

THE MEARS FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1134941

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	07021016
Registered	2010-03-15
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Mears Group Unit 5220 Valiant Court Delta Way Gloucester Business Park Brockwor
Phone	01452634600
Email	mearsfoundation@mearsgroup.co.uk
Website	www.themearsfoundation.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY ARE TO PROMOTE SUCH OBJECTS AND PURPOSES AS ARE EXCLUSIVELY CHARITABLE ACCORDING TO THE LAW FOR THE TIME BEING OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

Activities: The Foundation supported many loneliness projects during the year, it also gave grants to small UK charities. During the year, volunteers carried out a variety of fundraising events and donations were made to The Mears Foundation. These events included sponsored walks, bucket collections, bake sales and auctions/raffles.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Human Resources, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Amateur Sport, Environment/conservation/heritage, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, NATIONAL AND OVERSEAS.
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- South Africa

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£358,058	£392,027	-	-
2024-12-31	£347,502	£418,194	-	-
2023-12-31	£420,796	£305,336	-	-
2022-12-31	£302,141	£256,344	-	-
2021-12-31	£124,085	£107,235	-	-
2020-12-31	£13,686	£18,131	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Alison Wilkinson		2021-05-04
Christine Maria Amalie Losecaat van Nouhuys MBE		2020-08-17
Diane Keay		2019-01-01
Judith Herbert		
Liam Wilkinson		2023-04-12
Martin Gaffney		2023-03-27
Patrick Grace		2017-02-02

THE MEARS FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1134941

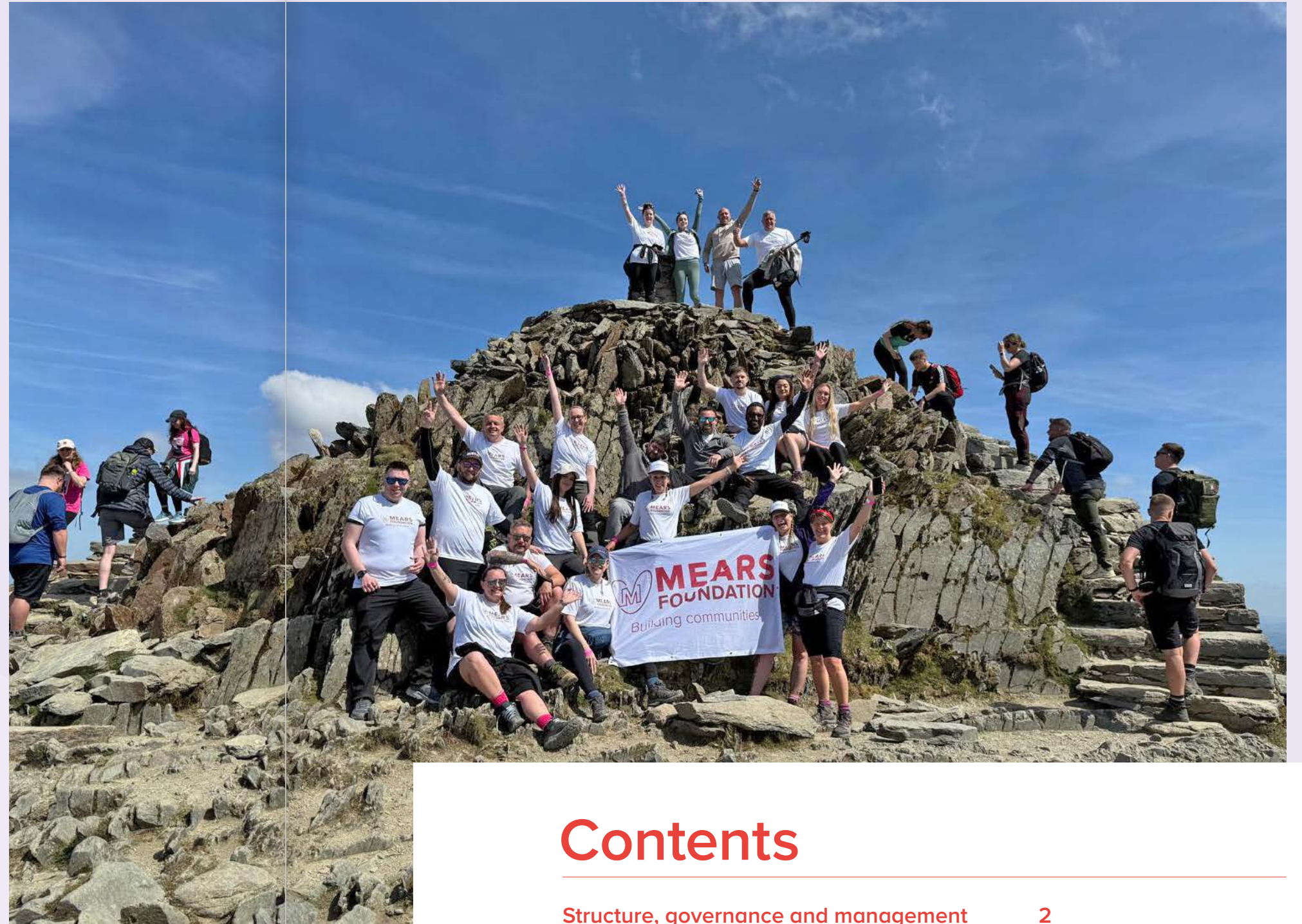
Accounts



Doing what matters

Annual Report 2025

A look inside a year of growing impact, stronger partnerships, and community-led change.



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The Mears Foundation is the independent, charitable arm of Mears Group plc.

Registered Charity Number: 1134941 / Company number: 07021016

Second Floor, 5220 Valiant Court, Gloucester Business Park, Brockworth, Gloucester GL3 4FE

Structure, governance and management

The charity was incorporated on the 16 September 2009 and is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The Foundation is managed by its General Manager, Heather Tyrer, under the guidance of the Chair and the Board of Trustees.

Registered Charity Name:
The Mears Foundation

Charity Number:
1134941

Company Number:
07021016 (England and Wales)

Chair:
Ms Christine Losecaat MBE

Company Secretary/Treasurer:
Mrs Judith Herbert

Trustees:
Mr Martin Gaffney

Mr Patrick Grace

Mrs Judith Herbert

Ms Diane Keay

Ms Alison Wilkinson

Mr Liam Wilkinson

Executive Staff:
Heather Tyrer

Registered Office:
Mears Group PLC
Second Floor
5220 Valiant Court
Gloucester Business Park
Gloucester
GL3 4FE

Bankers:
Barclays Bank PLC
18 Southgate Street
Gloucester
GL1 2DH

Financial review

During the year, the charity raised funds in the amount of £358,058.

From these funds, the £59,472 incidental running costs of the charity were met and grants of £302,306 given. The excess funds remain in the bank account to carry forward for future projects and grants.

Responsibilities of the trustees

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

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

- ▶ select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- ▶ observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP.

- ▶ make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- ▶ prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

On Behalf of the Board:



Christine Losecaat MBE
Chair

February 2026

Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the inclusion of current asset investments at market value, in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015), the Companies Act 2006 and the recommendations in the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting by Charities (the SORP).

Incoming resources

Donations and gifts

All monetary donations and gifts are included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable, provided that there are no donor-imposed restrictions as to the timing of the related expenditure, in which case recognition is deferred until the pre-condition has been met.

Grants receivable

Revenue grants are credited as incoming resources when they are receivable provided conditions for receipt have been complied with, unless they relate to a specified future period, in which case they are deferred.

Grants for the purchase of fixed assets are credited to restricted incoming resources when receivable.

Depreciation on the fixed assets purchased with such grants is charged against the restricted fund.

All other income is included in the statement of financial activities when received or when the charity is legally entitled to the income.

Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specified purposes laid down by the donor. Such purposes are within the overall aims of the organisation. Expenditure for those purposes is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of overheads and support costs.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for expenditure on the general objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds which have been designated for specific purposes by the Trustees, for necessary work in connection with the ongoing provision of services yet fail to meet the stringent criteria of contractual obligation set out in FRS12 (Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets).

Resources expended

Grants payable

Grants payable are accounted for in the period in which the performance conditions attaching to the grant payment are met or, where no performance conditions apply, when a legal or constructive obligation arises.

Other expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, which is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

- ▶ costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of trading for fundraising.
- ▶ charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.
- ▶ governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.
- ▶ all costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activity on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis.

Statement of financial activities

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £
Incoming resources			
Voluntary income	1	294,467	297,472
Activities for generating funds	2	60,764	47,311
Incoming resources from charitable activities	3	2,827	2,719
Total incoming resources		358,058	347,502
Resources expended			
Cost of generating funds	7	6,771	5,385
Charitable activities	4	331,184	362,690
Salaries	8	54,072	50,119
Total resources expended		392,027	418,194
Net incoming resources for the period		(33,969)	(70,692)
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		141,606	212,298
Total funds carried forward		107,637	141,606

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of these financial statements.

Balance sheet

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £
Current assets			
Cash at bank		99,254	217,981
Debtor		18,633	7,343
		117,887	225,324
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(10,250)	(83,718)
Net assets		107,627	141,606
Funds			
General funds		107,637	141,606
Total funds		107,637	141,606

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

Trustee's responsibilities:

- ▶ the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the period in question in accordance with section 476.
- ▶ the trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015).

