<u>45,016</u>	<u>483,309</u>	<u>528,325</u>	<u>488,344</u>

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

6. Costs of raising donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Advertising and publicity	—	—	—
Fundraising costs	84	—	84
	<u>84</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>84</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Advertising and publicity	48	75	123
Fundraising costs	22	—	22
	<u>70</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>145</u>

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

7. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Third party projects	–	23,924	23,924
Charity shop costs	56,924	700	57,624
Office costs	11,796	15,104	26,900
Staff and salary related costs	48,414	418,365	466,779
Support costs	33,500	8,298	41,798
	<u>150,634</u>	<u>466,391</u>	<u>617,025</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Third party projects	–	17,803	17,803
Charity shop costs	33,495	26,987	60,482
Office costs	16,279	1,455	17,734
Staff and salary related costs	112,741	206,416	319,157
Support costs	14,898	14,805	29,703
	<u>177,413</u>	<u>267,466</u>	<u>444,879</u>

Support costs

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Trustees' expenses	298	–	298	125
Home-Start fee	9,505	–	9,505	5,259
Independent examiners fees	1,464	–	1,464	1,170
Equipment costs	2,041	6,175	8,216	5,867
License and subscriptions	4,014	1,909	5,923	5,747
Legal and professional fees	1,959	–	1,959	775
Advertising	4,286	–	4,286	–
Printing, postage and stationery	2,823	214	3,037	3,325
Telephone costs	6,184	–	6,184	5,976
Website costs	926	–	926	1,459
	<u>33,500</u>	<u>8,298</u>	<u>41,798</u>	<u>29,703</u>

8. Net income

Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2022 £	2021 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>7,670</u>	<u>15,988</u>

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

9. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages, salaries and other employee costs	422,312	278,355
Social security costs	24,860	15,517
Pension costs	19,607	13,722
	<u>466,779</u>	<u>307,594</u>

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Trustees, Operations Manager and Business Manager. The total employee benefits (including employer national insurance and employer pension contributions) of the key management personnel of the charity were £76,666 (2021: £71,904).

The average head count of employees during the year was 21 (2021: 16).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2021: Nil).

10. Trustee remuneration and expenses

The trustees were neither entitled to, nor received, any remuneration from the charity (2021: Nil). Trustees were reimbursed expenses amounting to £298 (2021: £125) during the year.

11. Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment, plant and machinery £	Charity shop equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022	<u>7,406</u>	<u>43,587</u>	<u>50,993</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2021	3,513	38,409	41,922
Charge for the year	<u>2,492</u>	<u>5,178</u>	<u>7,670</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>6,005</u>	<u>43,587</u>	<u>49,592</u>
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2022	<u>1,401</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1,401</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>3,893</u>	<u>5,178</u>	<u>9,071</u>

12. Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Gift aid tax debtor	<u>14,793</u>	<u>3,615</u>

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

13. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	1,104	1,170
Social security and other taxes	7,352	5,753
Other creditors	84	100
	<u>8,540</u>	<u>7,023</u>

14. Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £19,607 (2021: £13,722).

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

15. Analysis of charitable funds

2022

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Family Group Fund	—	4,992	(4,992)	—	—
Birth and Beyond	93,308	460,247	(439,731)	—	113,824
Hardship Fund	6,521	18,650	(21,668)	—	3,503
	<u>99,829</u>	<u>483,889</u>	<u>(466,391)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>117,327</u>

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	<u>122,559</u>	<u>181,155</u>	<u>(150,718)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>152,996</u>

2021

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Family Group Fund	(6,177)	31,208	(25,031)	—	—
Birth and Beyond	48,234	288,239	(243,165)	—	93,308
Hardship Fund	—	28,154	(21,633)	—	6,521
	<u>42,057</u>	<u>347,601</u>	<u>(289,829)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>99,829</u>

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	<u>77,867</u>	<u>199,887</u>	<u>(155,195)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>122,559</u>

Family Group Fund - Represents amounts received and set aside as dictated by the fund provider towards specific costs and projects in order to further the aims and objectives of the charity, this fund was completed as at 31 March 2022, with future similar projects included within the Birth and Beyond restricted fund.