These financial statements were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 20th February 2026 and are signed on their behalf by:



Christine Losecaat MBE
Chair

Judith Herbert
Treasurer

Notes to the financial statements

	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
1. Voluntary income		
Donations	294,467	297,472
	294,467	297,472
2. Incoming resources from activities for generating funds		
Sponsored events	55,036	42,483
Mears fundays	2,462	2,355
Collections / raffles	3,266	2,473
	60,764	47,311
3. Incoming resources from charitable activities		
Gift aid	2,827	2,719
	2,827	2,719
4. Costs of charitable activities by fund type		
Auctions / raffles	456	335
Sponsored events	28,171	19,456
Mears fundays	251	387
Grants given	302,306	342,512
	331,184	362,690

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
5. Costs of charitable activities by activity type				
Mears fundays	251	–	251	387
Auctions / raffles	456	–	456	335
Sponsored events	28,171	–	28,171	19,456
Donations	302,306	–	302,306	342,512
Direct costs	331,184	–	331,184	362,690
6. Governance costs				
Governance costs were met by Mears Group PLC.				
7. Analysis of support costs				
Charity giving administration fee			1,370	1,210
Staff expenses			2,130	2,078
Compliance fees			218	204
Merchandise/Printing			2,550	633
PR fees			–	1,260
Sundry costs			503	–
			6,771	5,385
8. Staff costs and emoluments				
Salaries			54,072	50,119
			54,072	50,119
9. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year				
Other creditors			10,250	83,718
			10,250	83,718
10. Analysis of net assets between funds				
All funds are designated as general funds				



For more information about the Mears Foundation please contact Heather Tyrer, General Manager on: heather.tyrer@mearsgroup.co.uk

Visit our website: www.themearsfoundation.org.uk



THE MEARS FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1134941

Accounts



M^{rs} MEARS
FOUNDATION
Building communities
Building communities



Pulling together

Annual Report 2024

Structure, governance and management

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Company Number:

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Ms Christine Losecaat MBE

Company Secretary/Treasurer:

Mrs Judith Herbert

Trustees:

Mr Martin Gaffney

Mr Patrick Grace

Mrs Judith Herbert

Mr Richard Hughes

Resigned 12th November 2024

Ms Diane Keay

Ms Alison Wilkinson

Mr Liam Wilkinson

Executive Staff:

Heather Tyrer

Registered Office:

Mears Group PLC

Second Floor

5220 Valiant Court

Gloucester Business Park

Gloucester

GL3 4FE

Bankers:

Barclays Bank PLC

18 Southgate Street

Gloucester

GL1 2DH

Financial review

During the year, the charity raised funds in the amount of £347,501.

From these funds, the £55,504 incidental running costs of the charity were met and grants of £342,512 given. The excess funds remain in the bank account to carry forward for future projects and grants.

Responsibilities of the trustees

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

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

- ▶ select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- ▶ observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP.

- ▶ make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
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Small company provisions

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Christine Losecaat MBE
Chair

February 2025

Accounting policies

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Incoming resources

Donations and gifts

All monetary donations and gifts are included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable, provided that there are no donor-imposed restrictions as to the timing of the related expenditure, in which case recognition is deferred until the pre-condition has been met.

Grants receivable

Revenue grants are credited as incoming resources when they are receivable provided conditions for receipt have been complied with, unless they relate to a specified future period, in which case they are deferred.

Grants for the purchase of fixed assets are credited to restricted incoming resources when receivable.

Depreciation on the fixed assets purchased with such grants is charged against the restricted fund.

All other income is included in the statement of financial activities when received or when the charity is legally entitled to the income.

Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specified purposes laid down by the donor. Such purposes are within the overall aims of the organisation. Expenditure for those purposes is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of overheads and support costs.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for expenditure on the general objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds which have been designated for specific purposes by the Trustees, for necessary work in connection with the ongoing provision of services yet fail to meet the stringent criteria of contractual obligation set out in FRS12 (Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets).

Resources expended

Grants payable

Grants payable are accounted for in the period in which the performance conditions attaching to the grant payment are met or, where no performance conditions apply, when a legal or constructive obligation arises.

Other expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, which is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

- ▶ costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of trading for fundraising.
- ▶ charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

- ▶ governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.
- ▶ all costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activity on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis.

Statement of financial activities

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £
Incoming resources			
Voluntary income	1	297,472	373,101
Activities for generating funds	2	47,311	43,189
Incoming resources from charitable activities	3	2,719	4,506
Total incoming resources		347,502	420,796
Resources expended			
Cost of generating funds	7	5,385	2,310
Charitable activities	4	362,690	263,160
Salaries	8	50,119	39,866
Total resources expended		418,194	305,336
Net incoming resources for the period		(70,692)	(115,460)
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		212,298	96,838
Total funds carried forward		141,606	212,298

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of these financial statements.

Balance sheet

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £
Current assets			
Cash at bank		217,981	255,132
Debtor – Mears Group match funding		7,343	24,166
		225,324	279,166
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(83,718)	(67,000)
Net assets		141,606	212,298
Funds			
General funds		141,606	212,298
Total funds		141,606	212,298

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

Trustee's responsibilities:

- ▶ the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the period in question in accordance with section 476.
- ▶ the trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015).

These financial statements were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 20th February 2025 and are signed on their behalf by:



 Christine Losecaat MBE
 Chair

Judith Herbert
 Treasurer

Notes to the financial statements

	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
1. Voluntary income		
Donations	297,472	373,101
	297,472	373,101
2. Incoming resources from activities for generating funds		
Amazon website link	0	85
Sponsored events	42,483	25,649
Mears fundays	2,355	1,919
Collections / raffles	2,473	15,536
	47,311	43,189
3. Incoming resources from charitable activities		
Gift aid	2,719	4,506
	2,719	4,506
4. Costs of charitable activities by fund type		
Auctions / raffles	335	444
Sponsored events	19,456	15,232
Mears fundays	387	1,166
Donations	342,512	246,318
	362,690	263,160

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
5. Costs of charitable activities by activity type				
Mears fundays	387	–	387	1,166
Auctions / raffles	335	–	335	444
Sponsored events	19,456	–	19,456	15,232
Donations	342,512	–	342,512	246,318
Direct costs	362,690	–	362,690	263,160
6. Governance costs				
Governance costs were met by Mears Group PLC.				
7. Analysis of support costs				
Charity giving administration fee			1,210	1,265
Staff expenses			2,078	413
Compliance fees			204	176
Merchandise			633	52
PR fees			1,260	404
			5,385	2,310
8. Staff costs and emoluments				
Salaries			50,119	39,866
			50,119	39,866
9. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year				
Other creditors			83,718	67,000
			83,718	67,000
10. Analysis of net assets between funds				
All funds are designated as general funds				



For more information about the Mears Foundation
please contact Heather Tyrer, General Manager on:
heather.tyrer@mearsgroup.co.uk

Visit our website: www.themearsfoundation.org.uk



THE MEARS FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1134941

Accounts



 **MEARS**
FOUNDATION
Building communities

Mears Foundation Annual Report & Accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Foreword

In these pages, you will find more than just numbers and figures. You will discover the heartbeat of our commitment, and the unwavering dedication of the many individuals who believe in the power of positive action to support individuals and organisations that help to build our communities across the United Kingdom.

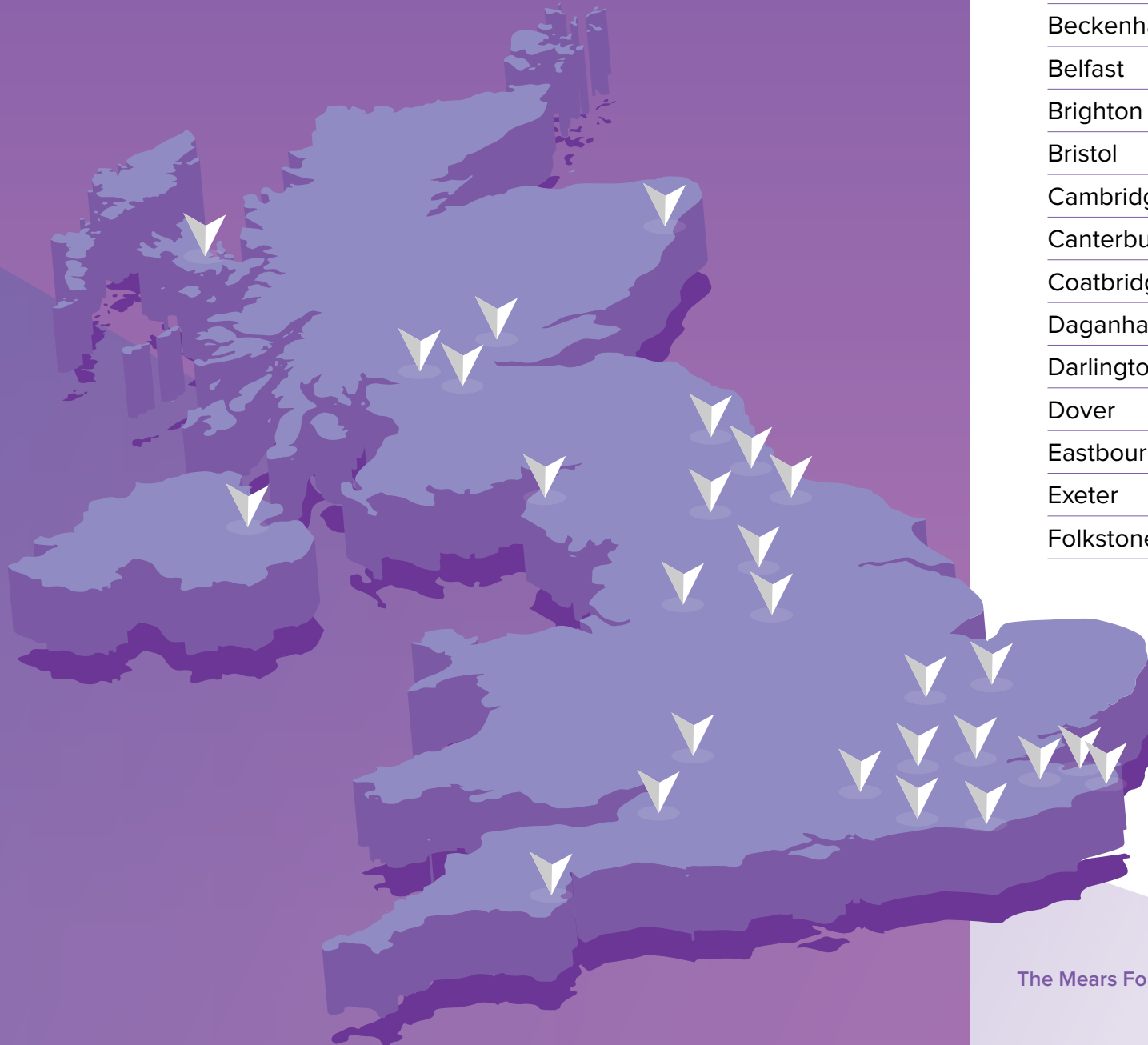
Beyond the numbers and financial metrics, these annual accounts encapsulate stories of resilience, hope, and empowerment.

Thank you to our many supporters and volunteers; thank you to Mears plc and special thanks to our Friends of the Mears Foundation. Your partnership and commitment have been instrumental in driving positive change and building brighter futures for those we serve. Your support fuels our resolve to continue making a difference, one life at a time.

Christine Losecaat MBE,
Chair



Our Grant Locations



Aberdeen

Aldershot

Beckenham

Belfast

Brighton

Bristol

Cambridge

Canterbury

Coatbridge

Daganham

Darlington

Dover

Eastbourne

Exeter

Folkstone

Glasgow

Gloucester

Hammersmith

Hersden

Ilford

Islington

Kent

Leeds

Manchester

Maryport

Middlesbrough

Milton Keynes

Newcastle

Portree, Sky

Redbridge

Rotherham

Sedgefield

Sheffield

Stirling

Thurrock

Tower Hamlets

Wakefield



Contents

The trustees present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31 December 2022.

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- 14. Structure, Governance & Management
- 13. Financial review
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Our vision and Mission

Our vision is a world where everyone can be an active member of their local community so they can flourish and actively contribute to society.

We do this through our mission of building communities.

Our aim is to empower and assist people so that they can develop their own skills and abilities to their maximum potential.

We do this through our mission of building communities.

Our aim is to empower and assist people so that they can develop their own skills and abilities to their maximum potential.

The guiding principles of The Mears Foundation are to:

- ▶ improve the lives of people living within communities in the United Kingdom
- ▶ help build community cohesion and integration
- ▶ provide career and skills development opportunities to those needing them most
- ▶ be a positive contributor to the environment

We work with groups and individuals who share our values to improve their lives and life chances by providing them with opportunities and skills to become stronger and more self-reliant.

Objectives & activities

The Mears Foundation is the independent charitable arm of Mears Group.

The Foundation is a grant-making trust that seeks to harness the goodwill, talents, and skills within Mears Group plc to benefit charities or good causes that provide practical help and support to vulnerable people in communities in the United Kingdom & Northern Ireland.

The Mears Foundation undertakes to raise money through charitable donations and fundraising activities. The income is then applied to such charities or good causes and for such charitable purposes as set out in our Grant Strategy below.

Activities 2023

2023 saw us award more community grants than ever before.

Our fundraising events saw an uptake in participants, and we continued to

grow our Friends of the Mears Foundation.

Our community grants were spread throughout the United Kingdom and targeted specific projects in keeping with our Grant Giving Strategy. We also launched our Green Spaces initiative, where we supported the greening of over 65 spaces throughout the United Kingdom and we consolidated our relationship with FareShare to combat food poverty during the cost-of-living crisis.

We would like to thank the following Friends of Mears for their support:



WOLSELEY



Magnet
Better. By design



SAFPRO

BUILDBASE



PLUMBASE

JEWSON

Case Study

Fish For Me

Fishing trips which started as a hobby and form of escapism during lockdown have turned into a long term project supporting mental health.

Nick Coote, a Multi-skilled Operative on the South Cambs contract, applied to the Mears Foundation for a community grant to take people fishing. His 'Fish for Me' project is an opportunity to take people away from their everyday and not only engage in something different, but also find some time to get things off their chest.

Nick was acutely aware that not a lot of people want to sit and talk about their mental health and found that a simple fishing trip offers a safe space, making it much easier to talk.

Anyone is welcome to go fishing with Nick, but the biggest effect has been breaking down the stigma around men's mental health. To date, eight people have gone fishing with him and every one has asked to return, with some of them surprised by how much they've taken to it. The grant has generated three times as much in social economic value, with a combination of the grant itself and Nick volunteering a large proportion of his own free time.



Case Study

World Diversity Day –

Govan is one of the most diverse communities in Glasgow, the community reflects different races. 21st of May is the World Day of Culture & Diversity each year. Safety Awareness Glasgow being a Black led organisation in the heart of Govan was approached by some of the residents about their desire to see their culture shared with the community. 20 Mears service users took the lead in the development of an event that celebrated Glasgow's diverse communities through song, food and dance.

Approx 150 members of the local community visited the event and benefitted from the celebrations which focused on integration and socialisation within the community.

“It was a privilege to be part of such a significant event for the Govan community and the asylum community in Glasgow. We had such a warm welcome and the event demonstrated the rich cultural make up of the area and how this contributes positively to the community. We look forward to next year's event.” - Steve Robbins – Regional Head Of Operations



Case Study

FareShare Volunteer Driver Initiative

The volunteer drivers from Mears have been taking surplus food to schools, hospices, care homes and food banks throughout Ashford and Medway every Friday. They have also supported the Family Food Bank, the largest food bank network in Kent with parcel deliveries to their distribution centres. The partnership began in September for a three month pilot, during

which they have distributed over 6.6 tonnes of food which is the equivalent of 157,666 meals to those struggling with food insecurity. In addition, they have distributed 100 food parcels for the Family Food Bank. The Mears Orbit team have committed to support with volunteer drivers throughout 2024 and will look to extend the offer into 2025



“The Mears Foundation and MPS have done a fantastic job of helping Fareshare Kent deliver food to those in need over the past few months. Food insecurity is affecting more people this winter due to the cost-of-living crisis, and the volunteer drivers from Mears have come along to support us at a time of great national need. Their ongoing support has helped us expand to reach more charities in Kent in Medway, Dartford, and Ramsgate” - Emma White, Warehouse Manager, FareShare Kent

“It has been an absolute pleasure to work with such a worthy charity and we will continue to provide support for next year. It has allowed our staff to see beyond their employment role and support people who are in desperate need of help. Giving and kindness is the foundation of most things and Fareshare has allowed us to see this” - Jody Saich, Customer Success Manager Tonbridge

Case Study

Green Space

The Mears Foundation supported Mears Group to become the most socially responsible business in the public sector by 2025 through the Mears Foundation 'Green Spaces Project'.

The aim of this initiative was to create or regenerate at least one green space for the benefit of each of the communities in which Mears works. Through the Foundations Green Space grants 60 green spaces

were created nationally with our branches, suppliers, sub-contractors and clients getting involved to support the project.

The health and well-being benefits of local green spaces and their positive contribution to tackling the climate emergency are clear. However, there's also plenty of evidence about a lack of access to green spaces across the country, particularly for the communities we work in.



North Lanarkshire – Buchanan School (Green Space)

The Boutique is a mini clothing bank within the school that encourages the recycling of pre-loved clothing and items to be re-issued within the school, to the larder or to local appeals in the community. The aim of the boutique is to stop clothing being sent to landfill, to re-use pre-loved items

and to help poverty proof the school in a sustainable way.

“The Boutique is used several times per day and is an invaluable provision for pupils in the school. One pupil recently described visiting the Boutique as being better than Christmas morning.”
- Mrs Neil

The Vinery – Aberdeen (Green Space)

The Project aims were for our Gardening Volunteers to plan, design and construct three 2 x 2 x 1200mm Metre Worm Farms known as Vermiculture. Our vermiculture project biologically is defined as the process of turning organic debris, predominantly kitchen food waste into worm castings that play a crucial role in increasing the fertility of our soil.