Birth and Beyond - Represents amounts received and set aside as dictated by various fund providers, mainly from Suffolk Community Foundation Hardship Fund, Glasspool and 500 Suffolk Reasons, towards the core costs and primary projects of the charity.

Hardship Fund - Represents amounts received from the Suffolk Community Foundation to grant directly to families experiencing hardship due to the pandemic.

Families Together Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

16. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,401	–	1,401
Current assets	160,135	117,327	277,462
Creditors less than 1 year	(8,540)	–	(8,540)
Net assets	152,996	117,327	270,323

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	9,071	–	9,071
Current assets	120,511	99,829	220,340
Creditors less than 1 year	(7,023)	–	(7,023)
Net assets	122,559	99,829	222,388

17. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 Apr 2021 £	Cash flows £	At 31 Mar 2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	216,725	45,944	262,669

18. Operating lease commitments

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

	2022 £	2021 £
Not later than 1 year	20,650	12,800
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	25,000	650
	45,650	13,450

19. Related parties

Other than those disclosed elsewhere in the accounts, there were no related party transactions in this or the prior year.

Accounts

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 06674059

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1127760

**Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk
Company Limited by Guarantee
Unaudited financial statements
31 March 2021**

Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2021

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Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report)

Year ended 31 March 2021

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Companies Act 2006 and 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 published in October 2019.

Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2021

Chair's report

The challenges that the covid-19 pandemic has imposed on us all has been immense, and we have especially seen the impact on the families we support during this time. We have all had to change and adapt but have become stronger from the experience.

During the three government lockdowns, and sometimes in between those times, we have had to adapt our traditional delivery method of face-to-face services to incorporate increased use of online and telephone support. Working with comprehensive risk assessments and taking necessary precautions for everyone's safety we have been able to provide the vital support services that families need to help them with increased and different challenges that have been faced in the last year. Our dedicated team of support staff and volunteers were able to continue to work to support families throughout the entire time and offer support to new referrals too.

We have all had to cope with changes in the last year and change can be difficult however our staff and volunteers have helped many more families to meet their challenges and achieve their goals. New beginnings and new horizons have opened up for children and their families through our home-visiting, specialised groups and targeted support. We continued to develop and deliver our targeted support services including where families need support with SEND, perinatal mental health, supporting fathers to get the most from parenting and also enabling parents to be involved in their child's language development through our LENA project.

We have offered children and parents the opportunity to attend workshops in story sacks, treasurer baskets, music, messy play, mindfulness, and yoga either online or face to face. Many play, development, attachment and learning outcomes arise from these fun and interactive sessions. Our staff and volunteers will continue to provide these and other opportunities in the future.

Our Home-Start has been pleased to be able to receive Hardship Funding through the Suffolk Community Foundation to grant directly to families experiencing hardship due to the pandemic. So far £24,000 has been distributed to help families in need in Suffolk where acute pressures from covid such as illness, job loss or other issues have meant that families struggled to meet the basic costs of living.

After restrictions eased it was a great feeling to be able to reopen our groups and facilitate families being able to meet up again once more. As one parent said:

"PLAYGROUP OPEN. They may just be two little words but my goodness - for someone like me, they're an absolute lifeline. A group that doesn't cost a small fortune or have a three-month long waiting list attached to it. A group that readily includes all children under 5. A group that welcomes frazzled, lockdown-weary parents so warmly, giving that precious little window of adult conversation with those in a similar situation. A group that allows us that brief but treasured moment of respite to catch our breath whilst our little ones explore an exciting out of home play setting. Offering support. Companionship. Caring. Simple acts of kindness."