The by product was then used in community allotments where many individuals were

encouraged to come along and get involved in growing fruit and vegetables and making new friends along the way



Tower Hamlets (Green Space)

To renovate the community garden on Parkview Estate, Bethnal Green, The project made such a difference to the many residents on the estate who were eager to use the garden but it wasn't fit for purpose. The Mears team levelled up the garden, built planters and a seating area for the estate residents who also run the allotment creating a safe and calming area to sit together as a community

"I was contacted by the TRA of Park View with a request to consider their garden as a future project as it had become very overgrown and unsafe for residents to use, particularly elderly residents due to the uneven ground. What began as a simple tidy up slowly escalated into a full refurbishment and a complete transformation of the area. What was once a disused, unsafe

area will now be used for community events in the summer months including BBQ's and other social gatherings and can be used by all local residents to relax in the summer with their morning coffee, safely. The impact has been great, the feedback from residents has been very positive and this project is a testament to my colleagues in Tower Hamlets who committed above and beyond their volunteering requirements to ensure this project exceeded expectations."



Case Study

Winter Warmer Packs

The Mears Foundation has successfully given out 1,200 Winter Warmer Packs, through its partnership with 4Front Furniture.

The packs provided essential items including fleece blankets, thermos flasks, thermal socks, thermometers, hats and gloves, helping to

make a difference in the lives of vulnerable people during these challenging winter months.

The packs were distributed through branches and departments across the business supporting charities nationwide.





 **MEARS**
FOUNDATION
Building communities

 **MEARS**
FOUNDATION
Building communities

Strategy Forward Look

In 2024, the Mears Foundation will continue its work to build communities in the United Kingdom through grants and partnerships that alleviate the following issues.

1 Poverty

Food

The UK's food poverty rate is among the highest in Europe.

In June 2023, the latest tracker from the Food Foundation states 9 million adults in the UK, 17% of households, experienced moderate or severe food insecurity (a massive rise from 7.3% in June 2021).

Nearly a quarter of households with children experienced food insecurity.

Mears Foundation has partnered with FareShare to combat hunger and food waste.

Digital

Digital poverty is the inability to interact with the online world fully, when, where, and how an individual needs to. It exacerbates and is exacerbated by other socio-economic, educational, racial, linguistic, gender, and health inequalities.

It is both the product and the cause of other forms of socio-economic disadvantage.

The Foundation will look to support programmes that help with Device &

Connectivity (Affordability, Data, Infrastructure) Access (Accessibility, Availability) and Capability (Skills, Education and understanding).

Digital exclusion is a key driver of social isolation

Over 3 million tonnes of the food that goes to waste each year is still edible – that's enough for 7 billion meals.

Figures from World Wide Fund for Nature and WRAP.

2 Social Isolation and Loneliness

Most of us will experience loneliness at some point in our lives, regardless of age, circumstance, and background. We all experience loneliness differently.

Loneliness and social isolation have been linked to early deaths and an increased risk of heart disease, stroke, depression, cognitive decline and poor sleep. **It's as harmful to our health as smoking 15 cigarettes a day.**

Social Isolation has also been found to cause several mental health issues including depression, anxiety, low self-esteem, sleep problems and increased stress.

The Foundation will support direct interventions focussed on helping people maintain existing relationships and develop new ones. This includes supporting group activities such as lunch clubs and walking groups, one-to-one approaches like befriending schemes, as well as developing volunteering, mobilising peer support, and intergenerational support in neighbourhoods.

In 2024, the Foundation will also support a **Green Communities** campaign as part of its net zero contribution and look to promote social inclusion through Sport by supporting **Grass Roots & Community Sports initiative.**



People who feel lonely are more than twice as likely to develop Alzheimer's (and other forms of dementia) than those who do not feel lonely.

Grant Strategy

The Mears Foundation awards grants to projects in the United Kingdom only.

The Foundation exists to support the vulnerable in our communities by awarding grants to charities and projects who are offering people and those communities a lifeline.

The Foundation awards grants that are submitted /endorsed by a member of Mears Group plc workforce.

The projects we look to support are ones that alleviate:

- ▶ Food Poverty
- ▶ Digital Poverty
- ▶ Social Isolation and Loneliness

And those that promote:

- ▶ Green Community Spaces (through either the 'greening' of outdoor spaces or the reduction in energy costs)
- ▶ Social Inclusion through Sport

Grant requests received and supported by a Mears Group plc employee are reviewed in March and September and awarded in May and November annually.



Structure, Governance & Management

The charity was incorporated on the 16 September 2009 and is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The Foundation is managed by its General Manager, Heather Tyrer, under the guidance of the Chair and the Board of Trustees.

Registered Charity Name

The Mears Foundation

Charity Number

1134941

Company Number

07021016 (England and Wales)

Chair

Ms Christine Losecaat MBE

Company Secretary/ Treasurer

Mrs Judith Herbert

Trustees

Ms Karen Duncan (resigned 29.9.23)
Mr Patrick Grace
Mr Martin Gaffney (appointed 27.03.23)
Mrs Judith Herbert
Mr Richard Hughes (appointed 30.3.23)
Ms Diane Keay
Ms Alison Wilkinson
Mr Liam Wilkinson (appointed 12.4.23)

Executive Staff

Heather Tyrer

Registered Office

1390 Montpelier Court
Gloucester Business Park
Brockworth
Gloucester
GL3 4AH

Bankers

Barclays Bank PLC
18 Southgate Street
Gloucester
GL1 2DH

Financial Review

During the year, the charity raised funds in the amount of **£420,796**.

From these funds, the £42,176 incidental running costs of the charity were met and grants of £246,318 given. The excess funds remain in the bank account to carry forward for future projects and grants.

Small Company Provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

On Behalf of the Board

Christine Losecaat MBE
Chair

February 2024

Responsibilities of the trustees

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

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

- ▶ select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ▶ observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;

- ▶ make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- ▶ prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008.

The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the inclusion of current asset investments at market value, in accordance with the Financial Reporting

Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015), the Companies Act 2006 and the recommendations in the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting by Charities (the SORP).

Incoming Resources

Donations and gifts

All monetary donations and gifts are included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable, provided that there are no donor-imposed restrictions as to the timing of the related expenditure, in which case recognition is deferred until the pre-condition has been met.

they relate to a specified future period, in which case they are deferred.

Grants for the purchase of fixed assets are credited to restricted incoming resources when receivable. Depreciation on the fixed assets purchased with such grants is charged against the restricted fund.

Grants receivable

Revenue grants are credited as incoming resources when they are receivable provided conditions for receipt have been complied with, unless

All other income is included in the statement of financial activities when received or when the charity is legally entitled to the income.

Fund Accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specified purposes laid down by the donor. Such purposes are within the overall aims of the organisation. Expenditure for those purposes is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of overheads and support costs.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for expenditure on

the general objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds which have been designated for specific purposes by the Trustees, for necessary work in connection with the ongoing provision of services yet fail to meet the stringent criteria of contractual obligation set out in FRS12 (Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets).

Accounting Policies

Resources expended

Grants payable

Grants payable are accounted for in the period in which the performance conditions attaching to the grant payment are met or, where no performance conditions apply, when a legal or constructive obligation arises.

Other expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, which is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

- ▶ costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of trading for fundraising;
- ▶ charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services

for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them;

- ▶ governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity;
- ▶ all costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activity on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis.
- ▶ allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis.



Statement of financial activities

	Note	Unrestricted Funds '23 (£)	Unrestricted Funds '22 (£)
Incoming resources			
Voluntary income	1	373,101	270,222
Activities for Generating Funds	2	43,189	27,603
Incoming resources from Charitable Activities	3	4,506	4,306
Total incoming resources		420,796	302,131
Resources expended			
Cost of Generating Funds	7	2,310	1,317
Charitable Activities	4	263,160	216,984
Salaries	8	39,866	38,043
Total resources expended		305,336	256,344
Net incoming resources for the period		115,460	45,787
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		96,838	51,051
Total funds carried forward		212,298	96,838

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet

	Note	Unrestricted Funds '23 (£)	Unrestricted Funds '22 (£)
Current assets			
Cash at bank		255,132	128,152
Debtor – Mears Group Match funding		24,166	21,417
		279,298	149,569
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(67,000)	(52,731)
Net assets		212,298	96,838
Funds			
General Funds		212,298	96,838
Total funds	10	212,298	96,838

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

Trustee's responsibilities:

- ▶ the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the period in question in accordance with section 476
- ▶ the trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part

15 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015).

These financial statements were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 20th February 2024 and are signed on their behalf by:

Christine Losecaat MBE

Chair

Judith Herbert

Treasurer

Company Registration Number: **07021016**

Notes to the financial statements

1 Voluntary income	Total Funds '23 (£)	Total Funds '22 (£)
Donations	373,101	270,222
Total incoming resources	373,101	270,222

2 Incoming resources from activities for generating funds	Total Funds '23 (£)	Total Funds '22 (£)
Amazon Website Link	85	35
Sponsored Events	25,649	17,396
Mears Fundays	1,919	787
Collections / Raffles	15,536	9,385
	43,189	27,603

3 Incoming resources from charitable activities	Total Funds '23 (£)	Total Funds '22 (£)
Gift Aid	4,506	4,306
	4,506	4,306

4 Costs of charitable activities by fund type	Total Funds '23 (£)	Total Funds '22 (£)
Auctions & Raffles	444	180
Sponsored Events	15,232	10,148
Mears Fundays	1,166	245
Grants Given	246,318	206,411
Total incoming resources	263,160	216,984

5 Costs of charitable activities by activity type	Total Funds '23 (£)	Support costs (£)	Total Funds '23 (£)	Total Funds '22 (£)
Mears Fundays	1,166		1,166	245
Auctions & Raffles	444		444	180
Sponsored Events	15,232		15,232	10,148
Grants Given	246,318		246,318	206,411
Direct costs	263,160		263,160	216,984

Notes to the financial statements

6 Governance costs

Governance costs were met by Mears Group PLC.

7 Analysis of support costs

	2023 (£)	2022 (£)
Charity giving administration fee	1,265	872
Staff Expenses	413	181
Compliance Fees	176	
Merchandise	52	124
PR Fees	404	140
	2,310	1,317

8 Staff costs and emoluments

	2023 (£)	2022 (£)
Salaries	39,866	38,043
	39,866	38,043

9 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023 (£)	2022 (£)
Other Creditors	67,000	52,731
	67,000	52,731

10 Analysis of net assets between funds

All funds are designated as General Funds.



www.themearsfoundation.org.uk



For more information on anything enclosed within this report please email heather.tyrer@mearsgroup.co.uk

THE MEARS FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1134941

Accounts



Mears Foundation Annual Report & Accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2022



Contents

The trustees present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31 December 2022.

- 3. Our Vision and Mission
- 3. Objectives and activities
- 4. Activities 2022
- 8. Strategy Forward Look
- 8. Operating environment
- 11. Grant Strategy
- 12. Structure, Governance & Management
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- 13. Responsibilities of the trustees
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- 14. Accounting policies
- 16. Statement of financial activities
- 16. Balance sheet
- 17. Notes to the financial statements

Our vision and Mission

Our vision is a world where everyone can be an active member of their local community so they can flourish and actively contribute to society.

We do this through our mission of building communities.

Our aim is to empower and assist people so that they can develop their own skills and abilities to their maximum potential.

The guiding principles of The Mears Foundation are to:

- ▶ improve the lives of people living within communities in the United Kingdom
- ▶ help build community cohesion and integration
- ▶ provide career and skills development opportunities to those needing them most
- ▶ be a positive contributor to the environment

We work with groups and individuals who share our values to improve their lives and life chances by providing them with opportunities and skills to become stronger and more self-reliant.

Objectives & activities

The Mears Foundation is the independent charitable arm of Mears Group.

The Foundation is a grant-making trust that seeks to harness the goodwill, talents, and skills within Mears Group plc to benefit charities or good causes that provide practical help and support to vulnerable people in communities in the United Kingdom & Northern Ireland.

The Mears Foundation undertakes to raise money through charitable donations and fundraising activities. The income is then applied to such charities or good causes and for such charitable purposes as set out in our Grant Strategy below.

Activities 2022

2022 saw the Foundation continue to grow its income from donations and therefore managed to increase considerably the amount awarded to causes that support the building of communities in the United Kingdom by 140%.

This is mainly due to the successful launch of the Friends of Mears Foundation initiative that launched in 2021. This programme seeks partnerships

with corporate supporters to extend the Foundation's ability to support community projects for public benefit and for the Foundation to support its Friends' social value plans.

The Foundation received **99** applications for support, all of which were acknowledged.

The Foundation was pleased to award 70 grants to charities offering support to their communities, in addition to volunteer support by Mears Group plc staff.

We would like to thank the following Friends of Mears for their support:



WOLSELEY



Magnet
Better. By design



SAFPRO

BUILDBASE



PLUMBASE

JEWSON

Case Study

Savte Learners & Volunteers Support

The Foundation awarded a grant to SAVTE who in partnership with Mears employees are delivering English speaking sessions to service users in the Wakefield area. These sessions are to fill the gap for support that is not officially available until the service users have been in the UK for six months. The grant has been used to provide the learners with learning materials, volunteer recruitment, training and placement support.



Case Study

Clayburn Community Garden

Mears Foundation and local Mears colleagues have transformed an underused open space in Thurrock into a community garden and food growing space benefiting isolated residents and families, thanks to a partnership between the council and Mears Foundation

Mears Thurrock branch were approached by local residents who wanted to develop a community garden, to provide residents with a place to meet and socialise. There is an area of green space which is currently not being utilised to its full extent. With a variety of residents in this area from veterans to vulnerable residents, all benefitted from the area being re vamped.

“Community gardens are great places to meet and socialise. They provide places to grow plants, fruit and vegetables. They provide homes for wildlife and sensory spaces, you can simply sit back, relax and enjoy contact with the natural environment”

- Unnamed resident.

Case Study

FareShare

FareShare is the UK's only national surplus food redistribution charity. They turn the environmental problem of food waste into the social solution of feeding people in need. FareShare recover quality surplus food from the food industry and ensure it's redistributed to frontline charities. In 2020/21, FareShare provided enough food for 131 million meals.

As more people are turning to the voluntary sector out of necessity to access decent and healthy food in the wake of the cost-of-living crisis, small service provision charities like the ones FareShare gets food to are serving more people than ever before.

Food is playing a vital role in connecting people with the local services that can provide regular meals and wraparound support. FareShare food connects

people in need with the interventions that address the root causes of hunger, rather than just the symptoms

The Mears Foundation partnership with FareShare is helping to address the issue of food poverty. With the grant the Foundation has donated FareShare are able to

The partnership also allows colleagues from Mears branches get involved in volunteering opportunities such as the one run in December 22 where 36 staff volunteered for the Tesco Winter Food Collection. On average each volunteer collected enough donations to make up an additional 888 meals.



The Mears Foundation Helping tackle food poverty.

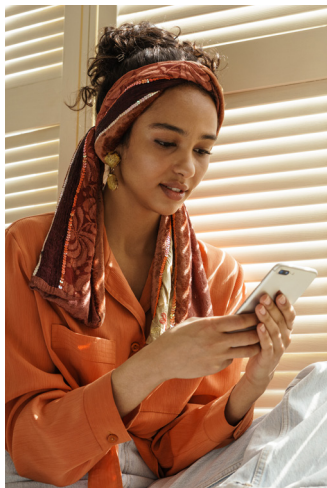


“Support from the Mears Foundation will make a huge difference to FareShare and to many thousands of people currently struggling for food in the cost-of-living crisis. Their generous grant will help us to scale up our activities and cover vital costs in transporting food, helping FareShare and the frontline charities we work with to get urgently needed meals out to vulnerable communities across the UK. A such a crucial time, when demand for food is skyrocketing, we cannot be more grateful for this valued new partnership.”

Lindsay Boswell, CEO, FareShare UK

Case Study **Curry's**

Together with Curry's we were able to donate over 200 tablets to families, groups and individuals who have benefitted from being able to connect to essential services, local communities and their families we have also supported children access their schoolwork online.



Case Study **Asseal**

Partnering with Rotherham-based engineering company AESSEAL the Foundation was able to support local service users to contact their family, friends and local community. Together we donated over 700 mobile phones helping those feeling isolated to reconnect.

Case Study **Winter Warmer Packs**

In the winter of 2022 the Foundation supported several projects by supplying winter warmer packs that included scarfs, hats, gloves, warm throws, thermal socks and heat packs. The packs were distributed to elderly residents living in South Cambridgeshire District Councils sheltered living schemes, the elderly and vulnerable who receive extra support in deprived areas of

Milton Keynes, packs were also included in hampers that were given out to the isolated and elderly population in and around the MPS Maryport Brunswick House branch.

This project was particularly special as it was the wishes of Richard Relph who was employed by MPS who sadly passed away and his colleagues wanted to carry out this project for Richard.



The Mears Foundation
Helping tackle digital poverty.

A smiling woman with blonde hair is sitting at a desk in an office. She is wearing a black cardigan over a white top. In front of her is a laptop and a pink cup. The background shows a window with yellow sticky notes on it.

Strategy Forward Look

Operating environment

2022 has been dominated by the cost-of-living crisis. Inflation ran at a double-digit pace, the highest in 40 years and far outpacing wage growth. Food prices were up almost 20% and the cost of heating a typical home has jumped more than 150%.

The crisis is even more acute for the poorest UK households, which typically spend a higher proportion of their income on food and housing costs. Based on forecasts from the Autumn Budget of 2022, real household disposable income in the UK will fall by 4.3 percent in the 2022/23 financial year, the biggest fall in living standards since the mid 1950s, when this type of data was first produced.

In 2023, the Mears Foundation will continue its work to build communities in the United Kingdom through grants and partnerships that alleviate the following issues.

1 Poverty

Food

The UK's food poverty rate is among the highest in Europe. Over 14 million people in the UK are struggling to get enough to eat – that is 1 in 5 of the UK's population. Meantime, millions of tonnes of good food is wasted by the UK food industry every year.

In 2023, we will seek to grow and develop our partnership with FareShare.

FareShare redistributes food industry surplus, which would otherwise go to waste, to the people who need it most.