Despite numerous lockdowns and the effect of shielding and ping-pong our shop managers and teams have been indefatigable in their efforts to keep the shops open when restrictions allowed. Their determination and hard work have enabled us to continue to generate income through our charity shops and eBay hub. It has been necessary to close our shop on the Stowmarket high street however we have diversified into a dedicated eBay/ online hub in Stowmarket and hope to take donations of stock and provide a click and collect service in the future.

New volunteers are always welcome to join the team. One newly trained family support volunteer who has just completed our Prep Course said, *"I'm really looking forward to supporting families and their children, using my experience to help them find ways to resolve and manage problems and issues. I will enjoy interacting with the children and offering lots of ideas for activities for learning through play."*

Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2021

We have varied roles for volunteers across the organisation including in groups, home-visiting, shop, eBay Hub, driving and trusteeship. We welcome a diverse range of experience and skills and also offer Duke of Edinburgh Award volunteer placements in our shops.

We have recruited six new members of staff to work on various projects and to work with volunteers to support families.

Our proactive approach has enabled us to apply and gain additional funding to continue to support families during this difficult year for all charities. During this past year we have supported through our different areas of support a total of 426 families with the help and support of our dedicated staff and 87 volunteers.

Thank you to all our staff, volunteers and trustees who have been a tremendous backbone of Home-Start Mid and West Suffolk in the past year, making the vital support of families and children possible.

Carol Read
Chair of Trustees

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk
Charity registration number	1127760
Company registration number	06674059
Principal office and registered office	20 Broad Street Eye Suffolk IP23 7AF

The trustees

The trustees who served during the year and at the date of approval were as follows:

C Read (Chair)
G Tryon
K Sansom
C Such
V Daynes-Smith (resigned 26 October 2020)

Independent examiner	L Thurston FCCA Lovewell Blake LLP Chartered accountants First Floor Suite 2 Hillside Business Park Bury St Edmunds IP32 7EA
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Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2021

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The charity was incorporated on 15 August 2008. The trustees are responsible for making decision on all matters of general concern and importance, including deciding on how the funds are to be spent. All charity information and registered numbers can be found on the legal and administrative information page, along with the trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the period.

None of the trustees have a beneficial interest in the company, and all of the trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

New trustees are appointed from a recruitment and selection process to enhance the skills and experience of the board as a whole. Once appointed, trustees are provided with all the information required to assist them in performing their role as trustees covering all aspects of the organisation.

Trustee induction and training

Following an induction by the charity, Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk provides trustees with training regarding the responsibilities of being a charity trustee. If trustees request or require further input then the charity would arrange for them to attend external training as appropriate. All trustees undertake safeguarding training.

Risk assessment

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks. This work has identified the loss of personnel as a major risk which is addressed through succession planning.

Independent examiner reappointment

A resolution to appoint Mr L Thurston FCCA of Lovewell Blake LLP as independent examiner will be proposed at the next relevant board meeting.

Objectives and activities

The objectives and activities of the charity are included in the Chair's report above.

The charity acknowledges its requirement to clearly that it must have charitable purposes or 'aims' that are for the public benefit. The trustees confirm that they have paid due regards to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit before deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Achievements and performance

The achievements and performance of the charity have been included in the Chair's report above.

Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2021

Financial review

Despite the changes caused by covid-19 in both the external and internal environment of our organisation we have again seen an increase in income compared to the previous year. The funding environment has been more changeable this year with a number of funds closing to new applications or being diverted to the pandemic emergency. However, this has also meant that we have been able to apply for specific funds to help with the covid crisis and secure the funds needed to continue to offer support to families in Suffolk. Funders who have provided emergency funds include the National lottery, BBC Children in Need, Home-Start UK, The John Lewis Partnership, Mid Suffolk District Council and Suffolk Community Foundation.