FareShare is the UK's national network of charitable food redistributors, made up of 18 independent organisations. FareShare take good quality surplus food from right across the food industry and get it to nearly 9,500 frontline charities and community groups.

The food is distributed to charities across the UK, including school breakfast clubs, older people's lunch clubs, homeless shelters, and community cafes.

Over 3 million tonnes of the food that goes to waste each year is still edible – that's enough for 7 billion meals.

Figures from World Wide Fund for Nature and WRAP.

Digital

Digital poverty is the inability to interact with the online world fully, when, where, and how an individual needs to. It exacerbates and is exacerbated by other socio-economic, educational, racial, linguistic, gender, and health inequalities. It is both the product and the cause of other forms of socio-economic disadvantage.

Digital Poverty is a result of and a cause of financial hardship.

More and more people are accessing the internet through a smartphone only (21%), particularly those in lower socio-economic grades.

Those most likely not to have internet access at home:

those aged
75+ (26%)

those in DE households
(14%)

the most financially
vulnerable
(10%)

The Foundation will look to support programmes that help with Device & Connectivity (Affordability, Data, Infrastructure) Access (Accessibility, Availability) and Capability (Skills, Education and understanding)

2 Social Isolation and Loneliness

Loneliness affects almost a quarter of the UK population. And its impact can be truly profound. Many studies demonstrate the link between loneliness and poor physical and mental health. Some claims suggest that it can be as harmful as smoking 15 cigarettes a day, and that loneliness can increase your overall risk of death by 26%.

The impact of loneliness reaches far beyond the individual. Recent studies have estimated that the economic & wellbeing cost of severe loneliness per person is equivalent to nearly £10k per year, because of the impact on people's wellbeing, health and productivity.

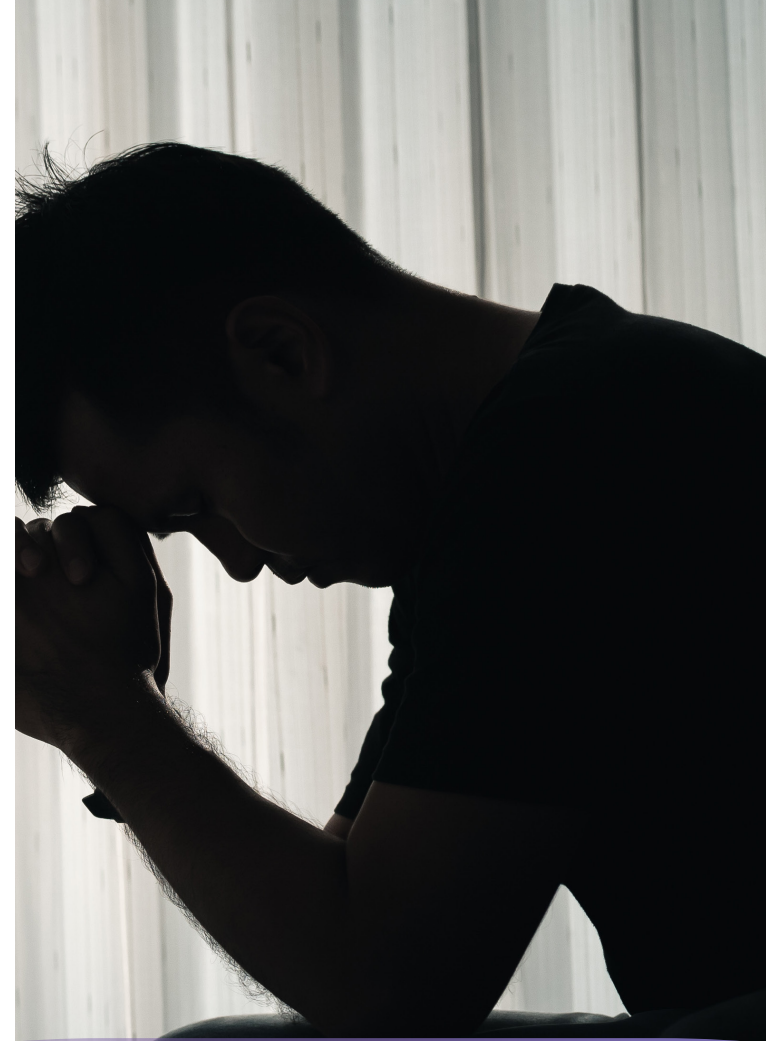
We all feel lonely at times – it's a normal human emotion. We are biologically wired for social contact, and loneliness is our signal that we need more.

Most of us will experience loneliness at some point in our lives, regardless of age, circumstance, and background. We all experience loneliness differently.

Loneliness and social isolation have been linked to early deaths and an increased risk of heart disease, stroke, depression, cognitive decline and poor sleep. It's as harmful to our health as smoking 15 cigarettes a day.

Social Isolation has also been found to cause several mental health issues including depression, anxiety, low self-esteem, sleep problems and increased stress.

The Foundation will support direct interventions focussed on helping people maintain existing relationships and develop new ones. This includes supporting group activities such as lunch clubs and walking groups, one-to-one approaches like befriending schemes, access to psychological support for people for whom loneliness is part of broader mental health issues as well as developing volunteering, including people who might not ordinarily volunteer, mobilising peer support, and intergenerational support in neighbourhoods.



People who feel lonely are more than twice as likely to develop Alzheimer's (and other forms of dementia) than those who do not feel lonely.

Grant Strategy

The Mears Foundation awards grants to projects in the United Kingdom only.

The Foundation exists to support the vulnerable in our communities by awarding grants to charities and projects who are offering people and those communities a lifeline.

The Foundation awards grants that are submitted /endorsed by a member of Mears Group plc workforce. The projects we look to support are ones that alleviate:

- ▶ Poverty in the following forms
 - ▶ Food
 - ▶ Digital
- ▶ Social Isolation and Loneliness

Grant requests received and supported by a Mears Group plc employee are reviewed in **March and September** and awarded in **May and November** annually.



Structure, Governance & Management

The charity was incorporated on the 16 September 2009 and is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The Foundation is managed by its General Manager, Heather Tyrer, under the guidance of the Chair and the Board of Trustees.

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Company Secretary/ Treasurer

Mrs Judith Herbert

Trustees

Ms Karen Duncan
Ms Diana Green (resigned 23/12/2022)
Mr Patrick Grace
Mrs Judith Herbert
Ms Diane Keay
Mr Kevin Morrow (resigned 20/11/2022)
Ms Alison Wilkinson

Executive Staff

Heather Tyrer

Registered Office

1390 Montpelier Court
Gloucester Business Park
Brockworth
Gloucester
GL3 4AH

Bankers

Barclays Bank PLC
18 Southgate Street
Gloucester
GL1 2DH

Financial Review

During the year, the charity raised funds in the amount of **£302,130**.

From these funds, the £39,360 incidental running costs of the charity were met and grants of £206,411 given. The excess funds remain in the bank account to carry forward for future projects and grants.

Small Company Provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

On Behalf of the Board

Christine Losecaat MBE
Chair

X February 2023

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- ▶ select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ▶ observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;

- ▶ make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- ▶ prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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Fund Accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specified purposes laid down by the donor. Such purposes are within the overall aims of the organisation.

Expenditure for those purposes is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of overheads and support costs.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming

resources received or generated for expenditure on the general objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds which have been designated for specific purposes by the Trustees, for necessary work in connection with the ongoing provision of services yet fail to meet the stringent criteria of contractual obligation set out in FRS12

Accounting Policies

Resources expended

Grants payable

Grants payable are accounted for in the period in which the performance conditions attaching to the grant payment are met or, where no performance conditions apply, when a legal or constructive obligation arises.

Other expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, which is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of trading for fundraising;

- ▶ charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its

activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them;

- ▶ governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity;
- ▶ all costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activity on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis.



Statement of financial activities

	Note	Unrestricted Funds '22 (£)	Unrestricted Funds '21 (£)
Incoming resources			
Voluntary income	1	270,222	81,401
Activities for Generating Funds	2	27,603	39,606
Incoming resources from Charitable Activities	3	4,306	3,078
Total incoming resources		302,131	124,085
Resources expended			
Cost of Generating Funds	7	1,317	2,638
Charitable Activities	4	216,984	68,569
Salaries	8	38,043	36,028
Total resources expended		256,344	107,235
Net incoming resources for the period		45,787	16,850
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		51,051	34,201
Total funds carried forward		96,838	51,051

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet

	Note	Unrestricted Funds '22 (£)	Unrestricted Funds '21 (£)
Current assets			
Cash at bank		128,152	81,401
Debtor – Mears Group Match funding		21,417	39,606
		149,569	84,371
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(52,731)	(33,320)
Net assets		96,838	51,051
Funds			
General Funds		96,838	51,051
Total funds	10	96,838	51,051

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

Trustee's responsibilities:

- ▶ the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the period in question in accordance with section 476
- ▶ the trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special

provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015).