Trading income was halved during the year through government restrictions to close non-essential shops during the three lockdowns. To reduce the impact of this we were able to take up government funding through local councils and the Job Retention Scheme. All retail staff returned completely from furlough by May 2021 and since the reopening of the shop during April sales have exceeded expectations with our customers and donors support. Unfortunately, the shop in Stowmarket had to be closed in July 2021 however we have retained staff and volunteers who have converted the operation into a successful online eBay Hub.

The temporary halt of face to face support services and the need for all staff to work from home during the period has reduced travel and utility costs whilst increasing costs such as office equipment for home working. There was an increased need for additional support for families which increased costs of staffing.

Our organisation had infrastructure in place that prepared us to work from home prior to the pandemic following ongoing work to digitise our operations which provided a smooth transition in March 2020. Additional IT and other equipment have been purchased and we remain prepared to deal with any ongoing crisis.

We were delighted that Home-Start was the chosen charity for the John Lewis Partnership and Waitrose this year and were featured on their heavily anticipated Christmas advert which launched the 'Give a Little Love' campaign. As well as providing much needed income many benefits arose from this including awareness of the charity, an interest in volunteering, relationships with stores and activity/ food parcels for families.

It has become clear that the effects of covid are going to be long term and will have far reaching effects in the future. We continue to work closely with our funders and partners to meet the emerging needs of families, to provide our well-respected services and to develop new projects. Moving forward into 2021-22 we have two new exciting projects to add to our portfolio as a contractor to the NHS Clinical Commissioning Group in Suffolk 'Support for Children, Young People and Their Families with Neurodevelopmental Conditions' and as a partner organisation in the 'Growing Minds' Project in Suffolk led by Suffolk Community Foundation and evaluated by the Oxford University.

We have also launched our first online fundraising campaign called 'Pennies for Play' on the Virgin Giving platform. Unfortunately, Virgin are no longer sponsoring the marathon so will be withdrawing this platform and we therefore intend to continue to build our campaign on the Just Giving site.

We are grateful to our funders, fundraisers and sponsors who have supported the ongoing work of Home-Start throughout this difficult year and helped families to face the challenges. It was a great pleasure during the year to receive many personal donations from well-wishers and those who had previously donated through our shop as this really showed the support, kindness and generosity of the public.

Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2021

Reserves policy

Our reserves policy is for the charity to maintain a minimum of three months and up to a maximum of six months running costs along with the costs of redundancies held in unrestricted reserves which the trustees believe prudent given the current economic climate and recent expansion of the charity. Currently this would amount to a minimum level of £122,889. Unrestricted reserves as at the year end amounted to £122,559 (2020: £77,867) which is inline with the reserves policy.

Investment in the new online eBay hub to maintain levels of income generation through any further lockdowns will reduce any impact on income generation from potential future lockdown closures. Net profits from retail sales will firstly be utilised to increase reserves to the minimum level and then incrementally increase this each year.

Plans for future periods

Our aim is to continue to help children and their families in Mid & West Suffolk and surrounding areas. By increasing our income we can meet the growing level of need in the areas and reach more families.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared taking advantage of the small companies' exemption of section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 29/09/21 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



C Read
Chair

Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk

Year ended 31 March 2021

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), balance sheet, statement of cash flows and the related notes.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the company 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 company's financial statements 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 charity'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 Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, 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 the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the financial statements 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 and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other 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.

L Thurst 17/12/21

L Thurst FCCA
Independent Examiner

Lovewell Blake LLP
Chartered accountants
First Floor Suite
2 Hillside Business Park
Bury St Edmunds
IP32 7EA

Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2021

		Unrestricted funds £	2021 Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
	Note				
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	5	152,132	347,197	499,329	279,077
Other trading activities		47,573	404	47,977	104,591
Investment income		182	—	182	404
Total income		<u>199,887</u>	<u>347,601</u>	<u>547,488</u>	<u>384,072</u>
Expenditure					
Raising funds					
Costs of raising donations and legacies	6	70	75	145	1,597
Charitable activities	7	177,413	267,466	444,879	410,417
Total expenditure		<u>177,483</u>	<u>267,541</u>	<u>445,024</u>	<u>412,014</u>
Net income/(expenditure) before transfer of funds		22,404	80,060	102,464	(27,942)
Transfers between funds		22,288	(22,288)	—	—
Net movement in funds		<u>44,692</u>	<u>57,772</u>	<u>102,464</u>	<u>(27,942)</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		77,867	42,057	119,924	147,866
Total funds carried forward		<u>122,559</u>	<u>99,829</u>	<u>222,388</u>	<u>119,924</u>

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

The notes on pages 11 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Balance sheet

31 March 2021

	Note	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	11		9,071		20,893
Current assets					
Debtors	12	3,615		9,149	
Cash at bank and in hand		216,725		98,431	
		220,340		107,580	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	(7,023)		(8,549)	
Net current assets			213,317		99,031
Total assets less current liabilities			222,388		119,924
Net assets			222,388		119,924
Funds of the charity					
Restricted funds			99,829		42,057
Unrestricted funds			122,559		77,867
Total charity funds	15		222,388		119,924

For the year ending 31 March 2021 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 29/09/21, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

C Read

C Read
Chair

Company registration number: 06674059

The notes on pages 11 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of cash flows

Year ended 31 March 2021

	2021 £	2020 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net income/(expenditure)	102,464	(27,942)
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	15,988	15,453
Other interest receivable and similar income	(182)	(404)
Accrued expenses	6,685	144
<i>Changes in:</i>		
Trade and other debtors	(1,115)	600
Trade and other creditors	(1,562)	7,415
Cash generated from operations	122,278	(4,734)
Interest received	182	404
Net cash from/(used in) operating activities	<u>122,460</u>	<u>(4,330)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of tangible assets	<u>(4,166)</u>	<u>(17,824)</u>
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(4,166)</u>	<u>(17,824)</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	118,294	(22,154)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	98,431	120,585
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>216,725</u>	<u>98,431</u>

The notes on pages 11 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2021

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 20 Broad Street, Eye, Suffolk, IP23 7AF.

2. Statement of compliance

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. 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 issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds, where necessary are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

Incoming resources

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity, it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.

Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2021

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Incoming resources *(continued)*

- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impracticable to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Operating leases

Lease payments are recognised as an expense over the lease term on a straight-line basis. The aggregate benefit of lease incentives is recognised as a reduction to expense over the lease term, on a straight-line basis.

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Computer equipment, plant and machinery	-	33% straight line
Charity shop equipment	-	33% straight line

Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2021

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

4. Limited by guarantee

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and does not have share capital. Every member of the charity undertakes to contribute such amounts (not exceeding £1) as may be required in the event of a winding up.

5. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Donations			
Donations	6,090	—	6,090
Gift aid tax recoverable	4,895	—	4,895
Grants			
Grants	141,147	347,197	488,344
	<u>152,132</u>	<u>347,197</u>	<u>499,329</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £
Donations			
Donations	4,128	—	4,128
Gift aid tax recoverable	3,438	—	3,438
Grants			
Grants	20,320	251,191	271,511
	<u>27,886</u>	<u>251,191</u>	<u>279,077</u>

Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2021

5. Donations and legacies *(continued)*

Grants

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	2020 £
Armed Forces Covenant Fund	—	27,806	27,806	2,500
BBC Children In Need	2,993	36,596	39,589	36,415
Childwick Trust	—	8,000	8,000	—
HMRC CJRS Scheme	33,459	—	33,459	—
Home-Start UK	—	29,660	29,660	—
Mid Suffolk District Council	65,765	—	65,765	5,000
National Lottery Community Fund	—	133,372	133,372	44,319
NHS West Suffolk CCG	—	35,913	35,913	58,719
RAF Honington	—	420	420	1,605
Stowmarket Town Council	—	—	—	400
Suffolk Armed Forces Legacy Grant	—	2,000	2,000	1,000
Suffolk Community Foundation	—	—	—	—
- Anglian Water	—	4,931	4,931	—
- Bluebell Fund	—	2,000	2,000	—
- Coronavirus Fund	—	10,000	10,000	—
- Frank Jackson Fund	—	—	—	5,000
- Giving Fund	—	2,000	2,000	2,000
- Hardship Fund	—	18,500	18,500	—
- Harris Fund	—	5,000	5,000	2,000
- High Sheriff Award	—	—	—	2,320
- Martineau Fund	—	1,999	1,999	2,000
- Maurken Fund	—	2,000	2,000	2,000
- Private Fund JA	—	7,000	7,000	1,999
- Realising Ambitions	—	—	—	24,808
- Sapphire Fund	—	2,000	2,000	—
- Shadwell Fund	—	1,000	1,000	—
- Women and Girls	—	1,000	1,000	—
Suffolk County Council	—	2,000	2,000	—
Suffolk Police & Crime Commissioner	5,000	—	5,000	29,923
The Four Acre Trust	14,930	—	14,930	10,000
The Henry Smith Charity	15,000	—	15,000	—
The Kerrison Trust	4,000	—	4,000	4,000
West Suffolk District Council	—	14,000	14,000	35,503
	<u>141,147</u>	<u>347,197</u>	<u>488,344</u>	<u>271,511</u>

6. Costs of raising donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Advertising and publicity	48	75	123
Fundraising costs	22	—	22
	<u>70</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>145</u>

Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2021

6. Costs of raising donations and legacies *(continued)*

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £
Advertising and publicity	84	1,436	1,520
Fundraising costs	77	—	77
	<u>161</u>	<u>1,436</u>	<u>1,597</u>

Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2021

7. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Third party projects	–	17,803	17,803
Charity shop costs	33,495	26,987	60,482
Office costs	16,279	1,455	17,734
Staff and salary related costs	112,741	206,416	319,157
Support costs	14,898	14,805	29,703
	<u>177,413</u>	<u>267,466</u>	<u>444,879</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £
Third party projects	–	5,000	5,000
Charity shop costs	49,689	–	49,689
Office costs	17,735	3,307	21,042
Staff and salary related costs	67,569	241,860	309,429
Support costs	20,438	4,819	25,257
	<u>155,431</u>	<u>254,986</u>	<u>410,417</u>

Charity shop costs

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Office costs and rent	8,016	26,987	35,003	26,005
Printing, postage and stationary	4,659	–	4,659	3,791
Refreshments	62	–	62	158
Cleaning	1,406	–	1,406	336
Telephone costs	–	–	–	142
Card fees	3,364	–	3,364	3,804
Depreciation	15,988	–	15,988	15,453
	<u>33,495</u>	<u>26,987</u>	<u>60,482</u>	<u>49,689</u>

Office costs

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Office costs and rent	10,792	595	11,387	14,681
Premises expenses	1,137	860	1,997	1,777
Repairs and maintenance	4,350	–	4,350	4,584
	<u>16,279</u>	<u>1,455</u>	<u>17,734</u>	<u>21,042</u>

Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2021

Staff and salary related costs

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Refreshments and subsistence	43	34	77	2,178
Salaries and wages	109,056	198,538	307,594	264,124
Staff recruitment	1,064	184	1,248	363
Training costs	796	2,762	3,558	13,089
Travel and transport	1,730	4,559	6,289	21,005
Volunteer expenses	52	339	391	8,670
	<u>112,741</u>	<u>206,416</u>	<u>319,157</u>	<u>309,429</u>