These financial statements were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 2nd February 2021 and are signed on their behalf by:

Christine Losecaat MBE

Chair

Judith Herbert

Treasurer

Company Registration Number: **07021016**

Notes to the financial statements

1 Voluntary income	Total Funds '22 (£)	Total Funds '21 (£)
Donations	174,118	78,901
Friends of Foundation contributions	96,104	2,500
Total incoming resources	270,222	81,401

2 Incoming resources from activities for generating funds	Total Funds '22 (£)	Total Funds '21 (£)
Amazon Website Link	35	5
Sponsored Events	17,396	13,115
Mears Fundays	787	1,480
Collections / Raffles	9,385	25,006
	27,603	39,606

3 Incoming resources from charitable activities	Total Funds '22 (£)	Total Funds '21 (£)
Gift Aid	4,306	3,078
	4,306	3,078

4 Costs of charitable activities by fund type	Total Funds '22 (£)	Total Funds '21 (£)
Auctions & Raffles	180	206
Sponsored Events	10,148	5,456
Mears Fundays	245	279
Donations	140,479	62,628
Digital Poverty Campaign	35,932	
Fareshare Partnership	30,000	
Total incoming resources	216,984	68,569

5 Costs of charitable activities by activity type	Total Funds '22 (£)	Support costs (£)	Total Funds '22 (£)	Total Funds '21 (£)
Mears Fundays	245		245	279
Auctions & Raffles	180		180	206
Sponsored Events	10,148		10,148	6,059
Donations	140,479		140,479	62,628
Digital Poverty Campaign	35,932		35,932	
Fareshare Partnership	30,000		30,000	
Direct costs	216,984		216,984	69,172

Notes to the financial statements

6 Governance costs

Governance costs were met by Mears Group PLC.

7 Analysis of support costs

	2022 (£)	2021 (£)
Charity giving administration fee	872	1,008
Staff Expenses	181	992
Compliance Fees		35
Merchandise	124	603
PR Fees	140	
	1,317	2,638

8 Staff costs and emoluments

	2022 (£)	2021 (£)
Salaries	38,043	36,028
	38,043	36,028

9 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022 (£)	2021 (£)
Salaries	52,731	33,359
	52,731	33,359

10 Analysis of net assets between funds

All funds are designated as General Funds.



www.themearsfoundation.org.uk



For more information on anything enclosed within this report please email heather.tyrer@mearsgroup.co.uk

THE MEARS FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1134941

Accounts



MEARS
FOUNDATION

Annual Report 2021



Playing our part

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Hello

The Mears Foundation is a grant-making trust. It seeks to harness the goodwill, talents and skills within Mears to raise money through charitable donations and fundraising activities.

The income is then used to directly benefit the like-minded charities and good causes that provide practical support to vulnerable people and communities across the UK.

The Mears Foundation is the independent, charitable arm of Mears Group plc.

Registered Charity Number: 1134941

Company number 07021016

1390 Montpellier Court, Gloucester Business Park,
Brockworth, Gloucester GL3 4AH

Our Vision

To see a world where everyone can be an active member of their local community so they can flourish and actively contribute to society.

Our Mission

To empower and assist people so that they can develop their own skills and abilities to their maximum potential.

Our guiding principles:

- ▶ Improve the lives of people living within communities in the United Kingdom.
- ▶ Help build community cohesion and integration.
- ▶ Provide career and skills development opportunities to those needing them most.
- ▶ Be a positive contributor to the environment.

We work to improve the lives and life chances of the many groups and individuals that share our values. We provide opportunities and skills that enable them to become stronger and more self-reliant.



Our activities in 2021

The Foundation received 68 applications for support, all of which were acknowledged. The Foundation was pleased to award 58 grants to charities offering support to their communities, in addition to volunteer support by Mears staff.

- ▶ 2021 saw the Foundation significantly increase its income from donations and therefore managed to increase considerably the number of grants awarded to causes that support the building of communities in the United Kingdom.
- ▶ Despite Covid restrictions, the Foundation delivered several successful fundraising events.
- ▶ The Foundation has worked with HACT to develop a social value calculator to better report on its impact.
- ▶ In 2021, for every £1 granted, the Foundation delivered £200 in social value.
- ▶ In 2021, the Foundation also launched its Friends of Mears initiative. This programme seeks partnerships with corporate supporters to extend the Foundation's ability to support community projects for public benefit.



Herts Young Homeless

Hatfield

Herts Young Homeless offer many different services to support those facing difficult times at a young age. They offer the Homeless Hub, a front door to homeless prevention services in Hertfordshire, an outreach service for those 18 and over to provide mediation, health advice, and education.

How we are helping:

Mears Foundation are helping this amazing charity with their *Live Life Project*. This project is for young people who have experienced homelessness (e.g. sofa surfing or staying in temporary accommodation). The Foundation grant will cover the costs of running this project allowing a Live Life member who has reached out to Herts Young Homeless for regular support throughout the year, including transport to and from regular Live Life meetings, training, employment and social skills plus signposting to any other services such as mental health support or counselling.

The Foundation looks to build strong, long-term relationships with like-minded charities such as Herts Young Homeless ensuring support is available for those who need it the most.



The Health and Wellness Hub

Motherwell

The Health and Wellness Hub is a community organisation in Motherwell that provides a range of health and wellbeing activities (including holistic therapies, classes -yoga, tai chi, Pilates, Zumba, chair-based exercise and peer support groups). In addition, the hub provides volunteering opportunities to our most vulnerable community members, including people with a long-term condition, those who are long-term unemployed, people with a disability and people with a mental health condition.

How we are helping:

The Mears Foundation has awarded a grant to The Health and Wellness Hub in Motherwell helping them to continue to offer services that alleviate social isolation and loneliness in their local community.

With the grant the Hub will be able to fund their 'Buddies' project ensuring they can provide sufficient volunteers and telephone-based support to their service users, helping local people connect and transition back into wider group and community life after long periods of social isolation and exclusion due to Covid restrictions.

The project supported 35 local people who required befriending support (both directly at social distance and by telephone) regarding mental health and wellbeing. This service enabled people to take part in group activities, allowed others on low income to get involved, increased confidence and wellbeing and made those in the group feel valued and in a better position to seek training and employment opportunities. Plus signposting to any other services such as mental health support or counselling.

In most cases, those accessing the hub live in areas of deprivation and inequality including within the top 10-20% Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) Datazone categories.

The befriending service has been a great lifeline for me and gives me contact with the outside world, it's been great receiving the calls but it would be nice to do something face to face with other people too in the future.

”

The Curve Food Pantry

Octavia Housing, RBKC & Hammersmith & Fulham support people affected by ill health, social isolation, low income or unemployment in Central and West London.

The charity delivers a young people's programme which offers a wide range of innovative, inclusive and creative activities to provide opportunities for young people to try new activities in arts and digital media.

They also have an employment and training team who offer one to one information, advice and guidance to empower individuals to reach their goals, and to provide them with the tools and resources to successfully search, apply for and gain paid employment.

How we are helping:

The Mears Foundation has helped Octavia add to their services by awarding a grant that will be used to support those on low income and in food poverty. The stigma of using a traditional foodbank was proving a barrier to their residents accessing the very basic of needs – food.

The grant awarded by the Foundation will help Octavia to set up their own 'Food Pantry', giving a more dignified approach to accessing vital food items, offering residents more choice and value. They planned to use a space in their community centre which is at the heart of their community that has more than 2,000 Octavia residents, plus those of Hammersmith & Fulham.



Cleland Miners Boxing & Community Club

Motherwell

Cleland Miners Boxing Club is a boxing and community club for both male and females from the local area aged from age 8 to 40. The club currently opens three nights a week for training and keep fit classes, a dance class is also available one night a week. The club is run purely on a voluntary basis, with most of the coaches in 4 or 5 nights a week between 5pm – 10pm. The club feel that people should be able to train, keep fit, dance, and socialise without having to pay a fee and therefore all classes are free. Anyone and everyone is welcome.

How we are helping:

The Mears Foundation saw a great opportunity to help a community in a deprived area, where community activity was difficult to come by. Joining forces with Mears supply chain and friend of the Foundation, CEF, we were able to make a difference to this community's meeting place.

The Foundation instantly saw a great opportunity to involve CEF, electrical experts and one of Mears top suppliers, in helping this isolated community by getting involved in helping to update the clubs heating.

By working together, the Foundation and CEF donated 10 new efficient heaters. This allows the club to stay open during the colder months and encourages the communities to get involved, which combats social isolation.

This has been such a heart-warming project to come through the Foundation. It's very difficult to understand how isolated a community can be where a village has very few facilities for the residents to get together. It was such an easy solution and one that will have a huge impact.

Heather Tyrer / General Manager / Mears Foundation

”

Strategy / Forward look

Operating environment

2021 has been another challenging year for everyone. The COVID-19 pandemic continued to lead to unprecedented challenges faced by society, healthcare, food systems and the world of work.

In the UK, the success of the vaccination programme promises a better operating environment for 2022. However, the impact of last two years on the most vulnerable members of society will be felt for years to come.

In 2022, the Mears Foundation will continue its work to build communities in the United Kingdom through grants and partnerships that alleviate:

1. Poverty in the following forms:

Food

The UK's food poverty rate is among the highest in Europe. Since the start of the pandemic, household food insecurity increased, the use of food banks reached its highest levels, and campaign groups highlighted the importance of free school meals for families in the UK.

Nearly 6 million adults and 1.7 million children were struggling to get enough food between September 2020 and February 2021, according to a report from the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs committee.