Support costs

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Trustees' expenses	125	–	125	1,060
Home-Start fee	275	4,984	5,259	4,337
Independent examiners fees	1,170	–	1,170	1,134
Equipment costs	2,306	3,561	5,867	5,156
License and subscriptions	3,562	2,185	5,747	2,571
Legal and professional fees	775	–	775	1,936
Printing, postage and stationery	1,154	2,171	3,325	3,092
Telephone costs	4,072	1,904	5,976	5,006
Website costs	1,459	–	1,459	965
	<u>14,898</u>	<u>14,805</u>	<u>29,703</u>	<u>25,257</u>

8. Net income/(expenditure)

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

	2021 £	2020 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>15,988</u>	<u>15,453</u>

Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2021

9. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	278,355	238,397
Social security costs	15,517	14,324
Pension costs	13,722	11,403
	<u>307,594</u>	<u>264,124</u>

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Trustees, Family Manager and Business Manager. The total employee benefits (Including employer national insurance and employer pension contributions) of the key management personnel of the charity were £71,904 (2020: £66,576).

The average head count of employees during the year was 16 (2020: 13).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2020: Nil).

10. Trustee remuneration and expenses

The trustees were neither entitled to, nor received, any remuneration from the charity (2020: Nil). Two trustees were reimbursed expenses amounting to £156 (2020: Three trustees £1,060) during the year.

11. Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment, plant and machinery £	Charity shop equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2020	3,240	43,587	46,827
Additions	4,166	—	4,166
At 31 March 2021	<u>7,406</u>	<u>43,587</u>	<u>50,993</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2020	1,069	24,865	25,934
Charge for the year	2,444	13,544	15,988
At 31 March 2021	<u>3,513</u>	<u>38,409</u>	<u>41,922</u>
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2021	<u>3,893</u>	<u>5,178</u>	<u>9,071</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>2,171</u>	<u>18,722</u>	<u>20,893</u>

Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2021

12. Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	—	6,649
Gift aid tax debtor	3,615	2,500
	<u>3,615</u>	<u>9,149</u>

13. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	1,170	1,134
Social security and other taxes	5,753	7,415
Other creditors	100	—
	<u>7,023</u>	<u>8,549</u>

14. Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £13,722 (2020: £12,249).

Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2021

15. Analysis of charitable funds

2021

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2021 £
Family Group Fund	23,719	29,296	(24,084)	(22,288)	6,643
Birth and Beyond (formerly Stepping Stones Project)	18,338	318,305	(243,457)	—	93,186
	<u>42,057</u>	<u>347,601</u>	<u>(267,541)</u>	<u>(22,288)</u>	<u>99,829</u>

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2021 £
General Fund	<u>77,867</u>	<u>199,887</u>	<u>(177,483)</u>	<u>22,288</u>	<u>122,559</u>

2020

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2020 £
Family Group Fund	5,416	19,828	(1,525)	—	23,719
Birth and Beyond (formerly Stepping Stones Project)	41,842	231,393	(254,897)	—	18,338
	<u>47,258</u>	<u>251,221</u>	<u>(256,422)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>42,057</u>

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2020 £
General Fund	<u>100,608</u>	<u>132,851</u>	<u>(155,592)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>77,867</u>

Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2021

16. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	9,071	—	9,071
Current assets	120,511	99,829	220,340
Creditors less than 1 year	(7,023)	—	(7,023)
Net assets	122,559	99,829	222,388

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £
Tangible fixed assets	20,893	—	20,893
Current assets	65,411	42,057	107,468
Creditors less than 1 year	(8,549)	—	(8,549)
Net assets	77,755	42,057	119,812

17. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 Apr 2020 £	Cash flows £	At 31 Mar 2021 £
Cash at bank and in hand	98,431	118,294	216,725

18. Operating lease commitments

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

	2021 £	2020 £
Not later than 1 year	12,800	27,800
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	650	13,450
	13,450	41,250

19. Related parties

Other than those disclosed in the 'Trustee remuneration and expenses' note to these accounts, there were no related party transactions in this or the prior year.