For the poorest in our society, up to 35% of disposable income will now be needed for food, compared to less than 9% for the more wealthy. This will increase reliance on cheap, highly processed, high fat, high sugar, high salt, and calorie-dense, unhealthy foods. Re-emerging problems of poor public health nutrition such as rickets and malnutrition in the elderly are also causes for concern.

Fuel

In the latest estimates, around 13% of households in England were classed as fuel poor, 25% in Scotland, 12% in Wales, and 18% in Northern Ireland.

In general, fuel poverty relates to households that must spend a high proportion of their household income to keep their home at a reasonable temperature.

Fuel poverty is affected by three key factors: a household's income, their fuel costs, and their energy consumption (which in turn can be affected by the energy efficiency of the dwelling).

Fuel poverty often leads to other problems. For example, cold homes can have negative impacts on both mental and physical health, potentially adding demand to the NHS and social care providers, and directly contributing towards excess winter deaths. Health impacts of cold homes include increased risk of heart attack or stroke, respiratory illnesses, poor diet due to *heat or eat* choices, mental health issues, and worsening or/slow recovery from existing conditions.

Those most at risk of ill health from fuel poverty include children the elderly, and long-term sick and disabled people.

Strategy / Forward look

Digital

Digital poverty is the inability to interact with the online world fully, when, where, and how an individual needs to. It exacerbates and is exacerbated by other socio-economic, educational, racial, linguistic, gender, and health inequalities. It is both the product and the cause of other forms of socio-economic disadvantage.

Over the past year and a half, the COVID-19 pandemic has irrevocably thrust digital poverty into the national spotlight, as many aspects of everyday life moved online to mitigate the spread of Coronavirus.

The pandemic crisis simultaneously exposed how much of our life has already been digitised, how damaging digital poverty can be for individuals and society, and the need to urgently plan for a future in which people are simply unable to participate in society without access to devices and data.

The Foundation will look to support programmes that help with Device and Connectivity (Affordability, Data, Infrastructure) Access (Accessibility, Availability) and Capability (Skills, Education and understanding).

Digital exclusion is a key driver of social isolation

2. Social Isolation and Loneliness

We all feel lonely at times – it's a normal human emotion. We are biologically wired for social contact, and loneliness is our signal that we need more.

Most of us will experience loneliness at some point in our lives, regardless of age, circumstance, and background. We all experience loneliness differently.

Loneliness and social isolation have been linked to early deaths and an increased risk of heart disease, stroke, depression, cognitive decline and poor sleep. It's as harmful to our health as smoking 15 cigarettes a day.

Social Isolation has also been found to cause several mental health issues including depression, anxiety, low self-esteem, sleep problems and increased stress.



People who feel lonely are more than twice as likely to develop Alzheimer's (and other forms of dementia) than those who do not feel lonely.

The Foundation will support direct interventions focussed on helping people maintain existing relationships and develop new ones. This includes supporting group activities such as lunch clubs and walking groups, one-to-one approaches like befriending schemes, access to psychological support for people for whom loneliness is part of broader mental health issues as well as developing volunteering, including people who might not ordinarily volunteer, mobilising peer support, and intergenerational support in neighbourhoods.



Grant strategy

The Mears Foundation awards grants to projects in the UK only.

The Foundation exists to support the vulnerable in our communities by awarding grants to charities and projects who are offering people and those communities a lifeline.

The Foundation awards grants that are submitted /endorsed by a member of Mears Group plc workforce. The projects we look to support are ones that alleviate:

- ▶ Poverty in the following forms:
 - ▶ Food
 - ▶ Fuel
 - ▶ Digital
- ▶ Social Isolation and Loneliness

Grant requests received and supported by a Mears Group plc employee are reviewed in March and September, and awarded in May and November annually.

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity was incorporated on the 16 September 2009 and is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The Foundation is managed by its General Manager, Heather Tyrer, under the guidance of the Chair and the Board of Trustees.

Registered Charity Name:

The Mears Foundation

Charity Number:

1134941

Company Number:

07021016 (England and Wales)

Chair:

Ms Christine Losecaat MBE

Company Secretary/Treasurer:

Mrs Judith Herbert

Trustees:

Ms Karen Duncan

Effective 25/03/21

Ms Diana Green

Mr Patrick Grace

Mrs Judith Herbert

Ms Diane Keay

Mr Kevin Morrow

Ms Alison Wilkinson

Effective 25/05/21

Executive Staff:

Heather Tyrer

Registered Office:

**1390 Montpelier Court
Gloucester Business Park
Brockworth
Gloucester
GL3 4AH**

Bankers:

**Barclays Bank PLC
18 Southgate Street
Gloucester
GL1 2DH**

Financial review

During the year, the charity raised funds in the amount of £124,085.

From these funds, the £44,607 incidental running costs of the charity were met and grants of £62,628 given. The excess funds remain in the bank account to carry forward for future projects and grants.

**Heather Tyrer
General manager**

Responsibilities of the trustees

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

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

- ▶ select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.

- ▶ observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP.
- ▶ make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- ▶ prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

On Behalf of the Board:

**Christine Losecaat MBE
Chair**

22nd February 2022

Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the inclusion of current asset investments at market value, in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015), the Companies Act 2006 and the recommendations in the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting by Charities (the SORP).

Incoming resources

Donations and gifts

All monetary donations and gifts are included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable, provided that there are no donor-imposed restrictions as to the timing of the related expenditure, in which case recognition is deferred until the pre-condition has been met.

Grants receivable

Revenue grants are credited as incoming resources when they are receivable provided conditions for receipt have been complied with, unless they relate to a specified future period, in which case they are deferred.

Grants for the purchase of fixed assets are credited to restricted incoming resources when receivable.

Depreciation on the fixed assets purchased with such grants is charged against the restricted fund.

All other income is included in the statement of financial activities when received or when the charity is legally entitled to the income.

Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specified purposes laid down by the donor. Such purposes are within the overall aims of the organisation. Expenditure for those purposes is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of overheads and support costs.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for expenditure on the general objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds which have been designated for specific purposes by the Trustees, for necessary work in connection with the ongoing provision of services yet fail to meet the stringent criteria of contractual obligation set out in FRS12 (Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets).

Resources expended

Grants payable

Grants payable are accounted for in the period in which the performance conditions attaching to the grant payment are met or, where no performance conditions apply, when a legal or constructive obligation arises.

Other expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, which is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

- ▶ costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of trading for fundraising.
- ▶ charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

- ▶ governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.
- ▶ all costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activity on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis.

Statement of financial activities

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £
Incoming resources			
Voluntary income	1	81,401	9,466
Activities for generating funds	2	39,606	3,546
Incoming resources from charitable activities	3	3,078	674
Total incoming resources		124,085	13,686
Resources expended			
Cost of generating funds	7	2,638	1,057
Charitable activities	4	68,569	9,410
Salaries	8	36,028	7,665
Total resources expended		107,235	18,132
Net incoming resources for the period		16,850	(4,446)
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		34,201	38,647
Total funds carried forward		51,051	34,201

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of these financial statements.

Balance sheet

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £
Current assets			
Cash at bank		62,079	35,601
Debtor – Mears Group match funding		22,292	–
		84,371	35,601
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(33,320)	(1,400)
Net assets		51,051	34,201
Funds			
General funds		51,051	34,201
Total funds	10	51,051	34,201

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

Trustee's responsibilities:

- ▶ the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the period in question in accordance with section 476.
- ▶ the trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015).

These financial statements were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 22nd February 2022 and are signed on their behalf by:

Christine Losecaat MBE
Chair

Judith Herbert
Treasurer

Notes to the financial statements

	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
1. Voluntary income		
Donations	81,401	9,466
	81,401	9,466
2. Incoming resources from activities for generating funds		
Funds raised for Mears Loneliness project	–	2,995
Amazon website link	5	–
Sponsored events	13,115	40
Mears fundays	1,480	–
Collections / raffles	25,006	511
	39,606	3,546
3. Incoming resources from charitable activities		
Gift aid	3,078	674
	3,078	674
4. Costs of charitable activities by fund type		
Mears Loneliness project	–	3,299
Auctions and raffles	206	167
Sponsored events	5,456	444
Mears fundays	279	–
Donations	62,628	5,500
	68,569	9,410

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
5. Costs of charitable activities by activity type				
Mears Loneliness project	–	–	–	3,299
Mears fundays	279	–	279	–
Auctions and raffles	206	–	206	167
Sponsored events	5,456	603	6,059	444
Donations	62,628	–	62,628	5,500
Direct costs	9,410	–	9,410	19,066

6. Governance costs

Governance costs were met by Mears Group PLC.

7. Analysis of support costs

Charity giving administration fee	1,008	257
Job advert fees	–	800
Staff expenses	992	–
Compliance fees	35	–
Merchandise	603	–
	2,638	1,057

8. Staff costs and emoluments

Salaries	36,028	7,665
	36,028	7,665

9. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

Other creditors	33,359	1,400
	33,359	1,400

10. Analysis of net assets between funds

All funds are designated as general funds



For more information about the Mears Foundation
please contact Heather Tyrer, General Manager on:
heather.tyrer@mearsgroup.co.uk